The main objectives of the Zoological Society are support of the Zoo, conservation and education. Having successfully completed our Capital Campaign for the New, New Zoo, the Zoological Society is now deeply involved in conservation and education programming. For example, the Wisconsin Trumpeter Swan Program has just completed its third year. This year there were 45 cygnets released in the wild and at least 35 were observed migrating in a southeasterly direction similar to last fall. The Society was involved in raising the cygnets and funding the work of the five University of Wisconsin interns involved in the project.

The Zoological Society has joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Natural Resources to find an answer to the disappearing habitat of the Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron and Great Blue Herons living on Horicon Marsh’s Four Mile Island.

The Education Department’s Summer Camp program has been so successful that 40 additional camps on a wide variety of topics will be added this summer. I’m proud to share that last year over 9,000 children of Zoological Society members participated in educational workshops and camps and that 150,000 school children from the Milwaukee area participated in workshops, guided tours and other adventures. We’re pleased to introduce in this magazine new monthly programs being offered for families and older youths and are looking forward to fall, when workshops for senior citizens are scheduled to debut.

As the new chairman of the Zoological Society’s Board of Directors, my goals are to continue the Society’s involvement in conservation and education and to enhance our quality of life by continuing the Society’s commitment to help maintain the reputation of the Milwaukee County Zoo as a world-class institution. With your continued support, I know these goals will be achieved.
The morning sky is dark, the air is chilled, the Zoo is still. We wedge the glass doors to the Primate Building just enough to quietly slip inside. And then we see them in all their magnificence—the remarkable Lowland Gorillas.

As we pause before each of the exhibit windows along the building's north wall, we see Obus, the Zoo's demonstrative, sassy young male, opening his eyes sleepily and raising his head to look around. Nearby, Femelle, the oldest and most dominant of three female gorillas, already is awake. The other two females, Linda and Ngagi, also are stirring.

Enter: Sam LaMaffa, the Zoo's primate area supervisor, whose responsibility is to care for these fascinating animals. As dependable as the sun that's just starting to light the building, LaMaffa greets each of his "kids." He checks to be sure the gorillas are healthy and as active as they should be. Then he separates the gorillas into "sleepy cages" between exhibits so he can give the gorillas their daily vitamins, some skim milk or juice to drink, and food—plenty of it.

The animals, moving about lazily in their shift cages, begin sniffing all sorts of food into their ready mouths: like high-fiber monkey chow pellets, sunflower seeds, peanuts, lettuce, spinach, boiled sweet potatoes, carrots, onions (not a gorilla favorite), apples, oranges, bananas, and grapes.

Appetites satiated, the gorillas leave their "shifts" and return to their original grouping. Linda, small and quiet, stalks from Exhibit 1 to Exhibit 2 (exhibits are numbered from left to right). Obus, with huge handfuls of straw, Femelle and Ngagi move among all three exhibits and finally settle in.

As midday approaches, Obus trades his straw for a healthy bunch of celery stalks LaMaffa offers. Ngagi greedily grab a couple of carrots. Femelle reaches out to grasp her celery stalks and Linda, moving about contentedly, daintily takes her carrot from LaMaffa. Studies it for a moment and pops it into her mouth.

LaMaffa breaks for lunch, only to return to a group of gorillas primed for more activity, more food.

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Obus, 10 years
Obus is the Zoo's only male Lowland Gorilla. He's the strongest and most demonstrative of all the Zoo's gorillas and occasionally enjoys antagonizing the female gorillas. He arrived at the Zoo on April 5, 1984.

Linda, 27 years (left)
Linda is the darkest, coldest and smallest of all the Zoo's gorillas. She is petite and weighs less than 200 pounds. She's not flamboyant or pretentious. She's a mother of twins and raised both of them herself.

Femelle, 29 years (right)
Femelle is ex to the Milwaukee County Zoo from the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. She arrived at the Zoo in 1985. Femelle is the eldest and most dominant of all the Zoo's female gorillas. She's mother of a son at the National Zoo and is expected to give birth to another baby this spring.

Ngaji, 21 years
Ngaji is the only male Lowland Gorilla. He has broad shoulders and strong, blocky build. The letters in Ngaji's name represent a combination of initials of keepers working with gorillas in Hawaii, Ngaji's original home.

Popcorn, cereal, raisins and finely chopped greens are on the menu this afternoon and get shuffled into the straw. "We scatter these things around the exhibits to promote natural foraging behavior and break up the gorillas' day with something to do," LaMaffa said. Other "gorilla things," like ropes, cargo nets, rubber tires, mounted trees, and burlap sacks send Obus and Femelle into a spirited playfulness. Linda and Ngagi use the time to socialize and mingle.

It's about 3 p.m. and the group moves for dinner, a meal with even more variety than the first. And about a half hour later, activity slows. It's siesta time and the gorillas stretch out to doze.

"Impatient with the gorillas' seemingly boring existence, some Zoo visitors begin to make raucous noises around. The gorillas are not amused and react to the noise, often by becoming even more aggressive. It's really quite frightening to see the gorillas, who are normally so gentle and peaceful, become so aggressive, even if it's just for show," said LaMaffa.

"It's really quite frightening to see the gorillas, who are normally so gentle and peaceful, become so aggressive, even if it's just for show," said LaMaffa.

LaMaffa advises people to keep a safe distance from the gorillas and to enjoy the show without disturbing the animals. "We feel that the gorillas are well taken care of and that we have a good relationship with them," LaMaffa said. "We feel it's our job as animal caretakers to educate the public on the importance of respecting the animals."

"Adjectives like "ugly" and "mean-looking" are used to describe people's observations. Though only unintelligible noises to the gorillas, these observations disturb LaMaffa and the three keepers who work with all of the Zoo's primates.

LaMaffa hopes that the new Great Ape Facility, scheduled to open in May, will help change the public's perceptions of the gorilla by destroying some of the myths.
Single Parents and Upgraded Members!
IS THERE A BETTER MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY FOR YOU?

Over the past year, we’ve listened to many suggestions from our members, and have paid special attention to the needs of single parents and members wanting to give more than $100 for increased benefits. We can now accommodate requests from both.

Single parents currently under any of the “Family” categories can now bring a guest to the Zoo, and we’ll consider the guest as the second adult on the membership card.

For members who want to increase their levels of giving in return for more benefits, we’ve established the following new membership levels: Associate ($200), Advocate ($300) and Benefactor ($400).

Each lets a family plus four guests and children or grandchildren under 18 enjoy all the regular benefits of membership plus additional benefits listed in the grid below, like certificates for education workshops, Zoo admission passes, behind-the-scenes tours and a breakfast with the Zoo’s curators and keepers.

If your current level of membership is right for you, please use the grid below as a reminder of your benefits.

Critic Conversation: BUILDING THE APEX'S NEW HOME SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

How would you go about re-creating a gorilla’s natural rainforest habitat in Milwaukee? How would you exhibit the animals? How would you protect your plantings from destruction?

Through slides, learn how three people close to the development of the new Great Ape Facility answered these and dozens of other questions at the next Critter Conversation at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, February 22 in the Education Center at the Zoo. Guest speakers are Mark Schmidt, construction administrator with C.G. Schmidt, Inc.; Tom Schultz, project superintendent with Swaback Partners; and Jan Raffel, primatologist and small mammal curator at the Zoo. Admission and parking are free. To make a reservation, call (414) 258-2333.

MEMBERDUMPS

ON THE JOB

Sam LaMalfa, Privatate Area Supervisor 
Milwaukee County Zoo

From the time he was just old enough to understand that people have to work to earn a living, Sam LaMalfa knew he wanted to be a zookeeper.

He spent his summer camp "in the 50's"—on the streetcar or bus looking forward to his twice-a-week visit to the Zoo—then in Washington Park—where he could watch the animals, especially the great apes.

"I remember watching with envy a woman named Edith Scott, behind the animal cage playing with the zoo’s new little gorillas," LaMalfa reminisced. "The more I watched, the more I wanted to take care of the great apes.

So, he chased that dream. After graduating from high school and serving four years in the Navy, LaMalfa joined the Zoo—at its present location—as a keeper. "When I started working here in 1964, the Zoo was only about 50 percent completed, with only a couple of bear dens, a moose in a fenced-in yard, a few large dirt yards full of holes and trenches, and the Primate House.

Twenty-eight years and one promotion later, LaMalfa still enjoys the day-to-day, hands-on work with the gorillas and bonobos in his charge.

"I feel I have an individual rapport with each of our gorillas and bonobos," LaMalfa said. They’re used to a cleaning and feeding routine and they trust me.

LaMalfa’s awareness of the gorillas’ and bonobos’ individual personalities and intelligence has helped LaMalfa cultivate the trust and acceptance of the Zoo’s great apes over the years.

"It’s a wonderful feeling to know I mean something to these animals, that I have a bearing on their life and perhaps on the future of the gorilla and bonobo species," LaMalfa said.

Hollywood has spun, “We want to erase some of the mystical images people have of the gorilla and start instilling some reality and respect,” LaMalfa said. Unfortunately, it’s difficult to expect the public to appreciate the animals when they’re housed in what is essentially no more than stainless-steel, bathroom-like exhibits.

Though there was a time when today’s Primate Building was considered a state-of-the-art facility, the new Great Ape Facility will be almost everything the existing Primate Building is not. The new facility—built with both the animals’ needs and zookeepers’ interests in mind—will feature a waterfall with a pool, two sand areas, real and gamuté (sprayed concrete) trees, murals depicting West African rain forests, and, most important to the gorillas, more naturalistic space.

"Seeing the gorillas in an environment that more closely resembles their natural habitat will make people more aware of their importance and will reduce the visitors’ tendency to raise their voices at the animals or mock them," LaMalfa said.

"Hopefully, the facility will promote greater stewardship toward these remarkable animals.

The Milwaukee County Zoo also owns five gorillas that do not presently reside here. The following Milwaukee County Zoo gorillas are on breeding/transfer loan to these zoos: Tina, Hogle Park, Salt Lake City; Mandara, National Zoo, Washington, D.C.; and Baby, Bibi Sumo, and Yip, Franklin Park Zoo, Boston.

Pack Your Bags For

Indonesia

The Zoological Society invites travelers to explore the nature, history and folklore of Indonesia on a guided trip there, March 13-29. The trip will be led by Zoological Society President, Dr. Gil Boese. Call (414) 258-2333 for more information.

National Geographic Specials

A season’s worth of National Geographic specials, the most-watched programs on public television, will be brought into your home this season, thanks, in part, to the Zoological Society’s underwriting support. Tune in to Channel 10 for local broadcasts of the following.

- Eternal Enemies: Lions and Hyenas Scheduled to air: Wednesday, January 22 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, January 26 at 5 p.m.

- The Mummies: Through Their Eyes Scheduled to air: Wednesday, February 26 at 8 p.m. (airing at 9 p.m. in Hawaii; Scraping in Paradise

Tentatively scheduled to air: March [call 278-1415 for date and time]

Let the Orangutans Loose!

Help open the doors to a new wing for Zoo orangutans Deka, Sahi and their son, Thomas O. With your support, we can move this family, currently living in the Primate House, outdoors. If you want to be responsible for leveling the orange lounge in Milwaukee, we want everybody to know. If you contribute $10 or more to the Orangutan Appeal, your name will appear at the new exhibit. Call (414) 258-2333 to make a contribution.
The Penguin Project

The Chilean and Peruvian coastline, home to the Humboldt Penguin, is more than 2,000 miles away from Milwaukee, but conservationists from the Milwaukee County Zoo are working on a way to bring themselves closer to the wild Humboldts for a better understanding of the animals’ diet and reproductive success rate in the wild. They hope their research will find an answer to help save this threatened species from extinction.

For Humboldt Penguins, one of the dominant penguin species along the Chilean and Peruvian coastline, life has been rough. For decades, humans have been over-fishing the birds’ food source and industry has been removing the birds’ nesting sites for fertilizer. Add to this grim picture the El Niño, a periodic shifting of the cold-water Humboldt Current, that is not only associated with coastal water warming but also a decline in fish populations. The El Niño, which for years had been occurring only a couple of times a decade, has been occurring once or twice a year over the past ten years and has taken a huge toll on the penguins’ food source with it. All of these factors have contributed to the loss of about 70 percent of Peruvian Humboldt Penguin colonies. Today, fewer than 20,000 Humboldt Penguins are left in the wild.

This tragic history of food deprivation and penguin deaths helped us decide to intensify efforts to propagate the Humboldt Penguin by designating the species for captive management under a Species Survival Plan (SSP). The Humboldt was the first penguin species to be designated as such. This SSP designation means that all participating zoos would work toward breeding and maintaining as much genetic diversity as possible among captive Humboldts without taking more penguins from the wild. Since 1988, when the Humboldt Penguin was designated an SSP animal, Zoo staff across the country have found that one thing is clear: Humboldt Penguins are very difficult to raise in captivity.

Though the Milwaukee County Zoo’s Humboldt Penguins have a fairly successful reproductive rate, we've found that in captivity their overall reproductive success is poor and that the number of penguin chicks that survive to adulthood is small, said Roberta Wallace, the Milwaukee County Zoo's staff veterinarian. "We need to know more about the normal biological parameters of these birds in order to adequately care for and raise these birds in captivity."

These observations led Wallace and a team of veterinary technicians, keepers, Zoo Pride volunteers and several of the Zoo’s senior staff to investigate whether a diet that is different from the penguins’ diet in the Zoo is among the factors that may explain the penguins' relatively low reproductive success and chick survival rates. Because little is known about exactly what Humboldt Penguins eat in the wild, it seemed reasonable to feed the Humboldts at the Zoo different types of fish plus vitamin and mineral supplements each day, Wallace said. "But it all seemed so arbitrary," she admitted. "Who knows if we're feeding them their reproductive needs? What about the quality of their food?" Who knows how long the fish we feed them has been frozen? Who knows who handled the fish when they were caught and sent to the distributor, loaded onto the truck and emptied into our freezer?"

Answers to all of these questions may never be known, Wallace acknowledged, but analyzing the fish the penguins are eating at the Zoo right now and quantifying the penguins' food intake will help Zoo staff collect some baseline data that ultimately will lead to a better understanding of what's normal in terms of the birds' levels of vitamins and minerals in their blood.

One woman who has figured prominently in this day-to-day study of the penguins’ diets is Margaret Michaels, a five-year veterinary technician at the Zoo. Michaels spends at least a day per month taking blood samples from the 11 penguins that are part of this project. When analyzing the samples, she looks for levels of fish parasites, checks total protein and hemoglobin levels, performs a white cell count, and prepares blood samples for outside vitamin, chemistry, and mineral analysis. She says she couldn't do her job, though, without funding support from the Zoological Society; project support from Ed Diebold, the Zoo's curator of birds; and the cooperation of many other people at the Zoo, from keepers to volunteers. "This is truly a zoo-wide project," Michaels said. The birds' nutritional analysis starts with a dedicated pair of bird keepers, Mary Jo Wills and Becky Lohe, and several rotating keepers. With tape markings in their pockets, the keepers begin their days by feeding the birds and recording the band identification of each bird and the type and quantity of fish fed to each bird.

Then, a group of Zoo Pride volunteers, who are part of the organization's Animal Watch Committee led by Kate Lynne Carpenter, visit the zoo three times a week to transcribe the tapes and record the keepers' information onto a data sheet. Though one of Carpenter’s data sheets shows one penguin eating 111 fish at one feeding, the average number eaten at a feeding is between 20 and 40 fish, depending on the size of fish, Wallace said. "From the recordings, we've found most of the penguins hate anchovies but love smelt, and that some have bigger appetites than others," Wallace said.

With this information as well as data on the average weight and nutrient content of fish eaten, Wallace collates the data into actual numbers of fish eaten at the end of every week and again at the end of every month, hoping to note long-term trends in fish intake. She will rely on the Zoo's senior staff veterinarian, Dr. Andrew Tear, to develop a computer program that will help her analyze all the data, once it is compiled.

"From the data already gathered on our Humboldts, the birds look and seem normal," Wallace said, "but we'll never know unless we compare our results with the results of blood samples from wild penguins."
Paving the Way

If you ever get a chance to meet teachers who work at a zoo—a real zoo—you'll get the impression that they want to share more than just facts about animals. They want to excite interest in animal conservation and motivate people to learn about their own.

To help educators at the Milwaukee County Zoo stimulate a desire to learn among children and adults, the Zoological Society's Education Department is rapidly changing the way it does business.

The Education Department, locally considered a leader in environmental and zoological education and respected by zoos across the country, is becoming nimble, more able to respond quickly and thoughtfully to the conservation education needs of Society members and the public.

"We always want to provide more educational opportunities to more people, and that means continually updating and expanding our program offerings," said Mary Thiry, director of the department.

"We put our minds to work and decided to head in a new direction."

To help establish the department's direction, they solicited several months' worth of guidance from staff and the Society's education advisory committee, made up of university and elementary school teachers, Zoo Pride volunteers, civic leaders and Society staff.

Here's what they suggested: start offering monthly workshops for older children and families, enhance existing school programs, and expand the number and variety of summer camps.

Well, consider it done. The Society now offers something for everybody, year-round.

This winter, older kids (7-12 years) who don't know what to do on their weekends off can come to the Zoo to learn more about animal homes, endangered animals and camouflage through in-Zoo visits, classroom instruction and hands-on learning activities. They also will have a chance to meet people like the Zoo's animal keepers, local artists, photographers and other guest instructors.

If whole families can't decide what to do on the weekends, they can experience the Zoo together, once a month, and learn during their visits. Among the animals families can learn about this winter are baby animals, predators, and animals that stay together for survival. All of these programs are designed for families with children who are six and older.

While in school, kids will benefit from the department's school program expansion.

"We've started to establish some in-depth learning workshops at the Zoo on special topics like the rain forest or other animal habitats that might match teachers' in-class curriculum," Thiry said, acknowledging that this change won't happen until February. Other school programs targeted for expansion are the Dairy Council of Wisconsin's Dairy Program for first graders in Milwaukee Public Schools and workshops for young school kids like Turkey Days and Dairy Farm Delights.

Even in winter the Society won't let learning stop. The Education Department's perennially popular Summit Camp Program will feature twice the number of summer camps offered in previous years and camps

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F.Y.I. How do Wisconsin animals survive our winters?

As days grow shorter and colder and snow and water sources get covered with snow, some animals... Migrate—A number of birds, butterflies fly to warmer climates. They use the sun, stars and experience to find their way. Hibernate—The Brown Fox, Woodchuck and 13-lined Ground Squirrel hibernate. While hibernating, an animal's body temperature goes down, its heart rate slows, and the animal loses up to 70% of its stored fat. Sleep—Animal the bears and hibernates the winter through winter, but their body temperatures do not change dramatically. At times during the winter, these animals may wake up and leave their dens.

Families Active—Those animals that remain active may change throughout the season. Some change color, some grow thicker fur or feathers, and some group together for warmth. Study the animals in your backyard and see if you can notice what changes in animals have made to help them survive Wisconsin winters.

American Black Bear

The name "black bear" is a misnomer. This bear can be white, cinnamon or black. The Zoo has a variety of black bears of different colors. Black Bears are the smallest of all North American bears. The Black Bear is omnivorous, which means that it eats just about everything—fruits, nuts, fish, birds and carrion. It lives in dense, wooded areas of North America. In fact, there are more Black Bears in North America than any other bear. In Wisconsin, you can find Black Bears throughout the northern part of the state. During winter bears do not hibernate. Instead, they just go into a heavy sleep.

—by Mary Thiry
Tracking Down the Mammal Tracks

Can you match the tracks with the animals that belong to them? Draw a line from the animal to its tracks.

A. 
B. 
C. 
D. 
E. 

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 

THE CURIOUS CORNER

WHY DO GORILLAS HAVE POCKETS UNDER THEIR ARMS?

Gorillas do not have pockets under their arms, but they do have sweat glands. These glands can get quite large in some gorillas and may look like pockets. The purpose of the sweat gland is to help animals reduce their body temperature, but some scientists believe that the male gorilla, whose sweat gland gives off an aroma, uses its odor to announce its presence to other gorillas.

Submitted by: Allison Jacobs, 10, Waukesha

IF THEY CALL A HIPPOPOTAMUS A WATER HORSE, IS IT IN THE HORSE FAMILY?

A hippopotamus is not a member of the horse family. The word “hippopotamus” is Greek for “river horse.” Hippos are members of the even-toed ungulate (hoofed) order and horses are members of the odd-toed ungulates. Hippos have four toes. Here are some more interesting facts on hippos. There are two species of hippos, the pygmy hippo and the one at our Zoo, the common hippo. The male hippo, an herbivore (plant-eating animal), can get as large as 16 feet and can weigh up to 8,000 pounds. It lives in groups throughout Africa and can live up to 50 years in captivity. For short distances, the hippo can reach speeds of up to 18 m.p.h.

Submitted by: Matt Basinski, 9, Wind Lake

IS A SPIDER AN INSECT?

Spiders and insects are invertebrates (animals without a backbone) and both are members of the phylum Arthropoda (animals with segmented bodies and jointed limbs); however, spiders are not insects nor are insects spiders. Insects have three body parts, usually three pairs of legs and two antennae.

Spiders have two body parts, four pairs of legs, and no antennae. There are about 20,000 different kinds of spiders and more than 700,000 different kinds of insects.

Submitted by: Joe Hinkle, 7, Fort Atkinson

Fun With Backyard Tracks

MATCH A TRACK.

Take this page and your family outside and look for tracks that match those pictured above. Have one person keep score to see who can identify the most animal tracks correctly.

MAKE A TRACK TO KEEP.

When you find a good track in the mud or snow, you might want to make a copy, or cast, of the track to keep. You can do this by using plaster of Paris and a ring cut from a plastic bottle. When you find a track in the mud you want to copy, set the ring around the track, mix the plaster according to directions, pour in the plaster and let it harden. Then, gently lift the hardened plaster and let it dry some more indoors. If you find a track in the snow you want to copy, be prepared to be patient. Making a cast of a track in snow is a little more difficult, but not impossible. You need the same supplies listed above and a spray bottle of water. When you find a well-defined track in the snow, lightly spray the track several times with water. Once it looks like you have an impression, put the plastic ring around it and follow the same procedure used in making casts of the mud track. Whether you choose to make a cast of mud or snow tracks, you are on your way to keeping 3-D records of the animals that visit your home.
Families and older children can now learn more about animals and our environment, thanks to a series of new workshops. The Zoological Society has added to its list of program offerings. The Society also has enhanced programs offered to very young children and preschoolers. With these new and enhanced programs comes a new registration procedure. Instead of filling out the form you’re used to seeing on this page, please request a Winter Program/Registration Booklet or Tiny Tots/Preschool program flyers by sending one business-sized, stamped, self-addressed envelope per child to: Society Education, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226. To register for any January programs, call (414) 256-5421. All education programs are coordinated by the Zoological Society and the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension.

**FAMILY WORKSHOPS**
Here’s a chance for the whole family to get involved in a morning or afternoon of fun and learning. Each workshop below features an informational session, zoo learning, and hands-on activities. The workshops are designed for families with children six years and older; however, younger children in the family may also attend. $15/Workshop per family for Zoological Society members and $25/Workshop per family for non-members (includes parking). Workshops offered:
- Predators: It’s a Hard Way to Make a Living
  - January 19, 1-3 p.m.
- Family Lite—Animals That Work Together Stay Together
  - February 15, 9:30-11:30 a.m. or 1-3 p.m.
- Zoo Babble
  - March 28, 9:30-11:30 a.m. or 1-3 p.m.
- Experimenting With Nature
  - April 11, 1-3 p.m.

**TINY TOTS WORKSHOPS**
Tiny Tots workshops are designed to let three-year-old children and their parents learn about animals together. In January, participate will learn about farm animals; in February, ocean animals; in March, animal coverings; in April, elephants; and in May, baby animals. $12 for Society members and $14 for non-members (parking included). Call (414) 256-5421 for a listing of program dates and times.

**PRE-SCHOOL WORKSHOPS**
Children ages four and five and six years old in kindergarten can learn about enormous animals like the elephant, rhino and hippo in January, huggable and unhuggable animals in February, bears in March, penguins in April, and animals’ spring homes in May. $10 for Society members and $12 for non-members. Call (414) 256-5421 for a listing of program dates and times.

**SUMMER CAMPS**
Mark Saturday, May 2 on your calendar. This is the date for Summer Camp in-person registration. Watch the spring issue of Alive for more information.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

**DRAWING WORKSHOP**
If you think you have budding artists at home who love animals, then they belong in this workshop. Children will learn and practice techniques for drawing live animals, including the gorilla, tiger and penguin, from Milwaukee-area artist Bob Gringras. This six-week workshop, for children ages 7-12, will be held March 7, 14, 21 and 28, and April 4 and 11. $30 for Society members and $45 for non-members (includes supplies). Enrolment is limited.

**AMAZING ANIMALS—SPRING BREAK**
Considering dropping your kids off at the Zoo over spring break for Amazing Animals, a workshop for children ages 4-12. Kids will be introduced to some amazing animals—chimpanzees, flyers, and heavyweights—and their animal facts. Sesscions offered:
- April 20-24, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. (ages 6 [in first grade] to 9 and ages 9-12), $15 for Society members and $20 for non-members.
- April 22 or 23, 9:30-noon to 1:30 p.m. and April 24, 9:30 a.m.-noon (ages 4, 5 and 6 [in kindergarten]). $10 for Society members and $12 for non-members.

**NEW ON THE JOB**
Lee Anne Norris, Educator Individual and Family Workshops, Zoological Society

From the time she was a young girl, the life of Lee Anne Norris has revolved around animals—even the tiny potato bugs and hermit crabs she collected as a kid. Today, Norris is using her position as educator to ignite the same spark in children and adults here that kindled her passion for animals on the prairie several years ago.

Norris, an Ohio native, spent a lot of time on the prairie, absorbing the sights of birds and butterflies, consuming the smells of wildflowers and fresh air, and learning. She knew she wanted to learn more about the wildlife she saw, and she knew she wanted to share the wonders of her experiences with just about anybody who would listen.

So she took an internship with the Education Department of the Portland, Oregon Zoo. There she learned the importance of zoo and how animal residents can be useful educational tools. And ever since, Lee Anne knew she’d never teach in a traditional classroom. She needed hands-on interaction with her students, and in her heart, she knew teaching at a zoo was perfect for her.

"Teaching here gives me the best chance to give people the will and desire to look further into what we’re teaching here at the Zoo," Lee Anne said. "My goal is to stimulate learning, to get that spark going in people.”

Lee Anne Norris uses Fairst, the Zoo’s Screech Owl, as an educational tool to teach members of the Comer family about predators in one of the Zoological Society’s new family workshops.

**EDZOOICATION**

**Ambassador Acclades**
More than 400 students learned how to turn the Zoo into a classroom last year through the Zoological Society’s Ambassador Program, an educational program involving several Milwaukee-area low-income schools, students and their families, and program sponsors.

The program, in its third year this year, teaches children through in-class activities and two Zoo visits—about animal preservation and adaptation, ecology, and careers in zoology-related fields.

This is what Robin Squires, a fifth-grade teacher at 27th Street School, wrote of the Ambassador Program:

"As a teacher, I think the Ambassador Program is one of the most beneficial long-term programs I have found. The program gives the children information about wildlife and the environment that they otherwise might not receive. Also, the program gives the children a real sense of identity with the Zoo and a sense of a mission to promote the Zoo. This offers the children the chance to find something that recognizes them. The Ambassador Program gives the children this feeling of belonging. The children the program reaches need the Ambassador Program."

If you would like to give 50 school children and their families a chance to benefit from the Ambassador Program, call Jodi Bessette, (414) 258-2333.

**Quilting a Rain Forest**
Seniors from 18 Milwaukee-area senior centers and nursing homes haven’t been playing bingo this season. They’ve been sewing together rain forest quilts as part of the Zoological Society’s Quilt Project, sponsored by UniCare Health Facilities.

Beginning last November, children from 18 Milwaukee-area schools drew rain forest animals onto hundreds of fabric squares while learning about the importance of animal conservation. When completed, the squares were delivered to the schools’ partner senior center/hunting homes for completion.
Where Do They Go?

The Whistle, South American gray, from the Brazilian Amazon, was placed in the zoo's Brazil exhibit, which is part of the "Zoo World" exhibit. The exhibit includes the country's rainforest, beaches, and wildlife.

Zoo World: Where Do They Go?

Zoo World is a part of the "Zoo Zoos" exhibit, which includes exhibits from around the world. The exhibit aims to educate visitors about the diverse wildlife found in different parts of the world.

The exhibit includes a rainforest exhibit, which features a variety of plants and animals found in the Amazon rainforest. Visitors can learn about the ecosystem and the importance of preserving it.

The exhibit also includes a beach exhibit, which features a variety of plants and animals found in coastal environments. Visitors can learn about the importance of protecting coastal areas and the threats they face.

In addition to the exhibits, there is also a wildlife show, which features a variety of animals from around the world. Visitors can watch the animals perform tricks and learn about their behavior and habitats.

Overall, the Zoo World exhibit aims to educate visitors about the importance of protecting the natural world and the diverse wildlife found in different parts of the world.
ZOO PRIDE VOLUNTEERS

Behind-the-Scenes Tours

This winter, get a behind-the-scenes look at Winter Quarters and other areas of the Zoo during tours led by Zoo Pride volunteers. Volunteers introduce guests to the keepers who care for the animals, share information about the animals, and give groups a behind-the-scenes peek at what a typical day is like for Zoo staff. Tours are offered daily and cost $7.50 per person and $5 per student or senior citizen. (Zoo admission and parking not included.) To arrange a tour, call (414) 258-5667.

Hippo Birthday!

Celebrate your birthday with more than 2,500 exotic animals at the Zoo. As guest of honor, you’ll receive a birthday present and personalized cake, and each of your guests will get to take a mini-tour of the Zoo, participate in birthday activities and take home a special gift, courtesy of Zoo Pride. To party with the animals at the Zoo on your birthday, call (414) 258-5667 at least three weeks in advance of your requested date.

Need a Speaker?

If your civic group, club or association wants to hear about Zoo animals, the role our Zoo plays in animal conservation, and recent renovations and new exhibits at the Zoo, then give a Zoo Pride volunteer on your organization’s next agenda. Presentations include a slide show and dialogue with the audience. Call (414) 258-5667.

Entertainment Book Sale

Help the Zoo hospital purchase what it needs to keep the animals healthy by buying an Entertainment '92 Book from Zoo Pride. The book includes 50% off coupons to restaurants, movies, sports events and tourist spots in Southeastern Wisconsin. To order, call (414) 258-5667. Books cost $3.50 via mail, and $4 if in person. Buy one for yourself and help the animals!

ZOO BALL BRASS

If it seems like you just slipped out of the tropics to attend last summer’s Zoo Ball, it’s time to start getting ready for Zoo Ball IX. The event is scheduled for Saturday, June 27. Leasing this year’s ball is longtime friends of the Zoological Society, Paul and Patty Cadorin and Bill and Sandi Mooney. If you want to help the Cadorins and the Mooneys plan the Society’s biggest fund-raising event of the year, call Judi Bessette at (414) 258-2333.

Welcome to Winter Quarters

Here visitors to Winter Quarters and vacuum-matured displays on both ends of the complex, it’s a unique system and makes the keepers’ jobs a lot easier,” Hoffman said. A couple of other features, including track-mounted stall partitions and built-in showers for the tapir, Capybara and birds, make the keepers’ daily animal care and cleaning routines go quickly.

Hoffman said the partitions are especially helpful when pregnant animals need to be separated into maternity stalls for birthing, when zoo visitors need to check newborn animals, when an animal needs to be introduced, and when animals need to be tagged or tattooed for identification purposes. Keepers also acknowledge that the moveable partitions help keep visitors from getting too close to the animals.

After cleaning stalls, keepers go to opposite ends of Winter Quarters, open the large glass doors and gather food for the animals—alfalfa, burdock root and grain. “We order hay and food supplies twice a week from the Zoo Commissary,” Hoffman said. “The regularity of our electrical appliances. Finally, after the staff file out of Winter Quarters, Hoffman turns off the lights and leaves his animals with a warm advice. “Good night, lucky animals.”

If you want to go on a behind-the-scenes tour of Winter Quarters, call the Zoo Pride Office at (414) 258-5667.

SUPPORT SNAPSHOTS

Our Way to Say “Thanks”

No doubt about it—The future is in our hands. We are the ones who will or will not stop habitat destruction and so many other threats to the plants and animal species that share our world. Through its wide-ranging education programs, the Zoological Society teaches respect for our environment, thanks to the support of a key group of individuals, corporate and foundation sponsors. These sponsors help the Society stimulate people’s desire to learn about wildlife and the environment by supporting educational programs like the Ambassador Program and the Quilt Project. If you want to join these sponsors in securing our future, call Judi Bessette at (414) 258-2333.

Bon APPE-tite February 29

When was the last time a Lowland Gorilla or Bonobo invited you to dinner? Here’s your chance to experience the Great Ape Facility in a way you’ve never or will on February 29 at 6 p.m. You can take a step through the gorillas’ and bonobos’ new home, enjoy dinner and drinks to West African music. You can also learn about the facility’s design and construction during a brief presentation by Dr. Gil Boese, Zoological Society president; Jan Rafter, the Zoo’s curator of primates and small mammals; and Sandy Myaj, 1992 International Gorilla Workshop chair. Please call Judi Bessette to make a reservation. $50 per person (dinner and parking included).

Jill and Jim Binder (left), Janell and Bill Schuman (center) of the February fundraising Bon APPE-tite, take culinary lessons from a chef and Lowland Gorilla inside the new Great Ape Facility.
Do the Zoo in Winter, Too

Warm up to the cold by stepping inside the Zoo’s animal buildings this winter. Every weekend from January through March, 1-3 p.m., you can learn more about the Zoo’s animals—their habitats, habits, and adaptations—by attending Animals in Action presentations (call 414-771-3040 for a presentation schedule) or by talking with volunteer guides in each animal building on weekends from 1-3 p.m. In the Peck Welcome Center visitors can watch educational nature films, learn about and touch animal artifacts on Remains to Be Seen carts, and pet live animals exhibited at the Discovery Farm petting ring. All of these programs except Discovery Farm are supported and/or staffed by Zoo Pride volunteers. Zoo Pride is the volunteer auxiliary of the Zoological Society.

Winter Wonderland

Come to the Zoo’s Winter WonderLand Weekend, January 11-12, and watch huge mounds of snow take shape as families take coal shovels, chisels and scoops to their 4’x 4’x 6’ blocks of snow. This is the first year families will sculpt snow as part of Winter WonderLand Weekend. The weekend also will include cross-country skiing, dog sled rides, a dog sled pull and winter sports demonstrations.

Your Guide to the Zoo

Enjoy a “round-the-world” adventure as you explore the wildlife of Africa, Asia, South and North America, and Australia with the Zoo’s new guidebook. The 40-page book features animal photos and species information and reinforces the Zoo’s mission to inspire public understanding, support and participation in global conservation of animal species and their natural environment. Guidebooks cost $4 and are available at Zoo gift shops and entrance gates.

Samson Stomp and Romp

Calling all athletes and non-athletes for a run through the Zoo! The Zoo’s Twelfth Annual Samson Stomp/Second Annual Samson Romp will be held Sunday, January 19. Adults can participate in a 10K Run and 2-mile Fun Run (corporate teams may only compete in the 10K run). Children two to six years old can participate in a 1/4-Mile Mini Romp and kids seven to twelve years old can run in the One-Mile Romp. Awards will be given to top finishers in the 10K Run and 2-Mile Fun Run, and ribbons will be awarded to all children participating in both Romps. All racers can enjoy a light brunch in the Peck Welcome Center after the race. Costs to run in adult Stomps are $10 per runner (pre-registered) and $12 per runner (race-day registration). Costs to run in children’s Romps are $9 per runner (pre-registered) and $11 per runner (race-day registration). Cost to register a corporate team is $35 per team. To pre-register for the Stomp/Romp, visit the Zoo from January 11-16, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or register on race day from 7-9 a.m.

Egg Days

Eggstrordinary family fun will be happening at the Zoo over the Easter weekend, April 18-19. At no other place in Milwaukee can kids make bonnets and ties with the primates, decorate eggs with the snakes and create bunny ears with the felines. Children will have a chance to show off their Easter creations during an Easter parade, scheduled for 2 p.m. each day. An Easter egg hunt also is scheduled for 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. each day in the Stackner Heritage Farm.

For more information on any of the above, call the Zoo’s Public Affairs and Services Department, (414) 236-5412.

WHAT’S GNU

Puerto Rican Crested Toad

Aquarium/Reptile Building (off exhibit)

Born: August 29, 1991 at Cincinnati Zoo

These tiny critters have had a tough life, and they’re only a few months old. Consider that they’ve already had to hatch out of eggs, lose their tails, grow legs, shed their digestive systems, lose their gills, develop lungs, and all the while, eat and avoid getting eaten. The toad pictured here was one of 61 toads living in five aquariums at our Zoo. In December, all the toads were sent to Puerto Rico and released into the wild. This species is endangered and its captive populations are managed according to a Species Survival Plan (SSP).

Source: Rich Saglik, Curator, Aquarium/Reptile

Belted Galloway

Stackner Heritage Farm

Born: September 25, 1991

It’s no wonder why this cow was named Cookie. The white-colored belt encircling this Black Beltie’s midriff makes the cow look like an Oreo. Though originally from Scotland, this unique and modern breed of beef cattle arrived in Canada in 1853. The breed was developed to inceptively produce quality beef in harsh climates with little human help. Though Galloways never have been pampered, Cookie has managed to attract more than a few pas on the head from hundreds of Zoo visitors. The Milwaukee County Zoo is one of few zoos in the country to exhibit this breed.

Source: Randy Deer, Area Supervisor, Stackner Heritage Farm

Capybara

Winter Quarters (winter), South American Yard (summer)

Arrived: July 24, 1991

Though Zoo visitors haven’t seen one here for 20 years, this new Capybara, Suzie Q., has already commanded quite a following. As the world’s largest rodent, a Capybara can weigh more than 125 pounds. Suzie Q., a South American native, spent the end of last summer in and around the warehouse on the Zoo’s South American Yard. In the winter, Suzie Q. spends her time in Winter Quarters (see story, page 12). When you get an up-close look at Suzie Q., you’ll notice her purly webbed toes, which help her walk in mud and swamp.

Source: Bob Hoffman, Area Supervisor, Winter Quarters