

Alive

Zoological Society of Milwaukee County

January 2000



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

1999-2000 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Directors**
- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| William J. Abraham, Jr. | Gina Alberts Peter | Thomas B. Flfield |
| Mike Archer | Richard J. Podell | Robert T. Foote |
| Jane Austin*** | Jack Recht | Richard A. Gallun |
| John B. Burns | Jay H. Robertson | Richard D. Gebhardt |
| R. Thomas Dempsey | James C. Rowe | Edward A. Grede |
| Thomas E. Dyer | John Sapp | John A. Hazelwood |
| Linda Grunau | Barry Sattell | Robert A. Kahlor |
| Rheinhold Hugo | Richard Schmidt | Ann McNeer |
| Dr. Leander R. Jennings | William Schmus | William G. Moomey |
| Bonnie Joseph | John Steiner | Philip W. Orin, Jr. |
| Henry Karbner | Richard A. Steinman | Frederick L. Ott |
| Karen Katz | John W. Taylor | Bernard J. Peck |
| Herbert Mahler | Mrs. Robert A. Ublein, Jr. | Jerry Reiser |
| Quinn Martin* | Tom Wamser | Kurt W. Remus, Jr. |
| John D. McGourthy, Sr. | Larry Weiss | A.D. Robertson |
| Jack McKeithan | Jane Wierzbza** | Gene Soldatos |
| James McKenna | Paul Wong | James A. Taylor |
| David Moffett | | Allen W. Williams, Jr. |
| Sandi Moomey | Honorary Directors | William C. Wright |
| Jeff Neuenschwander | William M. Chester, Jr. | Bernard C. Ziegler III |
| Jill Pelisek | Stephen M. Dearholt | |
- * Chairman of the Board ** Associate Board President *** Zoo Pride President

1999-2000 ASSOCIATE BOARD

- Directors**
- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| David Batten | Joel Nettesheim | Linda Grunau |
| Lori Bechthold | Jeff Nowak | Lee Walther Kordus |
| Mike Brophy | Bunny Raasch-Hooten | Quinn Martin |
| Judy Dorse | Victor Schittone | Richard J. Podell |
| Nora Dreske | Randy Scoville | Jerry Reiser |
| Jere Fabick | Jeff Siegel | Arlene Remsik |
| Robin Flatley | Judy Stathas | Barry Sattell |
| John Fleckenstein | David Strelitz | Dan Schwabe |
| Eli Guzniczak | James Szymanski | John Steiner |
| Katie Harding | Jane Wierzbza* | Jeff Steiner |
| Joe Heil | Ray Wilson | |
| Peter Kordus | | |
| Liz Little | Honorary Directors | |
| Marc Marotta | Bob Anger | |
| Kat Morrow | Mike Fox | |
- * Associate Board President

1999-2000 ZOO PRIDE BOARD

- Directors**
- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Jane Austin* | Joan Kalinoski | Jim Redding |
| Kay Ebsen | Mary Luksich | Laura Skoff |
| Kim Haebig | Virginia McCormick | Paula Spiering |
| Denise Hodkiewicz | Ron Pearson | Karen Stephany |
| Kay Johnson | Terrie Peschman | |
- * Zoo Pride President

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY MANAGEMENT STAFF

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| President
Gilbert K. Boese, Ph.D. | Education
Mary Thiry | Membership Programs/Volunteers
Robin Higgins |
| Administration/Finance
Judy Treinen | Marketing/Communications
Patricia Harrigan Mills | Special Events
Laura Knollenberg |
| Development
Joan Rudnitzki | | |

Alive is published quarterly by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County, 10005 W. Blue Mound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226. Subscription by membership only. Call (414) 258-2333 for membership information. <http://www.zoosociety.org>

- Editor**
Patricia Harrigan Mills
- Contributing Editor**
Paula Brookmire
- Editorial Assistant**
Renee J. Mayo
- Artist & Designer**
Christian J. Keene
- Alive Writers**
Education Staff
- Photographer**
Richard Brodzeller
- Printer**
NML Graphics



President's Letter



At this dawn of a new millennium, I pause to reflect on the Zoological Society's and Zoo's vision and direction for 2000 and beyond. In the last issue of *Alive*, I addressed the exciting changes planned for the Milwaukee County Zoo. Later this year, we will launch an official campaign to raise funds to support these changes.

But the next few months hold at least three big reasons to visit the Zoo. On February 5 and 6, we premier to our members a fascinating, interactive exhibit on birds of prey: Wisconsin Electric's Hunters of the Sky. This traveling exhibit on raptors is open through May 7. Watch your mailbox for a special invitation.

Then, we kick off a summer-long tribute to animals of the Mayan world in June with the premiere of an enchanting exhibit featuring the beautiful butterflies of Central America, Ameritech's Butterflies: Living Jewels of the Mundo Maya. You can read more about this exhibit in the next issue of *Alive*.

Finally, we plan to open a new, expanded exhibit for the Zoo's spider monkeys in mid-July. These lively, long-tailed animals desperately need more space. Because they are native to the Tikal region of Guatemala, foremost city of the ancient Mayan world, we're calling their future home "Temple Monkeys of Tikal." The exhibit would put the monkeys in a Mayan environment that re-creates their Central American rain-forest habitat, including ruins of a Mayan temple. Their new home also will feature an outdoor extension on the Primates of the World building. If we can reach our \$156,000 fund-raising goal in the next few months, we can grow our current spider monkey population from two to six and open the exhibit in July. We thank the Krause Family Foundation for its major gift that helped jump-start this year's appeal. And we thank all of our members who already have responded to our appeal.

As you know, bringing all of these exhibits to you takes time and funding. Our goals for this millennium are to work with Milwaukee County in enabling the Zoo to provide quality exhibits and care for the animals, contribute toward saving and protecting the natural world, and provide members and other Zoo visitors with the best wildlife experience we can afford. Thanks to your ongoing support, we can attain all of these goals.

Gil Boese
Gil Boese, Ph.D., President
Zoological Society of Milwaukee County

Alive

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 1

features

4 Raptors: Hunters of the Sky

The charismatic birds of prey and how we relate to these awe-inspiring animals is the focus of a dynamic multimedia exhibit sponsored by Wisconsin Electric, opening at the Zoo in February.



8 Jane Goodall: The Power of One

This chimpanzee researcher known throughout the world now brings a new message of hope – for humans and animals. She's coming to the Milwaukee County Zoo in April.

16 Monkeys in the Midst of Surviving

As spider monkeys in Central and South America face many threats, zoos work to conserve these primates and educate people about their importance. The Milwaukee County Zoo gets a new spider-monkey exhibit in July.

departments

- 2 President's Letter
- 10 Conservation Chronicles
- 15 EdZooation
- 19 Serengeti Circle
- 20 Platypus Society
- 22 What's Gnu

kids alive

11-14 Zoo news, animal puzzles, kids' questions

on the cover

Spider monkey at the Milwaukee County Zoo



Missing the African warthogs because they're off exhibit for the winter? Now you can see them in the comfort of the Zoo's Feline building, thanks to a video monitor next to the lion exhibit showing the warthogs in their underground winter quarters. "This is a great way for people to get a behind-the-scenes look at where some of the animals go in winter," says winter quarters area supervisor Bob Hoffmann. "Also, we're hearing breeding noises – resonating, clicking sounds – from the warthogs, and the video will be a good way for us to monitor piglets if they're born." The warm-weather-loving warthogs will be back in their outdoor exhibit by early May.

Raptors: Hunters of the Sky

It may be one of the most talked-about dinner parties of the winter. Guests will be perched, quite literally, at the edge of their seats. But this soiree will not feature ladies and gentlemen stuffed from repast but rather the mounted bodies of owls and hawks seated before fare that only a raptor could love – a mangled rodent, perhaps.

This diorama is one of several included in Wisconsin Electric's Hunters of the Sky exhibit. The nationally touring exhibit focuses on birds of prey, paying heed to the high-profile efforts to conserve the peregrine falcon, bald eagle, California condor and northern spotted owl. Free and open to the public, Hunters of the Sky will be on display Feb. 7 to May 7 in the Milwaukee County Zoo's Otto Borchert Family Special Exhibits Building. A special premiere, open to members of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County, will be held Feb. 5 and 6 (your invitation is packaged with this magazine).

Then, members will discover why the dinner party often steals the show: "What's For Dinner" is one of the

University of Minnesota's Raptor Center. "It's really eye-catching and informative."

Maloney offered a sneak preview of the 5,000-square-foot exhibit that has captivated crowds from Boston to Fort Lauderdale to San Diego to Seattle.

Hunters of the Sky shares some of the themes developed in two other exhibits mounted by the Science Museum, Maloney says. One concerned the lives of wolves and the other, featuring bears, appeared at the Zoo last year.

"In a sense, these three shows represent a series that looks at charismatic creatures that have captured the imagination of humans, and the links between us and them," Maloney says. "Bears and wolves are native animals found in northern Wisconsin and Minnesota, and there are hawks and even peregrine falcons nesting on tall buildings in both states."

"These are animals that people living in this region of the country have had exposure to and can relate with," he continues. "That makes it especially interesting for the people who live here. We've also found that exhibits concerning endangered species are of particular interest. They are species that often act as barometers for what is happening in their environments. And people are often very aware of them."

Don Pohlman, another Science Museum official, said Hunters of the Sky attempts to point out that birds of prey and humans are linked inextricably in many ways. "Some organisms simply can't be thought of just in terms of biology," Pohlman says. "Instead, we're thinking of them as creatures of culture as well as nature. When you consider what these animals mean to people – a bird such as

the bald eagle, our national symbol, for instance – it can affect how they're treated by society."

For Hunters of the Sky, exhibit creators worked with scientists familiar with each of the four birds featured in

the show. Maloney says the show, thanks to consultants from the University of Minnesota's Raptor Center, is grounded in the best information available.

For example, discussions are under way to create new informational panels at the exhibit that will reflect the recent success in raising the number of peregrine falcons and bald eagles in the United States, Maloney says.

Each of the sections contains mounted birds, a feature which, Maloney says, some have found troubling. Some people worry that rare birds were sacrificed for the exhibit; others deplore the artificial setting. However, Maloney points out that no birds were killed for the exhibit. Rather, curators collected specimens that had been found dead from natural causes, or not-so-natural causes, such as ingesting poisons such as antifreeze or striking a power line while in flight.

"There are purists who may say that you'll never see a bird like this sitting still for so long," Maloney says. "But by the same token, this is as close as most people will ever get to any of these birds, and there's an appreciation of them that comes with that. This exhibit is really aimed at families. I've seen many young kids enjoy it. It's definitely not just for birders."

Particularly arresting, Maloney says, is the diorama devoted to the

peregrine falcon. Milwaukee-area bird enthusiasts are aware of the swift-flying birds, which have taken up residence in specially designed nesting boxes downtown. Earlier in 1999, biologists also found peregrine falcons beneath the Hoan Bridge, the first sign in decades of nesting on their own.

continued on page 6

This peregrine falcon, along with a bald eagle, golden eagle and red-tailed hawk, will be featured during public programs presented daily as part of Wisconsin Electric's Hunters of the Sky exhibit, opening Feb. 7.



Zoogoers can get an up-close look at the anatomy of a red-tailed hawk.

more interesting and popular parts of the exhibit," says Bill Maloney, director of the traveling exhibition program for the Science Museum of Minnesota, which produced the exhibit in collaboration with the



The birds began vanishing in the United States after World War II. Years later scientists discovered that the pesticide DDT, a chemical that persists in the environment, had thinned the bird's eggshells, causing them to break. A federal government ban on DDT, plus reintroduction efforts in American cities, prompted the removal of the peregrine falcon from the endangered species list last summer. *Hunters of the Sky* tells the story of DDT on informational panels and a display of a typical canister. But it is the falcon diorama that steals this part of the show, Maloney says.

"It's a vertigo-inducing view from atop a high-rise building," he says. "It catches a peregrine in full attack on a bunch of pigeons." This portion of the exhibit points out that peregrines also attack songbirds. "Some of our favorite birds, in fact," Maloney says. "That's one of the trade-offs and we want to point that out."

The bald eagle is another bird that suffered from DDT and since then has recovered. Indeed, it, too, recently was removed from the endangered species list.



The extremely rare California condor also finds a home in the exhibit. In fact, one of the first condors raised in captivity and later released can be found in the display. The bird died after having ingested antifreeze, Maloney says. "It's pretty amazing that we have it, and that people can see it, considering that they are very rare," Maloney says.

A replica of a trailer interior – complete with logbooks and equipment – used by researchers to document the lives of the condors also is on display. Visitors will be able to try on hand puppets similar to those used by scientists to disguise themselves while feeding young condors. The tactic prevents the young birds from bonding too closely with humans.

A fourth section of *Hunters of the Sky* is devoted to the northern spotted owl, one of the more controversial endangered species. Federal officials deemed that much of its habitat, old-growth forests in the Pacific Northwest, had to be protected in order for the bird to survive. The designation of the owl as an endangered species meant that large swaths of heavily wooded land was off-limits to logging. Timber-dependent industries and towns, in turn, suffered economic losses.

"The Spotted Owl Café" corner of the exhibit acknowledges the tension between loggers and environmentalists. Posters on the café's walls capture the feelings on both sides of the debate and visitors are encouraged to express their feelings in a guest book at the café, Maloney says.

"We don't shy away from controversial issues," Maloney says. "We try to encourage a frank discussion and get people to think."

Smaller exhibits, such as the birds of prey dinner party, abound throughout *Hunters of the Sky*. Other examples include opportunities to examine under a microscope the flight, tail and down feathers of raptors

or to inspect an owl dropping to determine that bird's diet. In addition, there are about 25 cases containing other birds of prey such as the golden eagle, computerized polling on such topics as biodiversity and the role of humans in the natural world, and video displays on bird behavior and hunting that respond to the viewer's command.

You'll also get to meet LIVE raptors in this exhibit, again, courtesy of Wisconsin Electric. Every day naturalists from the World Bird Sanctuary in Missouri will be available to answer your questions and allow you a close-up look at a golden eagle, bald eagle, red-tailed hawk or peregrine falcon.

Seeing the live birds will help you understand why raptors have so stirred human imagination throughout history that civilizations around the world have created myths, stories and art to celebrate these predators. The exhibit shows how birds of prey have come to symbolize the way various cultures define the natural world.

"We provide a look at the Native American perspective and their regard for birds of prey, as well as how other cultures perceive these animals," Maloney says.

If you take your time and delve into each corner of the exhibit, you might expect your stay at *Hunters of the Sky* to last four hours. "We have had people spend that long, and many bird lovers end up making return visits," Maloney says.

But he stresses that each portion of the exhibit has many layers. A cursory visit, without spending much time at any given display, might take 20 minutes. "If you've got kids in tow, you'll probably be on the quick side," he predicts. "We've layered this so that there's something for kids and families and more for the true enthusiast who wants a deeper understanding."

It's with the youth audience that the Zoological Society hopes to have the greatest impact. The society will present four programs per day, each designed for 60 schoolchildren from kindergarten through the fifth grade, that will help them understand the information provided by the exhibit.



This display shows how the great horned owl fluffs out its feathers to appear more fearsome to the animal – or person – threatening it.

As many as 15,000 students and teachers are expected to attend the programs. Organizers expect more than 65,000 people will visit *Hunters of the Sky*.

Maloney says the Science Museum staff looks forward to returning to our Zoo, which he praised for its fine exhibition space. Visitors to the exhibit on bears, he recalls, showed an unusually deep level of interest and knowledge about the subject matter. "We really appreciated the Milwaukee County Zoo's presentation the last time," he says. "We think that your Zoological Society has a great educational program there and a great venue for an exhibit. We're looking forward to it."



The two turkey vultures and a black vulture in this "Roadkill" display dine on a car-struck opossum. The display addresses the role of birds of prey as nature's janitors.

In Wisconsin, biologists have counted more than 600 nesting pairs in recent years.

The scene in the exhibit celebrates the bald eagle's recovery. In it, a life-sized eagle nest, filled with juveniles and an attending adult, is visited by another adult bringing in a meal.

"Pops is bringing in a fish, while mom is looking after the young," Maloney says. "In the background is a lake, very much like one you might see in northern Wisconsin."

Jane Goodall: THE POWER OF ONE



If you ever doubted that one person could make a difference in the world, if you ever said to yourself, "What could I possibly do?" – look to Jane Goodall.

Forty years ago this Englishwoman without science credentials came to Africa to follow a childhood dream: to live with the animals. She braved malaria, intense heat and humidity, saw-toothed grass, huge spiders and insects in her tent, venomous cobras, lack of food, the death of a husband, and much more to follow her heart.

And what did she accomplish? Today – after four decades of studying chimpanzees at the Gombe Stream Research Center within a national park on Lake Tanganyika in Tanzania, after 14 books, six films, three TV specials and numerous scientific articles – she is the world's leading expert on these endangered great apes. In fact, she changed the face of the science of primate study, literally by giving the chimps faces and names, and demonstrating that they had personalities.

"At the time science thought that only humans had personalities. Science was saying you should number the animals, not name them," said Goodall in a PBS hour-long special last fall titled "Jane Goodall: Reason for Hope." She also showed that chimps made and used tools, when scientists thought that only humans made tools.

Today it is the 65-year-old face of Jane Goodall that is the symbol of chimpanzee research, even though she gets back to her original research site only a few weeks a year. She is known throughout the world, partly because she travels the world almost 200 days a year and partly because the Jane Goodall Institute has branches in

11 countries. (She will be in Milwaukee in April for a series of speaking engagements, initially arranged by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Zoological Society.)

And today Goodall's message goes far beyond just showing the face of the chimpanzee. Her goal now is to save the Earth. From its initial mission of expanding primate research, the Goodall Institute now promotes conservation, education, community development and humanitarianism. The institute is saving habitat and promoting tree nurseries in Tanzania; running chimpanzee sanctuaries in Kenya, Uganda and the Republic of Congo; and helping villagers create new sources of income so they don't have to depend on slash-and-burn agriculture, which destroys animal habitat.

The idea that even a child can make a difference in the world was a driving theme behind Goodall's founding, in 1991, of her Roots & Shoots program (which she will speak about with schoolchildren at the Milwaukee County Zoo in April). Getting children and young adults to start projects that help animals and humans alike can show them that every individual matters.

"One of my main reasons for hope for the future of our planet is to read reports from young people around the world telling us what they are doing to make things better," she said. The PBS special showed Goodall visiting a fish hatchery in California built by

a teacher and his students over 16 years. The hatchery saved a stream and endangered steelhead fish that lived there. Today there are 1,100 Roots & Shoots groups in more than 50 countries.

Her obvious love of animals helped her overcome many obstacles. British authorities would not let Goodall, at age 23, go to a remote area to study the apes – until her mother, Vanne, offered to live with her for the first several months. They lived primitively. Funds were short, supplies hard to come by, and Goodall's mother provided their only medical care, opening a clinic with not much more than aspirin. As Goodall

writes in her 1971 book, *In the Shadow of Man*:

"We lived in those early days on baked beans, corned beef and other tinned meat and vegetables, since we had no refrigerator. We bathed at night in ... a few inches of water ... Sometimes giant hairy spiders took refuge in our tent ... How lucky I was to have a mother like Vanne ... She kept the camp neat, she pressed and dried for me the specimens of the chimps' food plants that I collected, and, above all, she helped me to keep up my spirits ... when I could get nowhere near the chimps."

Then Jane's mother left, and she lived alone for nearly a year. She contracted malaria and battled the depression of the rainy season. "I had several returns of fever and often it was an effort to lift a hand, so bad was the humidity, let alone struggle up the mountains."

But she persisted. That's one of the reasons legendary paleontologist Louis Leakey picked Goodall for the chimpanzee research (and later supported her work at Cambridge

University in England, where she earned a Ph.D. in 1965). She originally came to him to work as a secretary, but he noted both her patience and her persistence. He told her about his desire to have someone study the chimpanzees on Lake Tanganyika. So she became one of the "Leakey girls";

women researchers Leakey sent into the field to study apes. (He felt women were more patient than men.) The others were Birute Galdikas, who went to Indonesia to study orangutans and is now a leading expert on them, and Dian Fossey, who went to Rwanda to study gorillas and was murdered in 1985.

Goodall admired Fossey for her toughness. Fossey was fearless in scaring away poachers and protecting the gorillas. "She was really something, putting on masks, chasing people, kidnapping them," said Goodall in the December '99 *Modern Maturity* magazine. "If only she had embraced humanity a little more ... she could still be here. ... I had these long talks with her and begged her, 'Dian, why don't you involve the poachers in your research? Let them see the gorillas, help them understand?' She said, 'No, no, then the gorillas will be even more vulnerable.' If only she'd tried, because I know it works."

Fossey's work to study and save the gorillas is continued by the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International. Dr. Gil Boese, president of the Zoological Society of

Milwaukee, also is chairman of the Gorilla Fund, which today takes more of Goodall's approach, educating Rwandans about gorillas and helping them benefit financially from tourist business that the gorillas draw.

Goodall saw something that Fossey missed: the spiritual connection between humans and other animals. It is the subject of her PBS special and of her new book, *Reason for Hope*. As the TV program narrator says: "She's also a deeply spiritual person who's thought seriously not only about chimpanzees, but also about what it means to be fully human."

During Goodall's depression over her second husband's death from cancer, she was following a group of chimps in the jungle one day. It began to pour. For the next hour, they were all miserable in the rain. Then it stopped. The sun streamed through the trees. A spider web covered with raindrops sparkled like diamonds. She heard every note of a bird song and saw leaves with a clarity she never had before. It was a mystical moment. "It seemed to me I really was seeing the world the way a chimp sees it. I was looking at it from the inside rather than with human eyes. It changed the way I think about nature."

It also changed her view of humanity. Despite the violence that continues in parts of Africa, despite the fact that chimpanzees still are captured illegally for pets or killed for meat, despite the threat to the chimps'



Group of chimpanzees pant-hooting in Gombe National Park. (below) Chimpanzee in Gombe National Park, Tanzania, Africa.



Dr. Jane Goodall observes a chimpanzee.

very existence by human destruction of their habitat, despite seeing chimps themselves kill and even eat each other and wondering whether all primates have a violent streak – despite all this, Goodall sees hope.

As she says in the TV special: "I just have this absolute belief that humans are moving away from cruelty and destruction toward a time when we can truly live in harmony with nature, and there is a spiritual power around us from which we can draw strength. And that is where I believe human destiny ultimately is taking us. I just hope we have time." 🐾

An Evening with Goodall

The Zoological Society of Milwaukee, UWM Office of the Chancellor, the Center for Twentieth Century Studies and UWM Union Programming are sponsoring Jane Goodall's visit to Milwaukee on April 13. Goodall will give a lecture at 7 p.m. at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Union. The talk is open to the public, and seating is limited. Tickets are \$8.50 for Zoological Society members. Her lecture is part of an international conference, "Representing Animals at the End of the Century," put on by the Center for Twentieth Century Studies. For information on the lecture, call the Zoological Society, (414) 258-2333. For details on the conference, which will bring together a wide range of scholars to explore human views of animals, call (414) 229-4141 or write to the Center for Twentieth Century Studies, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Check the center's Web site: www.uwm.edu/Dept/20th.

Dedication in Belize

When you're conducting a conservation and research project in another country, it's important that the people who live in the area are a major part of the project. So the Zoological Society's Vicki Piaskowski, international coordinator of Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras*, has hired an all-Belizean staff for the part of her project that is taking place in the Central American country of Belize. Piaskowski taught her staff how to band wild birds and monitor nests, and has helped them develop research skills that may win them future jobs.

In turn, the staff has shown remarkable dedication, she says. One staffer locating nests in bug-infested jungle removed his light-colored Birds Without Borders T-shirt, which provided some protection, because he feared that the shirt made him more visible and scared away birds.

In another example, the staff kept monitoring birds in the rain, even though most researchers tend to give up when it rains since birds, like people, stick close to cover. "But our staff in Belize was so enthused that they held plastic sheets over themselves and did the counts in a storm," she notes. "They're just so enthusiastic. It's wonderful."

Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras*, initiated in 1996 by Dr. Gil Boese, president of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee, is a five-year effort aimed at conserving resident and migratory songbirds and their habitats. The project is being conducted on private land in Wisconsin and Belize (where many birds that breed in Wisconsin spend the winter), with



The red-legged honeycreeper is among the neotropical migrant bird species found in the Zoo's Herb & Nada Mahler Family Aviary.

the goal of encouraging private landowners to maintain habitat for birds. Educating children and the general public about birds and conservation is another big part of the project.

Many researchers going to foreign countries bring their graduate students or other people down from the United States to do the work, says Piaskowski. This prevents the local people from developing the scientific expertise necessary to continue the work and to train others. If, on the other hand, the local people get direct benefits such as jobs and training from a project, important conservation work may be continued.

In Belize, Birds Without Borders depends on the year-round Belize project coordinator Omar Figueroa (see photo). Hired for six months each year, the other field research staff (supervisors Mario Teul and Peter Herrera with assistants Emeldo Bustamente, Miguel Choco, Wilber Martinez, Jacqueline Ramos, Bladimir Rodriguez and Hilberto Tut) begin work in February, helping to band and census migratory birds. From April to August, the crews monitor some of the 370 species of birds that are year-round residents. They trek through dense forest and scrubby grasslands to study birds such as the red-throated ant-tanager or the fork-tailed flycatcher. Some birds can be spotted only by canoe on a river.

Each summer one Belize staff member is brought to Wisconsin for extra training and to participate in research on the three Wisconsin Birds Without Borders sites.

"Nobody has done a lot of research on the resident birds in Belize," says Piaskowski, who is based in Milwaukee. "So our Belize staff are doing really important work. These committed people are key to the success of this project."



The success of Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras*, a five-year effort aimed at conserving resident and migratory songbirds and their habitats, depends on year-round Belize project coordinator Omar Figueroa (right) and his field research staff. Here, Figueroa and Mario Teul band one of the thousands of migratory birds that are part of the Birds Without Borders project.

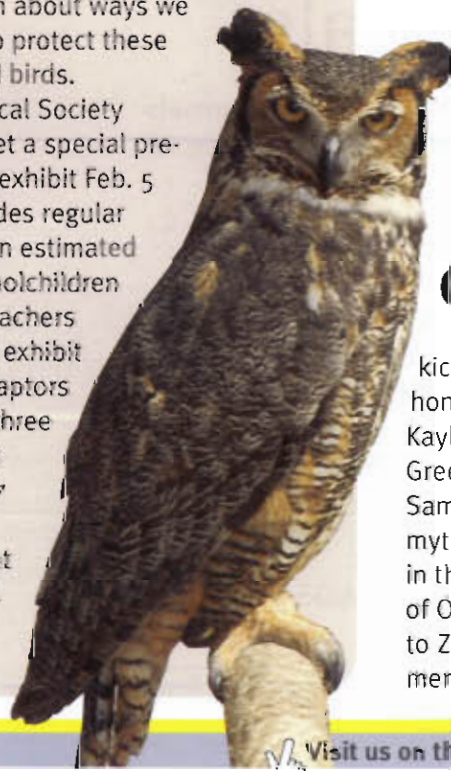
Rave about Raptors

You usually can tell a raptor from other birds when you see it flying. It's either soaring slowly and gracefully, or diving breakneck fast. And you often notice it first because it's so big. Falcons have a wingspan ranging from 21 inches to four feet; a great horned owl has a 4½-foot wingspan; an eagle, 6½ to 8 feet.

But the best way to tell a raptor is by its feet. Raptors, also called birds of prey, have sharp, powerful toes called talons. These can grab the small animals that raptors eat: snakes, rodents, rabbits, smaller birds.

You'll learn all about birds of prey this winter when you come to the Zoo to see Wisconsin Electric's Hunters of the Sky, an indoor exhibit developed by the Science Museum of Minnesota. You can peer into the fearless eyes of real birds during live-animal programs, hear stories about raptors throughout history, and learn about ways we are trying to protect these endangered birds.

Zoological Society members get a special preview of the exhibit Feb. 5 and 6. Besides regular zoogoers, an estimated 15,000 schoolchildren and their teachers will see the exhibit and study raptors during the three months it is open, Feb. 7 to May 7. Photo: Great horned owl.



The five wolf pups that arrived at the Milwaukee County Zoo six months ago are growing up. They still like to leap and play in Wolf Woods. They chase a ball, just like dogs. And, when people aren't around, they'll go right up to the visitor viewing windows, put their paws on the glass and look inside. But when people look through the glass into the yard, the wolves often hide in the wooded area next to the moose exhibit. Or, if it's just one or two strangers, the wolves go into a typical wolf-pack formation, with one wolf in front.



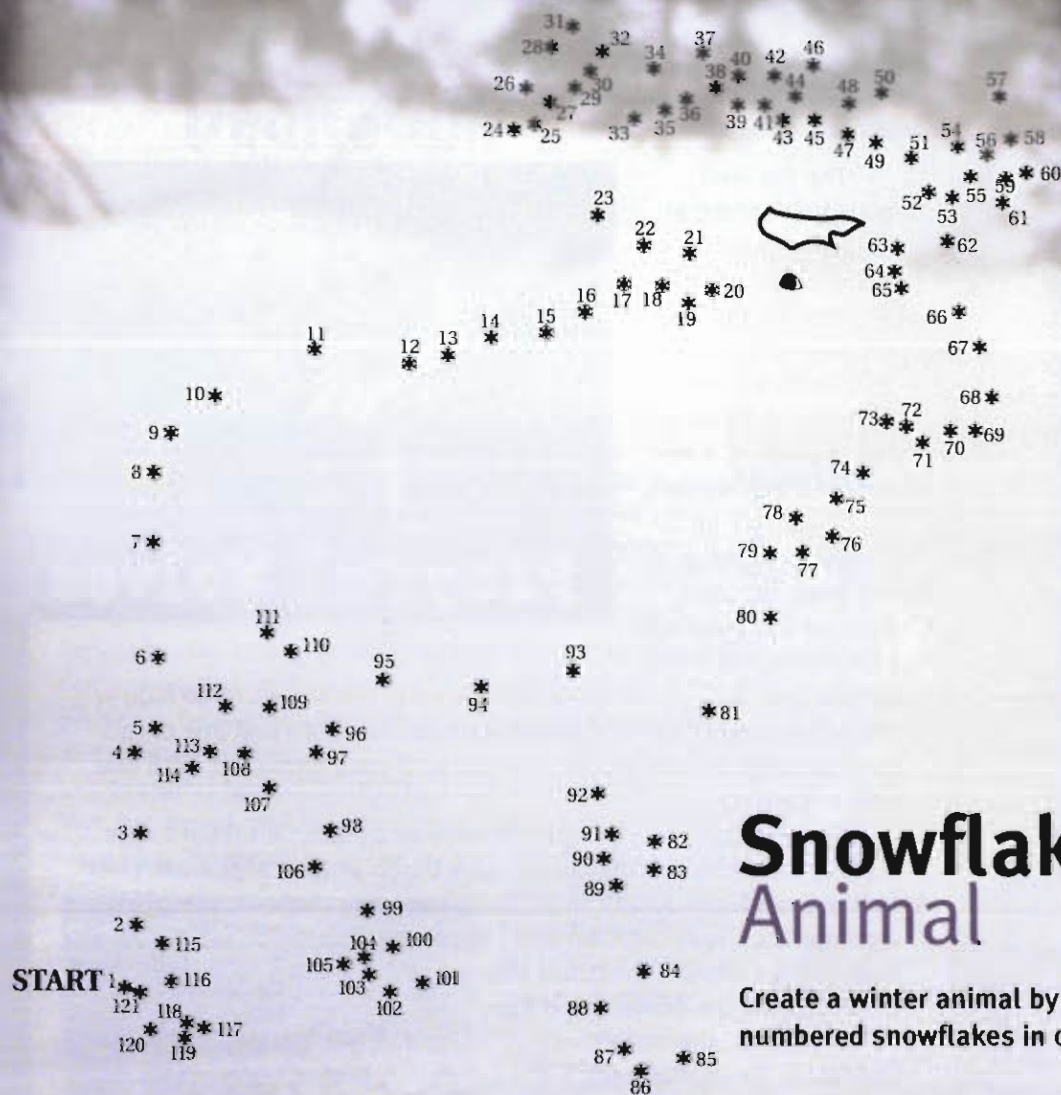
"They're already starting to function as a pack. Certain ones are starting to establish dominance," says Daron Graves, area supervisor for the Zoo's North American animals. They may be developing faster than normal. "They can take up to three years to decide who's boss," says Peggy Callahan, executive director of the Minnesota Science Center, where the wolves were born.

By last fall, the wolves - three males and two females - weighed from 60 to 70 pounds each and were already bigger than coyotes. They eat dog food as well as dead rabbits and rats.

But why do they hide from visitors, even when they were hand-raised by humans? Says zookeeper John Durell: "They are wild animals, and no amount of hand-raising is ever going to change that. It's their nature to be fearful of humans." So when you come to the Zoo, you'll just have to look very hard in the trees to see them.

Monster Myth Contest Winners

The winners of our Monster Myth Poster Contest, which was kicked off last July, are: Ages 4-7, Aaron Mooi of Whitefish Bay; honorable mention: Kimberly Sowin of Wadsworth, Ill. Ages 8-9, Kaylen Wolf, of Milwaukee; honorable mention: Kaitlyn Perry of Greenfield. Ages 10-13, Chloe Marx of Brookfield; honorable mention: Samantha Wolf of Milwaukee. Each entry included a poster with a myth about an animal and then the true facts. All entries were hung in the Small Mammals building at the Zoo during the last two weeks of October. Winners received plush-toy wolves and certificates to Zoological Society animal-science workshops; honorable mentions also received prizes.



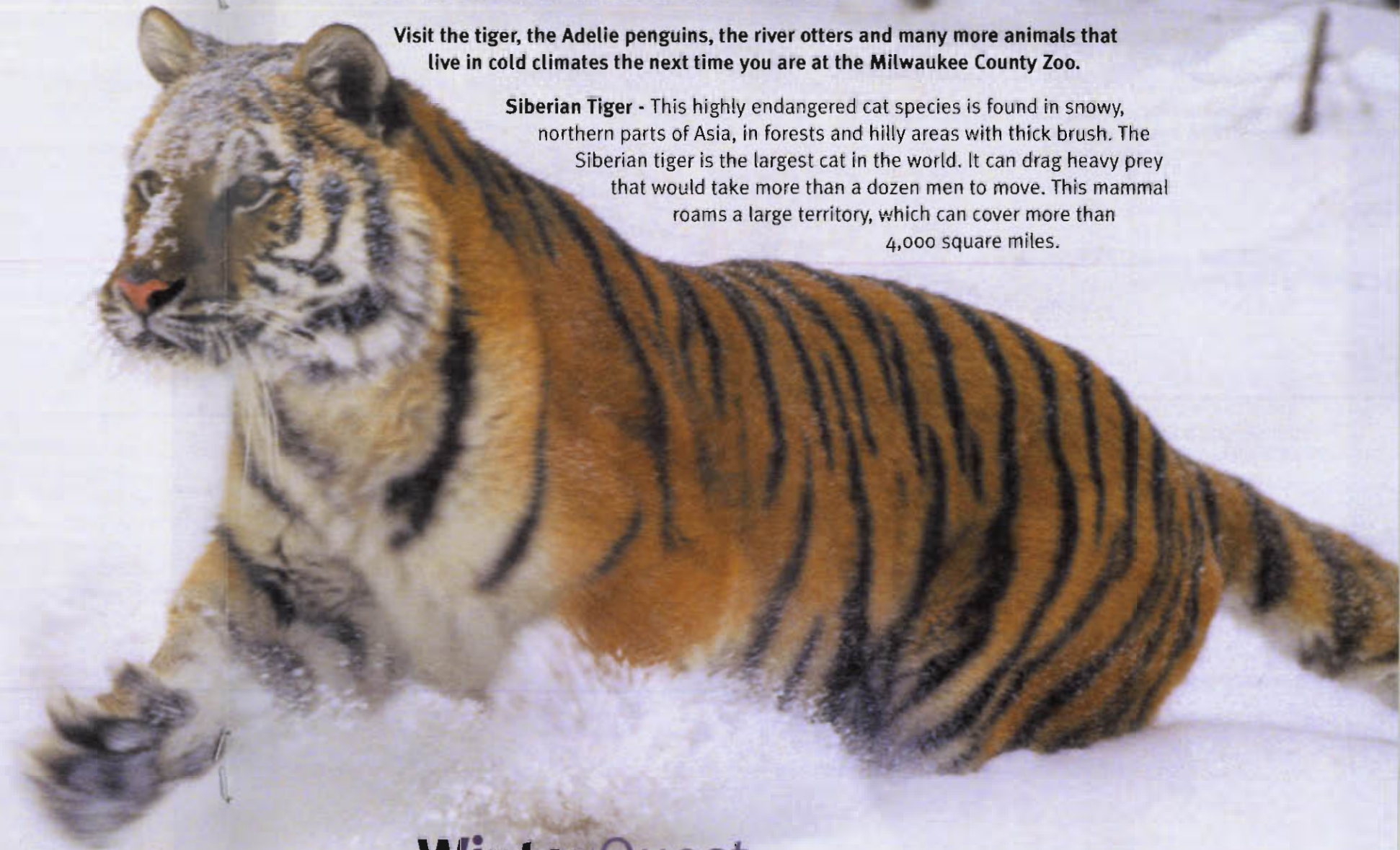
Snowflake Animal

Create a winter animal by connecting the numbered snowflakes in order.

Winter Animal Fact

Visit the tiger, the Adelle penguins, the river otters and many more animals that live in cold climates the next time you are at the Milwaukee County Zoo.

Siberian Tiger - This highly endangered cat species is found in snowy, northern parts of Asia, in forests and hilly areas with thick brush. The Siberian tiger is the largest cat in the world. It can drag heavy prey that would take more than a dozen men to move. This mammal roams a large territory, which can cover more than 4,000 square miles.



Millennium Mystery Animals

Show the Millennium with animals from "snow country." Fill in the blanks with animals that have an S or an M in their name. Clue: unscramble the blue letters after each line. All these animals can be found at the Milwaukee County Zoo or on the Zoo grounds:

- M _ _ _ S _ _ OSEMO
- S _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ YSWNO WOL
- _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ S _ _ _ _ _ LLDA ESEPH
- _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ S _ _ _ _ _ ADNCA SOOEG
- _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ M _ _ _ _ _ UHIPKMNC
- S _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ WOSN RLDEOPA

Winter Quest

Which animal from snow country has white fur – but in truth it is not white? Put the answer in the box below. Answer to October 1999 HalloweenQuest: Bats are the only true flying mammals. You'll find them in the Zoo's Small Mammals building.

Answer will appear in the April 2000 *Alive*.

Curious Kids

QUESTION: I don't know exactly what I want to be when I grow up, but I want to do something with animals. Can you give me some ideas of what I can be? – Heidi Kirsch, 11, Milwaukee

Many careers deal with animals. Most of them require a college education. Consider whether you want to work with pets (in a pet store, for example) or with wild animals. Zookeepers work with captive wild animals. If you prefer to work with animals in their wild habitats, you could be a wildlife biologist. If you like helping injured or sick animals, you could be a veterinarian. Perhaps you would like to train animals, like our sea lion trainers do at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Maybe you just want to be in a job where you are near animals. For example, people at the Zoo commissary who get food ready for the animals don't have direct contact with them. Volunteering at a humane society facility or wildlife rehabilitation center will give you an idea of how close you want to work with animals.



Please don't feed the geese.

QUESTION: How do you get the animals in cages and how do you trap them? – Jacob Woehlke, Milwaukee

We don't trap animals to capture them for zoos. Most zoo animals today are born in captivity. In fact, zoos have become a key to the survival of many endangered species that have been losing their natural habitats. Through worldwide species survival plans (SSPs), zoos cooperate in breeding animals to provide genetic diversity and keep a large enough population so that some species eventually may be re-introduced to the wild. The golden lion tamarins (see above) at the Milwaukee County Zoo are in a program that is preparing them to go back to their native habitat of South America. As for moving animals into their exhibit spaces, we have an excellent training program at the Zoo to make it easy and even fun for animals to move from outdoors to indoors and back again. The animals like it because they get treats and they get even more positive attention from the zookeepers.



QUESTION: How do you get a bird to come right in your hand so you can pet it and it doesn't fly away right away, or a squirrel to come right up to you and take grass right out of your hand softly, and doesn't bite you? – Jessica Janowski, Milwaukee

Birds and squirrels are wild animals, not pets. It is not a good idea to feed any wild animal with your hands. The animal could bite you. Many wild animals (including birds) carry diseases and dangerous parasites that could make you sick if you touched the animal. If an animal feels threatened, it will attack you. We sometimes see people feeding the Canada geese at the Zoo, but it is dangerous. Geese bite. Even though they are used to being near people, they are still wild. When you feed them, a lot of them come up to you searching for food, and they may start fighting and trying to snap food from your hand. You could end up with a very sore finger.

Kids! Send us your animal questions. Remember to include your name, age and full address.



EdZoocation

Tree Memories

When 13-year-old Erik Olsen of Clinton remembers the recent winter holidays, he'll recall wooden moose, bear and deer ornaments dangling from fir-tree branches. Courtney Campbell, 9, of Pewaukee will think of penguins, the kind made from juice bottles, felt and pipe cleaners. Visions of ice cream cones will dance in the heads of Clayton and Cortney Clark of Waukesha, who, with their 4-H club, made 50 colorful cones and other tasty-looking tree ornaments with paper, glue, markers and paint.

These children are among about 750 youth who helped the Zoological Society of Milwaukee make a Winter Wonderland at the Milwaukee County Zoo last month by decorating holiday trees. Fifty 4-H clubs, scout troops and other youth groups each trimmed a tree using a theme such as Rain Forest, North Woods, World of Animals, Oceans, Ice Palace, Wisconsin Farms or Sweet Treats. The decorated trees filled the Otto Borchert Family Special Exhibits Building throughout December, adding a creative spectacle to the Zoo's Holiday Night Lights, sponsored by Wisconsin Electric/A Wisconsin Energy Company.

"Kids like to create things," said Mary Kogler, the Zoological Society tree-project coordinator. "The Trim-a-Tree project gives them the opportunity to make something themselves, both as individuals and as a group. Then they see their creations

displayed for the public. It gives them a great sense of giving and pride."

Hawks Nursery in Wauwatosa donated the trees and stands for the display, a gift worth more than \$7,500. "I wanted to do something for children to add to their experience of celebrating the holidays," said Hawks' owner Joe Kresl. "The holidays hold a lot of special memories for me from



Brownies from Mequon's Donges Bay School Stacy Meyerson (center) and Nicki Ross, both 8, and Troop 110 leader Judee Ross make bird ornaments for their Rain Forest tree in the Zoological Society's Winter Wonderland exhibit during Wisconsin Electric's Holiday Night Lights in December.

my childhood. I remember decorating our tree at home. The whole family worked together. When we were all done, we'd sit back and stare at it for hours, enjoying the look of what we had created."

These children also could return to the Zoo and bring their friends to admire their work during Holiday Night Lights. "It is something they can always be proud of," said Kresl.

With the holidays over, the trees have been recycled, most chipped by the Zoo's horticulture staff but a few saved for the elephants to use as toys. "Elephants have a blast tossing trees around like Frisbees," said Brian Fogas of the Zoo's horticulture staff.

But holiday memories linger. "It was my first time stringing popcorn," said an excited Gina Zappavigna. It was also her first trip to the Zoo. (She's new to Wisconsin.) "I loved everything about it." Gina, 8, along with Cortney Clark, 14, her brother, Clayton, 9, and the rest of their 4 Leaf 4-H Club of Waukesha, decorated a Sweet Treats tree at the Zoo. Added Cortney, who drew "zillions" of stripes with a red marker on white tissue paper to make peppermint

candy ornaments. "What I'll remember is the time we spent together as 4-H members working on it."

Deb Olsen, den mother of Boy Scout Troop 320 of Clinton, said her son Erik and the rest of the troop would remember the work they put into their North Woods animal ornaments and the garland of fishing line with hand-painted lake bass and bobbers hooked on it. "I was proud of the cooperation and teamwork they showed in seeing this through." The troop set up an assembly line with boys at one table cutting out wooden shapes of animals, cabins and canoes and those at the next table staining and painting. "If the ornament didn't look just right, it got sent back to the beginning to be sanded and redone," she said.

Courtney Campbell and the other girls in Junior Girl Scout Troop 1078 of Pewaukee felt especially proud of their ornaments this year because they created their own designs. Said troop leader Sheila Campbell: "We participated in this project for two years when the girls were Brownies. Then they followed instructions to make their decorations. This year each girl came up with her own idea [including Courtney's penguins]."

Added 4 Leaf 4-H Club leader Jennifer Clark: "They all had lots of fun making decorations, but the important thing is that they were able to bring joy to lots of other people, too."

– Sandra Whitehead



Waukesha's 4 Leaf 4-H Club members Gina Zappavigna (front) and Cortney Clark (right) and Clayton Clark hang ice-cream-cone ornaments on their Sweet Treats tree. Hawks Nursery of Wauwatosa donated all the trees in the Winter Wonderland exhibit.



Monkeys in the Midst of Surviving

*They swing through the air with the greatest of ease,
These cur-ly tailed mon-keys we call A-tel-es,
With hands that can hook on a rope or a limb,
They leap thir-ty feet and are back with a spin.
They live in the for-est high up in the trees.
If the trees dis-ap-pear, so, too, their spe-cies.*

Look into the small eyes of the spider monkey (*Ateles geoffroyi geoffroyi*), which has such human-like gestures as folding its arms while sitting, and it's hard to imagine that people eat these primates. But, yes, in much of Central and South America, where the monkeys live, these sprightly creatures are hunted for food and for their body parts (for ornaments).

The spider monkey is under attack on many fronts. Live monkeys still are caught as infants and sold as pets, usually after the mother has been shot. Then there's the loss of their habitat that we've all heard about: the cutting down of the rain forests. Forests are cleared to make room for agriculture or for cattle ranching. Many forests are logged for their hardwoods, which often go to foreign countries. And the tallest trees – which spider monkeys prefer – are favorites of loggers. Trees also are cut for fuel, both firewood and charcoal. In fact, nearly 80% of all wood removed from tropical forests is for fuel. Forests also are being lost to flooding by huge hydroelectric projects, many built in parks and reserves.

With these monkeys disappearing so fast, zoos have become an important part of their survival – both through public education and through conservation programs.

The Milwaukee County Zoo soon will be bringing more public attention to spider monkeys with an expanded colony in a new, exotic exhibit called Temple Monkeys of Tikal. Built in the tropical rain forest of northern Guatemala, Tikal was one of the foremost cities of the ancient Mayan world. It's still in the heart of spider-monkey territory. The exhibit is scheduled to open next July, if enough money can be raised through the Zoological Society's Annual Appeal (see accompanying story, page 18).

The Zoo's current spider monkey couple, Myrtle and Bill, are fun to watch. "They're great entertainers for the public," says primate zookeeper Jim Richard. They swing quickly through their exhibit, they groom each other with their fingers (they don't have thumbs) to get rid of loose skin and matted hair, and sometimes one will put an arm over the other's shoulder.

Bill likes to rub onion (a treat he sometimes gets from zookeepers) all over his chest, nose and cheeks, where he has scent glands. In fact, you'll often see him rubbing his knuckles over his scent glands to release an oily substance that may be an attraction to females. But Myrtle already likes him well enough.

Jim Richard thinks the two mate in a much more humanlike way than do some of the other primates. "They do not breed. They appear to make love. I came across them recently and her arms were around his neck, and they were embracing. Sometimes I'm embarrassed for interrupting them."

Jan Rafert, curator of primates, takes a more scientific view and thinks the phrase "making love" is putting a human spin on the monkeys' behavior. "To say that a strong bond exists between these two individual spider monkeys is accurate. What that bond is and what it is based on is conjecture. Because gorillas and orangutans may mate face to face, a 'human' behavior, does not mean that they are 'making love' – at least under the same definition that is used for humans."

Of course, the monkeys also squabble. Richard says that if he feeds them treats, he has to bring one for each monkey and feed the two at exactly the same time or they fight over the food.

The pair belong to a species of *Ateles* called black-banded spider monkeys. They both have black hands, but you can tell them apart by how far the black goes up their arms. Myrtle's forearms are black beyond her elbows (see above). The black on Bill's arms comes only about two-thirds of the way up his forearms, and then the fur becomes the tan and brown combination that covers most of his body (see page 18). Another way to tell them apart is by their hairstyles. "When Bill grooms his hair, he always pulls it forward, which gives him

quite a cool hairstyle," says Richard. "Whereas Myrtle's hair comes to a point."

So how did they come to be called spider monkeys? Some researchers speculate that their silhouettes at the top of the rain forest looked like spiders. But Richard doesn't see it. "I would have given another name to them, like temple monkeys."

In Central America, Mayan temple ruins are found throughout the forests, and the ruins can be a favorite spot for spider monkeys. "This exhibit is based on observations

and photographs of spider monkeys at the Tikal ruins in Guatemala and at the temple site of Chan Chich in Belize, Central America," says Gil Boese, Zoological Society president. "That's why the new Zoo exhibit will feature simulated Mayan ruins."

continued on page 18

Spider Monkey Facts

Habitat:

upper canopy of rain forests in Central & South America

Tail:

prehensile (grabs branches like a fifth limb)

Tail length:

20 to 35 inches

Adult weight:

13 to 17½ pounds (less in the wild)

Diet in the wild:

fruit, nuts, leaves, insects, eggs

Diet at Zoo:

fruit, nuts, veggies, eggs, Hi Fiber pellets

Sexual maturity:

age 5 in males, 4 in females

Gestation:

226-232 days

Noises they make:

barks, whinnying


Generally, monkeys in captivity live longer than those in the wild, mainly because they are better fed and given medical care. Zookeepers check their health daily. Cliff Van Beek, area supervisor for the apes and primates, says: "We watch them for any behavioral changes, for changes showing up in their stool or for food left in the exhibit (that might indicate illness)." If there's a problem, veterinarians are called. The vets also do routine exams periodically.

Next summer Myrtle and Bill are to be joined by other spider monkeys, as they become available. Their exhibit will be expanded from its current space and will include an outdoor space with trees. In the

wild they may live in groups ranging from two animals to 30 or more.

In the meantime, come see Bill and Myrtle. It's fascinating to watch them "turn on a dime" with the amazing dexterity of their prehensile tails, which they use to grab and swing. The underside of the tail is as sensitive as a hand. The best time to view them, says Van Beek, is around 3:30 p.m. In winter the primate building closes at 4:15, and they are fed their evening meal shortly after. So in late afternoon they are more active.

Earlier in the day, they may sit around the exhibit one morning after feeding the monkeys when he heard a teacher with a group of preschoolers in tow commenting on how lethargic the spider monkeys were. "Oh, they're just lazy," she told the kids. Richard explained that the monkeys actually were resting after eating. Then he added a wry note about Bill: "He's older. He has a bone disease. And he doesn't jump around as much as he once did. But neither do I anymore."

With the amount of swinging and leaping that Bill the monkey does in the afternoon, however, it hardly seems as if age has slowed him. And Richard the zookeeper, who at 61 looks under 50, could be a role model for Bill. Or vice versa. 



The Zoo's black-handed spider monkeys will get a new home in July. This artist's rendering from ACME Corp. of Milwaukee shows simulated ruins of a Mayan temple as part of the exhibit.

Build a new monkey exhibit

You can help create a new spider-monkey exhibit at the Milwaukee County Zoo by contributing to the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's Annual Appeal. We need to raise \$156,000 to open this new exhibit, to be called Temple Monkeys of Tikal, by mid-July 2000. A major gift from the Krause Family Foundation has helped kick off the Appeal. The new, enlarged exhibit will include simulated Mayan temple ruins and an outdoor exhibit space for the monkeys that can be seen from a viewing deck near a remodeled entrance to the Stearns Family Apes of Africa Pavilion (across from Monkey Island). Donations of \$30 or more will be recognized on a display near the exhibit in fall 2000. Donors of \$100 or more will be recognized in the Society's annual report; donors of \$250 or more will be invited to a special exhibit preview; donors of \$500 or more get special recognition at the exhibit. For more information, call (414) 258-2333.

\$50,000-\$99,999

American Airlines
• Zoo Ball*

Ameritech

• Summer Special Exhibit - Butterflies: Living Jewels of the Mundo Maya

The Lynde & Harry Bradley Foundation
• Society Operations

Mae E. Demmer Charitable Trust

• Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras*

Derse Family Foundation

(over a 3-year period)
• Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras* (Observation Deck)

Howard Hughes Medical Institute

• Ed-Ops (Educational-Opportunities) Program

Miller Brewing Co.

• Animal Ambassador Program
• Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament
• Oceans of Fun Seal & Sea Lion Show
• Recycled Zoo
• Zoo a la Carte

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

• Zoo a la Carte*

\$20,000-\$49,999

Helen Bader Foundation, Inc.
• Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras*

The Frieda and William Hunt Memorial Trust

(over a 2-year period)
• Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras* (conservation)

Kimberly-Clark Foundation

• Keepers of the Wild

The Ladish Co. Foundation

• School Programs

M&I Bank

• Seasonal Zoo Brochures

Roundy's Pick'n Save

• Boo at the Zoo*
• Conservation Weekend*
• Egg Day*
• Family Free Days at the Zoo*
• Father's Day at the Zoo*
• Kids Nights*
• March is Frozen Food Month
• Ride on the Wild Side Family Bike Ride*
• Samson Stomp & Romp*
• Snooze at the Zoo*
• Summer Adventure Camps*
• Trick or Treat Halloween Spooktacular*
• Twilight Safari*
• We Care Program

Sargento Foods Inc.

• Dairy Farm Delight Program
• Meet the Cow Exhibit
• Ride on the Wild Side Family Bike Ride
• Summer Adventure Camps Support*

Serengeti Circle

The Serengeti Circle is an exclusive group of corporations and foundations that support the Zoo and Zoological Society through sponsoring special events, exhibits/attractions, programs and promotions at the \$2,500 level and above. For more information on sponsorship opportunities at the Zoo, please call Patty Harrigan, (414) 258-2333.

St. Francis Bank

• Zoomobile

Tri City National Bank

• Beastly Bow-A-Thon
• Behind the Scenes Weekends
• Feast for the Beasts Pancake Breakfast
• Kids'n Critters Club
• Senior Celebration Support*
• Sponsor an Animal Program
• Sunset Zoolaris
• Zoo 'n You Coupon Book*

Wisconsin Electric/A Wisconsin Energy Company

• Holiday Night Lights/Winter Wonderland
• Winter Special Exhibit - Hunters of the Sky and School Program

\$10,000-\$19,999

American Zoo & Aquarium Association (Conservation Endowment Fund)
• Salonga Survey

A.O. Smith Foundation

• School Programs

Beneficia Foundation

• Salonga Survey

Robert K. & Joyce R. Cope Foundation

• Annual Animal Art Competition
• Belize Outreach Program
• Platypus Society Awards Dinner

Direct Marketing Concepts

• Zoological Society Membership Support*

Drypers Corp.

• Stroller Rentals

General Mills

• Yoplaiz's Family Free Days at the Zoo

Golden Guernsey Dairy

• Heritage Farm Weekend
• Pancake Breakfast Support*

Hershey Foods

• Boo at the Zoo
• Trick or Treat Halloween Spooktacular

Krause Family Foundation

• Temple Monkeys of Tikal Exhibit Upgrade

Light 97 WLTQ

• Ride on the Wild Side Family Bike Ride*

Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation

• Salonga Survey

Milton and Lillian Peck Foundation

• Animal Ambassador Program
• Education Building Expansion

The R.D. and Linda Peters Foundation

• Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras* (education)

The Quaker Oats Company

• Samson Stomp & Romp
• Summer Adventure Camps

Strong Investments

• Carousel

Wisconsin Environmental Education Board

• Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras* (education)

\$5,000-\$9,999

American Express Financial Advisors
• Animal Ambassador Program

Anonymous

• Student Intern Program

Antonia Foundation

• Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras* (education)

Applied Power Foundation

• Student Intern Program (education)

Aurora Health Care

• Senior Celebration*

Best Buy Co., Inc./Best Buy

• Children's Foundation
• Urban Environmental Education Initiative

Canadian Pacific Railway

• Animal Ambassador Program

Chapman Foundation

• Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras* (conservation)

Environmental Protection Agency

• Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras*

Excelsior Lodge #175 E and A.M.

• Animal Ambassador Program

The Falk Corporation

• Bountiful Butterfly Garden

Firstar Milwaukee Foundation

• School Programs

Hawks Nursery

• Holiday Night Lights/Winter Wonderland Support*

Richard and Ethel Herzfeld Foundation

• EdZooation Workshops

The Charles and Dorothy Watkins

• Inbush Foundation
• Milking Parlor Renovation/Dairy Complex

Jays

• Kids Nights

Kaytee Products Inc.

• Zoo Support Program

Judy Kern

• Salonga Survey

Laud O'Lakes Foundation

• Milking Parlor Exhibit

McCormick

• Egg Day

Milwaukee's Pickles

• Snooze at the Zoo

NFL Alumni Association

• Kids Days Off

Norcross Wildlife Foundation

• Birds Without Borders - *Aves Sin Fronteras* (education)

Beynolds Wrap Aluminum Foil*

• Conservation Weekend

The Jerome & Dorothy Holz Family Foundation

• Animal Ambassador Program
• Scenic Safari Road Rally

Welch's

• Twilight Safari

\$2,500-\$4,999

Acme Corp.
• Dairy Complex Support*

ANR Pipeline Co.

• Summer Adventure Camps Support

Beatrice Cheese, Inc.

• Animal Ambassador Program

Briggs and Stratton Corporation Foundation

• School Programs

The Chinnet Company

• Father's Day at the Zoo
• Pancake Breakfast Support*

CNI Newspapers

• Ride on the Wild Side Family Bike Ride*

Mayfair Mall

• Annual Animal Art Competition*
• Zoological Society Holiday Gift Promotion*

John C. & Harriett Cleaver Food - Milwaukee Foundation

• Animal Ambassador Program

Cooper Power Systems - Power Systems Division

• Animal Ambassador Program

Fortis Insurance Foundation

• Animal Ambassador Program

Harnischfeger Industries Foundation

• Animal Ambassador Program
• Community Center Outreach

Heinemann's Restaurants

• Mother's Day at the Zoo

The Home Depot

• Animal Ambassador Program

International Paper Foundation/Thulmany Division

• Environmental Exhibit/Heritage Farm

Charles D. Jacobus Family Foundation

• Animal Ambassador Program

Marquette Medical Systems Foundation

• Animal Ambassador Program

Marshall Field's

• Animal Ambassador Program

Maysteel Foundation Ltd.

• Wisconsin Student Grant Program

PPG Industries Foundation

• Animal Ambassador Program

Racine Danish Krinkles

• Breakfast and Lunch With Santa

Society of Tympanuchus Cupido Pinnatus, Ltd.

• Wisconsin Student Grant Symposium

Time Warner Cable

• Animal Ambassador Program

Rene Vou Schleinitz Foundation

• Wisconsin Student Grant Program

*In-Kind Sponsorships

Sponsors and grantors committing dollars and in-kind gifts for events and programs after November 15, 1999, will be recognized in the next issue of *Alive*.



Children appreciate the chance to visit with Santa during Breakfast & Lunch with Santa at the Zoo. Racine Danish Krinkles has sponsored this always-sold-out event since 1996.

What's Gnu

Bonobo

Born: July 17, 1999
Stearns Family Apes of Africa

Maringa, a 26-year-old bonobo, has a new bouncing baby bonobo called Zomi, the Lingala word for 10. "As in 'perfect 10,'" says Barbara Bell, a bonobo keeper in the Stearns Family Apes of Africa pavilion. For the highly endangered bonobo, one of the rarest of the great apes, any healthy baby is considered perfect, Bell says. Bonobos live only in one place in the world, the war-torn Democratic Republic of Congo in the heart of Africa. (Lingala is a native trade language in the Congo.) There may be fewer than 5,000 bonobos left in the wild, but no one knows for sure. The Zoological Society of Milwaukee has been trying to conduct a bonobo survey in the Congo since 1997. Zomi's birth brings to 12 the number of bonobos residing at the Milwaukee County Zoo, one of the largest captive bonobo populations in the United States. That makes our Zoo critical to the species' long-term survival. Zomi, less than three pounds at birth, spends most of her day clinging to Maringa and nursing. "If you catch it right, and Maringa is sitting near the window, you might catch a glimpse of Zomi," Bell says. Zomi was the second bonobo born here in 1999. On Jan. 10, 1999, Zanga Mokila was born to Laura, age 32.



Bongo

Arrived: July 23, 1999
Pachyderm Building

Nero, the male bongo brought to the Milwaukee County Zoo from Colorado Springs to breed, is a handsome fellow. His elegant, curving white horns framed by his white-tinged ears and strong face with its dramatic white "mask" make him a good catch for the female bongo that is to be his mate. "He had a nice introduction with our female," reports Elizabeth Frank, the Zoo's curator for large mammals. "He's a very calm, very nice animal. We're pleased to have him." Relatively little is known about the bongo. It is one of the few large mammals that weren't documented until this century, Frank says, owing in part to the dense forest it inhabits in its central African homeland. Nero, now 3 years old, can be seen in the Pachyderm building this winter. And, if the weather isn't too cold, he and the two other bongos may venture outside. "They're worth seeing," Frank says. Their fur is a rich red-brown with thin, vertical white stripes along the torso and a small white fringe across the back – quite a dramatic sight with their horns.

Gaboon Viper

Arrived: April 8, 1999
Aquatic & Reptile Center

It is one of the most colorful – and lethal – vipers in the world. The Gaboon viper has distinct geometric patterns that cover the length of its body, which can grow to five feet. "It is considered to be one of the most beautifully marked snakes in the world," says Craig Berg, reptile/aquarium curator at the Milwaukee County Zoo. It also might be considered one of the most dangerous. Its fangs, at two inches long, are among the lengthiest in the world. "This animal can put out a lot of venom," Berg says. For that reason, the Potawatomi Zoo in South Bend, Ind., transferred the viper here. Potawatomi Zoo officials, who had no antivenin serum on hand to treat possible Gaboon viper snake bites, found out that Milwaukee did, and sent the animal here. The viper will be returned to South Bend once its zoo obtains antivenin. But three other Gaboon vipers, recently seized by authorities from a Brown Deer residence, where they were kept illegally, will be on permanent exhibit in Milwaukee.

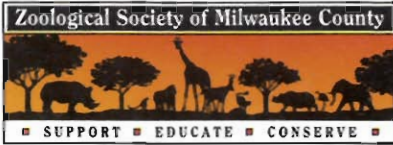


Sea Lion Pups

Born: Geneva on June 29 and Hudson on July 1, 1999
Miller's Oceans of Fun Sea Lion Show

The two new sea lion pups are a big attraction in Miller's Oceans of Fun Sea Lion Show, which is held even in winter if weather permits. While they haven't started their official training yet, the pups still come out during the shows. Otherwise, they spend their days soaking up the sun and playing. Geneva, the female, is the first pup born to Makaia, and Hudson, the male, is the third pup born at our Zoo to Sport. No word yet on who the father is, but animal trainer Shelley Ballmann hopes that genetic tests will determine that. "Both the pups are outgoing, curious and playful," says Ballmann. "They spend their days together like best friends exploring the pool and getting to know the other animals." At birth, both pups weighed 14-16 pounds. When Geneva is an adult five years from now, she will weigh about 210 pounds; when Hudson reaches maturity at about age 13, he will weigh about 700 pounds. By April, the pups will be weaned from their mothers and eating fish on their own. The pups are already acquiring social skills and trust by interacting with their pool mates and trainers, says Ballmann. Call the Zoo at (414) 771-3040 for a daily schedule of sea lion shows.





10005 W. Blue Mound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226
<http://www.zoosociety.org>

Address Service Requested.

DATED MATERIAL
DO NOT DELAY DELIVERY

MOVING?
PLEASE LET US KNOW!

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 4073
Milwaukee, WI 53226

Swing into the Millennium.

Help build a new home for our Temple Monkeys of Tikal. Give to the Zoological Society's Annual Appeal.

See pages 16-18. (414) 258-2333 or
www.zoosociety.org/GetInvolved/

