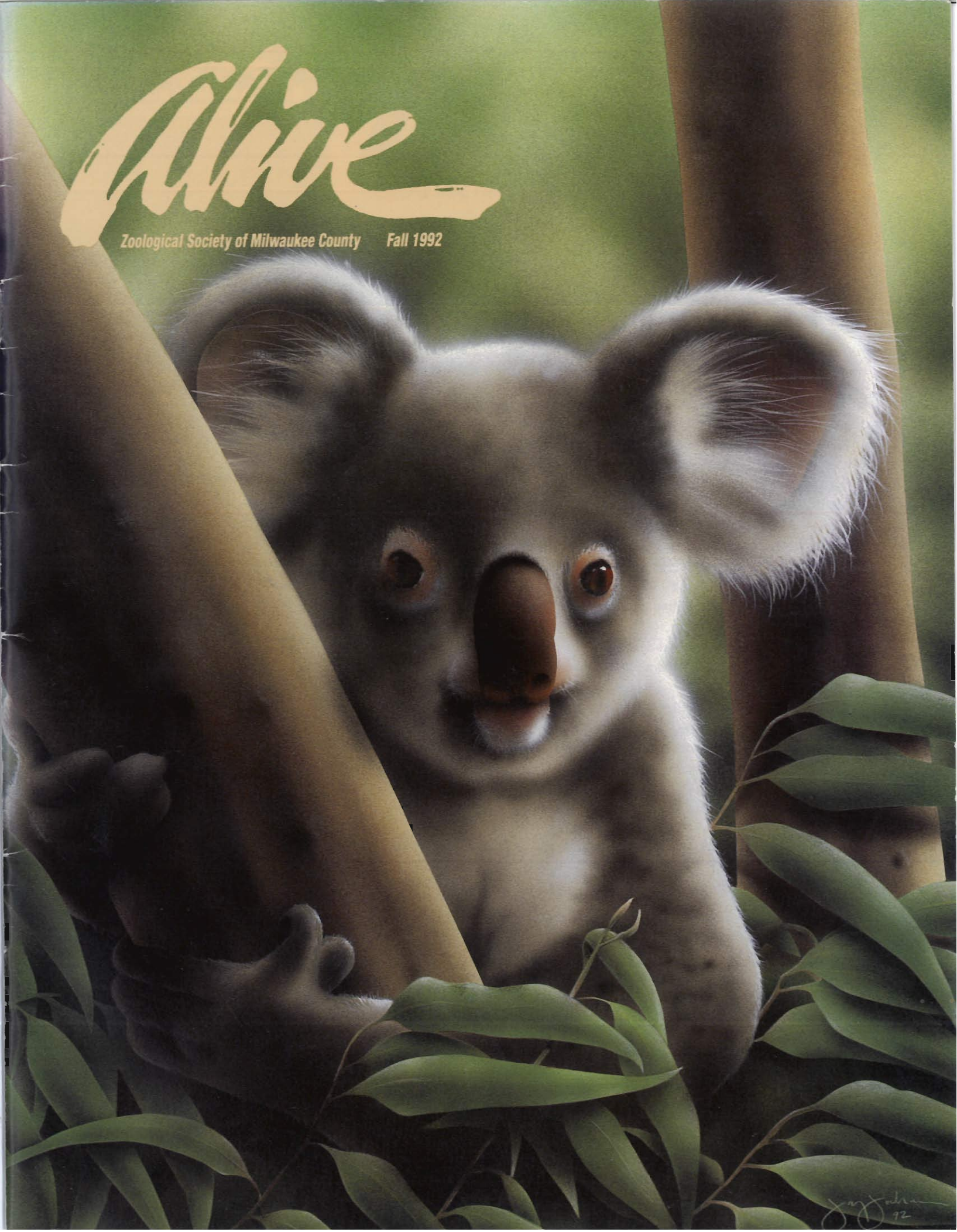


Alive

Zoological Society of Milwaukee County Fall 1992



John J. ...
92

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



EVENT-GOERS!

The season of holiday events at the Zoo will soon be here with perennial favorites like Halloween Spooktacular, Holiday Night Lights and Breakfast and Lunch With Santa. To help you get these and other important event dates on your calendar, we've expanded the magazine's events calendar (see page 20). This tear-off calendar is designed for members who like planning ahead for special events at the Zoo—from Zoo Ball to Samson Stomp.

In this events calendar, you'll find announcements of events and programs that will happen over the next five months, plus information on event dates, times and costs. We hope this change will help you plan your future visits to the Zoo.

When you're here, don't forget to say "G'day" to the two newest Australian ambassadors to join the Zoo family, koalas Dajarra and Quilpie. If you didn't have a chance to see them during our members-only Koala-ty Nights, they're expecting you. You can read more about the Society's two furry 100th anniversary gifts to the Zoo on page 4 or learn about how the Zoo staff cares for them during a Society-sponsored koala lecture on November 14 (see page 20).

In this issue, we also continue our celebration of the Zoo's rich history in Milwaukee with a nostalgic look at the Zoo's last 50 years—from the new Zoo of the '50s to the New, New Zoo of the '90s (see summer *Alive* for first 50 years).

Because of your support of the Zoological Society's mission to support the Milwaukee County Zoo, the Zoo can continue to maintain its reputation as one of the finest in the country. Here's to another 100 years!

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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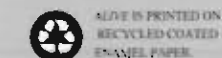
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Alive



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ON THE COVER:

This image of one of the Zoo's two new koalas was painted by Jay Jocham, a Zoological Society artist endowed by Gretchen and Andrew Dawes.



page 8



FURRY FAVORITES FROM

DOWN UNDER

However long it takes. That's how long some zoogoers are willing to wait to see Milwaukee's newest ambassadors from Down Under.

Dajarra and Quilpie, the Zoo's two female koalas, stole headlines across the state when they flew into Milwaukee first-class on American Airlines this summer, and they'll continue to be the objects of zoogoers' affection for the next five years.

As part of a long-term koala loan arrangement with the Zoological Society of San Diego, a pioneer in koala care, Dajarra and Quilpie will be at the Milwaukee County Zoo through 1997...every day, educating zoo visitors about koalas and serving as local representatives of all Australian wildlife.

To prepare for the koalas' extended visit, the Zoological Society and the Zoo renovated the Australia Building, home to koala Ayres during his brief visit to Milwaukee in 1985, and hosted a two-week Zoo visit by San Diego Zoo's Lead Mammal Keeper and koala expert Valerie Thompson.

Thompson, a consultant to the Milwaukee County Zoo on koala feeding, handling and exhibit maintenance, knows Dajarra and Quilpie better than most. With ten years of koala care experience, she can easily distinguish a koala based on its individual personality and behavior.

"All koalas look and act the same to the average zoo visitor, but I've come to know them well enough to appreciate their individuality," Thompson said. "For instance, when I pick Quilpie up, after



Dajarra and Quilpie, the Zoo's two new female koalas, sniff and munch eucalyptus leaves in their renovated Zoo home. The \$200,000 Australia Building renovation was equally funded by the Zoological Society and Milwaukee County Zoo.

awhile she'll start fidgeting, like she wants to go some place else. When I pick up Dajarra, if she's nervous, she may panic and bite."

But despite their personality differences, koalas' taste in food is all the same.

Eucalyptus leaves. About two pounds of various species served up fresh daily.

Though there are more than 500 different species of eucalyptus in Australia, koalas will eat only about 35 types. And the kind of eucalyptus koalas will eat varies by

the day. They use their large noses to sniff the leaves before eating them, and if they don't smell right, the koalas will try a different species.

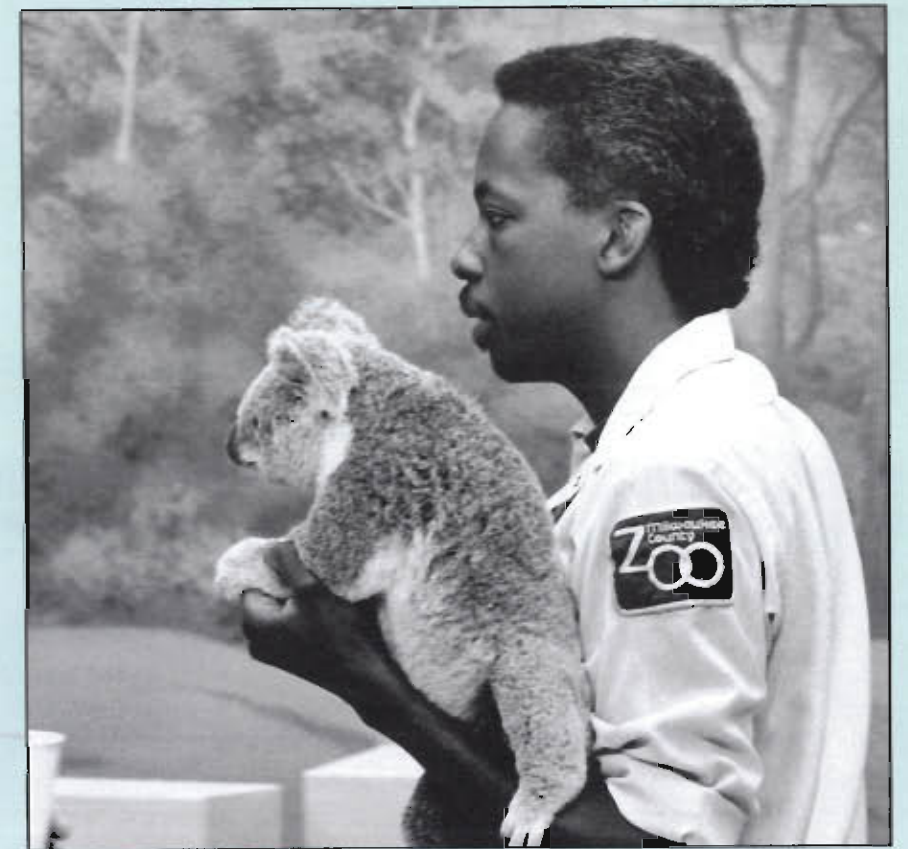
To give our finicky friends the eucalyptus smorgasbord they demand, the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County is funding the maintenance of a eucalyptus forest in Boyton Beach, Florida and has arranged for eucalyptus to be flown into Milwaukee twice weekly, courtesy of American Airlines. If the eucalyptus isn't fresh, the koalas won't eat it.

The koalas also depend on the oil and moisture in eucalyptus leaves for water. The word *koala*, in fact, is the aboriginal word for "drinks no water." In Latin, the word *koala*, or *Phascolarctos cinereus*, means furry pouched, gray bear. Though the koala looks like a plush teddy bear, it's not a bear. It's a marsupial, just like kangaroos, opossums and other mammals indigenous to Australia. Not all koalas are gray, either. "Their color can range from light gray to red-brown," Thompson said. "All koalas, however, do have heavy fur to keep them warm in cold weather."

Besides a thick coat for insulation and a pronounced nose for eucalyptus sniffing, other adaptations that help the koala survive are its pear-shaped, tailless body for stability in trees (koalas sometimes sleep up to 20 hours a day in the forks of Australia's eucalyptus trees); toes that are joined together for grooming; and two opposable thumbs and sharp claws on its front paws for climbing.

Well-adapted to their comfortable eat-and-sleep lifestyle, the only time a koala

continued on next page



Daron Graves gets ready to weigh Dajarra to make sure she is healthy. Until Dajarra and Quilpie are adults, Graves will be looking for a steady increase in the animals' body weight.

ON THE JOB

Daron Graves, Area Supervisor
North America/Australia Milwaukee County Zoo

The chance to work side by side with Valerie Thompson, lead mammal keeper and koala expert at the San Diego Zoo, helped Daron Graves set aside his reservations about handling Dajarra and Quilpie, the Zoo's two new furry friends.

"At first, I didn't know what to expect," Graves said. "But after spending a couple of weeks in San Diego with Val and other koala keepers, I felt more comfortable about how to care for the koalas here at our Zoo."

Discovering for himself that each koala has a different personality was the biggest surprise for Graves. "When I handled them the first few times, I began to notice that each koala behaves differently," he said. "I didn't realize caring for them would be as much fun and as challenging as it is."

Caring for all the animals in his charge, for that matter, is a challenge, Graves said. As area supervisor, Graves is the eyes and ears of the Zoo's large mammal curator, Elizabeth Frank. He makes sure all the Zoo's North American and Australian animals are getting the attention they need, supervises the maintenance of the animals' exhibits, and works with Frank to develop collection and building plans.

"Having input into building renovations like this one [Australia] and seeing the projects through to the end is what I like the most about my job," Graves said, "plus all the weird things that come up every day that keep the job interesting, like trying to recapture an escaped wolf. It's all part of the job."



walks on the ground is when it needs to move to another tree for a different kind of eucalyptus. This, however, is when the koala's life becomes threatened. When traveling from tree to tree, the koala is vulnerable to attacks from its natural enemy, the dingo, a wild dog native to Australia. But in suburban areas, where there is little natural habitat remaining, the koalas face a different set of dangers. They frequently are struck by motorists who can't see koalas crossing the road until it's too late, drowned in swimming pools because they can't climb the pools' slippery sides, and stranded in power poles that they mistake for trees.

Clearing of the koala's natural habitat for urban expansion and agriculture, however, remains the greatest threat to Australia's koalas. Much of the animals' gum, or eucalyptus, forest habitat over the past few centuries has been lost to cities, suburbs, agriculture and resorts. The rest of the land—about 80 percent—is in the hands of private owners, with little protection from the government, Thompson said.


Zookeeper Chuck Mecha clips the ends of eucalyptus to help preserve freshness. The eucalyptus is being flown into Milwaukee twice weekly on American Airlines.



Australians are working to protect the home of this country's most visible goodwill ambassador through the Joint Regional Koala Habitat Project, launched by the nonprofit Australian Koala Foundation. The project brings together several local governments, state departments and land developers to

locate prime koala habitats and then determine which of these areas should be preserved as koala habitat and which could be used for development.

Eucalyptus tree corridors are also being planted for koalas in some suburbs for koalas and bridges and tunnels are being built to help koalas avoid traffic.

Thompson said that all of these efforts to control the koalas' habitat play an important role in meeting the needs of many animal species and people. "If we can use the plight of koalas to broadly educate people on the threats of habitat destruction, then everybody will be more prone to working toward the common goal of protecting natural habitat...for the koala and for all Australian wildlife." 



Quilpie, one of the Zoo's two new koalas, gets help making her Milwaukee debut from Valerie Thompson, lead mammal keeper and koala expert with the San Diego Zoo. Quilpie and her traveling koala companion, Dajarra, flew to Milwaukee first class on American Airlines this summer.

Join Milwaukee's two local koala experts, Elizabeth Frank and Daron Graves, for a talk on the care and feeding of Dajarra and Quilpie at a members-only Critter Conversation on Saturday, November 14. See the Special Events Calendar on page 20 for more information or call 414/258-2333.



Holiday Gift Ideas

This year, give the people on your holiday shopping list gifts that give all year long:

• **Membership in the Zoological Society:** Let a friend enjoy the benefits of being a Zoological Society member as much as you do. The recipient of a new gift membership will get a gift card, a plush toy wild animal (while supplies last) and a year of fun-filled benefits, including free admission to the Milwaukee County Zoo and 120 other zoos and aquariums across the country.

• **Lend A Hand:** Give your friends or family a chance to leave their mark on the rocks featured in the mural inside the Australia Building just as the aborigines do as part of our Lend A Hand fund-raiser. See page 15 for details.

• **Koala Sponsorship:** Help feed and care for our two new ambassadors from Down Under by sponsoring Dajarra and Quilpie in the name of a friend. Our \$30 sponsorship package includes two plush toy koalas, a certificate of sponsorship, your recipient's name on the All in the Family sponsorship board in the Peck Welcome Center, and an invitation to the Family Reunion Picnic.

• **KoalAppeal:** Make a donation yourself or for a friend to this fall's annual appeal. All donations will help purchase food for Quilpie and Dajarra, the Zoo's two new koalas, and their marsupial friends. Donors who give \$15 or more will be recognized on the donor board in the Australia Building in fall 1993.

• **T-shirts, Totes, Sweatshirts:** This holiday season, celebrate your interest in the Zoo's featured species of '92—the gorilla and koala—by wearing them on a t-shirt, sweatshirt or canvas totebag. You can purchase any of these items as gifts—for yourself or friends—by filling out the form in this magazine by November 13 to guarantee holiday delivery. A percentage of the proceeds from the sale of each item will benefit the Zoological Society.

Membership Lapsed?

If your Society membership has expired, so has your ability to get into the Zoo free. Before your next visit to the Zoo, please check the expiration date on your membership card. If your membership has expired, call the Zoological Society office at 414/258-2333 to renew your membership with a VISA or MasterCard. Within a day or two, we'll mail you a temporary membership card, or we can have one waiting for you to pick up at the Zoological Society office. We are unable to authorize a refund for Zoo admission if your membership has expired.

Traveling This Fall?

If you're planning to visit a zoo in another city on your next trip, call the Zoological Society office, 414/258-2333, to find out if your membership card can get you in free or at a discount.

Party at the Zoo

Celebrate your birthday this fall or winter with more than 2,500 exotic animals at the Zoo. As our special guest, you'll receive a birthday present and personalized cake, and each of your guests will get to take a mini-tour of the Zoo, participate in birthday activities and take home a special gift, courtesy of Zoo Pride, the Zoological Society's volunteer auxiliary. To party with the animals at the Zoo on your next birthday, call 414/258-5667 at least three weeks in advance of your requested date. In fall and winter, Zoo animals are especially attentive.

Office Hours

This fall and winter, beginning November 21, the Zoological Society office will be open weekdays, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and weekends, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Please call the Society at 414/258-2333 for our holiday office hours.

Pack Your Bags for...

Australia.

Join the Zoological Society on a trip Down Under. Departing February 6, 1993, this 18-day trip will let you experience the wildlife of the outback, rainforest and the coast. Your adventure package includes



visits to Ayers Rock, the Great Barrier Reef, stops in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Cairns, and stays in Fiji and Tahiti. An optional extension to

New Zealand is available. Call Susan Hauke or Gilbert K. Boese at 414/258-2333 for information and costs.



Wild Since 1892

THE LAST 50 YEARS

This is the second of two stories on the Zoo's 100-year history in Milwaukee. This story takes you from the 1950s, when the animals left the Zoo at Washington Park, to the present.

The 1950s A New Zoo

Acquisition and expansion define the '50s. It was a decade of new land, new animals and a new Zoo. In February 1954, Milwaukee County purchased 184 acres of land for the new Zoo—161 acres more than all the land at Washington Park Zoo.

The new Zoo gave Zoo Director George Speidel a chance to fulfill two dreams: to exhibit predators and prey in moated enclosures so that the animals appeared to share the same space and to display animals in exhibits that corresponded to their native Asian, North and South American, African and Australian homes.

Throughout the '50s, 10001 W. Bluemound Rd. was the address to watch. First, the \$1 million Primate Building opened and then several others followed: Monkey Island, Feline House, Pachyderm Mall, Lion House, Grizzly and Alaskan Bear Exhibits and Dall Sheep Mountain.

In 1956, the new Zoo,

expected to cost \$5 million, cost \$12.6 million by the time the first eight buildings of the new Zoo were completed. To help offset some of the Zoo's expenses, a number of private donors stepped forward. Among the gifts the Zoo received: a \$500,000 donation from the Zoological Society's fund-raiser, "Milwaukee Goes on Safari;" the Journal Company's miniature railroad, the Zoo Line; and three white rhinoceroses from Schlitz Brewery. The gift of rhinos distinguished the Milwaukee County Zoo as the first public Zoo in the country to exhibit the rare species.

Other animals to join the Zoo family in the '50s were the Rhesus Monkeys of Monkey Island and two baby Western Lowland Gorillas, Samson and Sambo. Sambo was Samson's companion who died at the age of 10 from tuberculosis.



The new Zoo started to take shape in the late 1950s, when construction began on the Primate Building, Monkey Island, Feline House, Pachyderm Mall and Grizzly Bear Den. The Feline House under construction is pictured here.

The 1950s also witnessed the end of Head Zookeeper Charles A. Stanke's half-century career at the Zoo. Stanke, who at 19 launched his zoo career in 1906 as a temporary weedcutter, earned a reputation as a renowned animal expert by the time he retired.

The 1960s The Move

The late '50s and early '60s marked the transfer of hundreds of animals from Washington Park Zoo to the new Zoo's Black Bear Den, Winter Quarters, Camel Barn, Australia Building and Small Mammal Building. Then, on May 13, 1961, the new Zoo opened its gates to an eager public, who saw on that day an institution well on its way to becoming one of the most well-respected zoos in the country.

One new exhibit after another kept Milwaukeeans coming back for another look at the Zoo, especially the new free-flight Aviary.

Recognized as the best in the country, the Aviary helped the Zoo make history with first-time captive hatchings of an Adelie Penguin, West African Crowned Crane and Griffin Vulture.



Photo courtesy of Wisconsin State Historical Society

During the last half of the decade, Zoo visitors rode Zoomobiles for the first time, animals got the care they needed in a new Animal Hospital, and the Small Mammal and Aquarium/Reptile Buildings made their debut.

According to the Zoo's original design, the Zoo was supposed to have had a separate Aquarium Building and a separate Reptile House, but spiraling costs forced officials to combine them under one roof. Featuring a Turtle Tank, Lake Wisconsin, snakes and a crocodile, the Aquarium/Reptile Building was among zoogoers' favorites and the last of the new buildings to be constructed at the new Zoo. Ours was the first Zoo in the country to exhibit a crocodile.

Our Zoo also was first to exhibit nocturnal animals and daytime animals in two separate areas of one building—the Small Mammal Building—and to use lighting techniques that let zookeepers turn day into night with the flip of a switch.

To wrap up the decade, Siamangs Suzy and Unk became parents to Mark, the first Siamang ever born in captivity. The female baby was so named because of its "mark" on history.

The 1970s Steady Growth

A number of projects and programs were launched in the '70s that have had a

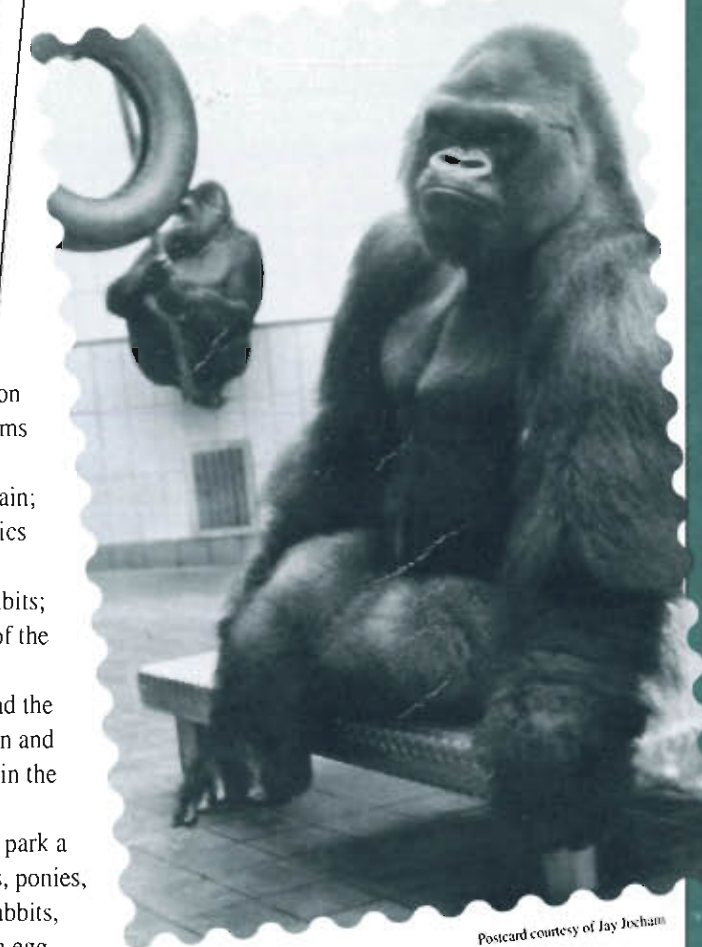
lasting impact on the Zoo: an Education Department that offered programs year-round; a new and more powerful engine for the Zoo Train; coordinating educational graphics throughout the Zoo; more naturalistic Primate House exhibits; and a new volunteer auxiliary of the Zoological Society, Zoo Pride, dedicated to helping the Zoo and the Society fulfill their conservation and education goals at the Zoo and in the community.

The '70s also added to the park a Children's Zoo—home to cows, ponies, sheep, chickens, a pig, goats, rabbits, guinea pigs, prairie dogs and an egg hatchery—and permanent winter quarters for all the Children's Zoo animals.

Other notable animal news of the decade: Connie, a South American Vulture, celebrated her 50-year anniversary as a Zoo resident; the first Woolly Monkey to be born in captivity was born and adopted a puppet as its substitute mother; Zoo visitors were banned from feeding the animals; and Samson reached his maximum weight of 652 pounds. Samson went on a diet in 1970.

The decade closed with a change in Zoo administration. Speidel announced his retirement as zoo director in 1979 and passed the baton to Gilbert K. Boese, Ph.D.

LEFT: More than 13 million zoogoers have taken a ride around the Zoo on the Zoo Line since the Journal Company donated the miniature railroad to the Zoo in 1959. **BELOW:** Samson, one of the Zoo's most charismatic gorillas, generated affection and curiosity among zoogoers for 32 years. Pictured with Samson is Terra, his female companion.



Postcard courtesy of Jay Jucham

The 1980s A New, New Zoo

Under Boese's leadership (1979-1989), Zoo attendance peaked at 1.7 million visitors, the Zoo gained international recognition for its innovative education and species preservation programs, and the Aquarium/Reptile, Primate, Feline and Small Mammal Buildings were renovated.

But perhaps the most significant work of the '80s was done behind the scenes by a core group of civic leaders who spearheaded a \$25 million Capital Campaign for a New, New Zoo. The six-year plan contained the

continued on next page

blueprints for a number of new and renovated exhibits enjoyed by zoogoers today.

Projects completed in the '80s as part of the campaign include Wolf Woods; renovated Polar Bear and Sea Lion Exhibits with underwater viewing; the Peck Welcome Center; the Taylor Family Humboldt Penguin Exhibit; the Dairy Council of Wisconsin's Education Center and Dairy Complex; and the Stackner Heritage Farm (formerly Children's Zoo). These and all future Capital Campaign projects are being equally funded by the Zoo and the Zoological Society.

Though the buildings and renovations inspired a great excitement among zoogoers, the 1981 death of Samson, the high-profile lowland gorilla, generated a sadness felt throughout the community. Samson died of a heart attack November 28, 1981. In Samson's 32 charismatic years (1950-1981) at the Zoo, he mesmerized zoogoers with his constant stare, cracked the window of his enclosure four times, and kept zoogoers guessing his weight. He weighed 550 pounds when he died.

The following year, however, Mandara, a newborn Western Lowland Gorilla, arrived at the Zoo and captured Milwaukee's heart. Mandara, the first gorilla born to a Milwaukee County Zoo gorilla

Chandar, a high-profile, captive-born white tiger, attracted thousands of people to the Zoo during the four years (1984-1988) he spent in the Feline House.



Photo courtesy of Milwaukee County Zoo

(Terra), was hand raised by volunteers called Mandara Moms, who cared for "Mandy" around the clock. In 1985, Mandy left the Zoo on breeding loan to the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.

Besides Samson and Mandara, the '80s brought one other high-profile animal to the Zoo: Chandar, a captive-born white tiger. Unfortunately, Chandar spent only four years here. He died in 1988.

The decade closed with a call to conservation. In an effort to increase the public's awareness of the devastating effects of poaching on the white rhino population, the skeleton of a white rhino was placed in the Zoo's rhinoceros exhibit. The Zoo also acquired a pair of rare Trumpeter Swans as part of its participation in Wisconsin's Trumpeter Swan Restoration Project.

The 1990s Aviary, Apes, Australia

Only three years into the decade and three years into the tenure of Zoo Director Charles Wikenhauser, Milwaukee already has celebrated the Zoo debut of a number of renovated exhibits and

The Zoo has been able to expand its commitment to conserving the endangered Humboldt Penguin thanks to the Taylor Family Humboldt Penguin Exhibit (pictured here), which opened in 1990, and the Krause Humboldt Penguin Exhibit.



Photo courtesy of Mike Nepper

new buildings. Among them: a renovated Aviary that had been closed for four years because of an outbreak of avian tuberculosis, a renovated Australia Building, and Apes of Africa, home to the Zoo's Western Lowland Gorillas and Bonobos (a rare species of chimpanzee) and the largest project of the Capital Campaign.

The first few years of the decade also brought happy animal news.

In 1990, Mishka the polar bear gave birth to Zero, the first polar bear born at the Milwaukee County Zoo in 20 years. In 1991, Suzy, the 37-year-old mother of the first Siamang born in captivity, became an adoptive mother to a rejected spider monkey. And this year, the Zoo announced the birth of a Western Lowland Gorilla—the first live gorilla birth in the history of the Milwaukee County Zoo.

But the biggest animal news of '92 is koalas. In August, the Zoological Society brought two new koalas, Dajarra and Quilpie, to Milwaukee for the Zoo's 100th birthday.

G'day, mates, for the next 100 years!

Research for this story was provided by Kris Milo and Rob Frey of the Milwaukee County Zoo's Public Affairs and Services Department.

Kids! When you're finished with the games and puzzles on these pages, get out your crayons and color the animals, just like in your coloring books.



F.Y.I. What is a Marsupial?

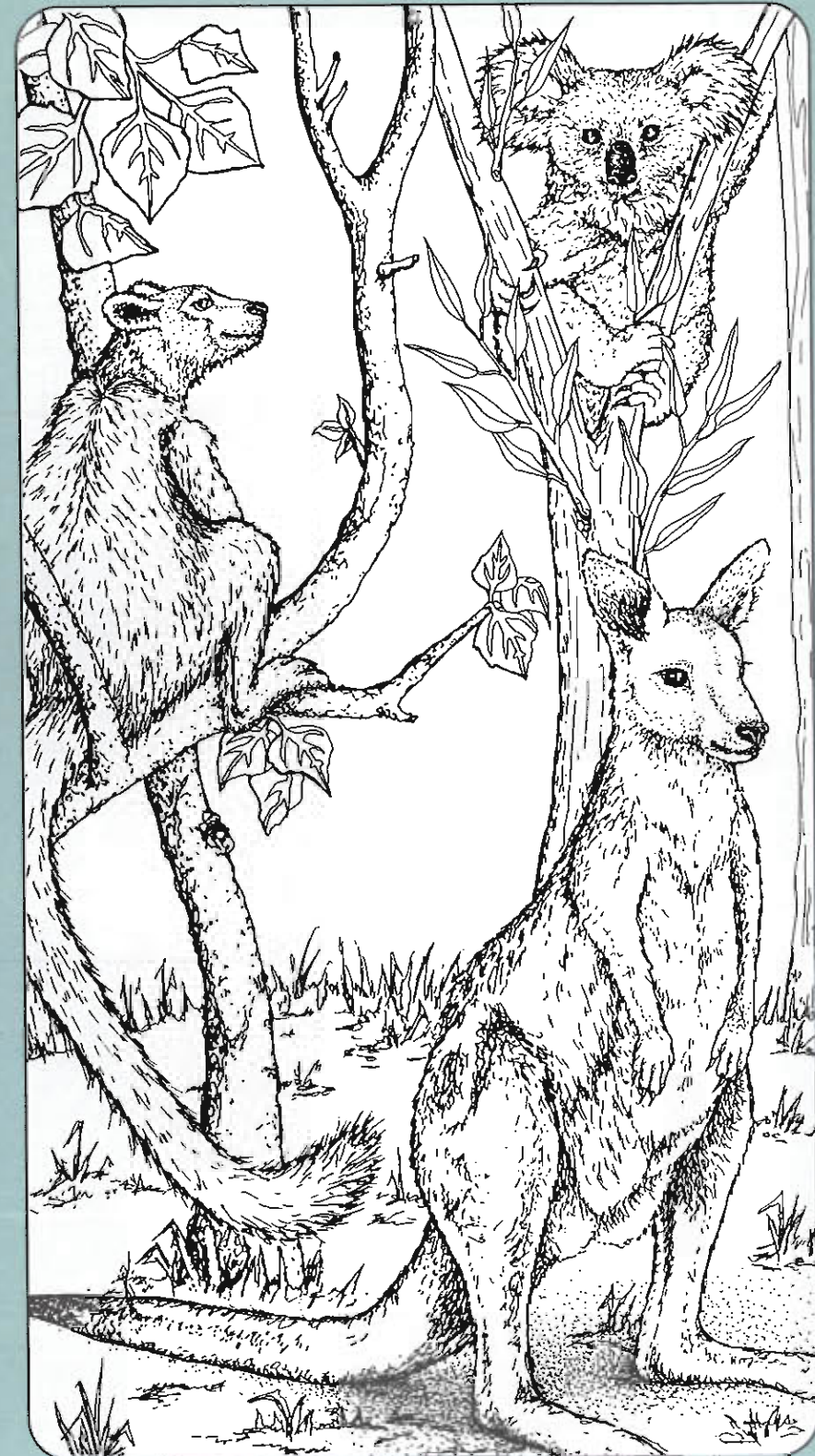
Marsupials are pouched mammals. Young are born extremely small and immature and develop in the pouch of the mother. Australia has the most marsupials. Kangaroos and koalas are examples of pouched mammals.

Can you name the one marsupial found in Wisconsin?

Answer: Opossum

Alive
For KIDS and Families

Animals of Australia



Koala

Koalas, the newest guests at our Zoo, are marsupials (pouched mammals) that feed only on eucalyptus. They are found in the gum, or eucalyptus, forests of eastern Australia.

Tree Kangaroo

This kangaroo lives in trees. It feeds on a variety of leaves and fruit and is found just off the coast of Australia in New Guinea.

Red Kangaroo

The Red Kangaroo is the largest member of the kangaroo family and can hop in strides of up to 30 feet. These kangaroos feed on grasses and are found throughout most of Australia.

PULL-OUT SECTION

Marsupial Maze

Help these animals find their way home.

Tree Kangaroo

Koala

Red Kangaroo

Rainforest

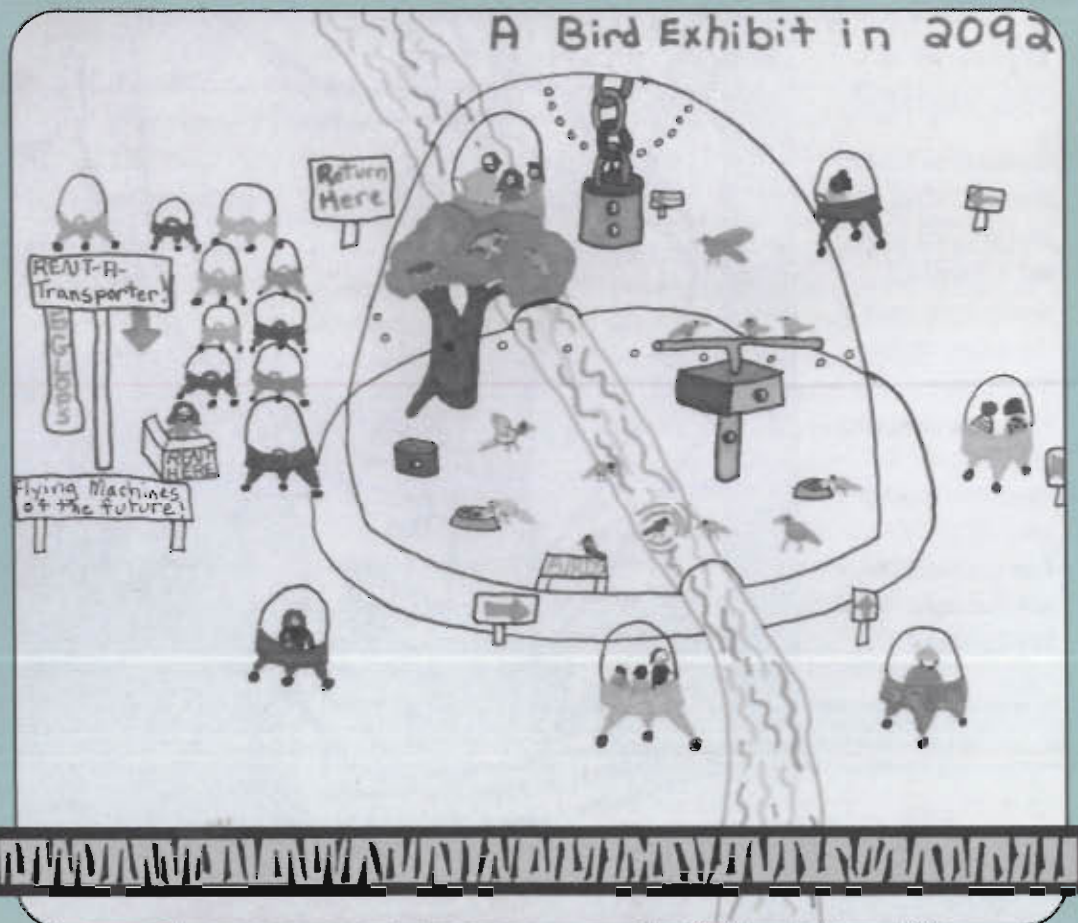
Gum forest

Shrubland/grassland

Future Zoo Winners!

In the last issue of *Alive*, we asked readers to design an animal exhibit for a Zoo in the year 2092. Here's the winner, sent in by 12-year-old **Amanda Beay** from Dousman.

Honorable mention awards went to **Doug Ekbohm, John Heffron, Robert Jasinski, Marisa Larsen, Therese Pecor, Melissa Potter, Krista Schubert, Amy Schuldt, Leah Nicole Sikorsky, and Jennifer Simpson.**



The Curious Corner

Why does the opossum play dead?

Sometimes, when opossums are frightened or hurt, they pretend to play dead, a behavior popularly called "playing possum," so that their enemies leave them alone. When "playing possum," the animal lies very still with its body and tail curled into a ball. Its mouth is open and seems to be unresponsive to touch. Did you know that the opossum that we have in Wisconsin is called the Virginia or Common Opossum and that it is the only marsupial found in North America? Except for other species of opossum that live in Central and South America, most marsupials live in New Guinea and Australia.

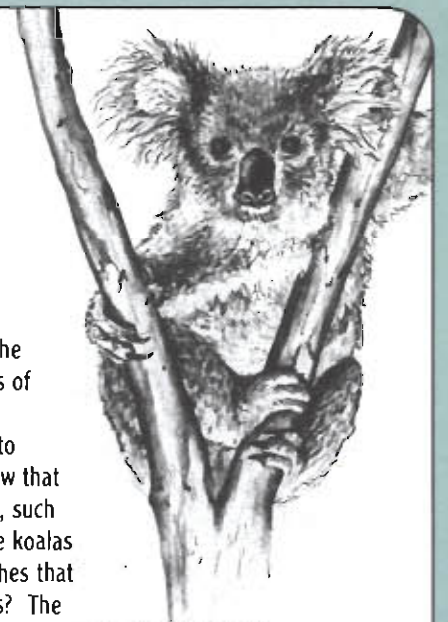
Submitted by:
Nate and Tyler Jung
Ages 8 and 6
Pewaukee, WI



Do Koala Bears Hibernate?

First, koalas are not bears. They are marsupials (pouched animals). They live in the warm eucalyptus forests of eastern Australia and, therefore, do not need to hibernate. Did you know that unlike other marsupials, such as the kangaroo, female koalas have upside down pouches that open between their legs? The baby crawls into the mother's pouch after it is born. The young koala will live in the pouch until it is old enough to survive on its own.

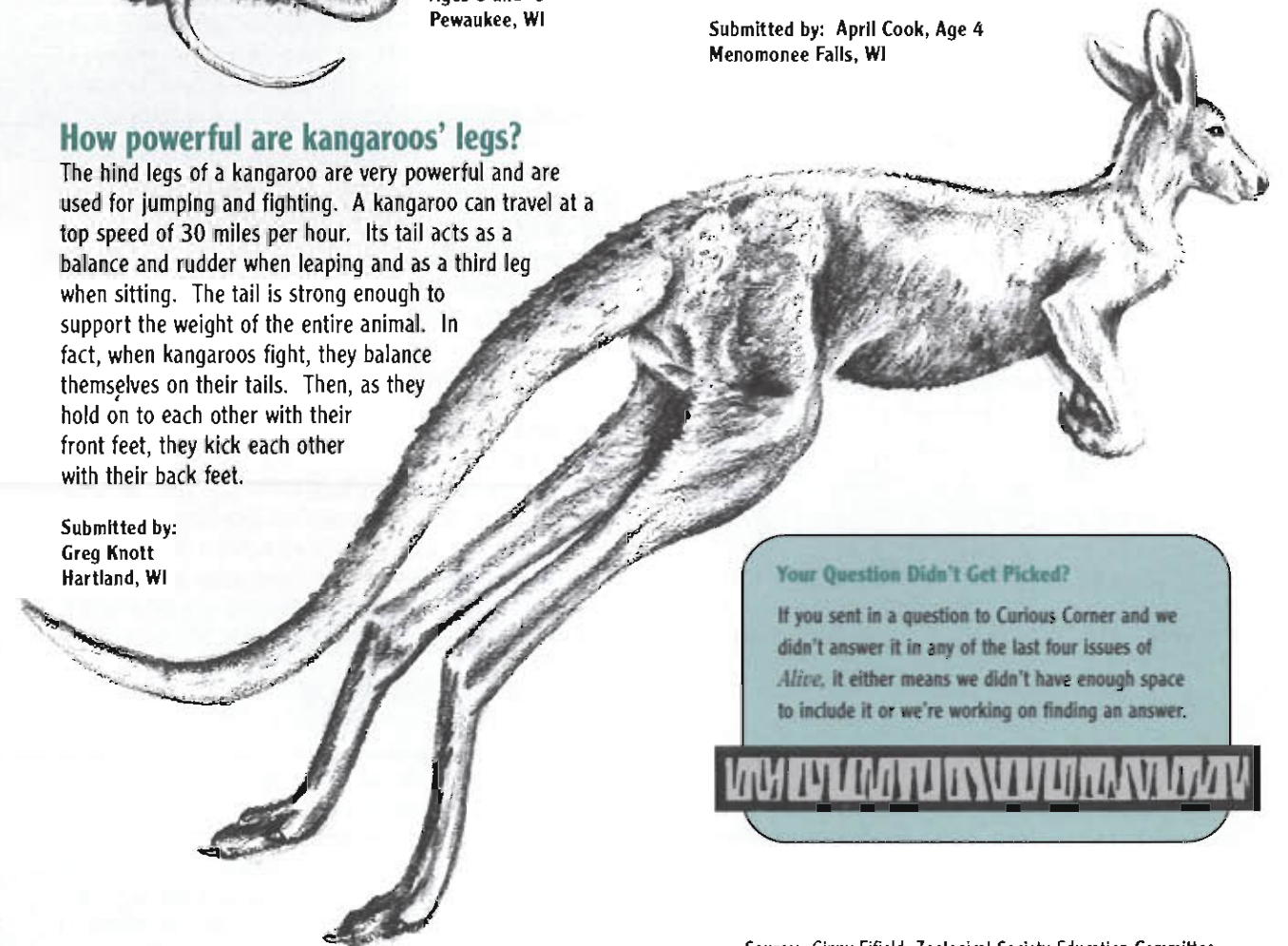
Submitted by: April Cook, Age 4
Menomonee Falls, WI



How powerful are kangaroos' legs?

The hind legs of a kangaroo are very powerful and are used for jumping and fighting. A kangaroo can travel at a top speed of 30 miles per hour. Its tail acts as a balance and rudder when leaping and as a third leg when sitting. The tail is strong enough to support the weight of the entire animal. In fact, when kangaroos fight, they balance themselves on their tails. Then, as they hold on to each other with their front feet, they kick each other with their back feet.

Submitted by:
Greg Knott
Hartland, WI



Your Question Didn't Get Picked?

If you sent in a question to Curious Corner and we didn't answer it in any of the last four issues of *Alive*, it either means we didn't have enough space to include it or we're working on finding an answer.



Source: Ginny Fifield, Zoological Society Education Committee

Education Programs

Kids, families, adults! Join us in uncovering the mysteries of the animal kingdom by signing up for any of these fall and winter programs, coordinated by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County and the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension.

FALL PROGRAM OPENINGS

Openings still remain in **Preschool Workshops** for children ages 4 to 6 (in kindergarten), **Individual Youth Workshops** for children ages 8 to 13, and **Family Workshops** this fall. Limited openings remain for **Tiny Tots Workshops** for children age 3 with a parent. Program costs range from \$10-\$30 for Society members. To find out which programs still have openings, call our 24-hour recorded message at 414/475-4636, select topic 748 for children 3 through 5 and topic 749 for older children.

Kids Day Out

Ages 6-11

Bring your kids to the Zoo during the Wisconsin State Teachers' Convention, October 29 and 30, or during the Milwaukee Teachers' Conference, November 5 and 6. Enroll your children for one or both days of either session. You can drop them off on your way to work, 7:30-9:30 a.m., and pick them up after work, 3:30-5 p.m. The program lasts from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Cost per day: \$20-Zoological Society members; \$25-non-members. Lunch is included each day. Call to register. 414/256-5421, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Co-sponsored by Little Caesars.

WINTER PROGRAMS

To receive a complete listing of **January through May education programs**, send a stamped, self-addressed, business-size envelope to: **Winter Education Programs, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Bluemound Dr., Milwaukee, WI 53226.** These brochures will be available **November 10**, and registration for winter programs will start **December 1.**

Tiny Tots Workshops

Age 3 with parent

Parents and their 3-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. Cost per workshop: \$12-Society members; \$14-non-members. Includes parking pass.

Preschool Workshops

Ages 4-5

Children ages four and five (and six-year-olds in kindergarten) can learn about different animals each month. Cost per workshop: \$10-Society members; \$12-non-members. **New this year:** An opportunity for a parent to learn with his or her children in special parent/child sessions offered monthly. Cost per parent/child workshop: \$14-Society members; \$16-non-members. Includes parking pass.

Spring Break Camps

Ages 4-13

This one-day spring break camp will introduce three different age groups to nature, ecology, the Zoo and its inhabitants. There will be lots of arts, crafts, games, visits from some of the Zoo's animals and a tour to see the rest. Camps will be held daily, **April 13-16**, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. for older children, and 9:30-11:45 a.m. and 12:45-3 p.m. for 4- and 5-year-olds.

Individual Youth Workshops

Ages 6-13

Saturdays can be exciting when you spend them at one of these two-hour workshops. With new age groups for kids ages 6 (in first grade) and 7, 8-10, and 11-13, we promise you'll find a workshop that's perfect for you and your imagination. All workshops promote learning through hands-on activities, games and Zoo tours. Workshops will be held in **January, February, March, and April.** Cost per workshop: \$12-Society members, \$15-non-members.

Family Workshops

Ages 6 and up with parents

Families! Spend your Sunday afternoons together at the Zoo learning about and exploring the world of animals and nature. Workshops will be held in **February and March.** Cost per workshop: \$20-Society members; \$25-non-members. Workshops are designed for families of up to four, with children 6 and older. Additional family members over 4 are \$4 each. Includes parking pass.

Drawing Workshop

Ages 8-13

Learn how to draw live animals and use ours as your subjects—from gorillas to penguins. You'll even learn some interesting facts about the animals you draw. This five-week workshop is taught by guest artist Robert Gingras **March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3**, 9:15-10:45 a.m. Cost: \$35-Society members; \$45-non-members. Includes supplies.

4-H Zoo Club

Ages 9-13

Older youth can experience the world of 4-H "Zoo Style" this winter in our new 4-H club. The club will meet one Saturday a month, **January through May**, 9:30 a.m.-noon and will include a chance to learn more about zoo animal management, zoology and nature and opportunities to put that learning to use when you create a long-term fair project to be exhibited in May. Cost: \$30-Society members; \$45-non-members.

Winter Photo Workshop

Adults

Join professional photographer and animal lover Andrew Holman for this 1-1/2-day workshop at the Zoo. Learn how to take photos of Zoo animals against the winter-white snow, learn about time exposure and composition, how to treat your camera in cold weather and more! The class will include a lecture, photo safari through the Zoo, and a critique of your work. **January 9**, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., and **January 16**, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Cost: \$25-Society members; \$35-non-members. Includes parking pass.

Heritage Garden

Discover what types of vegetables people from around the world use to make the traditional, ethnic recipes linked to their cultures by paying a visit to the Heritage Garden in the Stackner Heritage Farm at the Zoo.

Located just outside the Dairy Complex's Dairy Store, the Heritage Garden features vegetables grown by several ethnic



Laura Wayner (fore) and Maria Susterich, Master Gardeners with the Milwaukee County UW-Extension, show off some ethnic vegetables they harvested from the Heritage Garden at the Zoo.

groups—European-American, Hmong and East Asian, African-American, and Hispanic.

Through signs and periodic presentations by volunteer Master Gardeners with the Milwaukee County UW-Extension, Zoo visitors can learn, for instance, which of the garden's vegetables Europeans would use to make sauerkraut and pasta sauce; why Hmong and East Asians put broad-leaf lemon grass, parsley and spinach in their chicken soup; why the Clemson spineless okra gives the African-American's chicken gumbo recipe its distinctive taste; and which vegetables

Hispanics would pick for their famous salsas and seasonings.

"The garden gives us an excellent opportunity to celebrate the world's rich cultural diversity by educating children and their families about the importance of vegetables in ethnic traditions," said Sharon Morrisey, home horticulturist with the Milwaukee County UW-Extension. "It also gives us a chance to share tips on family gardening and ways to involve kids in the garden."

Master Gardeners visit the Heritage Garden once or twice a week to care for the garden and talk with visitors about the Heritage Garden project, a cooperative effort between the Zoological Society and the Milwaukee County Office of the University of Wisconsin-Extension.

For more information on the Heritage Garden or on becoming a Master Gardener, write to the Milwaukee County Office of the UW-Extension, 1304 S. 70th St., West Allis, WI 53214, or call 414/475-2200.

Animal Tip Line

Learn about animals without leaving home by calling the Animal Tip Line at 414/475-4636 and requesting topic #310. In October, you'll hear a recorded message on animals that frighten people; in November, the wild turkey; in December, animals from cold climates; and in January, animals that hibernate. This free service is offered by the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension, the Zoological Society, and the Society's volunteer auxiliary, Zoo Pride.

Resource Center

Thanks to the Zoological Society's association with Milwaukee-area groups working to save the environment, the following publications are available to Society members:

- "Guide to Non-Toxic Cleaners," a brochure by the Lake Michigan Federation that offers recipes for a clean home and a cleaner environment. To receive a copy, send a self-addressed, stamped (52 cents) business-size envelope to Brochure for Home Cleaning, Education, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226.

- "Business Goes Beyond Recycling," a brochure by Wisconsin Industry Saving Our Environment. To receive a copy, send a self-addressed, stamped (29 cents) business-size envelope to Brochure for Businesses, Education, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226.



Alex Klabunde got a close-up look at a Mexican orange-knee tarantula during a Zoological Society Adventure Camp this summer. Thanks to Walgreens, dozens of high school interns and Zoo Pride volunteers, the Society was able to teach 3,230 children about animals from around the world as part of the Society's Summer Adventure Camp program.



Fragile Flight

It's a rare adult who doesn't have fond childhood memories of chasing after butterflies and capturing them in empty coffee cans or see-through pickle jars. But at some point along life's path, we entomologist

wannabes redirect our attention from butterflies to "real animals," like lions, giraffes and birds.

Not Amy Wolf. With financial support from the Zoological Society and the U.S. Forest Service, Wolf, a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, has made a single butterfly species—the endangered Northern Blue (*Lycaeidas idas nabokovi*)—and its host plant, the Dwarf Bilberry (*Vaccinium caespitosum*), the subjects of much of her academic career. She hopes her research will point to an answer to this question: What will it take to help species like these survive?

Wolf's first step toward this goal was finding the butterfly. With little information on the Northern Blue's population biology and ecology, she began her investigation with trips to two northeastern

Wisconsin sites inhabited by the Northern Blue and its blueberry-like host plant. Using topographical maps and aerial photos, she uncovered several additional sites that featured the isolated, barren habitat that the Northern Blue and Dwarf Bilberry call home. All of these sites are on public land in the Nicolet National Forest and in the Oconto County and Marinette County Forest system.

Managers of these lands are now interested in protecting the Northern Blue, but over the past several decades, they might have nearly evicted the species from the state by converting much of the butterfly's habitat to pine plantations. "Destruction and degradation of native habitat is a major threat to most rare animals, and butterflies are no exception," Wolf said. "To formulate management plans for this species, we need to collect more basic information on how the butterfly lives, behaves and breeds."

Over the past three years, this goal sent Wolf into two of the Northern Blue sites during the butterfly's July and August peak flight period. Armed with a net and other butterfly-catching paraphernalia, Wolf



Male Northern Blue Butterflies congregate at a puddle presumably to replenish salts and electrolytes lost during mating.

enclosures constructed around small areas containing Northern Blue larvae were no obstacles to adult butterflies, who could easily escape.

"I was hoping that when the female adults emerged, I could take them out of the enclosures and transfer them to portable cages, pair them with males, and observe

mating behaviors, but it didn't work," said Wolf, resigned to the challenges of field research. As so often happens in ecological studies, Wolf had to develop a Plan B. She decided to capture fresh females from the field and not from the enclosures, put them in cages, and observe their egg-laying behavior. "Fortunately, this proved to be successful in the end," Wolf said.

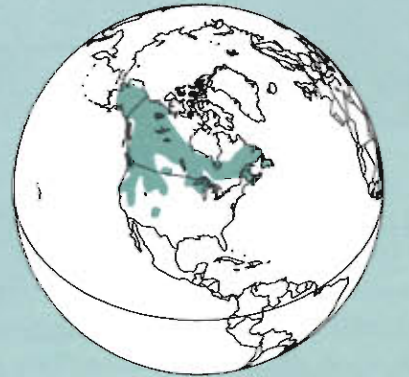
As part of her research, Wolf also gathered important information on when butterfly larvae first appear, how long they pupate, and how long adults are present at the site. This information will help land managers better plan their habitat protection strategies. "Combined, all of my research will give us a better understanding of the basic biology and ecology of the Northern Blue and the Dwarf Bilberry and their interactions," Wolf said. "It's information that will be helpful in identifying suitable habitat elsewhere within the range of these endangered species."

"Conservation of the Northern Blue will require preservation of habitat containing its host plant, which exists in localized patches. The conservation challenge is a problem of landscape proportions, where localized populations

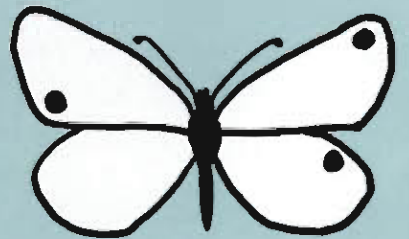
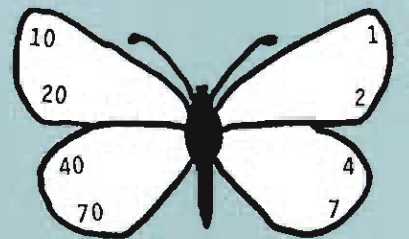
pursued the brightly shaded, purple-blue species within 25-meter gridded observation units she crafted to make keeping records on butterfly and plant locations easier. Each time she captured a butterfly, Wolf would mark a code number on its wing with a fine-point marker and release it. The coding system not only assisted her in recognizing individual butterflies and estimating the butterfly's population size, but it also helped her gather important demographic information, like size, age, sex, longevity (how long each butterfly survives based on site-to-site movement), and behavior (flying, nectaring, basking, chasing, mating, egg laying or puddling). Puddling is when butterflies visit small, wet areas along roads and sandy areas to replenish the salts and minerals they presumably lose during mating. In all, Wolf has captured and noted behaviors of more than 1,700 butterflies.

"Every day in the field was a learning experience...never a dull moment," Wolf said. "Watching the butterflies' behavior was the most exciting part of my research." Among the highlights of her field work: noting interactions between the butterflies' sugar-producing larvae and attendant ants; recording the butterflies' interactions with other animals, including spiders; and discovering that 1/4-inch mesh screen

GEOGRAPHY



North American distribution of the Northern Blue Butterfly (*Lycaeidas idas nabokovi*)



Amy Wolf uses this coding system to identify individual butterflies she captures. The dotted butterfly above, for instance, is Number 25 (20+4+1). Information gathered on each butterfly helps Wolf estimate the population size, sex ratio, movement, longevity and habitat requirements of the Northern Blue.



LEFT: Endangered Northern Blue Butterfly
RIGHT: Dwarf Bilberry, host plant to the Northern Blue

Photos courtesy of Amy Wolf

continued on next page

must be treated within the larger context of metapopulations (the regional combination of several subpopulations)."


Wolf has contacted the Marinette County Board, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and The Nature Conservancy about her research and its implications for managing Wisconsin's land for the Northern Blue's long-term survival. Biologists in the Nicolet National Forest are considering removal of pine trees that have shaded out many of the Northern Blue's host plants.

Land managers also are considering establishing conservation corridors, or paths that connect the butterflies' habitat patches, to enable butterflies to fly more freely from one habitat to another and increase genetic exchange among butterfly subpopulations.

"Hopefully, my research will provide insight and direction into the conservation of other localized rare species, not just the



Amy Wolf at Northern Blue research site

Northern Blue," Wolf said. "Virtually all of Wisconsin's rare species are fascinating and need to be better understood. Best of all, you don't need to go to the tropics to research them. They're all right here in our backyard." 

As part of the Zoological Society's Wisconsin Student Grant Program, \$10,000 in research grants are awarded annually to Wisconsin-based students pursuing advanced degrees in wildlife conservation. This year, eight of 14 project proposals were funded through the program. From time to time, the research of award-winning students will be featured in Alive.

Teaming Up for Tamanduas

Hunted by locals and their dogs for sport and threatened by widespread destruction of their tree savanna habitat, the tamandua, or collared anteater, faces an uncertain future in many parts of its Central and South American home.

To help insure the long-term survival of the tamandua in the wild, Elizabeth Frank, the Zoo's curator of large mammals, is discovering new ways to successfully keep this bristly-haired, long-snouted animal in captivity as part of an international partnership program with the Sao Paulo Zoo in Brazil. The Sao Paulo Zoo is widely respected for its success in the captive management of the giant anteater, the larger relative of the tamandua. Sao Paulo receives tamanduas from wildlife agencies in Brazil.



"Many of the zoos that have exhibited tamanduas in the United States, including Milwaukee, have experienced problems with them," Frank said. "We're hoping that combining the experiences of U.S. and Brazilian zoos will offer insight."

Presently, there are no tamanduas on exhibit at the Milwaukee County Zoo.

Suspecting that an imbalance in the animals' soupy gruel diet of ground beef, eggs, milk and vitamins (tamanduas eat ants and termites in the wild) might be among the factors contributing to zoos' difficulties with the species, Frank reviewed records of all the food the Sao Paulo Zoo's tamanduas had eaten over the last 20 years.

With this research and input from a nutritionist at Chicago's Brookfield Zoo, Frank traveled to Sao Paulo for six weeks to work with Katia Cassaro, curator of mammals at the Sao Paulo Zoo. Cassaro, who is investigating tamandua care-and-feeding programs of all Brazilian zoos, worked with Frank on comparing Sao Paulo's tamandua diet to Milwaukee's diet to assess the tamanduas' nutritional needs. When Cassaro visits the Milwaukee County Zoo this fall, she and Frank will use this nutrition information to make recommendations to the Edentate SSP (Species Survival Plan) on a tamandua husbandry program for the long-term survival of the species in captivity.

"Once we're finished with our research, we hope to publish a report that makes recommendations on captive diet and husbandry procedures and share it with zoos throughout the United States and Brazil," Frank said.

The results of Frank's and Cassaro's research will decide whether visitors to the Milwaukee County Zoo will see tamanduas return to the Small Mammal Building any time soon.

Help Save the Species

In the face of dwindling wildlife habitat and increasingly threatened ecosystems, protection of endangered species demands immediate action. Here's what you can do to help:

- ✿ Ask your representative to cosponsor H.R. 4050, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Amendments of 1992. The bill would broaden the scope of the ESA. Ask your representative to oppose legislation that would weaken the act.
- ✿ Join the National Audubon Society's endangered species campaign. Send your name, address and phone number to ESC, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.
- ✿ Talk to your friends and neighbors about the importance of wildlife preservation.



Miller Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament

About 120 golfers teed off at the Zoological Society's Third Annual Miller Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament at the Ozaukee Country Club this summer. The event, sponsored by Miller Brewing Company, treated golfers to a brunch, 18 holes of golf, a silent and voice auction, cocktails and dinner. The event raised more than \$66,000 for the Zoological Society, making this year's outing the most successful to date. Tom Dempsey chaired the event.

◀ Miller Brewing Company foursome (clockwise from left) Bill Schmus, Len Jacob, Dan Masta, and Warren Dunn get ready to tee off at this year's Miller Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament.

Zoo Ball IX

A galactic success, Zoo Ball IX: An Odyssey—From Stone Age to Space Age raised about \$225,000 toward the renovation of the Australia Building, home to the Zoo's two new koalas. Patty and Paul Cadorin and Sandi and Bill Moomey co-chaired this year's ball, co-sponsored by American Airlines and the Zoological Society. Mark your calendar for next year's Zoo Ball—our 10th Annual—to be held June 26, 1993.

▶ Nora and Don Dreske mingle with some cavepeople during the Stone Age portion of Zoo Ball IX.



Matey! Lend A Hand, Leave Your Mark

Leave your handprint—just like the aborigines do—on the rockwork of the mural inside the koalas' new home! If you're among the first 100 people to donate \$100 to the Zoological Society's "Lend a Hand" fundraiser, you can get a silhouette of your hand spray-painted onto the rockwork portion of the mural on the north wall of the Australia Building. The fund-raiser will help raise money to buy eucalyptus for the Zoo's two new koalas. Each handprint will be identified by name on the "Lend a Hand" donor board on the mural. Call Judi Bessette at 414/258-2333 for more details, or complete a donor form at the Zoological Society's main office. We'll call you to schedule an appointment.

Sponsor Spotlight

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY THANKS...

Miller Brewing Company, County Line Cheese and WMIL-FM 106 for sponsoring the Third Annual Z Double Circle Round-Up at the Zoo.

Aurora Health Care and WOKY for co-sponsoring and **Tri City Banks** for supporting Senior Celebration at the Zoo.

The Australian Book Source, the Australian Consul General for the Midwest, Discovery Toys, Harry W. Schwartz Bookshops, Kangaroo Pocket Bread and Walkabout Springs for joining the Zoological Society in celebrating the arrival of the Zoo's two new koalas and the opening of the renovated Australia Building during Koala-ty Nights for members.

Little Caesars Pizza for sponsoring Kids Day Out, an education program of the Zoological Society.

The Platypus Society is a group of about 350 of Milwaukee's foundations, corporations and individuals that contribute more than \$300,000 annually to the Zoological Society. If you would like to join this group in

helping the Society uphold its mission of supporting the Zoo, educating the community about the importance of wildlife and the environment and conserving endangered species, call Judi Bessette at (414) 258-2333.

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PLATY PALS Platy, the Platypus Society's new mascot, joins Zoo veteran Hugh Evans (left); Judi Bessette, the Zoological Society's director of development; and Lee Jennings, the Society's chairman of the Board, on a V.I.P. behind-the-scenes tour of the Zoo. Platy, designed and constructed by Jason and Vida Ludington of Kenosha's JRL Fabrication, made its Zoo debut at the V.I.P. Koala-ty Night in August and also greeted guests at the 11th Annual Platypus Society Dinner in September. Though we can't promise Platy will join you on your next V.I.P. Zoo tour, we can promise you special attention by Zoo experts Hugh Evans and Ralph Konrath. Together, these tour guides' 52 years of combined Zoo experience help make our behind-the-scenes Zoo tours fun and educational. V.I.P. tours are a benefit of membership in the Platypus Society. Call Debbie Skowronski at 414/258-2333 to schedule a V.I.P. tour for your business associates, friends or family.

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* 5-year Platypus Society Member (updated each fall)

NEW MEMBERS
The Zoological Society welcomes the following new Platypus Society members as of August 26:
\$1,000-\$1,499 Corporate
HM Graphics Inc.
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Donald & Mary Jane Gallo
Paul & Gloria Halverson
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Friends contributing to the Platypus Society after August 26, 1992 will be recognized in the next issue of ALIVE.
NEW GIFT LEVELS
The Zoological Society thanks the following members for their increased levels of giving:
\$2,500-\$2,999 Patron
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◀ Striped Hyena

(Feline Building)

Arrived at Zoo: June 11, 1992

Among only a few zoos in the country to exhibit Striped Hyenas, the Milwaukee County Zoo received Terra, a female, from the Baltimore Zoo as a companion for Aldebaron, our male, though no breeding is planned. Terra has a permanent limp that was caused by a break to her right front leg. To help the wound heal, Zoo veterinarians placed a steel plate in her leg. Terra's relatives in the wild live in the dry, rocky brush areas of East and Northern Africa. Striped Hyenas are solitary hunters that eat small prey and more carrion than their larger relative, the Spotted (Laughing) Hyena. Though they are scavengers, hyenas do eat insects, small vertebrates, eggs, fruits and vegetables. Moist fruits and vegetables are especially important to a hyena's diet as a water source. Though hyenas look like dogs, they are more closely related to cats. When a Striped Hyena becomes angered or excited, the long hair (seven to nine inches) from the back of its neck to the tip of its tail is held erect, nearly doubling the animal's size in appearance.

Source: Neil Dretzka, Area Supervisor, Felines



◀ Laughing Kookaburra

(Aviary)

Hatched: June 3, 1992

Alarmbird. Breakfastbird. Bushman's, Settler's or Shepherd's Clock. Giant or Laughing Kingfisher. Jack, Jackass, Jacko, Johnny or Laughing Jack. Hatta or Woop Woop Pigeon. This bird we know as the Laughing Kookaburra is known by Australians by all of these names. By whatever name, this bird is among the most unique and respected in all Australia. According to aboriginal legend, when the sun rose for the first time, the god Bayame ordered the Kookaburra to "laugh" to wake up the people so they could see the sunrise. In the wild, Kookaburras "laugh" together in noisy territorial displays and generally live in small groups in the trees of open woodlands. They hunt mostly over land, spotting prey from great distances and making long, sloping glides to seize it. A cavity-nester, the mother of the bird pictured here dug several depressions in the soil of her Aviary exhibit before laying her eggs.

Source: Ellen Saksefski, Area Supervisor, Aviary

Prehensile-tailed Skink ▶

(Aquarium/Reptile Building)

Arrived at Zoo: January 25, 1992

This unusual-looking lizard came to the Zoo from the Solomon Islands, located just off the east coast of New Guinea. With its prehensile (designed for grasping) tail, thick plate- and scale-covered body, powerful limbs and sharp claws, the skink is well-adapted to its life in trees. No other skink species—there are about 800—is arboreal and no other species is as large as the skink. Because of its size and arboreal nature, the Prehensile-tailed Skink—sometimes called the Monkey-tailed Skink—has become a favorite terrarium animal. The recent increase in the demand for skinks as pets, however, has reduced the total population of the species in the wild. If intensive skink hunting for the pet trade isn't curbed, the extinction of the skink species may be unavoidable.

Source: Richard Sajdak, Curator, Aquarium/Reptile



Red Kangaroo ▶

(Australia Building)

Born: March 20, 1992

At the mention of Australia, most people picture this. Not quite ready to leave its mother's pouch, their new Australian arrival—the first Red Kangaroo to be born at the Zoo in two years—spends much of its time peering out of its mother's pouch. But by mid-October, zoogoers should be able to see the joey out of the pouch and beside Mom, learning how to graze, groom and protect itself. When ready to get back into the pouch, the joey will grip the rim of the pouch with its forepaws, dive in head first, somersault until its head is up, and then twist around until it faces out, with forearms resting on the rim of the pouch. This joey won't be ready to leave its mother's pouch permanently until it is about 240 days old.

Source: Elizabeth Frank, Curator, Large Mammals





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Fuji Photo Contest

This photograph of the Zoo's Dall Sheep, taken by Pauline G. Collins of Oconto, took first place in the Zoo's 1992 Fuji Photo Contest. The top three contest winners received cash prizes and film. Call 414/256-5412 for information on how to enter next year's contest.