

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



TOWARD A GLOBAL ECOLOGY.

Centuries ago, people influenced the environment mostly on a local or regional scale. But over the years, we've been making more significant changes to the earth...destroying forests, changing the flow of rivers, hunting endangered animals...with global consequences. As all of us more regularly and more directly experience the results of changes we've made to nature, we must expand our environmental consciousness by learning more about how our activities affect our world.

To this end, the Zoological Society is supporting a broad range of conservation projects designed to help scientists and opinion-leaders around the world get a better understanding of the far-reaching effects of human activities. One of these projects is the Wisconsin Student Grant Program, which awards about \$16,000 in grants each year to students working toward advanced degrees in wildlife conservation. Since last spring, when the program started, more than two dozen endangered species-from Venezuela's forest birds to North America's Northern Blue Butterfly-have benefited from their work. Students share their findings with local governments, hoping to provide information that can help officials make informed wildlife management decisions...decisions that could affect the ecology of entire

The Society also is funding part of a koala habitat mapping effort that's helping Australian developers, conservation groups and government agencies understand the importance of saving Australia's dwindling koala habitat.

In this issue of Alive, we highlight both of these important projects, which together help illustrate the Zoological Society's wide-reaching role in helping world leaders find answers to environmental problems that touch every aspect of life on earth.

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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Allive is published quartesty by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukes, WI 53226. Subscription by membership only. Call (414) 258-2333 for membership information,

Editor and Writer Patricia A. Harrigan **Editorial Assistant**

Rever I Mayor

Artist and Designer

For Kids & Families Writers

For Kids & Families Artist Tricia Busse Photographer

Richard Brodzeller

The Fox Company, Inc. Publications Committee Chair





VOLUME 13. ISSUE 4

FEATURES

CLOSING THE INFORMATION GAP ON BOBCATS

At the center of a highly publicized hunters vs. anti-hunters lawsuit, bobcats are getting expert attention from a UW-Stevens Point graduate student, who's working toward more precise ways to measure Wisconsin's bobcat population.

IS THERE A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE? The Zoo's veterinarians can handle most of the ailments that afflict the Zoo's 5,600 animals. But what happens when a general practitioner won't do?

11 ZOO BALL X A tenth-anniversary celebration of the wildest ball in town.

MAPPING THE KOALA'S FUTURE More than 25,000 acres of prime koala habitat in southeast Queensland, Australia were spared this year, thanks to this

innovative koala habitat mapping effort.

DEPARTMENTS

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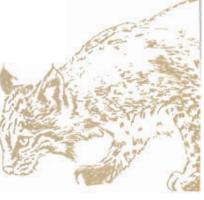




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ON THE COVER

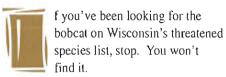
"Robeat in the Dogwood" by Jay Jocham Zoological Society Artist Endowed by Gretchen and Andrew Dawes Endowment, Inc.





BOBCATS

Closing the Information Gap



A couple of months ago, the state Court of Appeals ruled in favor of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (WDNR) decision not to list the bobcat as threatened in Wisconsin. The decision came in response to claims from animal conservation groups that the bobcat may soon be hunted and trapped off

Wisconsin's landscape.

To support their claims, conservationists cited recent declines in harvest figures (or number of bobcats hunted or trapped) as evidence of statewide population declines. But, harvest figures alone are considered poor short-term indicators of animal abuudance

> Sixteen bobcats in northwestern Wisconsin's Douglas County are wearing radio collars to help scientists track them as part of a bobcat population study.

and population status because they are affected by other factors like weather conditions, pelt prices and levels of hunting.

Current WDNR estimates, on the other hand, point to a stable bobcat population in Wiscousin. These estimates primarily come from age, sex and reproduction data gathered from harvested bobcats. But, whether the WDNR's censusing techniques provide an accurate picture of Wisconsin's bobcat population dynamics is a question

that still needs an answer.

Working to find it is University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point masters' student Matthew Lovallo. With funding from the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County and grants from at least six other organizations. Lovallo is putting the finishing touches on a study that will offer the WDNR more precise techniques to measure chauges in bobcat populations. Lovallo's study, among the first





in the country to link census figures to known bobcat population densities, began in January 1991 under the direction of Dr. Eric Anderson, assistant professor of wildlife biology at UW-Stevens Point. Lovallo worked with several assistants to capture 19 bobcats and radio-collar 16 bobcats (11 males, five females) in Douglas County, about 40 miles south of Duluth/Superior. The 100-square-mile study site was believed to be home to more bobcats than many other regions in the state.

All of the animals were captured in padded, offset-foothold traps to limit the chance of injury to

animals. Lovallo checked the traps twice a day, once in the early morning and once in the evening. "If I captured a bobcat, I anesthetized the animal, estimated its age based on tooth wear and body weight, radio-collared it and released it," Lovallo said. He stayed with each trapped animal until it was on its feet.

Once all the bobcats were collared, or tagged, Lovallo would strike out for six to eight hours a day or night in his truck—complete with a roof-mounted directional antenna and compass—to find them. "My goal was to monitor the tagged cats over a 24-hour period," said Lovallo. An especially difficult assignment in winter when days are biting cold and access to roads is limited.

"On one bonus day, though, I had a chance to observe several bobcat dens and record the age, weight and sex of several litters of bobcat kittens," Lovallo said. Another day treated Lovallo to a An unexpected bonus, a den of bobcat kittens greet researcher Matthew Lovallo during his bobcat population study.

GEOGRAPHY

Located in northwestern Wisconsin, Douglas County has among the highest bobcat populations in the state. The 100-square-mile bobcat study site is in the southern portion of Douglas County and runs along the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. The site is dominated by coniferous-hardwood and pine-savanna forests, critical habitat for bobcats.

Douglas County Study Area

fresh deer kill. "I saw where a bobcat had separated and hidden portions of the hindquarters and entrails," Lovallo said. "It was a bit more exciting than just sitting in a truck with a flashlight recording data."

Lovallo plotted bobcats at more than

continued on next page



2,000 locations over several seasons, then estimated home ranges for the 13 bobcats living in the study site. "I found that males cover about 25 square miles a day and often travel into other males' home ranges," Lovallo said, "while females respected the boundaries of other females' territories." Females, he said, typically live in an area of 10 to 12 square miles. Lovallo most often found the radio-tagged bobcats in lowland conifer and hardwood forests and rarely in upland conifer forests and oak savanna

To try to understand why bobcats prefer these habitats over other habitat types found in the study site. Lovallo conducted a couple of different prey population surveys. "I found that the lowland conifer forests provide a greater diversity and abundance of small mammal prey species and contribute more to the bobcat's life requisites," Lovallo said.

Besides tracking the radio-tagged study bobcats, Lovallo also tried to remotely census other bobcats in the area by placing scent stations (circles of sifted dirt with olfactory attractants) along randomly chosen routes and by looking for tracks along established routes after fresh snowfalls.

When Lovailo evaluated results from both of these census techniques and data he gathered through radio-tracking tagged bobcats, he found that the density of bobcats in his study area was relatively high-about one cat per every five square miles-and was comparable to WDNR density estimates. Lovallo's study also revealed important information on bobcat behavior, preferred habitat, reproduction and survival in Wisconsin.

"By combining my demographic and censusing data with WDNR's data, we hope to more accurately detect changes in bobcat populations statewide," said Lovallo, who

Matthew Lovallo holds one of the bobcat kittens he retrieved from one of the den sites he discovered as part of his research.

plans to share his findings with WDNR this fall.

Before he presents his findings, however, Lovallo wants to answer at least one remaining question: Can his censusing techniques be efficiently and costeffectively applied statewide? "I still need to find out how intensively we need to sample bobcats before we can accurately detect population changes," Lovallo said.

As soon as he finds the answer, Lovallo hopes to advance to the next level of bobcat research as a doctoral student.

Through the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County's Wisconsin Student Grant Program, \$16,000 in research grants are awarded annually to Wisconsin-based students pursuing advanced degrees in wildlife conservation. The Society joins the following organizations in funding Matthew Lovallo's bobcat research: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Wisconsin Bear Hunters' Association, Safari Club, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Wisconsin Trappers' Association, Tri-State Coon Hanters' Association, Northwestern Houndhanters' Club, and Woodstream Corp.

A Rare Bird

Massive habitat destruction and poaching by Bali Island natives who capture, cage and display Bali Mynahs as status symbols have largely been responsible for the rapid decline of this striking white bird. The wild population had been reduced to as few as 18 to 20 birds just a few years ago. However, a strong cooperative effort by a variety of international conservation organizations, including the International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP), the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (AAZPA) and the Indonesian Government is reversing that trend.

As part of the captive management and reintroduction program for the Bali Mynah, 13 captive-raised birds, designated surplus to the AAZPA's Species Survival Plan (SSP) for the Bali Mynah, were released into Indonesia's Bali Barat National Park in spring 1990 to augment the dwindling wild population. Three years later, the wild population numbers 43 to 48 birds, with the released birds freely mingling and breeding with the wild population.

In order to strengthen the long-term prospects of the captive breeding program, the Indonesian government has implemented an Amnesty Campaign, which encourages people who have wild-caught Bali Mynahs that have been illegally captured to register them with the Indonesian government, without fear of penalty. About 365 birds in the Jakarta area alone were registered through the campaign, many more than anticipated.

These wild-caught birds are all genetically valuable founder birds for the SSP program. Sometime in the next several months, the Indonesian government and the SSP will exchange these highly valuable, wild-caught birds for captive-raised birds that North American zoos will be sending to Indonesia. The Milwaukee County Zoo, which will be sending as many as eight birds raised at the Zoo for exchange, has two breeding pairs of Bali Mynahs and is

one of nearly 100 zoos and private aviculturists in North America participating in the Bali Mynah SSP.

"If these birds are successfully integrated into the current SSP population, it will dramatically expand the genetic base of the captive

population," said Ed Diebold, Milwaukee County Zoo bird curator and member of the Bali Mynah SSP Management Group. "The infusion of these birds will be a critical factor in ensuring the long-term viability of the captive population. In turn, the captive population will serve to augment the tenuous wild population."

Diebold said the response to the Amnesty Campaign was so strong because of an aggressive public information campaign carried out in Indonesia. The campaign generated a heightened awareness of and respect for the Bali Mynah (commonly called the Bali Starling in Indonesia) through posters, t-shirts, traveling exhibits and media coverage, all of which carried Bali Mynah conservation messages.

Despite the recent successes, however, the people behind the Bali Mynah project still have many challenges ahead. Increased protection of the birds in Bali Barat National Park is needed and researchers need to better understand the biology and ecology of the species, Diebold said. "We still need to learn more about the species' distribution, habitat use, breeding success, survival rates and the success of reintroductions." Diebold and his colleagues hope that research into each of these areas will uncover answers to some of the important questions that will help insure the



Bali Mynah

survival of this magnificent species for now...and in the future.

Wildlife Conservation Foundation

In this era of global change, zoos, zoological societies and conservation groups around the world are challenged to direct their conservation and research efforts toward understanding global ecology and predicting how human activities will affect wildlife, here and around the world. Because this type of research requires ongoing funding, the Zoological Society has established the Foundation for Wildlife Conservation, a separate non-profit organization designed to attract long-term funding, especially through endowments and deferred gifts. "This new organization will let us build long-term commitments to critical projects of national and international scope," said Gil Boese, president of the Zoological Society and executive director of the new foundation.

Among the endangered species to benefit from foundation proceeds are Africa's Black Rhino, Lowland Gorilla and Bonobo and the Howler Monkey of Belize. Phil Orth, an honorary director and former head of the Zoological Society, is president of the new foundation.

couple of years ago, a team of

couple of years ago, a team of medical specialists—a general surgeon, radiologist, nurse and technician—from Milwaukee's Froedert Memorial Lutheran Hospital, assembled in the Zoo hospital to treat an unlikely patient. On the gurney was an African lion, sick from vomiting and weak from not eating. Laparoscopy (a diagnostic procedure) and exploratory surgery found a partial blockage in the lion's stomach. The doctors surgically corrected the problem and released the cat to her exhibit. She made a complete recovery.

Just one of hundreds of examples of how specialists in almost every area of medicine are helping Zoo veterinarians keep the 5,600 animals at the Zoo alive and healthy.

"At times, we don't have the equipment or the in-depth background needed to effectively treat an animal's illness and we need to refer them to specialists," said Zoo veterinarian Andrew Teare, who, with associate Zoo vet Roberta Wallace, handles health problems afflicting the Zoo's animals.

Over the years, Teare and Wallace have called on specialists in urology, orthopedic surgery, obstetrics/gynecology, dentistry, reconstructive surgery, and ophthalmology to diagnose and treat animal illnesses ranging from broken teeth to glaucoma.

Among the experts on Teare's short list are urologist Frank Begun, orthopedic surgeons Kevin Black and Jeff Schwab, obstetrician George Geanon, dentist John Scheels, reconstructive surgeon Jim Sanger and ophthalmologist Deborah Friedman.

They've volunteered their time, staffs, equipment and expertise to perform procedures that not many doctors have the

Is There a Doctor in the House?

opportunity to do. They've healed an orangutan's fractured forearm, treated a koala's urinary tract infection, performed ultrasound examinations on gorillas, cured a fungal infection in a kangaroo's eye, extracted a bonobo's abscessed tooth. And the list goes on.

"Whenever the Zoo calls, I know it's

going to be fun," said Frank Begun, chief of urology at Froedert. "It's so different from what I do on a routine basis." Indeed.

The variety and novelty of the work, however, are only two reasons why the experts set time aside in their appointment books for the exotics. They also do it

because it makes them feel good.

"When we finished operating on Dicky [an orangutan], we all felt good about doing something to help the Zoo," said Jeff Schwab, professor and vice chair of orthopedic surgery at the Medical College

forearm. "The way Dick climbs and swings around his exhibit is a testament to how perfectly the arm healed," Teare said.

Doctors who work with the large primates, like orangutans and gorillas, are

Clockwise from left:

Dentist John Scheels gets ready to extract a tooth from a bonobo with severe peridontal disease.

Urologist Frank Begun works on a tiger with a chest infection.

Obstetrician George Geanon (right) leads a medical team in performing an abdominal ultrasound on a

of Wisconsin. His team's work—plus consistent

titanium plates and screws donated by

Synthes USA—held in place two fractured bones in Dick's

consistently amazed at their size and how similar their anatomy is to our own. George Geanon, a specialist in

obstetrics/gynecology at the Falls Medical

Group in Menomonee Falls, was among at least a dozen medical professionals called out to the Zoo last year to examine the gorillas when they were transferred from the old Primate House to their new Apes of Africa home.

"Being that close to a gorilla, literally inches away from its face, is impressive," Geanon said. "Just the size of their hands, their strength, gives a sense of how powerful they are. It's amazing. It's hard to envision."

Urologist Begun and his staff were there, too. Begun's work with gorillas dates back to the early '80s, when he and a colleague compared the prostate of the late Samson to the human prostate. Since then, he has examined the bladder of Mandara, a hand-reared gorilla since transferred to the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.; referred Zoo vets to a transplant surgeon for treatment of an abscess in the abdominal wall of Linda, a gorilla; helped treat Linda's torn elbow ligaments after male Obsus tackled her; and assisted reconstructive surgeon Jim Sanger with treating an orangutan's injured hand.

But his most intense involvement with a Zoo animal came in 1990, when Mac, a gorilla, went into a coma due to congestive heart failure. "We set up an intensive care unit at the Zoo hospital, gave him heart meds and attached all kinds of monitoring lines and catheters to him as if he were a

continued on next page



Left: Ophthalmologist Deborah Friedman finds lesions on the back of a ferret's retina. Below: Orthopedic surgeon Kevin Black prepares a gorilla for surgery on a dislocated elbow.

human patient," Begun said. For 19 days over the Christmas holiday, Begun and the Zoo's vets worked in shifts around the clock to keep Mac alive. When it became clear that Mac would never be able to feed himself or walk again, the doctors swallowed hard and finally said, "enough."

Though medical experts assisting with primate cases can put their patients on a gurney and get to work, specialists like dentist John Scheels and veterinary ophthalmologist Deborah Friedman aren't always so lucky. "Once I had to climb up on six bales of hay to examine a giraffe's eyes," said Friedman, who has peered into the eyes of at least a dozen animals at the Zoo, including bears, kangaroos, alpacas, kudu, gorillas, mandrills, bonobos, foxes and ostriches. "With many of them, it was hard to do the thorough exam I would liked to have done."

Similarly, Scheels has treated animals in stalls, worked under strenuous and sometimes dangerous conditions, used unsophisticated equipment and, like Friedman, has been unable to follow-up with the animals the way he'd like to. "While we always do what we feel is best for the health of the animal," Teare said, "we must also balance the risks of

anesthesia and the disruption of the social group against the value of a follow-up examination."

But after his decade-plus association with the Zoo, Scheels has learned to adapt. He says he's getting faster and better at the work he does-from root canals on hyenas to abscessed tooth extractions. "The animals can't tell you what's wrong; they can't tell you what hurts," said Scheels, who believes trying to identify the source of the problem makes him a better dentist. He said the diagnostic end of his work is made easier by observant zookeepers. "These are the people who see the animals every day," Scheels said. "They know the individuals

and can pick up on their symptoms, like noticing a bonobo's tooth that's turned black or noticing that a cheetah is drooling more than usual."

Having treated more than 100 species at the Zoo for everything from old age to trauma to gum disease, Scheels considers his work with the Zoo a privilege.

Likewise, it's a privilege for the Zoo to work with some of Milwaukee's finest medical teams, who care enough about the anunals to volunteer time, equipment, and expertise to keep them healthy. On behalf of the Zoo's 5,600 animals, thank P you.



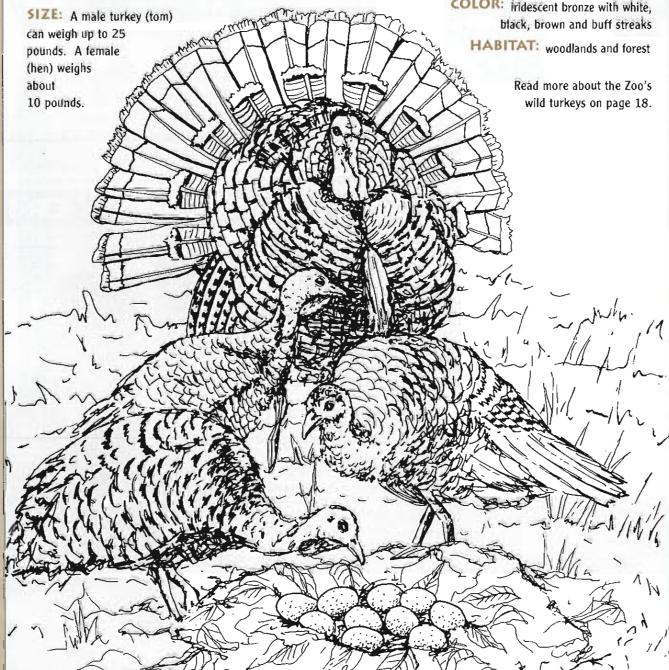


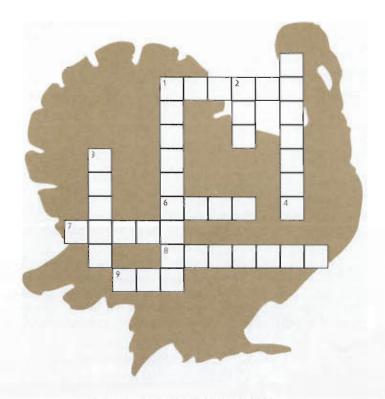
TURKEY TRIVIA

At one time, the wild turkey couldn't be found in Wisconsin. The last native turkey was seen here in 1881. In the 1950s and 60s, the state reintroduced the turkey into Wisconsin. When you visit the Zoo, you might see one of the wild turkeys that lives on the grounds,

SPECIAL FEATURES: The male has a skin flap around the chin called a "wattle." The female forms a small depression for her nest and lays up to 12 eggs, which are lightly spotted brown. It takes about 28 days for the eggs to hatch.

> COLOR: iridescent bronze with white, black, brown and buff streaks





DOWN. I. Wisconsin Z. tom 3. acorn 4. gobbler ANSWERS: ACROSS- 1. wattle 6. nest 7. trees 8. insects 9. hen

CROSSWORD

PUZZLE

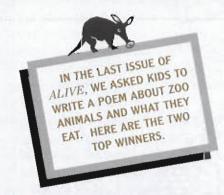
ACROSS

- 1. The fleshy part by the male's chin is called a
- 6. The female makes a small depression in the grass to use as her
- 7. Turkeys spend the nighttime roosting in ______.
- 8. In summer, a turkey feeds on ______.
- 9. A female turkey is called a ______.

DOWN

- 1. Wild turkeys can be found in which state?
- 2. A male turkey is usually called a __
- 3. In fall, turkeys feed on this oak seed.
- 4. Sometimes, male turkeys are called this because of the sound they make.

SUMMER KIDS CONTEST



SECOND PLACE

Meat for tigers, cheetahs See the white wolves and bears. Oats for lunch-in. goats, Hear the stallions bats slirpin and mares. Fruits, blood. vegetables, See the rhinos grains and oats, swimmin' in the mud. Giraffes, monkeys and At the Zoo you can hear billy goats. a CHEW, CHEW, CHEW,

FIRST PLACE

Elephants

see in a mirror And this is what you might eat in a year -If you were an elephant in the zoo One hundred thousand pounds of hay would be on your menu -Twelve thousand pounds of dried alfalfa would be added for flavor

And one thousand, five hundred gallons of mixed grains you would savor -

Three thousand fruits and vegetables you would eat as your treat But none of your treats would include any meat -

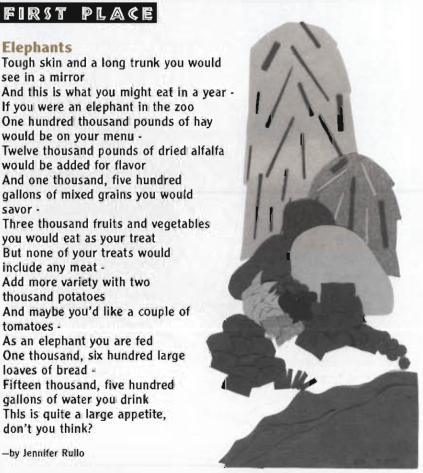
Add more variety with two thousand potatoes And maybe you'd like a couple of

tomatoes -As an elephant you are fed

One thousand, six hundred large loaves of bread -Fifteen thousand, five hundred gallons of water you drink This is quite a large appetite, don't you think?

-by Jennifer Rullo

-by Bess Grosskopf





WHERE DO TARANTULAS LIVE?

Tarantulas are found on every continent that has warm-temperate to tropical climates, except Europe. They are found in nearly every type of habitat, from subalpine to rain forest to desert. Most tarantulas, however, seem to prefer relatively dry areas, though not necessarily deserts.

Did you know that tarantulas belong to a group of animals called arthropods? Like most other arthropods, they have a thick hide or shell called an exoskeleton. Tarantulas have eight legs just like all other spiders. They also have a pair of fangs they use to inject venom into their prey. Contrary to popular belief, the tarantula's venom is relatively mild and no worse than a bee's sting is to most people. Many species of tarantula also flick off barbed bristles from the top rear of their body to defend themselves against predators.

Submitted by: Billy Baader, Age S, Mukwonago, WI

IF PENGUINS ARE BIRDS, WHY CAN'T THEY FLY

Penguins are birds that are adapted to swimming. In fact, in order to swim well, penguins had to give up some of the things that make it possible for other birds to fly. For flight, most birds have hollow bones that help reduce their body weight and make it easier for them to get off the ground. Penguins, on the other hand, have solid, heavy bones which make them heavier and help to weight them down in the water. Large wings help birds to stay up in the air and fly, but penguins have small, stiff wings that serve as paddles to help them swim in the water and dive for food. Like all birds, penguins are covered with water-proof feathers, but their feathers are very small and tightly packed.

Submitted by: Adam Gander, Age 8, Brookfield, WI

HOW CAN A BAT TELL ITS BABY FROM THE OTHERS? THEY ALL LOOK ALIKE

Some species of bats may live in small groups of a few individuals, while other species of bats live in large colonies often exceeding many hundreds of thousands or even millions of individual bats. Bats usually give birth to a single young; however, twins also are born. Like all mammals, young bats are dependent on their mother for nursing for a period of time after they are born.

The care and feeding of the young bat is the exclusive responsibility of the female. Soon after birth, the mother and infant "talk" to each other, allowing the female to tell her young apart from all the other newborns. Very young bats usually call continuously when they are separated from their mothers, but as they get older, their communication becomes more specific and they are able to answer specific calls from their mothers.

Submitted by: Lindsey Larsen, Niagara, WI



Horses crunchin'.

Elephants munchin',

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The following education programs are coordinated by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County and the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension.

Programs are held from now through May. To register for October programs only, call the Zoological Society's Education Department at (414) 256-5421. To receive registration materials for November and December programs, please send a self-addressed, stamped (\$.52), business-size envelope (one per family) to: Fall Education Programs, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226.

If you prefer to receive our three program brochures (spring, summer, fall), send a \$3 check payable to Zoological Society to the above address. We will add your name to our mailing list for one year.



OCTOBER-DECEMBER PROGRAMS

KIDS DAY OUT

ACES 6-11

October 28 or 29, and November 4 or 5 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Wisconsin State Teachers Conference (Oct. 28-29) and Milwaukee Teachers Conference (Nov. 4-5) are almost here. Have you made plans for child-care? Why not register your child for Kids Day Out, a fun learning experience at the Zoo? Children will discover the world of wildlife as they participate in crafts, games and tours. You can enroll your child in one or both days of either session. Children can be dropped off at the Zoo between 7:30 and 9 a.m. and picked up between 3:30 and 5 p.m., based on your work schedule. Cost per day, which includes lunch, is \$20 for Zoological Society members and \$30 for non-members.

TINY TOTS WORKSHOPS ACL 3 WITH PARENT PRESCHOOL WORKSHOPS AC 45 4-6

For a complete workshop listing, send for a program brochure, or call (414) 475-4636, topic #748, for a recorded listing of what sessions are still available.

OLDER YOUTH WORKSHOPS

AGES 6-8

October 23: Honey, I Shrunk, Blew Up...

November 27: Rhyming Rhinos and Puzzling Primates

December 18: Winter Wonderland 9:30-11:30 a.m. or 1-3 p.m.

Each session costs \$10 for Zoological Society members and \$15 for non-members.

SENIOR CITIZEN WORKSHOPS

AGE 55 YEARS AND OLDER

October 7: A World of Animals

9:30 a.m. to noon

October 22: Endangered Animals

9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

These new workshops invite seniors to explore the diversity of animal life at the Milwaukee County Zoo and learn about the challenges facing endangered species around the world. Both workshops include zoomobile tours of the Zoo. Cost for A World of Animals is \$14 for Zoological Society members and \$16 for non-members. Cost for Endangered Animals is \$20 for Zoological Society members and \$25 for non-members (includes lunch by Heinemann's). Call (414) 256-5421 to register.

4H CLUB AT THE ZOO

ACES 9-13

October 9 and 30, November 20 and December 11 9:30 a.m.-noon

Catch the last four sessions of 4H Zoo Club for kids ages 9-13. Sessions will be held in the Education Center at the Zoo. The fee is \$25 for Zoological Society members and \$30 for non-members. Call (414) 256-5421 to reigster.

KIDS!

Watch celebrities around town read children's books to kids on a new cable program to air this fall called Read To Me. The program will air twice weekly on Warner Cable Channel 2B* at 6 p.m. Mondays and 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, starting October 4. Each show will feature two book readings and one segment on animals, called "Wild and Wooly." All information for animal segments is provided by the Zoological Society, and most books are provided by publisher Gareth Stevens Books Inc.

* Crown Cable subscribers: Check channel listings for dates and times.



Every year for the past 10 years, Milwaukee-area Zoological Society supporters have turned out at the Zoo on the last Saturday evening in June for the Zoological Society's biggest fund-raising event, Zoo Ball. In 10 years, the ball has brought in more than \$1 million to the Zoological Society through attendance, silent auction item purchases, raffle ticket sales and sponsorships. Proceeds from the first nine balls—from Cheza Ngoma to An Odyssey—went directly toward building more natural homes for Zoo animals and providing more animal-viewing opportunities for zoogoers. Among the exhibits built or renovated with proceeds from Zoo Balls I to IX: the Great Ape Escape, Wolf Woods, the Polar Bear and Sea Lion underwater viewing windows, Stearns Family Apes of Africa Pavilion, Primates of the World, Aviary, and the Australia and Aquarium/Reptile Buildings. Proceeds from this year's Zoo Ball, Sherehe Ya Kumi, Kwa Watoto (10th celebration, for the children), benefited education programs at the Zoo. Zoo Ball '94? About all we know so far is the date: Saturday, June 25. Mark your calendar.





Top: Dancers with the Mano Lapho Dance Group surround Zoo Ball X quests from American Airlines (left to right) Dianne DeMoss, Mardi Smirl and Patricia Caviness with the sounds of Africa.

Above: (Left line, left to right) Event chairs Jim Pionkoski, Katie Harding, Paul Wong and Peggie Jones greet guests as they arrive for Zoo Ball X.

Left: Zoological Society Special Events Coordinator Mary Ellen Wesley (right) gets help from volunteers Ann Jan (left) and Robin Flatley with positioning a zebra-striped commemorative "10" for Zoo Ball X.

GEOGRAPHY



Mapping the Koala's Future

ussies could be traveling from Brisbane to the Gold Coast on a 62mile, eight-lane highway by now if the Australian Koala Foundation (AKF) didn't step in to tell developers and government agencies that building the highway was a bad idea. The highway would have cut through about 25,000 acres of prime koala habitat and displaced more than 4,000 koalas.

Convincing officials to re-route the highway was an important victory for AKF, earned through both passionate save-thekoala appeals and unbiased, scientifically accurate koala habitat data gathered through a sophisticated computer mapping system.

The habitat mapping effort, or Koala Atlas Program, used computer technology, satellite imagery and geographic information systems to discover where koalas live and which parts of their habitat must be saved. "To save any species in danger, we must first identify which is the most important land to save," said Deborah Tabart, executive director of AKF.

Since its inception in 1990, the atlas program has identified and mapped about 25,000 acres of prime koala habitat in an area south of Brisbane in southeast Queensland known as the Leslie Harrison Dam Catchment (see inset), the most important koala habitat in all of Australia.

Initially, the project sent zoologist-led volunteer teams into 2,107 field sites (each a 20-ineter radius) to collect information on species of trees growing at each site, the number of koalas sighted, and the number and location of koala fecal pellets.

This data was entered into a computer and maps were created, starting with a satellite image of the area. Layered on top of that were other maps indicating local

agriculture.



Over the last 200 years, koalas have lost more than 80% of their natural habitat to roads, buildings and

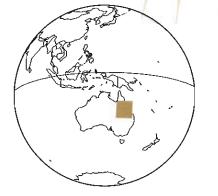
council and property boundaries, roads, and topographic information on geology and soil types, land contours, rivers and lakes, and other vegetation.

After tree species in the area were analyzed, maps were produced locating the five eucalyptus tree species most commonly used by koalas (in order of preference): tallow wood, grey gum, white stringy bark, red mahogany, and forest red gum. Finally, these tree maps were layered over the other maps to produce the final Koala Habitat Index Map, which has proven 90% accurate.

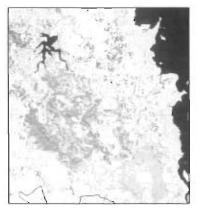
The map confirmed that building a highway through the Leslie Harrison Dam Catchment would have destroyed thousands of acres of koala habitat. "These maps give us scientific facts rather than subjective feelings about the koala's fragile environment," Tabart said. "Now we are able to enlighten and inform people with firm evidence."

The study also showed that in some cases, koalas live in marginal habitat areas, or areas filled with eucalyptus trees that are not considered prime koala habitat. This is the first time maps have shown in such detail the core and fringe areas of koala use and the corridors through which they travel from one area to another. Tabart said. "A few more developments can tilt the balance of survival on that land."

Because the results from Phase One of the Koala Atlas Project attracted a great deal of respect and attention from conservation groups, developers and government agencies, AKF decided to launch a second geographical map that would provide similar information on koala habitat in the northern part of New South Wales. The area, called Tweed Valley, is Australia's second-most important area of koala habitat and an area



The Koala Atlas Program has identified and mapped about 25,000 acres of prime koala habitat in this area south of Brisbane in southeastern Queensland. The program was developed jointly with three local councils and two Queensland government departments: Department of Lands and Department of Environment and Heritage.



Koala Habitat Index

Koala Habitat Zones

These koala habitat maps show core, corridor and fringe habitat zones. The maps were produced by combining weighted distribution maps of the five species of eucalyptus trees most commonly used by koalas within the Queensland study area: tallow wood, grey gum, white stringy bark, red mahogany, and forest red gum.

of high recreational usage by humans. Besides mapping the Tweed Valley area, AKF is trying to form a consortium of developers and government officials dedicated to protecting a large area of land as koala habitat.

With \$10,000 from the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County and the political and financial support from about four other members of the atlas project's Consortium of North American Zoos, AKF can launch the second phase of its Koala Atlas Project this year.

The success of the project affirms Tabart's belief that conservation groups around the world must take the lead in

providing scientific information to land use decision-makers and enlisting their support in preserving the habitat of endangered

Eventually, Tabart believes the mapping methodology used in the Koala Atlas Program can apply to species worldwide. "The same type of information can be gathered for wildlife in other countries, producing maps which can ultimately preserve all the Earth's endangered habitat."

For more information on the Australian Koala Foundation or the Koala Atlas Project, call (212) 779-0700.



Sponsor Spotlight

The Zoological Society thanks...

AMERICAN AIRLINES for sponsoring Zoo Ball X and THE Fox COMPANY, INC. LITHOGRAPHERS, HM GRAPHICS INC, HM2, and all the individuals and businesses who contributed to the event.

FUNJET, WARNER CABLE AND DAYS INN/SEA WORLD and members of the ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY ASSOCIATE BOARD for supporting the Funjet/Warner Cable Disney Extravaganza Raffle.

MARQUETTE ELECTRONICS FOUNDATION for sponsoring the Platypus Society Dinner and YOUNKERS, NORTHERN SKY MARKETING PRODUCTIONS, THE FOX COMPANY, INC. LITHOGRAPHERS, ACE WORLD WIDE COMPANIES, M & I MARSHALL & ILSLEY BANK, and LEE KORDUS for supporting the event.

McDonald's, Cellular One and Bell Ambulance for supporting Snooze at the Zoo.

MILLER BREWING COMPANY for sponsoring the Miller Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament and FERDERBAR STUDIOS, HILLER FORD, MANDEL COMPANY AND SOMMERS BUICK PONTIAC for supporting the

NITRO AND WONG'S WOK for hosting NITRO Feeds the Animals. JIM PANDL AND EAGAN'S for hosting a restaurant premiere for Zoological Society VIPs.

SCHUELLER CORN ROASTING AND LITTLE CAESARS for supporting Kids Night

SEA GULL CHARTERS, CHEF JACK FISCHER AND ALL SAFARI HOSTS for supporting September Safaris.

TRI CITY NATIONAL BANK for sponsoring entertainment at the Family Reunion Picnic.

V. RICHARD'S AND STANTON & LEE, PUBLISHERS, for co-hosting Summer Sippin' Safari.

WMIL-FM106, V. RICHARD'S, SUNSHINE PRODUCTIONS AND LITHO-CRAFT COMPANY for supporting the Z Double Circle Round-up.

Holiday Gift Ideas

Give the animal lovers on your holiday shopping list gifts that give all year long. Give a gift membership in the Zoological Society (see form inside magazine). Sponsor the Zoo's baby sea lion, Makaia (package includes a plush toy sea lion, sea lion show tickets and other benefits). Give an animal tote bag (see form inside magazine). Give a gift certificate for education programs at the Zoo. Make a donation in a friend's name to our Annual Appeal. To purchase any of these gifts, call the Zoological Society at (414) 258-2333.

Sponsor the Zoo's baby sea lion for friends and family on your holiday shopping list. Call (414) 258-2333.



Quilts Across the Country

Senior citizens and children from Philadelphia, St. Petersburg, Dallas/Fort Worth and Seattle will be putting together quilts and learning about animals the way seniors and kids have been doing it in Milwaukee for the past four years. Since 1990, students here have been drawing animals onto quilt squares and seniors have been sewing the quilt squares together as part of the Zoological Society's Intergenerational Quilt Project, sponsored by Unicare Health Facilities. This year, Unicare Foundation pledged \$10,000 to the Society to pilot the program in four other cities. The theme of the national pilot will be Terrestrial Animals.

The Zoological Society can take its Intergenerational Quilt Project nationwide this year, thanks to the Unicare Foundation.

Miller Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament

More than 130 gotfers enjoyed a day of sunshine and fun on the links:during the fourth annual Miller Birdies and Eagles Golf Tonrnament, a Zoological Society fund-raiser held this summer at Ozaukee Country Club. The event treated golfers to a brunch, 18 holes of golf, a silent and voice auction, cocktails and dinner. This year's tournament, chaired by Tom Dempsey, raised more than \$70,000.

Pete Tellier and Miller Brewing's Janet Christiaansen get set for a day on the links at the Miller Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament.



What's Cookin'?

The Zoo's animals got enough juice, cereal, rice, honey, raisins peanut butter, and canned fruits and vegetables to last them a year. thanks to a new event held this summer called Feed the Fauna Fest. The fest, presented by Tri City National Bank and supported by Milwaukee Area Radio Stations (MARS), invited Tri City Bank customers and zoogoers to donate food or cash to help the Zoological Society cover the \$300,000 cost of feeding the Zoo's 5,600 animals this year. That's quite a grocery bill.

Zoological Society and Tri City National Bank staff and volunteers unload groceries for the Zoo's animals during Feed the Fauna Fest.

Summer School

Six education and zoology students from Wisconsin colleges and universities will be spending summers teaching children at the Zoo. thanks to a \$138,000 matching grant awarded to the Zoological Society through the Alice Bertschy Kadish Trust. The money will be used to establish the Alice Kadish Endowment Program, which will link interns with Zoological Society educators during Summer Adventure Camps. This year's camps were presented by Little Caesars and the Zoological Society.

Nancy Stroberg, a UW-Platteville biology student, helps a camper rake up straw during Junior Zookeeper summer camp.



The Platypus Society is a group of about 350 of Milwaukee-area 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 wildlife and the environment and conserving endangered species, call Shirley Decker at (414) 276-0843.

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The Zoological Society welcomes the following new Platypus Society members as of September 2:

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Tom & Becky Druml W.H. Jacklin Inc. John & Kathleen Roethle Standard Electric Supply Co. Jennifer & Timothy Vellinga

Friends contributing to the Platypus Society after September 2, 1993 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:

> Patron II (\$1,500-\$1,999) Bob & Rose Vohi+

Patron I (\$1,000-\$1,499)

*Ross H. & Elizabeth Dean+ PLATY + PROGRAM

A very special thank you to current members who have increased their level of giving by 10% or more. These members are recognized with a plus(+) sign after

their name.

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and we give of our money

to this wonderful group

whose name's a bit funny.

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Ben and Lee Kordus

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They asked us to comment on why we give time and money. They said. "Say something profound or outrageously furny."

> Since neither was working in an ideal quote. we resorted instead to this short little note.

> conserve, educate, support seemed just a bit trite and a likely retort.

has been said before. For the love of Milwankee has been said even more.

delighting in the wild. It's the smiles it brings the fact it crosses over

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