

ALIVE

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY • SUPPORT • EDUCATE • CONSERVE •

FALL 1990



PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Progress in the Park.

Six years ago, the Zoological Society launched a vision of building facilities and exhibits that would help the zoo maintain its reputation as a pioneer exhibitor of species in all-natural environments.

This year, we're moving closer to completing this vision, called the New, New Zoo.

Through the support of Milwaukee County government and Society members like you, great things have happened. You gave our bonobos a chance to spend their first summer outdoors. You gave zoo visitors a chance to see our sea lions and harbor seal swim under water. And, you are helping build a natural home for the hundreds of birds that will fill our new aviary.

Since our last magazine was published, renovation of the aviary has "taken off." A tropical environment literally has been transported from Florida into our aviary. Hundreds of tropical plants—worth \$72,000—have arrived, as well as dozens of new birds: white-bellied storks, fruit pigeons, golden-back woodpeckers, black-naped fruit doves and orioles, white-throated laughing thrushes, gold-breasted starlings, red-bellied leiothrix, and more.

In our reach for high-quality exhibits, we also have made great progress on plans for the Primate Complex, with a groundbreaking scheduled for this November. By 1992, our gorillas and bonobos will be living in a new and well-deserved home.

Great things are happening here, and you are helping to make them happen. In 1985, we put a dream down on paper. In 1990, we're continuing to make that dream a reality and are looking forward to setting ambitious goals for 1991, 1992 and 1993.

Gilbert K. Boese, Ph.D.
President, 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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Front Cover:
An animal quilt square hand-drawn and -stitched through the Zoological Society's Quilt Program. (Story, page 14)

ALIVE

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY • VOLUME 10 • NUMBER 4 • FALL 1990

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Photo by Dr. Gil Boese

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International Conservation

In a land of happy people and colorful things, natural beauty and ecological diversity, it's hard to imagine what can be wrong with the intriguing little country of Belize.

Though an independent nation with a diversifying economy, Belize still lacks the resources to protect economically valuable animal and plant species from exploitation.

One endangered species indigenous to this area is the black howler monkey, known locally as the "baboon". The species, one of six howler monkey species found in Central and South America, is threatened by forest destruction in most communities, but flourishes in forests along the Belize River, thanks to the support of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County, the Belize Audubon Society, and the World Wildlife Fund.

These supporters co-sponsor a Belizean reserve called the Community Baboon Sanctuary, located within the lowland, broadleaved forests of north-central Belize along the Belize River. The sanctuary, established in 1985, is unlike most existing wildlife management projects in the world.

It's an 18-square-mile sanctuary designed to forestall habitat destruction as farmers along the Belize River convert forest land to farm land. The health of the sanctuary depends on land owners living in the sanctuary to practice ecologically sound farming techniques.

Farmers pledge commitment

According to representatives of the Belize Audubon Society, each land owner has pledged to preserve fruit trees, riverside vegetation and forest corridors in areas of cleared land, in order to give the monkeys enough space to sustain their population. Such conservation practices also have benefited the farmers by reducing erosion.



Photo by Dr. Gil Boese

This black howler monkey is among one of the few healthy black howler monkey populations in Central America. It lives in the Community Baboon Sanctuary, a preserve protecting the black howler monkey from extinction.

Recht, who described the Belizean people as "delightful" and his experience in Belize as "pleasant and enlightening," said he enjoyed listening to the locals' colorful and humorous anecdotes about the howlers, which live in their backyards.

Besides howler monkeys, plenty of other animal life is found on the sanctuary. Nearly 200 bird species have been identified along with iguanas, hicatee, anteaters, armadillos, agouti, deer and others. Since the project began, tapirs and manatee have moved into the area. Not only the howlers, but all these animals, will benefit from the conservation efforts of sanctuary sponsors.

On a recent trip to Belize, a couple members of the Zoological Society's conservation committee had the opportunity to look in on howler monkey family life. Committee member Jack Recht remembers this about one of the monkeys' more remarkable traits: "Howlers make a loud, rasping, howling noise. We'd hear them

*"Howlers make a loud, rasping, howling noise
We'd hear them when we got up in the morning and we'd hear them at night."*

—Jack Recht

Zoological Society conservation committee member

when we got up in the morning and we'd hear them at night."

The howlers, new-world equivalents to the siamang, travel in the treetops, in groups of four to eight, feeding on leaves, flowers and fruits. "They were all over," Recht said. "They'd even gather up in the trees to watch us go boating down the river."

Society supports museum

With support from the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County, a small natural history museum and visitors' center was built on the sanctuary. The society is providing the funding necessary for the preparation of appropriate displays to be housed in the museum.

In a presentation during the recent Beauty and the Feast picnic at the zoo, Dr. Gil Boese said, "Our goal in funding the museum is to develop an educational vehicle to let locals and tourists learn more about the importance of this conservation project and to encourage people to get involved in supporting it."

The Zoological Society is planning a trip to Belize, scheduled to depart in late October or early November 1991. Other trips being planned include safaris to Kenya, departing in July 1991; Indonesia, January 1992; and Zimbabwe and Botswana, October or November 1992. For more information on any of these trips, call the society at 258-2333.

Educational Outreach: Toledo District of Belize

Staff members of the Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Center are working toward a key goal of every major conservation group: to save our forests.

With support and guidance from the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County, this group of educators—natives of Belize—has created an educational outreach program designed to sensitize Belizeans to their natural environment and convince people of the long-term benefits of forests.

"Through facilitating projects like this, we create ecologically responsible communities," said Dr. Gil Boese. "Toledo's program is a model for developing similar educational programs in tropical forest regions throughout the world. We just need to get our message out to more and more people."

The program calls for educators living in the Toledo District to travel into areas

where a "trash and burn" agriculture mentality exists and explain the problem in a way Belizeans and Guatemalans understand. "If we can make the idea of saving forests easy to grasp and convince locals that forests have a positive effect on their daily lives, the problem will seem less overwhelming," Boese said.

Earlier this year, Vincente Shad, a zookeeper, and Mark Lamb, an educator—both with the Belize Zoo—did a month's worth of outreach education in the district. Traveling into remote Maya Indian villages and other areas by foot, Shad and Lamb visited 30 schools and seven different communities. Through posters, books, pencils and coloring books, they reached nearly 1,000 adults and 2,000 children with their message.

"Despite the difficulties that were involved to reach these people, school children, adults and teachers . . . seemed to understand the concepts of conservation and development," Lamb said in a letter to the Zoological Society. "They were able to relate to the fact that wildlife and wildland depletion meant no future for themselves or their children."



This poster by wildlife artist Caroline Beckett helps educators reach out to people living in Belize's Toledo District and teach them the importance of saving our rainforests.

The 18-square-mile Community Baboon Sanctuary is located on the Belize River in Belize, Central America.



Dr. Andrew Teare, senior staff veterinarian at the zoo, takes a blood sample from a bird to be housed in the new aviary. Taking the sample is part of a routine quarantine procedure. Every bird that arrives at the zoo's hospital is quarantined for a minimum of 30 days, during which x-rays and blood samples are taken and a complete exam is conducted.

Pioneers in Animal Health: WORKING TO MAINTAIN HEALTHY ANIMAL COLLECTIONS WORLDWIDE

How do zoo veterinarians know what the average or normal blood values are for each animal species? What is the best treatment for a particular case of parasites? Until recently, zoo veterinarians were often forced to guess at questions like these.

But thanks to the ingenuity and dedication of Cyd Mayer and Dr. Andrew Teare, veterinarians around the world can now take some of the guesswork out of medical care by using MedARKS, a computerized zoo animal medical records-keeping system.

"MedARKS is a tool the medical staff uses on a daily basis," Teare said. "Without the program, a lot more of our time would be spent just organizing

and managing the medical information needed to provide quality medical care."

Combining their uniquely relevant experience, Mayer and Teare have de-

Without [MedARKS], a lot more of our time would be spent just organizing and managing the medical information needed to provide quality medical care."

—Dr. Andrew Teare
Senior staff veterinarian

veloped, designed and are now expanding and testing MedARKS. Mayer is a medical technologist and veterinary technician employed by the International Species Information System (ISIS) and the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County. Teare is the zoo's senior staff veterinarian and a computer programmer on the side.

The Zoological Society is a major contributor to MedARKS, an international conservation effort that greatly aids in world-wide zoo attempts to improve medical records. Improved records should yield improved medical care and increased success in breeding and maintaining captive endangered wildlife.

To date, the program includes records on anesthesia, parasitology, and treatment, all kept on computer disks for in-house reference and eventually for international trade and comparison. MedARKS was initiated by Teare and other zoo veterinarians in 1985, and is designed to integrate with the Animal Records Keeping System (ARKS) developed by ISIS.

Teare received his doctorate in veterinary medicine from Cornell University. As an intern at the National Zoo in Washington D.C., and as a veterinarian at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha, Teare developed computerized medical record systems—his own version of MedARKS. In 1986, Teare wrote, or programmed, the software for the anesthesia module—the first phase of MedARKS. He also developed the parasitology and treatment modules.

Now Teare is responsible for all medical care at the zoo. He works in the zoo hospital with veterinarian Roberta Wallace, two veterinary technicians and a medical records secretary. On days he is assigned to clinical work, Teare meets with zookeepers who report to him any potential medical problems with the animals. He then takes steps to diagnose and treat those problems.

On days he is assigned to office work, Teare maintains personnel records, catches up on correspondence, and purchases any necessary hospital equipment and supplies.

Mayer has been a Zoological Society employee for eight years, most recently as hospital manager at the Milwaukee County Zoo, before joining the ISIS staff as a computer programmer. From her office in the Dairy Council of Wisconsin's Education Center in the Stackner Heritage Farm, she now develops and perfects MedARKS software. Mayer received her bachelor's degree in medical technology from Lake Superior State College and an associate degree in veterinary technology from the Medical Institute of Minnesota. But she never had any formal training in computer programming.

"When I took over the programming for Dr. Teare, I had to learn a whole new career—one that requires creativity 40 hours a week," Mayer said. "Pro-

"Programming the software for MedARKS is like writing a book in a foreign language, but Dr. Teare has written the first three chapters, and now I'm finishing it."

—Cyd Mayer
Medical technologist/
veterinary technician



Cyd Mayer, medical technologist/veterinary technician, writes computer code that will become a part of the MedARKS program. MedARKS is a computerized zoo animal medical records-keeping system.

gramming the software for MedARKS is like writing a book in a foreign language, but Dr. Teare has written the first three chapters, and now I'm finishing it."

Mayer spends a portion of her day on the phone with zoo personnel from the more than 70 facilities all over the world that are using the MedARKS software. Her contacts offer suggestions

for improving the existing modules or for developing new ones. Currently, Mayer is developing a clinical pathology module that deals with lab testing and bloodwork.

Teare and Mayer can be considered inventors and precedent-setters. They are both members of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (AAZPA) and the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians (AAZV). Teare received an outstanding service award from the AAZPA for computer software development.

Their combined efforts and experience have produced landmark progress in zoo veterinary technology and animal conservation.



ISIS/MedARKS Program Participants

343 institutions contribute to ISIS and the MedARKS program. Some major contributors are:

- American Assoc. of Zoo Veterinarians (AAZV)
- Dallas Zoo
- Dutch Foundation for Research in Zoological Parks
- Indianapolis Zoo
- Los Angeles Zoo
- Louisville Zoo
- National Zoological Park-Conservation Research Center
- New York Zoological Society-Bronx
- U.S. Institute of Museum Services
- Woodland Park Zoo-Seattle
- Zoo Atlanta
- Zoological Society of Chicago-Brookfield
- Zoological Society of Milwaukee County



ANIMAL ADOPTION

Creepy Creatures

BATS, SPIEDERS, WOLVES AND . . . FISH STEAL HALLOWEEN SPOTLIGHT

The most important animals at the zoo this October aren't giraffes, elephants, zebras or bears. They're spiders, bats, wolves and fish . . . pumpkinseed fish, that is.

A look at the Zoological Society's Animal Adoption records on each of these zoo residents uncovers some interesting facts and dispels some centuries-old myths.

Vampire bat

You will never be the prime dinner "victim" for the vampire bat, nor will this bat ever suck blood from your neck

—or any neck.

The *Desmodus rotundus* species of vampire bat is the most common and prefers cattle blood, making this group unpopular with farmers. The other two species prefer birds' blood.

To take blood from animals, the bat does not puncture the skin with two small fang dots (. .) and suck the blood from the animal—as myth would have it. Instead, the bat leaves a small razor-like cut or slit and laps blood from the victim's skin. An anticoagulant in the bat's saliva causes the blood to flow freely.

Though the much larger fruit bat is often used by the media to portray vampire bats, vampires weigh only about two ounces and are only about three inches long. Central and South America are home to the vampire bat, which lives for about 12 years, during which time one or two infants are born.

When vampire bats are on the ground, they are the most agile of all bats. Vampires are the only bats that jump. They move about easily and jump backwards into the air to take off. Nocturnal animals, vampire bats use echolocation to navigate in the dark and find their prey. After a bat sights its prey, it lands on the

ground nearby, walks to the animal, and bites it with sharp upper incisors.

The vampire bat in the Small Mammal House at the zoo was born in 1979 and is one of several exhibited. Their food tray—an ice cube tray—contains blood and water, to which vitamins are added. The blood, from Milwaukee stock yards, is warmed by placing the filled tray in warm water. Bats test the liquid temperature with a wing tip before drinking.

Tarantula

The tarantula, *Lycosa carolinensis*, doesn't usually leap from banana boxes and inflict lethal bites with their fangs. Actually docile creatures, tarantulas are only mildly venomous. And harmless to man. A bee sting is at least as painful—and more dangerous for some people.

Though there are tarantulas living in areas all over the world, only about 30 species live in the southwestern United States desert. The other 270 species live in Central and South America, the Caribbean, parts of Africa, Australia and India.

This spider likes to eat insects and kills them by inserting its fangs and injecting poison. Tarantulas also defend themselves with their fangs by rearing up on their four hind legs and presenting their fangs to their enemies.

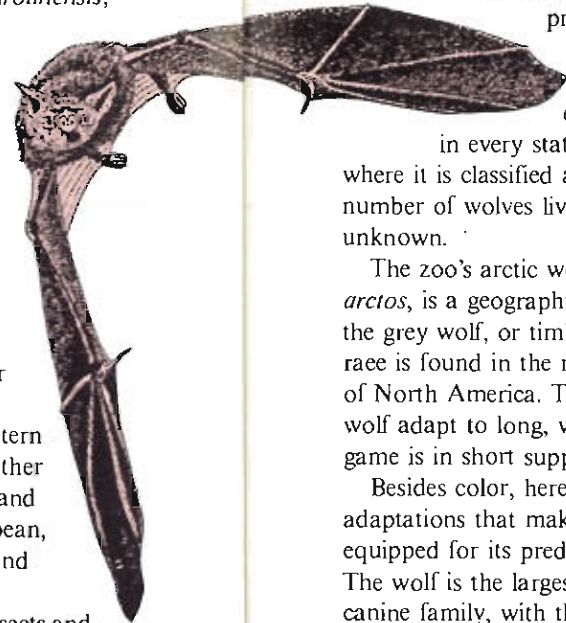
Shirley, the tarantula featured on this page can be found in the Aquarium Reptile Building at the zoo.

Pumpkinseed fish

Though this fish has a seed in its name that can't be roasted and has no ghoulish myth associations, it earns a space on this page just because of its Halloween name.

The *Leomus gibbosus* is a member of the sunfish family and is green, blue and orange. When in direct sunlight, these fish have a beautiful sheen.

Found in lakes and rivers east of the Rocky Mountains, pumpkinseeds spawn in spring and summer, and both males



and females care for their young. Spawning is preceded by a lively courtship ritual, during which the fish develop their most beautiful colors. The male digs out a spawning pit, usually along shallow shore sites, and will guard the eggs until they hatch.

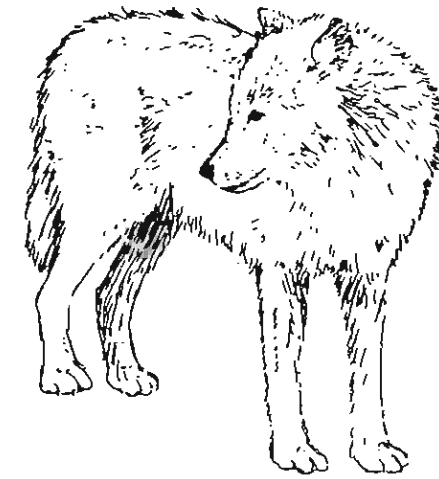
Pumpkinseeds can be seen in the Lake Wisconsin exhibit in the Aquarium/ Reptile Building at the zoo.

"Were" wolf

You wouldn't know it by the "were"wolf's ubiquitous presence in movie and television thrillers, but the wolf is an endangered species—in every state except Minnesota, where it is classified as threatened. The number of wolves living in the wild is unknown.

The zoo's arctic wolf, *Canus lupus arctos*, is a geographical variation of the grey wolf, or timber wolf. This white rae is found in the northernmost parts of North America. Their color helps the wolf adapt to long, white winters when game is in short supply.

Besides color, here are some other adaptations that make the wolf well-equipped for its predatory life: 1) Size. The wolf is the largest member of the canine family, with the average wolf weighing 85-100 pounds. 2) Build. Built for fast, far-ranging travel, wolves run up to 28 mph, and their long legs help them move through deep snow. 3) Strong jaws. Wolves use their jaws for holding flesh. They use their canine teeth for cutting and tearing and their massive molars, for crushing and grinding. 4) Keen sense of smell. A wolf's sense of smell is 100 times more



sensitive than man's. 5) Acute hearing. A wolf can hear wolf howls over four miles away. 6) Great stomach capacity. Wolves can consume massive amounts of food, when available, and can fast for days.

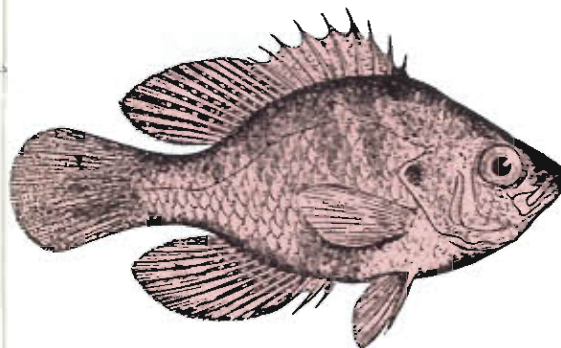
Wolves cooperate in hunting, which allows them to prey on animals larger than a lone animal could conquer. They eat deer, moose, caribou, Dall's sheep, musk ox, beavers, lemmings, hares, birds, fish, foxes and bear eubs. Culling older, weak or sick animals from herds, the wolf is important to population control.

Wolves in our zoo's Wolf Woods eat commercial canine food, and twice a week each wolf is given a whole oxtail.

Akela (Ak-ka-la), one of the zoo's four wolves, is named after the wolf in Rudyard Kipling's *Jungle Book*, and Kitiwanga, after an area in northern British Columbia by the same name where Indians believe wolves should be left undisturbed—"an area not to be for man."

Both wolves, born in the Toronto Zoo in 1983, were naturally raised by their parents, both wild-caught in Canada.

The Zoological Society's Animal Adoption Program gets people more involved in the care of zoo animals and the renovation or construction of their exhibits. Proceeds from the program help provide natural environments that replicate the native habitats of the zoo's animals. To adopt any animal on this page or for a list of all zoo residents up for adoption, call 258-2333.



MEMBERSHIP NOTES

ASK OUR MEMBERS

Q. How many animals live at the Milwaukee County Zoo?



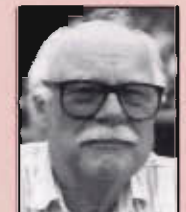
Nancy Guy
Wauwatosa, WI
Member since
May 1990

"500."



Charlotte Damro
Milwaukee, WI
Member since
September 1984

"100. Oh, that's probably the birds alone. 7,000?"



Ted Crawford
Wauwatosa, WI
Member since
May 1989

"5,900—Does that include insects?"



Brandon Brooks
Waukesha, WI
Member since
June 1987

"3,900. I know I'm close because I'm training to be a Junior Zoo Pride Volunteer and have been brushing up on zoo information."

A. Milwaukee County Zoo records show that 3,114 specimens from 300 species reside at our zoo.



Roman Ciula, "parent" to this tarantula since 1982, says he adopted Shirley because of her "nice colors." According to zookeeper John Kowalsky and aquarist Ken Schoenrock, Shirley is a retired TV star. She was the tarantula that crept across the book featured in Channel 18's Saturday night movie introductions in the mid-'70's.

ALIVE 2



The Apes Need More SPACE

No matter where, when or for whom, a change in residence is bound to be both exciting and nerve-racking. Will the new neighbors be pleasant? Will the floorplan suit our lifestyle? Will the decor be suitable?

Imagine having to face these questions from the perspective of a bonobo or gorilla, and you can appreciate how lucky they are to have people like Jan Rafert, Chuck Wikenhauser and Gil Boese to help. The three, along with other zoo employees, Zoological Society members and directors, and Milwaukee County government have been driving forces behind the Great Ape Complex. Scheduled to open in 1992, the complex is an extension of and improvement on the existing Primate House.

The zoo's primates have been sharing the same, somewhat crowded space since the 1950's. And, though regular maintenance has kept it in perfectly serviceable condition, the Primate House is more than 30 years old—and becoming outdated.

Room for everybody

In the Great Ape Complex, which will be large enough to comfortably

house two "families" or social groups of both bonobos and gorillas, many conditions will improve. "Eventually, we hope to house eight to 12 bonobos in two groups," said Dr. Gil Boese.

"The bonobos and gorillas will live in separate areas because they don't usually closely occur in nature," said Jan Rafert, primate curator. "In fact, there will be three separate air systems serving the Great Ape Complex: one for gorillas, one for bonobos, and one for visitors. The air source will be the same, but, for health reasons, the ventilation system will be made up of three branches."

From the animals' perspective, the Great Ape Complex should be quite appealing, said Rafert. "They'll have much more room, and the space, flooded with natural light from above, will be closer to their natural environment."

Among the state-of-the-art design features of the new complex are large new holding areas devoted to animal care. "In addition, observation space will be built into the complex so zoological researchers can more unobtrusively observe gorillas and bonobos," said Chuck Wikenhauser, zoo director. "And an absence of bars, a network of overhead walkways and thoughtful placement of hills will make the space feel more accessible."

A new feature of the Great Ape Complex will be carefully-placed "gem box" displays featuring naturally-occurring plant and animal "neighbors" for the gorillas and bonobos. "For instance, a gem box display might feature a type of plant, insect or bird indigenous to the apes' natural surroundings," said Boese.

Moving day

How does one move a gorilla or bonobo?

"The animals will be sedated and transferred to holding areas where they will be given complete and complex physical ex-

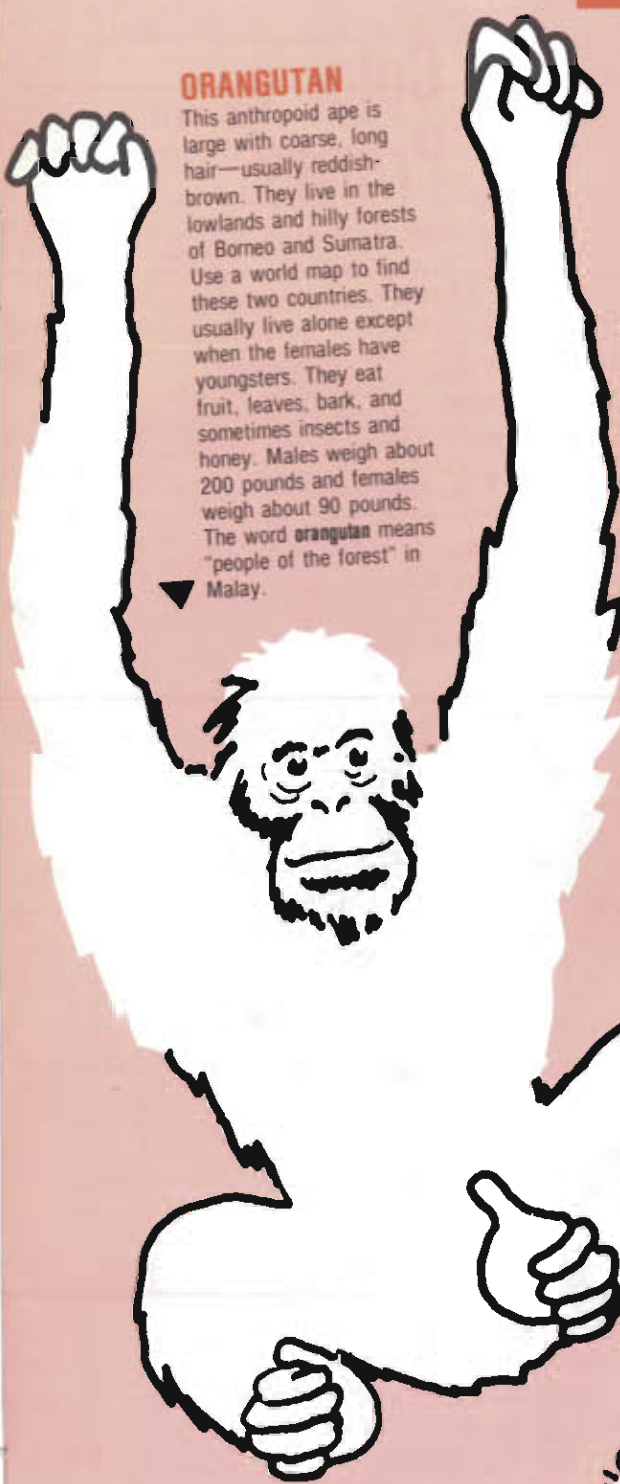
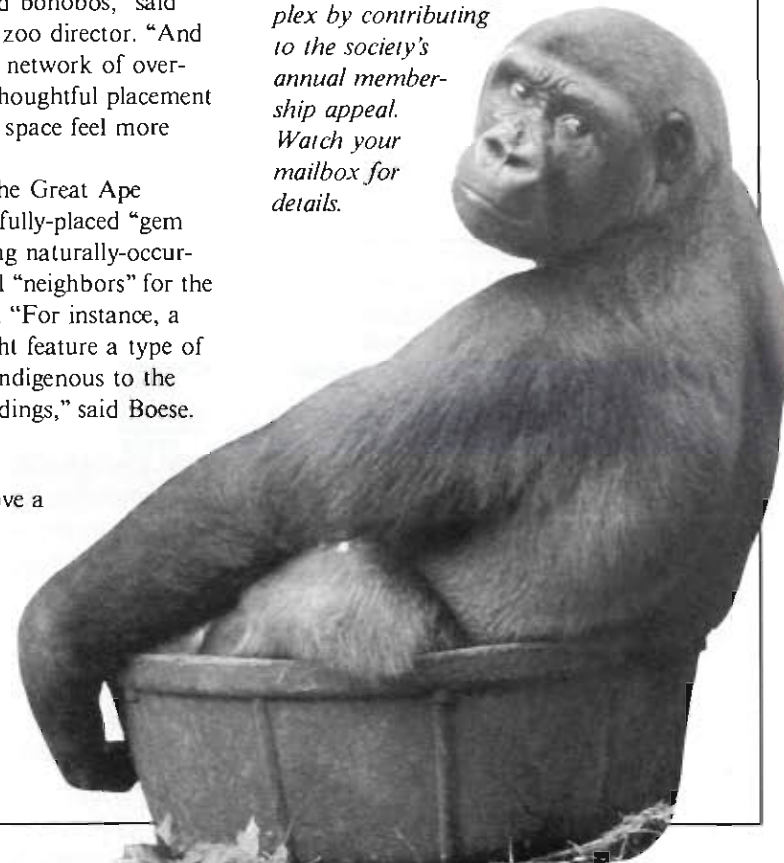
aminations," Rafert said. "Then, we'll either carry them into their new home, or use a hospital gurney to help save a couple of backs."

Gorillas are fairly cautious, and will probably want to explore their new surroundings before they feel entirely comfortable and at home. Acclimation should take about a week.

The Great Ape Complex is an illustration of the efficiency of the public-private partnership supporting the zoo. "The zoo and the society worked together on design concepts and certain construction aspects," said Boese. "In addition, when the complex is open, the society will assume responsibility for some maintenance details, animal acquisition and graphics."

"Thinking about the Great Ape Complex as a Zoological Society member, I feel proud to know that my efforts really count," said Rafert. "Nothing this nice could have come about without the cooperation of County government and the Zoological Society."

Zoological Society members can help support the Great Ape Complex by contributing to the society's annual membership appeal. Watch your mailbox for details.

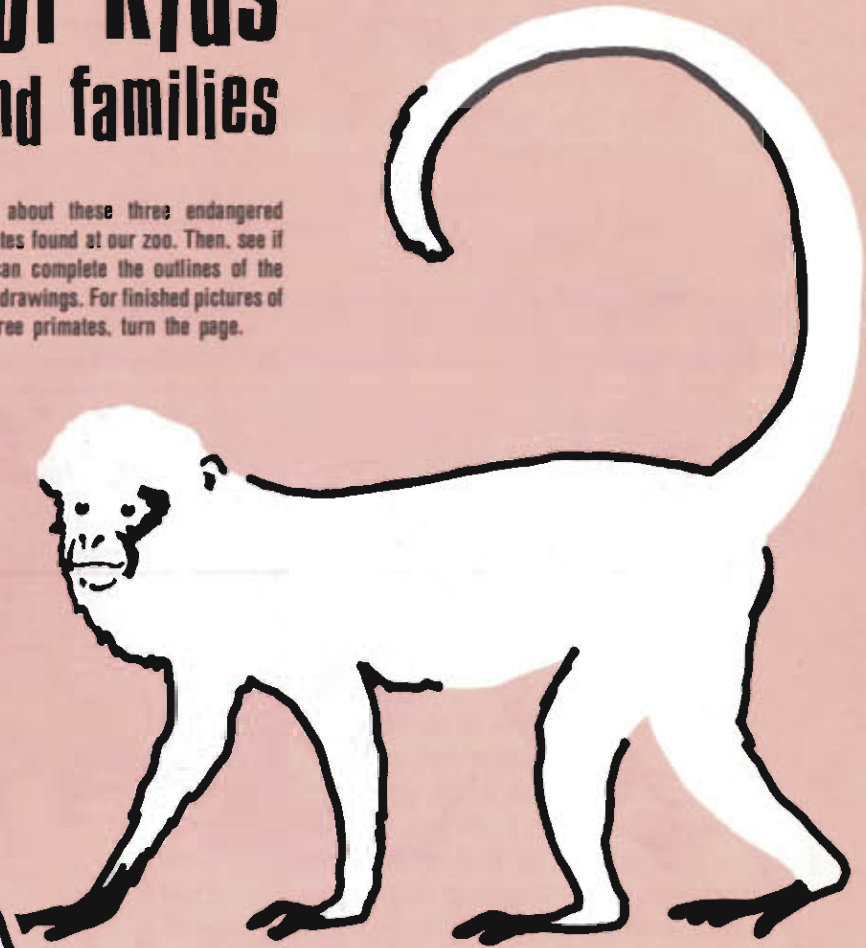


ORANGUTAN

This anthropoid ape is large with coarse, long hair—usually reddish-brown. They live in the lowlands and hilly forests of Borneo and Sumatra. Use a world map to find these two countries. They usually live alone except when the females have youngsters. They eat fruit, leaves, bark, and sometimes insects and honey. Males weigh about 200 pounds and females weigh about 90 pounds. The word *orangutan* means "people of the forest" in Malay.

For Kids and families

Read about these three endangered primates found at our zoo. Then, see if you can complete the outlines of the three drawings. For finished pictures of all three primates, turn the page.



DIANA MONKEY

These anthropoids are medium-sized monkeys. They weigh between 6 and 12 pounds and are 40 to 70 inches long. They are blackish-blue, with a creamy white chest and upper stomach, and chestnut saddle on the back. Their inner legs are orange-brown. Their faces are black with a white band across the forehead. Their tails are long and black. They live in the tropical rain forests of West Africa. This monkey is named after the Roman goddess of the moon.

RUFFED LEMUR

Ruffed lemurs are prosimians. Their legs are longer than their arms. They are black and white with a prominent ruff around their necks and heads. Their tails are long and black. They weigh about 6 pounds, and are around 50 inches long. In the wild they are found in the tropical rain forest of eastern Madagascar. Can you find Madagascar on a world map? Lemurs live in family groups and eat fruit, nuts, and leaves.



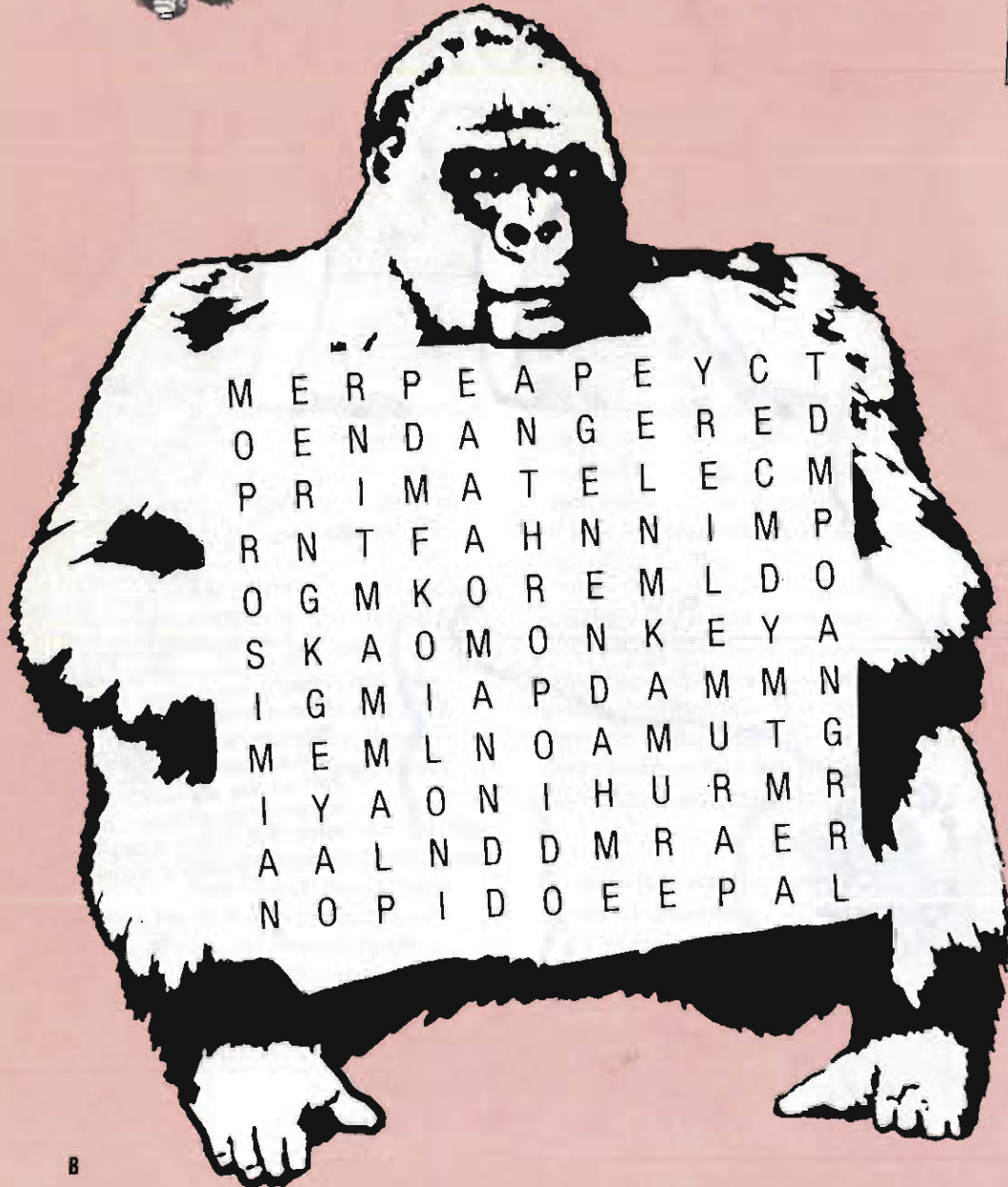
FYI: What is a Primate?

Primates are mammals that include lemurs, monkeys, and apes. Within the primate groups there are two sub-groups. The more primitive of the sub-groups are the prosimians. This group includes lemurs, lorises, tairsiers, and the tree shrew. The word **prosimian** means pre-monkey. The more advanced sub-group are the **anthropoids**. This group includes monkeys and apes.



Here are some characteristics that most primates have:

- Stereoscopic vision and a sense of depth perception
- Fingers and toes usually with nails
- Eye sockets surrounded by a ring of bone
- Large and complex brains
- Young primates that are very dependent on their parents.



M E R P E A P E Y C T
O E N D A N G E R E D
P R I M A T E L E C M
R N T F A H N N I M P
O G M K O R E M L D O
S K A O M O N K E Y A
I G M I A P D A M M N
M E M L N O A M U T G
I Y A O N I H U R M R
A A L N D D M R A E R
N O P I D O E E P A L

Color a Primate

If you are under 15 years old, try your hand—with opposable thumb—at drawing your favorite primate on exhibit at our zoo. Draw your primate in black marker, pen or ink on a white piece of paper. Write on the back your name, age, and complete address. Send your picture to: Education, 10005 W. Bluemound Road, Milwaukee, WI 53226 before December 1, 1990. A winner will be selected and printed in the next issue of *ALIVE*.

Primate Word Search

Can you find these words?

1. APE
2. PRIMATE
3. ANTHROPOID
4. ENDANGERED
5. MONKEY
6. PROSIMIAN
7. MAMMAL
8. LEMUR

SOLUTION:



—by Mary Thiry

THE CURIOUS CORNER



WHY DOES A MALE LION HAVE A MANE?

Most members of the cat family spend most of their time living alone. However, lions are different. They live in groups called prides. The job of the males in the pride is to keep other males away. The mane helps them look bigger than they actually are so that they can frighten the other males away. If the other males aren't frightened, they may fight. If that happens, the mane protects the lion's neck from the sharp teeth of his opponent. Females don't need manes because their job is to hunt for the pride. Manes would probably just get in the way.

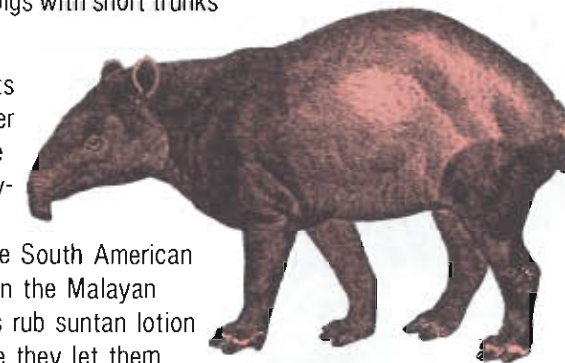


Submitted by:
Kelly Hughes, 10, Waukesha

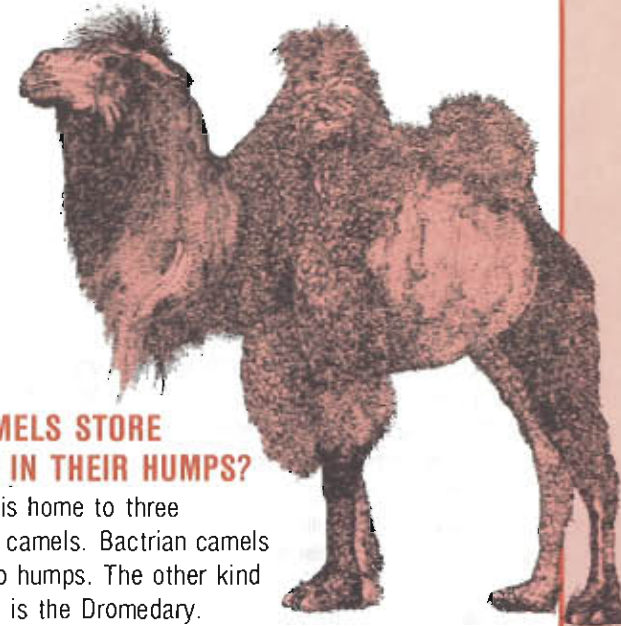
DO ANIMALS EVER GET SUNTANS OR SUNBURNS?

Many animals have to be sure they don't get too much sun. At the zoo, we make sure all the outside animals have shade in their exhibits. One animal, the tapir, is especially sensitive to the sun. Tapirs are related to horses, although they look like big pigs with short trunks that look like elephant trunks.

In nature, tapirs live in thick forests and spend a lot of time in the water and out of the sun. At the zoo, we have two kinds of tapirs. The Malayan tapir is black and white. The South American tapir is brown. The South American tapir spends more time outside than the Malayan tapir. In the spring, the zookeepers rub suntan lotion on the South American tapir before they let them outside. That way the animals will get a tan that will protect them from burning all summer long.



Submitted by:
Nicholas Lodahl, 8, Mayville



DO CAMELS STORE WATER IN THEIR HUMPS?

Our zoo is home to three Bactrian camels. Bactrian camels have two humps. The other kind of camel is the Dromedary. Dromedary camels have only one hump. Neither camel stores water in its hump.

The humps are made up of fat. Because of the humps, camels can go for a long time without eating by living off of the fat stored in their humps. Camels can also go for a long time without drinking because every part of their body stores water. When a camel hasn't had a drink for a while, it gets thinner because its body dries out. Then, when it drinks, its body swells up again. A really thirsty camel can drink up to 50 gallons in one day. But then it can go for a week in the summer or six months in the winter without drinking!

Submitted by:
Dan Hable, 11, Fort Atkinson

If you are a curious person, age 12 or younger, who has a question about animals or the zoo, write to "The Curious Corner"; c/o *ALIVE*, 10005 W. Bluemound Road, Milwaukee, WI 53226. If your question is selected for publication, you will receive an inflatable Jungle Giraffe. The three-foot-tall animal includes fun facts about the giraffe.

—by Pete Feldner

Workshops

The Zoological Society's Education Department provides a variety of winter programs for children, families and adults. To receive more specific program, registration, and workshop fee information, complete the form below and return it by November 12, 1990. Programs will be mailed on November 12.

4-H at the Zoo

Children ages eight to 15 can register for 4-H Club programs at the zoo, scheduled to meet 9:30 a.m.-noon, November 10, January 12, February 16, March 9, April 13 and May 11. The 4-H Boomer Club welcomes all children who were in the club last year and new members ages 13-15. Programs focus on art, photography, conservation, and animal care. A second 4-H Club welcomes children ages eight to 12. Programs focus on veterinary science, zoo animals, domestic animals, and ecology. Membership is \$15 for society members and \$25 for non-members. **Special instructions:** To register, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: 4-H at the Zoo, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226.

Pre-school Workshops

These workshops are for children ages four and five, and for six-year-olds who are in kindergarten. The 2-1/2-hour sessions feature a different animal theme each month. The workshops are designed to help promote learning about the featured animal and include art activities, learning activities, a zoo tour, and a snack.

First Grade Workshops

These workshops, to be held October 20 and December 1, are offered for first-grade students. Each 2-1/2-hour Saturday session emphasizes a specific animal topic. The workshops include a zoo tour, learning activities, and art activities designed for this age group.

Tiny Tots Workshops

Parents and their three-year-old children are invited to the zoo for these 1-1/2-hour workshops that feature different animals each month. A variety of activities provide a hands-on approach to learning about animals. These workshops encourage parent-child interaction and offer children their first experience in our educational programs.

Adult Photography Workshops

Conducted by photographer Andrew Holman, these 1-1/2 day classes feature lectures, slide presentations, a photo "safari" through the zoo, and a critique of participants' work. "Animals Through the Camera's Eyes" will be held November 10 and 17 and "Animal Photography in Winter" will be held January 12 and 19. Cost of each workshop is \$25 for society members and \$35 for non-members (workshop fee includes parking). **Special instructions:** To receive a registration form and additional information, call 256-5421, Monday-Friday.

Family Workshop

Families will learn about elephants and explore some of the customs of the people who live among them through "Art in a Suitcase," a workshop presented by Mary Tooley, noted Milwaukee teacher and artist. Tooley intrigues audiences as she unpacks her suitcase full of carved puppets and animals, dolls, bejewelled elephants, toys, a mask of Ganesh the elephant god, and other handcrafted objects. Folktales, elephant art activities and a tour of the zoo's collection of elephants are also featured. The program will be offered February 9.

Order Form: Winter Programs 1990

Please request one form for each child and include a self-addressed, stamped business-sized envelope for each child.

Name _____

Address _____ Street _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Preschool Workshops # of forms _____

First Grade Workshops # of forms _____

Tiny Tots Workshops # of forms _____

Family Workshop # of forms _____

Return order form by November 12, 1990 to:

Winter Programs, Education Department
Zoological Society
10005 W. Bluemound Rd.
Milwaukee, WI 53226

SUPPORT SNAPSHOTS

Western Hoedown at the Z Double Circle Ranch

Big hats, hayrides and tight old blue jeans; coleslaw, chili and western baked beans will be the scene at the Z Double Circle (Zoo) Ranch on Friday, October 12, 6:30-midnight.

On the evening of this first-time event, "cowpokes" can enjoy hayrides from 6:30-9:30 p.m. and chili sampling, square dancing, and music by the Phil Delta band from 7:30-11:30 p.m. A buffet dinner of Pitch's barbecue ribs, coleslaw, fruit, pretzels and beer will be served from 7:30-10 p.m. Z Double Circle is sponsored by the Associate Board of the Zoological Society, Miller Brewing Company, County Line Cheese, and WOKY AM-920/WMIL FM-106.

Advance tickets are available for \$25 (plus a \$3 parking fee) at the Zoological Society office or by calling 258-2333.

Z Double Circle co-chairs and Associate Board members Chris Cleaver (right) and Dick Podell help Kay Johnson, Platypus Society member and Zoo Pride volunteer, put finishing touches on cacti and soft-sculpture howling wolves to decorate tables at the event.



Photo by David Denmark

GMC Van Raffle

Al Zangler is the winner of a new 1990 GMC Safari Van. The van, worth \$17,300, was first prize in a raffle called "Go Bananas," sponsored by the Zoological Society. Sixteen GMC dealers from Southeast Wisconsin participated in the promotion and donated the van. Fifteen stuffed animals, donated by M.W. Kasch Co., were also awarded as part of the raffle. Proceeds will help build the Great Ape Complex.

Miller Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament

Over \$61,000 was raised at this summer's Miller Birdies and Eagles Golf Tournament, sponsored by Miller Brewing Company. "The proceeds from the tournament will help create the new aviary," said Bev Greenberg, society vice president of marketing and development.

The event, held at the Ozaukee Country Club, attracted 133 golfers and about 20 more guests for dinner.

Bob Reitman (left), WKTI-FM morning show host, and Milwaukee Bucks coach Del Harris—hosts of Miller Birdies and Eagles Golf Tournament—pose next to the hole sponsored by Miller Brewing Company.



PLATYPUS SOCIETY

The Platypus Society is a group of 350 of Milwaukee's foundations, corporations and individuals that contribute more than \$300,000 annually to the Zoological Society and have contributed—over the last five years—about 75% of a \$13 million Capital Campaign. If you would like to join this group in helping the society uphold its mission of supporting the zoo, educating the public about the importance of conserving wildlife and the environment and conserving endangered species, call Bev Greenberg at 258-2333 or fill out the card in this issue of ALIVE.

\$10,000 PLATINUM CORPORATE

- * Marquette Electronics Foundation

\$10,000 PLATINUM PATRON

- Bill Borchert Larson

\$5,000 GOLD CORPORATE

- Beck Carton Corp.
- Bucyrus-Erie Foundation
- * Central Control Alarm Corp.

- * Evau & Marion Helfaer Foundation
- * Klement Sausage
- * Miller Brewing Co.
- Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co.

\$5,000 GOLD PATRON

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- William C. Lutzen & Eleanore Knudsen Lutzen

\$3,000 CORPORATE

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- Beatrice Cheese Inc.
- Chr. Hansen's Laboratory
- Georgia Pacific Corp.
- Heller Foundation, Inc.
- Henri's Food Products Co., Inc.
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- * Little Caesars Pizza
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- Sundance Photo, Inc.
- * Time Insurance Co.
- Wiscol, Inc.
- * WOKY-WMIL
- * The Ziegler Foundation, Inc.

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- * Bernard & Miniam Peck
- Beth Rudell
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\$2,000 CORPORATE

- Capitol Stampings Corp.
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\$1,000 CORPORATE

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- Eastman Kodak Co.
- * Eaton Corp.
- Edwardo's Natural Pizza Restaurants
- * Electri-Wire Corp.
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- Eye Care Specialists, S.C.
- * First Bank Foundation, Inc.
- First Financial Savings Association
- * First Wisconsin Foundation, Inc.
- * The Fox Co., Inc. Lithographers
- Fruit Ranch Market, Inc.
- Gehl Co.
- Great Lakes Marketing, Inc.
- Great Lakes Packaging
- Great Lakes Vet. Clinical Lab.
- Grede Foundation
- * Grunau Co., Inc.
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- Milwaukee Valve Co., Inc.
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- Patrick Media Group, Inc.
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- * The Perlick Co., Inc.
- Peterbilt of Wisconsin, Inc.
- PieperPower Foundation
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- Reinhart, Boerner, VanDeuren, Norris & Rieselbach, S.C.
- * Remus Catering
- Rexnord Foundation
- Reyon Construction
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 - William D. Van Dyke
 - Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Van Till
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 - Robert & Joyce Weiss
 - Mike White
 - * Allen W. Williams, Jr.
 - J.O. Wright
- * 5-year Platypus Society Member

NEW MEMBERS

The Zoological Society welcomes the following new Platypus Society members as of June 1, 1990:

- \$10,000 Patron**
Bill Borchert Larson
(Bill is the first \$10,000 Platinum Patron member of the Platypus Society. A feature on Bill and his family's commitment to wildlife and the environment will appear in the next issue of ALIVE.)
 - \$5,000 Corporate**
Harnischfeger Industries
 - \$5,000 Patron**
Annalisa Bromley
 - \$2,500 Corporate**
Pillar Corp.
 - \$1,000 Corporate**
Blunt, Ellis & Loewi
Luedke-Smith Fund
 - \$1,000 Patron**
Eugene & Gwendolyn Lavin
Bob & Rose Vohl
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Dr. Gil & Lillian Boese
William & GERALYN Cannon
Gerald M. Elliott
Bob & Helen Erffmeyer
Bernard Gerbutovich
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Heil, Jr.
Katie Heil Minahan
Irene & Russell Heuman
Stank Foundation, Inc.
Dr. William J. Toonen
- Friends contributing to the Platypus Society after September 13, 1990 will be recognized in the next issue of ALIVE.

PLATYPUS AWARDS

Key supporters of the Zoological Society didn't get the usual brass-plated recognition plaques at the recent Platypus Society Dinner. They received works of art.

At the dinner, the following awards were presented:

Emu Egg: a glass-enclosed emu's egg representing outstanding dedication to the Zoological Society. (Winner: Reine Hugo, society board member and Zoo Pride volunteer)

Spheniscus humboldti: a framed penguin's footprint in recognition for support of the Zoological Society and the Platypus Society. (Winners: Bernard C. Ziegler, III, chairman of the society's board of directors; Dick Podell, society associate board member; and Bernie Peck, society board member)

Elephas maximus: a framed elephant's footprint recognizing outstanding corporate support of the Zoological Society. (Winners: American Airlines, TriCity National Banks, Aurora Health Care, and Marquette Electronics Foundation)

Bubo virginianus: a framed impression of children's footprints recognizing support of the Zoological Society's

mission to educate the public about the importance of conserving wildlife and the environment. (Winners: John Taylor, society board member; and Karen Katz and Chris Cleaver, both associate board members)

Thalarectos maritimus: a framed polar bear's footprint recognizing support of the society's Graphics Department. (Winner: Gretchen Dawes)

Gorilla gorilla gorilla: a framed gorilla's footprint recognizing support of the society's wildlife and endangered species conservation efforts. (Winner: Mrs. Robert A. Uihlein, Jr.)

Other award recipients include Beatrice Cheese, Unicare Health Facilities, and Walgreen's for their corporate contributions to specific education programs.

At the dinner, it was also announced that donors at the \$2,500, \$5,000 and \$10,000 levels will receive a silver, gold or platinum platypus pin with a ruby, sapphire or diamond jewel, respectively. This pin, designed exclusively for the Platypus Society by Bob Erffmeyer, will be given to donors in addition to a limited-edition bronze platypus sculpture created by Milwaukee artist Joe Mendela.



Reine Hugo—1990 Emu Egg Award winner

The Fabric of Learning

Children and adults occupying Milwaukee's Sojourner Truth House, Safe House, Ronald McDonald House and Hope Shelter, will now have something besides a safe home to enjoy.

As a gift from the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County, they will receive some very special quilts.

The quilts are products of a program, coordinated through the Zoological Society and funded by Unicare Health Facilities, that taught students lessons not only in animal conservation and creative expression but also a lesson in

appreciating the contributions seniors can make to the community.

"The Quilt Program generates excitement on so many levels," said Mary Thiry, director of education/graphics for the society. "It taught children about animals, gave seniors an outlet for community service and creative expression, and kindled a mutual respect between seniors and kids."

Children from 13 schools participating in the program drew pictures of endangered animals—zebras, gorillas, snow leopards and owls among the favorites—on quilt squares while being taught about the importance of conserving animals. Society educators also provided art and science teachers with curriculum packets containing in-class materials designed to complement the society's educational efforts.

"The inter-generational bridge this project built between our seniors and the kids is wonderful."

—Cyndi Forbes, remediation specialist
Mount Carmel Health Care Center

When all squares were completed, they were packaged and delivered to neighboring nursing homes and senior centers for stitching. Once completed, all the quilts travelled to each

participating school and senior center/nursing home for display.

"You can't believe the inner pride our residents felt while they were working on this project," said Cyndi Forbes, remediation specialist at Mount Carmel Health Care Center. "The inter-generational bridge this project built between our seniors and the Greenfield High School kids is wonderful."

"So often we accept donations from groups wanting to give time and materials to the center," Forbes said. "This was one way the residents could give something back to the community."

The project also helped seniors become more aware of the importance of animal conservation, Forbes said.

While the Mount Carmel-Greenfield High quilt was on exhibit at Mount Carmel, students walked over to the center to admire the finished quilt and thank the seniors for their interest in the project.

"After their visit, the students came back to school feeling energized and appreciative," said Judy Grochowski, Greenfield High School art instructor. "They came back with a greater appreciation for the productivity and resourcefulness of our seniors."

They also took away from the program a greater interest in animal conservation. "One young man was so moved by research he did on the black rhino that he wrote and posted a statement about the rhino's fate in the classroom," Grochowski recalled. "Eventually, his statement ended up in our school newsletter."

EDZOOICATION

Teachers and business/foundation representatives participating in last year's Ambassador Program are sending in words of praise for this educational outreach program, coordinated by the Zoological Society. The program is designed to enrich the educational experiences of students from low-income families by creating a partnership among corporations and foundations, students, families and the zoo.

Participants in last year's program

Vivina Bly, a fifth-grade teacher at Catholic East. "You people got our youngsters interested in animals and interested in how animals adapt to their environment."

From a sponsor's perspective, the Ambassador Program not only brings a personal dimension to a company's or foundation's participation in the Milwaukee community but it also directly enhances the quality of education Milwaukee school children receive.

"The Ambassador Program is the kind of project we like to get involved in—the kind that enhances the educational experience," said Gerald Reiser, chairman of

the Marquette Electronics Foundation. "The program shows how Marquette can work together with schools and get personally involved in the education process."

Program organizers are seeking sponsors who want to become "Ambassadors" this year. For more information on the program and sponsorship opportunities, call Bev Greenberg at 258-2333.

Ambassador Program Praised

endorse the program as a creative way to teach kids the importance of wildlife and animal conservation—inside the classroom and at the zoo.

From a teacher's perspective, the program's design ties in well with classroom instruction.

"The program certainly was a positive learning experience and complemented what we taught in class," said Sister



Mount Carmel Health Care Center resident Bernice Bittner admires the quilt she and other residents helped stitch together. Students from Greenfield High School drew the animal squares.

Quilt Program Participants

Senior Center/Nursing Home

South Milwaukee Senior Center
West Allis Senior Center
Wilson Park Senior Center
Unity Senior Day
Village Church Adult Day Care
Lutheran Home for the Aging
Hearthside Nursing Home
Mt. Carmel Health Care Center
Menomonee Falls Health Care Center
Plymouth Manor
Mercy Residential & Rehab Center
Willowcrest Nursing Home

School

Rawson School
St. Aloysius Longfellow School
Fernwood Elementary
St. Paul's Catholic School
38th Street School
Milwaukee Montessori
Dean Elementary School
Greenfield High School
Shady Lane School
Gilda Meier School
Mitchell Elementary School
Blekewood School



An eager group of nine- to fourteen-year-olds pitch a tent during this summer's "Safari Summer Camp" while camp staff supervise. Summer camp programs are sponsored by Walgreens and coordinated by the Education Department of the Zoological Society.

ZOO PRIDE VOLUNTEERS

Halloween is just around the corner, but only Zoo Pride volunteers know what lurks around the corner or waits behind each door in the Dungeon of Darkness.

The dreaded dungeon—the only haunted house in the basement of an elephant cage—is completely planned, built and staffed by the Zoological Society's Zoo Pride volunteers.

Volunteers turn elephant house into haunted house

Dozens of volunteers have spent thousands of hours preparing for Halloween at the zoo—building the dungeon, collecting props, setting up the sound system and making costumes. And, in between polishing their coffins and candelabras, the volunteers have stuck to a healthy diet of witches' brew and wing of bat in order to stay healthy for the haunting. They are waiting for a full moon.

"Actually, activities at the zoo's Halloween Spooktacular are designed to offer something for everyone," said Robin Higgins, the Zoological Society's director of membership, animal adoption and volunteer services. "Since the dungeon is really pretty frightening, Spooktacular provides other activities for small children . . . and scared adults."

The Dungeon of Darkness is intended for children over the age of eight. Thrill-seekers will face 20 minutes of the unknown beneath the zoo's pachyderm building. "This haunted house's goal is mainly to surprise and shock its visitors," Higgins said.

Dungeon construction chairpersons Brian Higgins and Tom Quandt began building and decorating the house months ago, and are making sure it contains



Last year's daring dungeon drop-ins gave this haunted elephant house a thrill-and-chill ranking of 10. The Dungeon of Darkness will be open October 19-21 and 26-28.

plenty of real skeletons and coffins, petrifying props, and light and motion detectors. This year, a separate sound system with amplifiers and speakers will be set up in each area of the house, Mr. Higgins said, for a better all-around effect.

"When we're working down there during the day, with the lights on, the dungeon has an entirely different feeling—it's harmless," Mr. Higgins said. "But as soon as those lights go out, it's even scary to those of us who built it."

Mr. Higgins, who may pop out of a coffin as you pass through the dungeon, has been involved in its construction for the past six years. He said the dungeon takes on a different and creepier theme each year—and this year, it's arachnophobia.

"There will be spiders on the walls, floors and ceilings, and webs all over the place," Mr. Higgins said. "The elephant house has a special charm all its own—and bugs make it even better."

Some say the smell in the elephant house is enough to scare anyone. A visitor who gets too scared to make it to the dungeon exit can leave by way of a special turn-around near the entrance to the dungeon.

Costumed Zoo Pride volunteers will be stationed throughout the halls of the dungeon, and small groups of visitors will be led in . . . and then left alone to try to make their way out alive.

"In planning the whole Halloween weekend, we wanted to be sure we offered something fun for everybody," Mrs. Higgins said. "Including young children."

Children attending Spooktacular can meet members of the Peanuts Gang in the Pumpkin Patch and ride a Halloween-decorated Spookmobile through the zoo. Along the way, they will meet Zoo Pride volunteers

dressed as nursery rhyme characters, witches and ghosts. All costumed kids will be invited to march in a parade and enter a costume contest drawing.

Phyllis Zarda, a member of Zoo Pride's Halloween committee, said, "The great thing about Spooktacular

is it provides children with a fun, safe alternative to trick-or-treat or scary haunted houses," she said.

The Dungeon of Darkness will be open with no admission charge during the day on October 27-28, the weekend of Spooktacular. The dungeon will also be open from 6-9 p.m. that weekend, with gates closing at 8:30 p.m. On

October 19-21 and 26-28, a \$3-per-person admission, which includes parking, will be collected at the gate for those visitors who dare to enter the dungeon at night.

For more information on Halloween Spooktacular weekend at the zoo, see page 18.



Zoo Pride volunteer Karen Akers guides zoo visitors on a behind-the-scenes tour of the zoo. Tours are designed to educate people about animals at the zoo and the importance of conserving them. These fun tours are open to adults, children over 12, and school groups (9th grade+). On the tour, visitors learn about the habits and habitats of certain animals and discover how zookeepers care for the animals. Tours are offered every day and cost \$7.50 per person. Cost is \$5 per student or senior. Zoo admission and parking are not included in this price. To arrange a behind-the-scenes tour, call Zoo Pride, 258-5667, three weeks in advance of your requested date.

Besides behind-the-scenes tours, Zoo Pride volunteers offer:

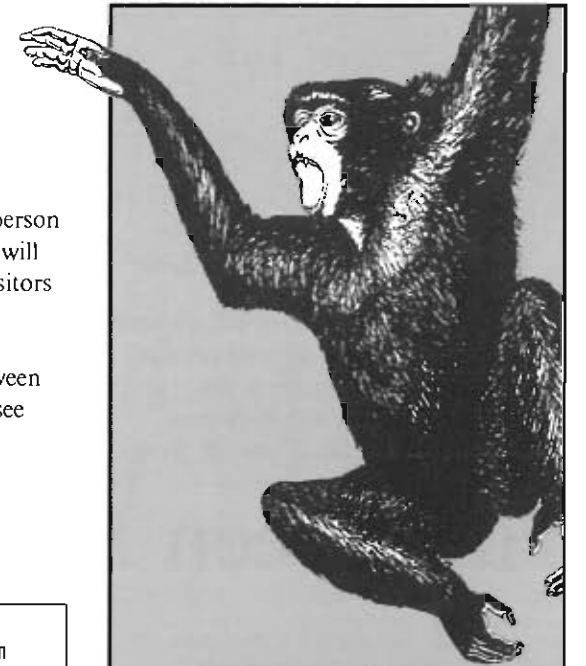
Birthday parties at the zoo.

The guest of honor at birthday parties at the zoo gets a special birthday gift and personalized cake; each guest receives a remembrance gift; and all birthday party-goers get a chance to take a mini-tour of the zoo and participate in zoo activities planned and hosted by Zoo Pride volunteers.

Speakers for club meetings.

Zoo Pride volunteers visit area civic clubs and organizations to spread messages of supporting the zoo and conserving wildlife and endangered species. They tell their story through slides of animals and their exhibits.

For more information on behind-the-scenes tours, birthday parties or the Speaker's Bureau, call Zoo Pride at 258-5667.



Lead a wild life?

Buy an **Entertainment '91 Book** and help support Zoo Pride's **Sensory Safari Program**, a hands-on program for visually impaired and blind zoo visitors. \$6 from the sale of each book will be donated to the program. Entertainment Books include hundreds of opportunities to save 50% on dining, travel, sports events, movies and more.

To order, please send a check for \$32.50 per book (includes postage) payable to Zoo Pride with an index card that includes your name, your address, and the number of books you need to:

**Zoo Pride
10005 W. Bluemound Rd.,
Milwaukee, WI 53226**

Or, pick up a book at the Zoo Pride Office for \$30 per book. **Call 258-5667** for more information.

ZOO BRIEFS



Ghouls and ghosts galore will join the animals at the zoo for an unforgettable weekend of frightening fun at the Milwaukee County Zoo's Halloween Spooktacular, October 27 and 28. Visit

Halloween Spooktacular

the zoo each day from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for Halloween activities for the whole family. Trick-or-treat in the zoo on the Halloween Hunt, talk with Snoopy and Charlie Brown, and show off your costume in the Costume Parade. Lace up for the Costume Fun Run, ride the Ghost Train or Spookmobile, or watch a classic horror movie. And if you dare,

enter the Dungeon of Darkness. Regular zoo admission and parking fees apply.

Halloween Spooktacular is sponsored by Fuji Film and Cameras, Bank One, WTMJ Radio and Zoo Pride, volunteer auxiliary of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County. For more information, call 256-5412.



The holidays are almost here, and Santa isn't just coming to town—he's coming to the zoo for Breakfast and Lunch with Santa, December 1-2, 8-9, and 15-16. Admission is \$7 per person (kids two and under will be admitted free) and includes regular zoo admission, a special visit with Santa, breakfast or lunch with him, live entertainment, and an early Christmas present from Santa and Mrs. Claus. Breakfast is at 9 a.m. on Saturdays, and lunch is at noon on Saturdays and Sundays. For reservations, please send a check payable to "Lunch with Santa Milwaukee County Zoo" with an index card that includes the following information: your name; your address; the date and time you would like to come (list first and second choices, please) and the number of tickets you need to: Lunch with Santa, 10001 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226. Call 256-5412 for more information.

Breakfast & Lunch with Santa December 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 1990

Behind the Scenes Weekend

For a behind-the-scenes look at the Milwaukee County Zoo, come to Behind the Scenes Weekend, November 10-11 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Zoo Pride volunteers will be available to conduct tours of almost every zoo exhibit and location, while providing detailed information about the animals and how keepers care for them. Zoomobiles will shuttle visitors from the Australian building to the zoo hospital, commissary and Train Roadhouse. Regular zoo admission applies. Parking is \$3. For more information, call 256-5412.

Turkey Walk

Put your heart into this run/walk through the zoo sponsored by the American Heart Association. Turkey Walk, November 25, is being coordinated through the American Heart Association. Call 271-9999 for details. Regular zoo admission and \$3 parking fee apply.

Holiday Night Lights

The brightest event of the holiday season, Holiday Night Lights, will take place at the zoo December 6-9 and 13-16. Each night from 6-9 p.m. the zoo will come alive with holiday lights, activities and entertainment. Gather around the holiday tree for tree lighting and caroling, take in an enchanting horse-drawn carriage ride through the zoo, make ornaments, and visit Santa and Mrs. Claus. Tickets are available from 6-8 p.m. Parking is \$3. Carriage rides are \$2 per person. Holiday Night Lights is sponsored by WLTQ Radio. Call 256-5412 for more information.

WHAT'S GNU

The art of animal acquisition. It's something professionals at the zoo practice every day but it's an activity sometimes misunderstood by the average zoogoer. How do animals find a home at our zoo?

Births in captivity and purchases account for the greatest percentage of the zoo's new animals. Some animals are

Filling the Zoo

obtained through trades with other zoos, and some are received as donations from ordinary citizens. The wild, too, is a source—albeit rare—of a few of the zoo's newcomers.

On a recent expedition to western Wisconsin, for example, a couple of timber rattle snakes, a bull snake, and an eastern massasauga were caught in the wild on the banks of the Mississippi and brought back to the zoo for exhibition. A small rear-fanged venomous snake called a racer recently was captured in the Caribbean and brought back to our zoo by curator Rich Sajdak as part of his population study on the status of snakes in the wild.

A female greater kudu, eight green and black poison arrow frogs, and three horned vipers also are recent additions to the zoo's collection, but they weren't found on an expedition. The Zoological Society, a substantial contributor to the

zoo's collection, purchased them. About fifty birds also have been purchased within the past few months, which will help stock the new aviary, scheduled to open early next year.

"Of the recent purchases, the greater kudu is one of the most significant, as this species is in great demand by other zoos and is important to the continuation of our captive breeding program," said Dr. Bruce Beehler, deputy zoo director. "This acquisition will help us maintain different blood lines among the kudu."

Captive breeding programs command top priority at the Milwaukee County Zoo and at other zoos across the country. Some programs have virtually saved animal species from extinction. Beehler said, "As more animals become threatened, the work of zoos as 'survival centers' becomes increasingly important."

While animals like the kudu and three-horned viper may find a home at the zoo, generous citizens probably won't find the zoo putting out the welcome mat for pet ducks, snakes, raccoons and chickens. Unless an animal fits into the exhibit and breeding program goals set by zoo officials, it likely will be rejected, Beehler said.

"If we're offered an animal, the staff reviews the donation and considers how it might fit into collection plans that define the direction of zoo exhibits," Beehler explained.

For example, before the zoo accepted a porcupine and woodchuck—both recent donations—for the Stackner Heritage Farm, these criteria were considered: both are wild and domestic animals found on Wisconsin farms; the zoo can provide the staff and facilities necessary to properly care for the animals; and both were desirable animals to the Discovery Farm program, Beehler said.

Besides purchases and gifts, cooperative loans among zoos also help the



Horned viper

zoo strive to improve its captive breeding programs. Though none of the recently arrived animals at the zoo is currently part of a breeding loan, one animal—the vampire bat—from the Milwaukee County Zoo was traded for another from Los Angeles Zoo. This type of exchange or trade prevents



Waterbuck

inbreeding among the bats and establishes new blood lines. No pun intended.

But of all the new animals at the zoo, the great majority of them are either born here, or born at another zoo and transferred here. Zoo visitors can welcome the zoo's newest babies: a calf, a Japanese macaque, two vampire bats, two goats, a fruit bat, an American elk, a common waterbuck, two domestic cows, a mandrill, and eight Humboldt penguins.



Poison arrow frog



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Find Paradise in Porcelain.

Meet wildlife artist and conservationist Lynn Chase and view her Wildlife Porcelain Collection at a reception exclusively for Zoological Society members from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, November 16 at George Watts & Son, Inc., 761 N. Jefferson St., Milwaukee. Champagne and hors d'oeuvres will be served. On Friday evening, Society members will receive a 10% discount on all Chase purchases, and 10% of all Chase sales Friday and Saturday will be donated to the Society. A percentage of all Chase sales November 16-December 6, 1990 will be donated to the Zoological Society.



Toys for Tapirs Toads, Tots



This holiday season, use your Zoological Society membership as your credit card to savings. Show your membership card when you buy brand name toys at any Toy Liquidators and Toys Unlimited store in Wisconsin and get 10% off prices already 40%-70% off the suggested retail price. Return your store receipts to the Society. Then, Value Merchants will donate 5% of the total sale to the Zoological Society. Shop at any of these stores:

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