



animal talk



ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY

Newsletter #53
Walter E. Kroening, Editor

Volume IV

December 1978
Phone: 258-2333

Merry Christmas



I DON'T WANT TO MAKE A
MONKEY OUT OF SANTA BUT
A SANTA OUT OF A MONKEY

SANTA/MONKEY WILL SMILE IF YOU
DO A GOOD DEED FOR THE ZOO -
AND OTHERS. GIVE ZOOCIETY
MEMBERSHIPS FOR CHRISTMAS.
MAKE YOURSELF AND OTHERS HAPPY;
SEE YELLOW PAGE No. 6.

DO IT NOW - IT'Z EAZY.

OUR NEW SERVAL CAT

Come on out to see our new male Serval Cat which was acquired early in October from Lincoln Park (Chicago) Zoo by Acting Zoo Director Robert Bullerman who has spread the word nationwide that a female companion is needed. It is not too common in American zoos. Since this newsletter is sent to all major zoos (nationwide and worldwide), we ask our Zoo Director readers to kindly inform us if they have a spare female, -- a different bloodline than that of the Lincoln Park collection - for sale, trade or breeding loan. Our newest species occupies a suite just inside the entrance of the Small Mammal House; the apartment has been redecorated to suit the new tenant.

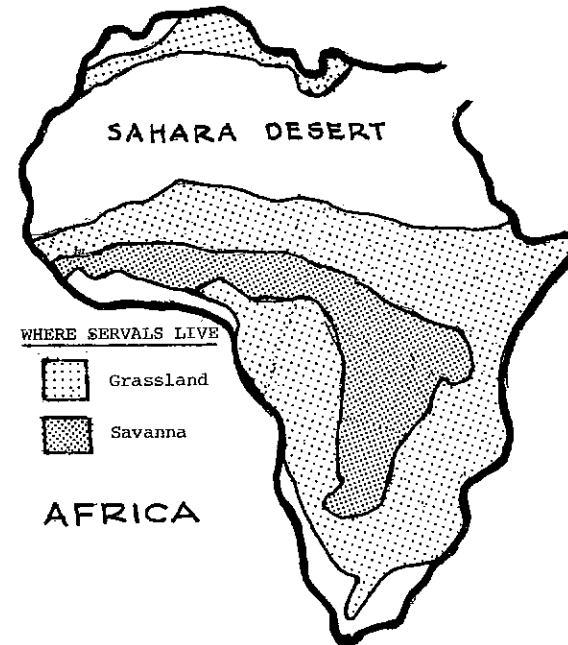


Range and Habitat

The Serval (*Leptailurus serval* lěp-tail'-ū-rūs sŭr'-vāl) is a native of tropical and southern African and is found in tall grass, reeds, bushes and in open, sparsely treed forest areas - (the grasslands and savannas) south and east of the Sahara Desert near open water or marshlands.

Characteristics

It has long slender legs, small narrow head, slender tawny body and round black spots suggesting it is a near relative of the cheetah. Unlike the cheetah, however, it has broad, long, rounded ears, generally standing erect which gives it a highly attentive look - like *Achtung!* Its hearing is so acute that it can detect the faint rasping of mole-rats tunneling underground. The body is between 27" (female) to 40" (male) long with a tail only a foot or slightly more in length - in short, *eine kurze Schwanz*. The Serval feeds on frogs, rodents, rabbits, hyraxes, small and young antelope, birds and fishes. It generally hides in thick bushes along river banks waiting for its prey. It can jump as high as five feet to catch a bird in flight. It also is an expert tree climber which enables catching roosting birds and other prey. The long slender forelegs are used to search dens and rocky crevices for rodents which, if found, are grabbed and held with the claws and pulled out of their hiding or dwelling place. Those whose territories are near human settlements may raid these private premises for poultry and other livestock, such as young goats, lambs and calves.



WHERE SERVALS LIVE

-  Grassland
-  Savanna

AFRICA

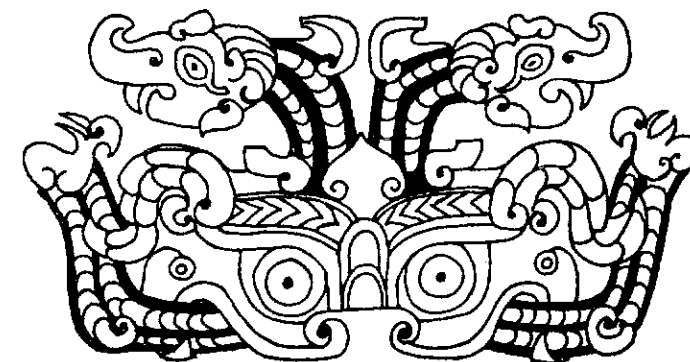
Reproduction

The female is usually sexually receptive for just one day (rarely two to four days) at a time. This short period of estrus only occurs two or three times yearly. When successful breeding does occur, the gestation period is about 74 days and the resulting litter will usually vary from 1 to 3 kittens - sometimes as many as five. Their weight at birth is about 8 to 10 ounces and their eyes open in nine days. Captive Servals live to an age of about 20 years.

Native African chiefs have worn mantels or collars of serval fur which, coupled with the animal's habit of barnyard raiding, has resulted in reducing their number. They are, however, not a vanishing species. It is the opinion of experts that most of Africa's wild animals will be vanishing within the next 50 years because of poaching, encroachment of urban development and the conversion of land to agriculture.

I recently heard that male silkworms have such a keen sense of smell they can detect a sexy female moth six and one-half miles away.

Comment: What frustration - to crawl 6½ miles to find out she has a headache!



68th ANNUAL MEETING

About 200 members attended the meeting held in the Zoo Restaurant, Thursday, November 21, 1978. After a short business session (see news article P. 9), retiring Zoological Society President Thomas Fifield gave a brief summary of the Society's accomplishments during the last year, consisting of:

- The maturing of Zoo Pride into a fully-operative volunteer organization.
- Design, construction and opening of the Humboldt Penguin Exhibit.
- Funding of the relocated Ed-Zoo-cation Laboratory.
- Launching of the Signage Program.
- Acquisition of the new miniature locomotive "Irwin Maier."
- Design, construction and occupancy of the Society's new office.
- Free Admission to the Zoo for Society members.
- Design, construction and operation of the Membership Kiosk.
- Publication of the Triennial Report.
- Continued efforts in public relations and cooperative advertising.
- Establishment of budget control procedures.
- Creation of a new Society Officership; Executive Director - a non-salaried position to which Walter Kroening was appointed.

Acting Zoo Director Robert Bullerman reviewed the past year's breeding record with particular emphasis on our success with vanishing species and our plans for our gorillas (see P. 9) and male rhino. He stated that the increase of worldwide shortage of wild animals make Zoo animal breeding more and more important. Our Zoo has many animals from other zoos on breeding loan and we have also sent many to other zoos for the same purpose. He also stressed the importance of increasing zoo revenues to offset rising costs of operation.

There followed an award winning documentary film, "Otto: Zoo Gorilla" which related the change from old to new gorilla quarters at the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago. During the move the animals were given a complete physical exam. *Of particular personal interest to me was the fact that my blood pressure was practically the same as Otto's: 140/78 despite our difference in age, weight (500# vs 180#) and diet - I rarely eat bananas, oranges and apples.*

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME TO THE WILDEST CLUB IN TOWN

NEW MEMBERS FROM SEPTEMBER 1, 1978 THRU NOVEMBER 30, 1978

REGULAR MEMBERS

MR. & MRS. ROBERT A. ANDERSEN
MR. & MRS. THOMAS BARKOW
PATRICIA PREUSS BIGARI
MR. & MRS. STEVEN BLATNAK
DR. THOMAS BOZEWICZ
LAWRENCE & DOROTHY BOREK
MR. & MRS. CLYDE P. CANMAN
REV. & MRS. WM. CARLSON
MR. & MRS. THOMAS COLE
JAMES A. & BONNIE COPT
MR. & MRS. WM. J. CORNELL
JOHN F. CURTISS
MR. & MRS. DENNIS D'ARIENZO
MR. & MRS. R. DAVIDSON
MARILYN DE MOSS
MRS. EDWARD M. DEXTER
MR. & MRS. JACK DUKES
MR. & MRS. JAMES DUNKLY
JOYCE EBERHARDT
MR. & MRS. DAVID ERNE
MR. & MRS. JERRY ERRATH
MR. & MRS. ROBERT EVERSON
GERALD M. FALCI
MR. ROBERT FREE
DR. & MRS. I. GILSON
MRS. CHARLES T. GOVIN, JR.
MR. & MRS. HENRY GRITTINGER
BENJAMIN HALLUM
DR. & MRS. DAVID A. HANNA
JOHN & CINDY HELT
MR. & MRS. JOHN C. HOFFMAN
DAVID HOFSTEDT
JOAN M. HORN
MR. & MRS. TERRY HURLESS
MR. & MRS. GEOFFREY HURTADO

RONALD JONES
LAURIANNE KASPER
KATHLEEN G. KETTER
ROSS KINNEY
JIM KRAUSE & FAMILY
PIERRE LE SAGE & FAMILY
MR. & MRS. THOMAS LEWANDOWSKI
JOHN LISOWSKI
MR. & MRS. ED MARCOE, JR.
MR. & MRS. THOMAS MARRA
MR. & MRS. KENNETH MATZ
MR. & MRS. JERE MCGAFFEY
JEROME L. MERZ
DON P. METZ
MR. & MRS. RON MUZUREK
MR. KEVIN NELSON
MR. & MRS. DAVID PALDAN
DR. & MRS. D. PEDERSEN
MR. & MRS. DONALD PETERSEN
MR. & MRS. WERNER PEOT
EUSTACE J. PINTO
MR. & MRS. NOBERT PODEMSKI
WILLARD PRESTON
MR. & MRS. PAUL PROCHNOW
DOLORES K. RATHMANN
MICHAEL M. REMSON FAMILY
MS. KATHY RICH
MARIAN ROBBINS
MR. & MRS. JOHN T. ROONEY
DR. & MRS. JEFFREY SCHAUDER
MR. & MRS. MELVIN E. SCHICK
MR. EUGENE SCHLAAK
LLOYD SCHOLER
MR. & MRS. LEROY SCHROEDER
MAYBELL SCHULTZ
RUSSELL A. SCHULTZ

WERNER H. SHARP
MR. & MRS. KENT SIMPSON
MR. & MRS. LESLIE SINGER
STEPHEN J. SIRACUSA
WILLIAM J. SMITANA
MR. & MRS. DEWEY C. SNART
DAVID W. STAUFF
MR. & MRS. JOHATHAN STOCK
DR. JAMES D. STOREY & FAMILY
MARTIN SUCHOCKI
MR. & MRS. THOMAS TAFT, JR.
MR. & MRS. ROBERT TARR
MR. & MRS. D. THOMAS
DEWAYNE TOMASKE
JEFF J. TRUMPY
RUTH L. VALCO
MR. & MRS. BRUCE VOSELLER
MR. & MRS. KENNETH WARD
MR. & MRS. JAMES WARNER
JOHN J. WARREN
JUDY WENDLANDT
REV. & MRS. JAMES WIBERG
JOHN A. WILLIE
MR. & MRS. ROBERT WIRT

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

ROBERT F. BENZ
MR. & MRS. ROBERT CAULFIELD
MR. & MRS. JAN S. GERSTNER
MR. & MRS. JAMES MALLIEN
MARGARET M. MERCURIO
MR. & MRS. DAVID MORTARA
DR. THOMAS TOHORST
MR. & MRS. LAWRENCE TROEMEL
MRS. M. L. WILDING-WHITE

Christmas Special: \$100.00 VALUE ONLY \$15.00!



★ FREE ADMISSION TO THE ZOO — Your Membership Pass Card will entitle you, your spouse and minor age children to free admission to the Zoo.

★ = goodies

★ "ANIMAL TALK" — popular and humorous newsletter edited by Zoological Society past-president Walter Kroening, published several times a year.

★ BIENNIAL REPORT — Beautiful book in full color, about the Zoo and its activities. Complete list of Society members, Zoo animals, Financial report, and other information.

★ "NIGHT IN JUNE" — Annual mid-summer get-together, Zoomobile tour and twilight picnic for Society members and their families.

★ ANNUAL MEETING — Held each Fall, offering a special entertainment program, business meeting, and refreshments in Zoological Hall, for members only.

★ SPECIAL EVENTS — Members are notified in advance of major exhibit openings and activities.

GIVE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP(S) to Friends, Relatives, Business Associates or Customers. Simply fill in the application, attach your check and mail as directed below. The Society will send an appropriate card (with your name on it) together with a membership zoo admission pass to your giftee in time for Christmas.

.... if more than one, just put their names and address on a separate sheet and we will do the rest



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

of MILWAUKEE COUNTY

TO: _____
(PLEASE PRINT)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

INVITED BY Santa Claus DATE 12/25/78

FROM: _____
(PLEASE PRINT)

MEMBERSHIPS

SUSTAINING
\$35 Annually

REGULAR
\$15 Annually

CONTRIBUTING
\$100 Annually

LIFE
\$1,000

Please mail application and remittance to the Secretary, 10001 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, Wis. 53226

smorgåsbord

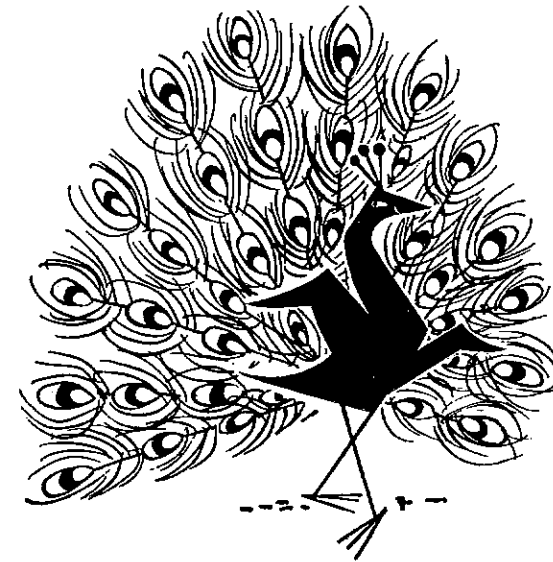
Because of a decimal point error in the design of a heart pump, the resulting product was large enuf for a 7000 pound elephant. So I was told. However, the undaunted super salesman was not stumped. He sold it to a customer to pump honey. A sweetheart deal.



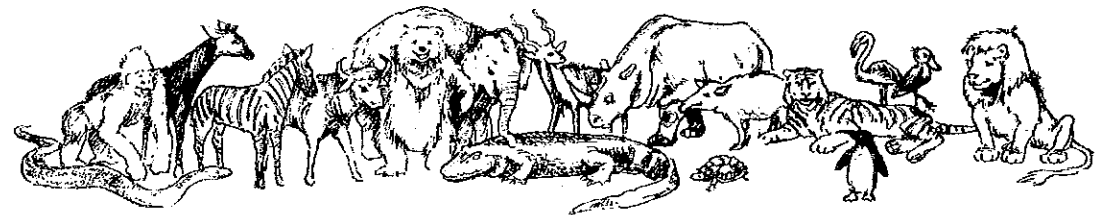
"WHATEVER YOU CAN DO OR DREAM YOU CAN DO, BEGIN IT. BOLDNESS HAS GENIUS, POWER AND MAGIC IN IT."

GOETHE

Übersetzer:
WJK



The Bitterness of Poor Quality Outlasts the Sweetness of Low Price.





Zoological Society President Thomas O'Byrne (left) and Acting Zoo Director Robert Bullermann fed two of the Zoo's elephants
—Journal Photo by Richard Brodzeller

He's Not the Ape of Her Eye

By Alicia Armstrong
of The Journal Staff

It's all your fault, Samson. You're too picky. Too fussy. You always have been. And, heaven knows, you're no swinger. So now, kiddo, your wife is leaving you.

She's going to move back in with Tanga, a gorilla at the Milwaukee County Zoo who used to be her roommate. If no sparks fly there, she will, in desperation, seek romance at the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, where, we're told, there are lots of swingers.

It's true, Samson, that you are one of the world's prime primates. You're so famous, in fact, that when you went on a diet a few years ago, the news spread around the world and your picture appeared in a newspaper as far away as Thailand.

But as a lover you're definitely in the minor leagues.

After you had lived alone as a bachelor for years and years at the Zoo, officials there finally found a winsome lass who was willing to take up housekeeping with you.

Sad News

Her name, as you well know, is Terra, and you and she were formally introduced shortly before Valentine's Day in 1975. She had stars in her eyes from the very beginning, but you were only polite. There was no love.

No nothing. And Terra has now come to the unpleasant but inevitable conclusion that life with you is about as exciting as a gubernatorial debate. So she's leaving you.

That announcement was made Thursday night by Robert W. Bullermann, acting Zoo director, at the annual meeting of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County.

But the move won't take place immediately. Bullermann said Terra and Tanga wouldn't be reunited until after the first of the year.

In other matters, County Executive O'Donnell told society members that a nationwide search for a new Zoo di-

Spouse to Desert Zoo Star

From Page 1

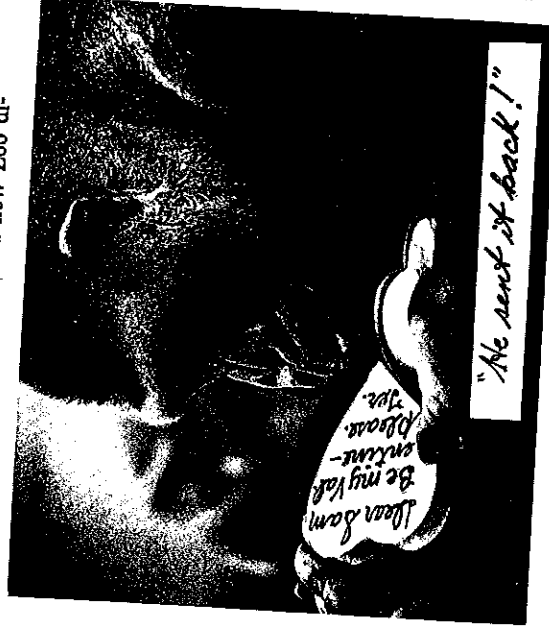
rector to succeed George Speidel, who retired in July, would begin soon.

A blue ribbon commission appointed by O'Donnell earlier this year recommended to him recently that the post of Zoo director be exempted from civil service requirements.

Thomas S. O'Byrne, 1023 E. Thorn La., Fox Point, was elected president of the Zoological Society. Other officers elected are Kurt W. Remus, Jr., 5409 N. Diversey Blvd., Whitefish Bay, vice president; Richard D. Gebhardt, 300 E. Juniper Ct., Mequon, treasurer, and Richard A. Gallun, 405 E. Daphne Rd., Fox Point, secretary.

Walter E. Kroening, a former president of the society, was named its first executive director.

The Zoological Society is a private organization that buys animals for the Zoo and helps the Zoo in other ways.



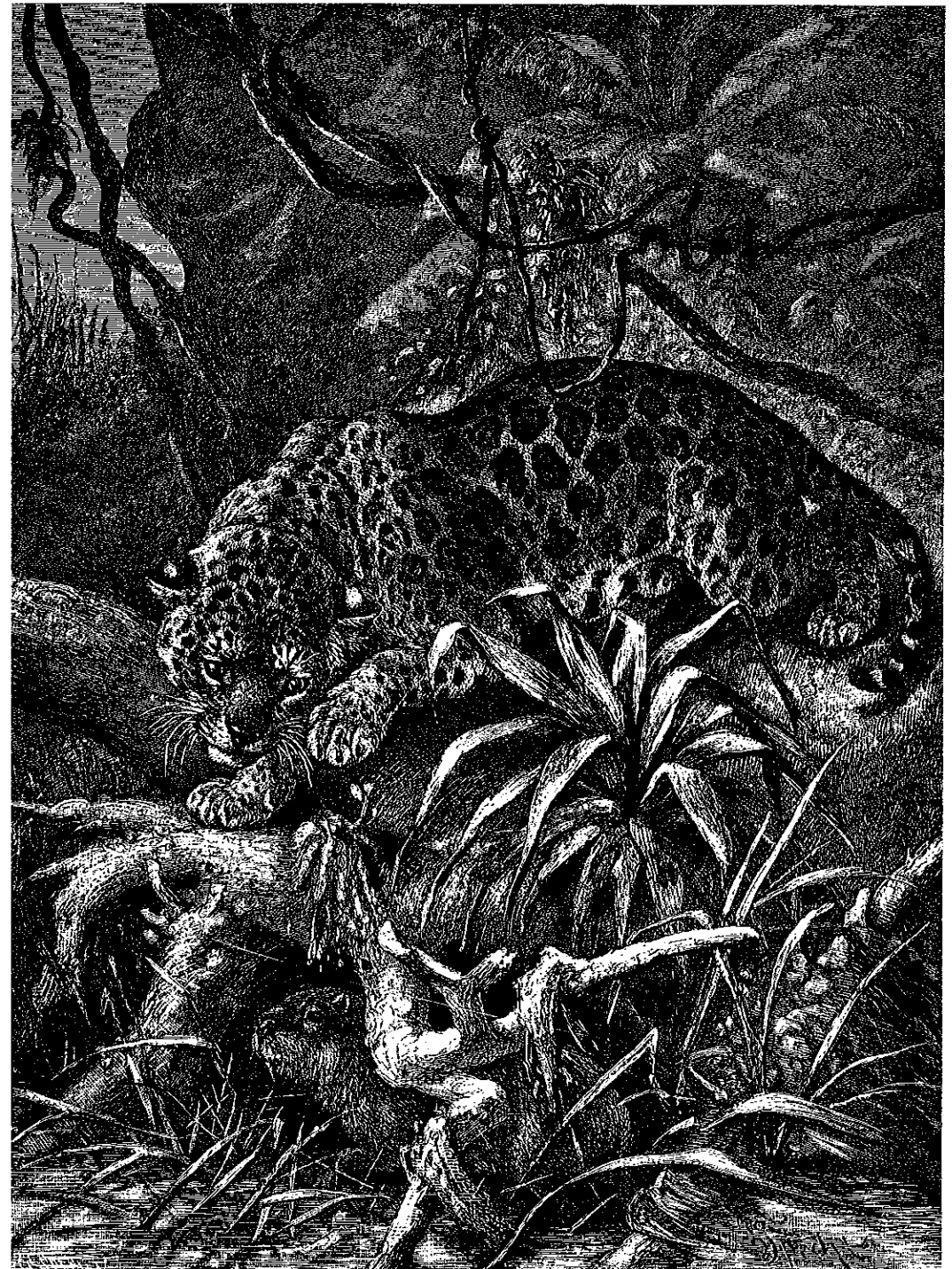
EVANS·NEW ASSISTANT ANIMAL SUPT.

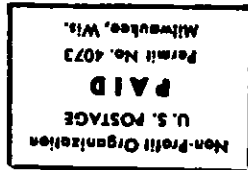
Hugh Evans has been promoted to the position of Assistant Animal Supervisor, a job made vacant by the recent retirement of Leonard Wehr. Hugh is second in charge of the Animal Division and reports to Odean Schneider, top man of the division, who reports to Rudy Underkofler, Revenue Supervisor, who in turn is under the supervision of Acting Director Robert Bullermann. There you have the chain of command. Hugh, 55, has been with the zoo since 1965, and was Children's Zoo Supervisor up to the time of his promotion.

His official Civil Service Job Description follows:

Under general supervision, to assist in the administration and supervision of all zookeepers assigned to the Milwaukee County Zoo; to schedule, assign, and direct zookeepers and other personnel engaged in the care, feeding, medication, shipping, receiving, and hauling of animals; to maintain good health standards and sanitary housing conditions among zoo animals in zoo facilities; to check on sick or injured animals and to work closely with veterinarians on the health and diet of animals; to carry out a parasite control program and administer drugs to animals; to inspect buildings and exhibit areas to observe animals, physical conditions, and work progress; to assist in setting up breeding programs; to recommend and implement changes in diet, location, or care of animals; to assume the duties of the Animal Supervisor in his absence; to promote good public relations; to maintain records and prepare reports; and to perform such other duties as may be assigned.

There are four other departments in the operation of the Zoo: Maintenance Division, Edward Koenig, Superintendent ... Grounds Division, Thomas Prince, Superintendent ... Refectory Division, Russell Lamb, Supervisor ... Public Service Division, Martin Welsh, Supervisor.





Zoological Society of Milwaukee County
10001 W. Bluemound Road • Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226

ERRATA. In the last issue of this sporadical, the tabulation "WHERE OUR MEMBERS LIVE" showed FOX POINT/RIVER HILLS to have 496 members. This was an error. We have 496 members living in Zip Code Area 53217 which also includes WHITEFISH BAY, BROWN DEER and BAYSIDE, besides Fox Point and River Hills. (We file our addressograph plates by zip code; the tabulation source was this file.) Our computer blew a fuse when I told it. Pleeze excuse the mistake. I was informed by an anonymous member with excellent handwriting to whom I say "Dankeshoen!"

THE ZOO IS OPEN EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR.