

**AAZK**

BÉLA J. DEMETER



**NEWSLETTER**

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# **AAZK MEMBERSHIP**

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## CURRENT EDITORIAL STAFF

CLIFFORD ROSS-Overton Park Zoo, Memphis, Tenn.

WILSON EVERHART-Oklahoma City Zoo, Oklahoma

RUSTY SPEARMAN-Oklahoma City Zoo, Oklahoma

JAMES K. LEGATE-Little Rock Zoo, Arkansas

JOHN D. GROVES-Baltimore Zoo, Maryland

ARTHUR R. WATSON-Baltimore Zoo, Maryland

WILLIAM M. CONOVER-John Ball Zoo, Michigan

HAROLD B. EDMUNDS-Columbus Zoo, Ohio

KEN WILLINGHAM-San Diego Zoological Gardens

PAT KILROY-San Diego Zoological Gardens

GEORGE BADANICH-Pittsburgh Zoo, Pennsylvania

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## AAZK QUIZ

1. Are there any birds that do not incubate their eggs?

2. Are any countries free of poisonous snakes?

3. Do raccoons wash their food?

4. Why do monkeys search their hair?

### Answers to last month's quiz:

1. The bones of 3 fingers are represented on many birds, but are not usable. However, the South American Hoatzin has 2 long free clawed fingers which it uses in climbing among tree branches, etc.

2. A number of fish are poisonous to eat including the toad fish, the parrot fish, the porcupine fish, the puffers and the file or triggerfish. All poisonous fish are marine in origin-there are no known poisonous fresh water fish. A good rule to follow-DON'T EAT ANY FISH THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A FISH.

3. The eyes of animals do not in themselves glow in the dark, but many animal's eyes have a crystalline substance in them that reflects light from another source such as headlights of a car or a flashlight. Human eyes have practically none of this substance.

4. A cat's purring is caused by the vibration of a cat's vocal cords as air passes through the larynx. It is under the control of the cat and is used as a sign of contentment.

ANNOUNCEMENT WILL SOON BE MADE of the appointment of a National Board of Trustees who will govern AAZK operations until such a time as a national election is held. The term of office for each Trustee will be for two years. Selection of this first Board of Trustees is being made by the National Executive Secretary and the interim Board of Directors at San Diego. The Board members have been chosen and we are awaiting individual confirmation. All seven areas of AAZK will be represented in the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Dick Sweeney, National Executive Secretary, was selected to serve as Chairman of the new National Board. National Headquarters for AAZK will remain at San Diego.

PLEASE NOTE:

All new member's Newsletter subscriptions will begin with the following month's edition. Since we are mailing by bulk permit, those requesting individual copies will be charged 25¢ each.

AAZK HAS JUST SIGNED UP ITS YOUNGEST MEMBER

Mr. Viktor Berry, age 13, has become an associate member of AAZK. Anyone this young, with his zoological enthusiasm is always welcome. Glad to have you, Viktor.

NEWS FROM OVERTON PARK ZOO by Clifford Ross

The Primate House at Overton Park Zoo has been completed and we hope to have the building open to the public sometime in April. The half million dollar structure has been built with the comfort of the animals as the primary objective. All the exhibit areas are air conditioned as well as heated, so that the animals can be totally isolated from other animals and the public. The primates will be viewed from behind glass, which is electrified in the large primates exhibit areas. Included in the building are a nursery

and kitchen, both of which can be viewed by the public. The building will house most of the zoo's primates including all of our Great Apes, who will have access to an outside moated area.

This building is part of an overall 4 million dollar expansion program now under way. Due to be completed soon are a new African velt, a new sea lion exhibit and a new Aoudad and Baboon mountain, two new Antelope houses, and a Giraffe house. Construction is due to start soon on a new elephant and rhino exhibit, a bird house, a reptile house and a new addition to the Zoo Aquarium.

Recently, I had the pleasure of accompanying our Chief Curator, Mr. John Tapp, on a trip to Pittsburgh, Pa. We went to Pittsburgh to pick up a young male rhino which is to be a mate for a young female rhino that we purchased from the Denver Zoo. While there, we had the pleasure of meeting Mr. George Badanich, AAZK News Reporter for Pittsburgh. Mr. Badanich was kind enough to give us a guided tour of the Zoo and furnish us with information about the young rhino in regards to his particular diet and behavior. I truly enjoyed the trip and found it to be very educational. I only regret that time did not allow us the opportunity to stop and see some of the Zoos along the way.

#### MARVIN L. JONES AT FRESNO VIA TAPE

One of the highlights of the Fresno AAZK Conference will be a tape recording sent to us by Sgt. Marvin L. Jones, now in Viet Nam. His talk will be based on his philosophy of zoos, his Japanese Zoo tours, and the golden rule he feels should be applied to all zoo keepers. Sgt. Jones is a National Honorary Member of AAZK and acts in an advisory capacity to the National Executive Secretary. His vast knowledge of American zoo operations and collections makes his membership a valuable



asset to our organization and his future association will certainly help insure the success of AAZK. (DICK SWEENEY)

OKLAHOMA CITY ZOO HOOFED MAMMAL BIRTHS FOR 1968  
by Wilson Everhart, Sr. Keeper, Mammals

The year 1968 was a good year for the Oklahoma City Zoo as far as hoofed mammals were concerned. Of the odd-toed ungulates, two families were represented—Equidae and Rhinocerotidae.

The even-toed ungulates were more numerous and were represented by three families—Suidae, Cervidae, and Bovidae.

Listed below are the hoofed animals that were born and survived beyond 30 days for a total of 27 species, 83 specimens with a sex ratio of 30/31 plus 22.

Persian Gazelle	2/3	Grant's Gazelle	1/1
Addax	1/4	Muntjac	0/1
Dwarf Goat	3/1	Gaur	1/0
Gemsbok	1/1	Grant's Zebra	0/1
Four-horned Sheep	1/1	European Wild Boar	22
Defassa Waterbuck	2/0	Sitatunga	2/4
Cape Hartebeest	1/1	Black Rhinoceros	0/1
Markhor	3/0	Barasingha Deer	1/0
Blackbuck	3/4	Sika Deer	0/2
Nyala	0/1	Sable Antelope	1/1
Topi	1/0	Greater Kudu	3/1
Aoudad	1/0	Zebu	1/0
Cape Buffalo	1/0	Axis Deer	0/2
White-eared Kob	0/1		

NEWS FROM OKLAHOMA CITY ZOO by Rusty Spearman  
Reporter, Oklahoma City Chapter AAZK

Births from Jan. 1, 1969 through Feb. 26, 1969.

2 Agouti	1/1 Grizzly Bear
1/1 Leopard Cat	4/0 Blackbuck Antelope
1/1 Four Horned Sheep	1/0 African Dwarf Goat

## New Arrivals Include:

4 California Sea Lions	1/1 Red Wolf
1 Rainbow Boa	1 Tree Boa
2 Chilean Pintail	0/2 Mustang

The Grizzly Bear cubs and Leopard Cat kittens are being hand raised in the nursery and progressing very well. An extensive report will be submitted at a later date.

### THE LITTLE ROCK ZOO by James K. Legate

Since I was the first Keeper from the Little Rock Zoo to become a member of the Zoo Keepers Association, I would like to take this opportunity to make a report on our Zoo.

The Little Rock City Zoo, which was constructed back in 1938, covers an area of 33 acres, and we are now in the process of expanding it. Our renovation project should be completed in the year 1971, and though we are presently free of admission, we will probably have to add a gate fee in the near future.

Our Zoo is situated in Little Rock's War Memorial Park and in addition to the Zoo, this park contains other recreational retreats such as a football stadium, a baseball field, a swimming pool, an amusement park and an eighteen hole golf course.

At this writing, we have in our possession 190 species and 722 specimens of animals, birds and reptiles, and there are plans to include an aquarium in the future. Our zoo staff consists of eleven persons; one director and ten keepers. I am in charge of the reptiles and water-fowl, which I had the good fortune to choose since this is the area I enjoy working most.

### THE BALTIMORE ZOO by John D. Groves

Druid Hill Park, located in Northwest Baltimore, contains one of the oldest Zoos in the United States, the Baltimore Zoo. The



Zoo officially began on April 7, 1876, by act of State Legislature, but opened in 1880. The Zoo opened with a converted carriage shelter for a monkey house and a bear pit, that was built nearby. During the first twenty years, the Zoo grew to large proportions, but, at the turn of the century, due to lack of interest within the city it stopped growing. In 1947, it was rated as one of the smallest and poorest in the country.

Mr. Arthur R. Watson was appointed Zoo Director in 1948. He stirred interest to enable the Zoo to start growing, Today it is rated as one of the finest zoos south of New York, containing over 1,000 animals.

The Zoo consists of a Bird, Mammal, and Reptile Department, a Children's Zoo and concession. A motorized train owned by the concession enables visitors to view the Zoo from a sitting position. The Zoo is opened every day of the year from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

AQUISITIONS AND BIRTHS AT THE BALTIMORE ZOO  
submitted by Arthur R. Watson, Director

<u>Aquisitions:</u>	1/0 American Bison
0/2 Red Deer	2/2 Atlantic Brant Geese
0/1 Rhesus Monkey	1/0 American Eider Duck
1/4 Gadwall Ducks	4 Strawberry Finches
1 Lavender Finch	2 Waxbill Finches
1 Tri-Coloured Nun Finch	
1 Indigo Snake	

<u>Births:</u>	1 Pigtail Macaque
3/1 Lions	0/1 Blackbuck Antelope

LATEST HAPPENINGS AT JOHN BALL ZOO, GRAND RAPIDS  
by William M. Conover

Construction was started on our new Siberian Tiger exhibit. We will be getting our 6 month old cats sometime in June.

We have had 4 Java Macaques born so far

this year. They're a new group of monkeys for the Zoo and are all doing fine. We've also had 2 Dingos born, and it looks like we'll have some more Timber Wolves, too.

We are a small Zoo but we're rapidly growing thanks to a fine Director-Frederick Meyer-and a hard working group of Zoo Keepers.

### AAZK HEADQUARTERS

Please be advised that National Headquarters for the AAZK operates independent of the San Diego Chapter. The Headquarter's office, located at 3388 Granada Ave. represents all AAZK member zoos and is operated entirely by the National treasury. There are no salaries or no rents involved in its operation.

Virginia L. Sweeney serves as assistant to the Executive Secretary at this time, on a voluntary basis.

The San Diego Zoo Chapter operates independently as does the other AAZK Chapters. AAZK NEWSLETTER is published at National Headquarters and is assembled by volunteers from the San Diego Chapter. Beginning in the near future, AAZK NEWSLETTER copy will be printed and assembled commercially.

### NEWS FROM COLUMBUS ZOO, COLUMBUS, OHIO

by Harold B. Edmunds

The Mayor of Columbus, Ohio, and the Columbus Zoo gratefully accepted a new addition of specimens to their collection of reptiles, donated by Pat Burchfield, and W.M.N.I. radio station of Columbus, recently back from a collection trip to Costa Rica.

Pat, a former employee of the Columbus Reptile Dept., never seems to forget us when he is on a collecting trip to South or Central America. Pat also M.C.'s the rattlesnake roundup at Sweetwater. Since leaving the Zoo, he has become one of the managers of All Lines Pet Supply, a pet store chain of Central Ohio.

Reptiles among those donated to the Zoo by Pat are as follows:

- 1 Bushmaster (*Lachesis muta*)
- 1 False Coral Snake (*Erythrolamprus bizonus*)
- 1 Cribo (*Drymarchon c. corais*)
- 1 Neotropical Rat Snake (*Spilotes pullatus*)
- 1 Central American Lyre Snake  
(*Trimorphodon b. biscutinus*)

Pat also kept for his own personal collection several species of tree frogs, snakes and poison arrow frogs.

Other acquisitions to the Reptile Dept. here are as follows:

- 1 Green Tree Python (*Condropython viridis*)
- 2 Death Adders (*Acanthophis autarticas*)
- 2 Desert Death Adder (*Acanthophis pyrrhus*)
- 1 Australian Brown Snake (*Pseudonaja textalis*)
- 1 Ceylonese viper (*Trimeresurus trigumocephalus*)
- 1 Western Brown Snake (*Pseudonuchalis*)
- 1 Transcaucasia viper (*Vipera lebertina obtusa*)

We have a pair of newly weds here at the Zoo. Carol Brown, an employee of two years, works as a dietitian and keeper for the hospital section, married Woody Paterson, AAZK member and employee of the Zoo for twelve years. This is the first published marriage of zoo keepers to my knowledge. May they have a long and happy life together.

#### ANOTHER ZOO COOPERATES

The Topeka Zoological Park, Topeka, Kansas, will honor AAZK Membership Cards and admit members and immediate families to their facilities. Our thanks to the Topeka Zoo. I hope all our member zoos will follow suit.

#### HAND RAISING A SIBERIAN TIGER by Bruce Davis Keeper at Milwaukee County Zoo

"Bill", our young Siberian cub was

abandoned by his mother shortly after his birth July 10, 1968. He was brought to our Hospital and put in an incubator which was kept at 82 degrees. He was given a formula of Esbilac and water and was fed every  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. from 7 A.M. to 10:30 P.M. There were no feedings after 10:30 at night. After Bill was about 5 days old, we had a box built for him 4'x4' square with about 18" sides on it. We placed this box on a table, lined it with blankets and placed a battery of 6 heat lamps under the table (about 2 ft. below the table). This worked out very well and it gave the cub enough room to move about. We hung a thermometer in the box and were able to control the temperature by turning on or off as many lamps as was necessary.

Young Tigers cannot urinate or defecate by themselves. To assist them, their mother licks them. In hand raising, after every feeding, we took our cub to the sink and massaged him with warm water at the base of the tail. This worked quite well and if this is not done, the cub will soon become toxic and die.

After the first week, we started our cub on liquid vitamins. We use ABDEE & started with 1 drop a day. We increased it by a drop every 5 days until we reached .06 cc. We kept it there for about 2 weeks and then started to increase it by a drop a week until we reached 1.2 cc. We have not increased it beyond this.

We started our cub on 2 oz. of Esbilac per feeding. This was increased very slowly. There is one thing you must remember in feeding Siberian Tigers and that is do not overfeed them or you will throw them off feed, and it can be quite a job getting them right again. They are one of the touchiest of cats to keep in captivity.

At 5 weeks-2 days old, we started taking our cub outside for an hour or so every day that the weather was nice. At first, he stayed



very close to his keeper, but in a few days he would try to chase moving cars, and trucks and our miniature train. The train seemed to be his favorite.

At about five weeks, he was urinating by himself, but still needed help in defecating. At 6 weeks, his teeth were coming in and he was defecating on his own. By now he was getting strong enough to take little walks with his keepers. We did not put any collar or leash on him. He would go anywhere his keeper went and would stay within 30 ft. of him. We did not let people get too close to him, for his claws were quite sharp and he liked to tackle your ankle. It wasn't long before Bill was outside for two hours a day. The sun seemed to do him a world of good (it did not hurt his keeper either). He had a very good coat on him and was doing very well.

At 6 weeks of age, he was given a very small amount of our Lion diet, which is a sausage made of beef, rabbit, chicken, and horse meat. At eight weeks, he was getting two teaspoons of sausage a day plus his milk (Esbilac) 4 oz.-6 times a day from 7 A.M. to 10 P.M. The sausage was fed at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. (1 teaspoon per feeding).

He weighed 12 lbs. at 8 weeks of age. He weighed  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. at birth. At 9 weeks, he started drinking his milk from a bowl-3 feedings a day of 3 oz. each, and he was getting 9 teaspoons of sausage a day. At 9 weeks, 2 days old, he weighed 13 lbs. 2 oz. At 10 weeks, he was started on Dicalcium tab. 2 ( $7\frac{1}{2}$  gr. tabs.) a day. This was increased to 12 a day by the time he was 13 weeks old and kept at that level. He was also given 4 oz. milk per feeding, three times a day.

Bill was run free with his keeper until he was 15 weeks old. At this time, it was decided that we had better put him on a leash if we were going to keep on walking him. He was now 33 lbs. and quite playful. It was not



long before we were walking him all over the Zoo. At this time, he was getting two meat feedings of 12 oz. each at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. and 5 oz. of milk per feeding. 7 A.M., 1 P.M., and 7 P.M.

Bill had outgrown his box sometime ago and now was kept in a 10 x 10 room with plywood on the floor and covered with blankets. We now decided to move him to an unheated room because the weather would soon be getting cold and we wanted to take him outside during the winter. This way we did not worry about taking him from a warm room out into the cold. The room never has gotten down below 45 degrees even when it was 20 below outside. Bill has a box full of straw in his room to sleep in, plus a wheelbarrow tire and a basketball to play with.

About this time, Hugh Evans, our Hospital Supervisor, started to take Bill for rides on a three wheeled motor scooter. Quite a few people stopped short when they saw a man and a tiger on a motor scooter (especially when the tiger was signaling for the turns).

At 4 months old, the cub weighed 35 lbs. and was getting 5 oz. milk three times a day, at 7, 1, and 7 plus two feedings of meat—14 oz. each at 10 A.M. & 4 P.M. At five months, 2 milk feedings of 8 oz. each at 7 A.M. & 1 P.M. plus 1 1/8 lbs. of meat (sausage) twice a day 10 A.M. & 4 P.M. Bill is now 7 months old, tips the scale at 92 lbs. He still gets two milk (Esbilac) feedings of 8 oz. each and 2 sausage feedings of 1 3/4 lb. each. We still take him for a walk every day. He is also getting 1.2 cc. of ABDEE and 12-7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> gr. Dical. tabs. a day.

Bill loves our Wisconsin winter. He jumps in the snow drifts and rolls in the snow. He seems to like it outside better in the winter than he did when it was warm. It will not be too long now, and Bill will have to be caged. It has been quite an experience raising this

Tiger and I hope the things we have learned from it will help us to do a good job in hand raising another tiger should the need arise.

### SKYFARI

Visitors to the San Diego Zoo now have the opportunity to soar high above the many exhibits aboard the brightly colored gondolas of our newly erected sky ride. The cars carry you some 1800 ft. from the main entry plaza to the far reaches of horn and hoof mesa. You get a bird's eye view of the Ape Grottos, Sea Lion, Primates and Bison as well as a beautiful aerial view of San Diego's famed Balboa Park.

About 4000 people took advantage of its first full day of operation on March 22.

### NEWS FROM SAN DIEGO

#### New Arrivals:

12 Arrow Poison Frogs	3 Wagler's Pit Vipers
6 Thailand Frogs	2 Jackson's Chameleons
12 Painted Frogs	4 Black Pond Turtles
6 Atelopus Frogs	1 Rhinoceros Viper
	4 Giant Pacific Salamanders
8 Hummingbirds	1 Great-billed Parrot
5 Golden Pheasants	1 Lady Amhearst's Pheasant
Pr. Koklass Pheasants	
10 Chilean Flamingos	2 Vernal Hanging Parrots
2 Band-tailed Pigeons	4 Alexandrine Parrakeets
2 Northern Crested Serpent Eagles	
2 Asiatic Otters	Pr. White-fronted Lemurs
Female Tasmanian Bennett's Wallaby	

#### Births:

8 Dingos	Male Hartmann's Zebra
2 Matchie's Tree Kangaroo	Male Anoa, stillborn

#### Hatchings:

	1 Ornate Lorikeet
2 Black-cheeked Lovebirds	
2 Red-fronted N.Z. Parrakeets	
2 Red-collared Lorikeets	

NEWS FROM SAN DIEGO'S BIRD DEPT.

by Pat Kilroy

Lorikeets Raised from Jan. 1, 1969 thru Mar. 10

2 Perfect Lorikeets            1 Forsten's Lorikeet  
1 Ornate Lorikeet            1 Red-collared Lorikeet  
2 Blue-mountain Lorikeets

LORIKEETS, LORYS AND HANGING PARROTS ON EGGS

from Feb. 17, 1969

1 pr. Purple-capped Lorys  
1 pr. Yellow-back Lorys  
3 pr. Ornate Lorikeets  
1 pr. Black-throated Lorikeets  
1 pr. Blue-mountain Lorikeets  
1 pr. Forsten's Lorikeets  
1 pr. Scaly-breasted Lorikeets  
1 pr. Perfect Lorikeets  
2 pr. Southern Blue-crowned Hanging Parrots

EVENTS AT PITTSBURGH Zoo by George Badanich

Well!! It finally happened, our young rhino was crated and shipped to the Overton Zoo in Tennessee. From what I understand, he was to be joined by a young female Rhino from Denver Zoo. He left our Zoo the day before his birthday. Clifford Ross came to the Pittsburgh Zoo to escort him. While Clifford was here, we had the pleasure to discuss AAZK and animals in general. I really enjoyed the short time we had to talk and showed him our animals and their containment quarters, feeding facilities, and type of feed. It's amazing the differences in feeding ideas each zoo has.

It's a pleasure to have a chance to exchange ideas with fellow keepers who really want to and show deep interest in their profession. Another visitor and also a member of AAZK was James Rhea from Erie Zoo.

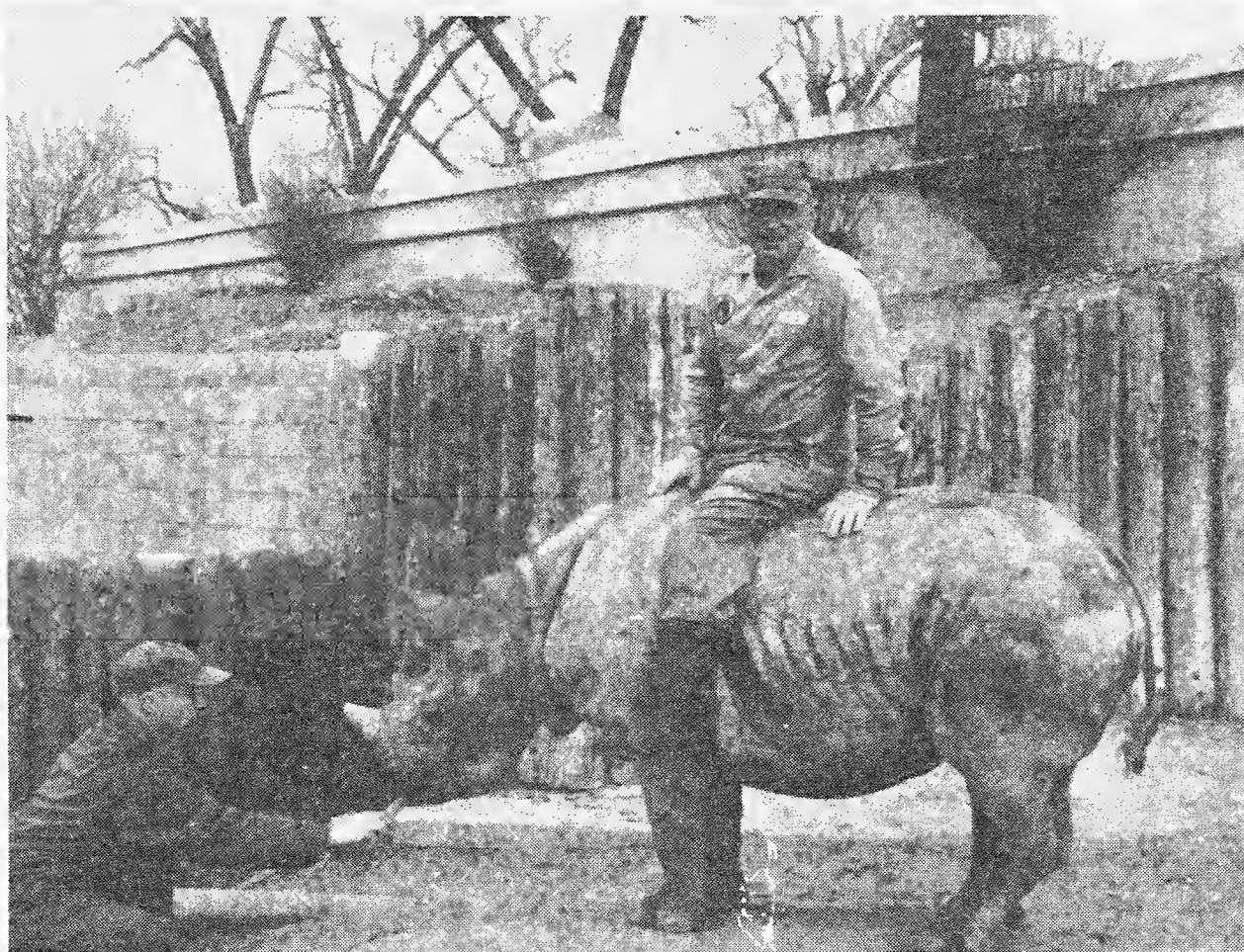
Our new bird keeper has really shown



interest in his position as Keeper. One of the Barbados sheep rejected her youngster, and he volunteered to hand raise it at home.

Inspite of heavy odds, he has managed to keep it alive almost four weeks, between his wife, girl and himself, they have practically adopted the little tyke.

### MEMBER GETS TO THE TOP OF HIS TRADE



MARTY HAWBAKER STRADDLES "SNOOPY" WHILE JERRY FRAZEE OFFERS A CARROT

Snoopy, a young female Black Rhino born January 19, 1968 is afforded the best of care by Marty Hawbaker, Keeper in charge of Hippos and Rhino, at the Denver Zoo. "Snoopy" is the second off-spring (first a still born) of Mombo and Tombo.

The Rhino has earned the right to be called the most tempermental beast on earth. With its rough hide, ungainly stature and dreaded horns of matted hair, along with tiny

feet ranks him high among the monstrosities of our biological past. For all his massive weight, the Black Rhino is very agile, and his speed, together with his wicked horn, would make him a formidable opponent even if he behaved like other beasts, which he doesn't. This brings out the paramount value of competent, dedicated people in our profession. This is quite evident in the confidence Marty Hawbaker has accomplished with his charges. (EUGENE ROTH, DENVER ZOO)

#### INTERNATIONAL ZOO NEWS OFFER

Mr. G. Th. Van Dam, Editor of the International Zoo News published in Holland has made the AAZK an exclusive offer of a discounted subscription rate for this very fine publication. This rate would be available to AAZK members ONLY. A list of those interested is being compiled at National Headquarters and the more who subscribe, the less our rate will be. This Newsletter would be a valuable addition to your personal library and we hope you'll take advantage of the offer.

The subscription rate depends on the number who show interest. Add your name now so it can be forwarded to Mr. Van Dam by 1 May 1969.

#### ZOOS OF THE WORLD-PUEBLO ZOO, PUEBLO, COLO. by William M. Fritzel

The City Park Zoo was started about sixty-years ago, with just a small number of animals. When the City of Pueblo purchased this tract of land, it was a fruit orchard, consisting of about fifty acres. The Zoo was started at the entrance of the park with pasture animals consisting of six Colorado Elk, five Colorado Mule Deer, three Buffalo and a few antelopes. Soon the City built a larger place for these animals in about the center of the park. A few years later, a number of



the fruit trees were removed, and the land was planted with good pasture grass. The animals were removed to this pasture. Gradually a few more animals were purchased and cages to house these animals were built. A meat house was constructed in the back of the animal cages.

During the W.P.A. more work was done toward the development of the Zoo. Four bear pits were built using man power with wheel barrows, shovels, etc. These Bear pits are about fifteen feet deep, one hundred feet long and fifty feet wide and are constructed with red and green rocks and stones covered with moss. These pits are made about four feet above the walk. An iron bar rail was placed around these pits for safety of the public. Next to the bear pits, a monkey island with a moat all around this island was built. In the center of this island, a light house tower was constructed. Off the monkey island, a man made mountain was built. It is about 100 feet high. This mountain was made with the dirt that came out of the bear pits, again with man power using wheel barrows, shovels, etc. to haul the dirt and rock and stones. Some of these rocks weighed more than a ton and were put on top and sides of the mountain. Native Blue Spruce and Cedar trees and bushes were planted. On the top of this mountain is a small pool with running water that runs down into the monkey moat and bear pits, creating a water fall. Next to the mountain, a monkey and lion house was constructed of the same rock and stone used for the pits and mountain. More outside cages were built and larger pastureland was made. At the present time, we have a large Hay Barn, two large grain bins, two large feed barns and about a dozen feeding pastures. We have seven corals to separate the animals when needed. We also have about an acre for the little children zoo and farm. A large lake north of the park was constructed.

At the present time we have the following animals out in the large pasture: a pair of South African Long Horn Steers with horns long as three feet on each side, two South American Llamas, natives of the Andes Mountains. (These Llamas can travel 20 to 25 miles a day with a load of 200 lbs. on its back. They belong to the camel family.) One Black Antelope; four tars of Asia, the fastest running animal on four feet; 3 native Donkeys; three Buffalo or Bison; about a half dozen of Elks; several native Deer; Siberian Deer; Spotted Fallow Deer; European Red Deer; White Fallow Deer; Moflin Sheep; African Aoudads; Scotch Highland Cattle; Black Karakul Sheep; Texas Longhorn Steers; about 100 White Ducks; 25 Mascoby ducks; 50 Canadian Geese; 2 White Swans; three peacocks and several Guinea hens.

In the Monkey and Lion building, we have a pair of African Lions, (The male is one of the largest lions I have ever seen.); two African spotted Leopards; three Red face Monkeys; 3 Java Monkeys; a pair of Green Asia Monkeys; 2 South American Spider Monkeys; 7 North American Monkeys and 1 Chimp. Next to the Monkey house is the Monkey Island. We let the monkeys romp around the island and they go into the lighthouse tower. They attract the public with their many tricks. We also have 3 deodorized skunks on this island. In the Bear Pits, we have Brown and Black Bears and a few wolves. Next to the Bear pits, we have the steel and wire cages. In these, we have a pair of Gray Wolves; 2 Rocky Mountain Lions; 1 European Brown Bear; 3 native Colorado Brown Bears; 2 Colorado Black Bears and another large Bear; 2 Javalian or wild boars; 2 Red Fox; 2 native Wild Cats; 6 Raccoons; 3 Australian Dingos with young; 2 pair Silver Pheasants; 3 Colorado native Ring Neck Pheasants; 2 pair Golden Pheasants; 3 Golden Versidor Pheasants; 2 pair Magolin; 3 Lady Amhurts; 3 native Red Ear Pheasants; 3 Barn

Owls; and 1 Colorado Black Eagle.

Now a little about our children's zoo called "The Happy Time Ranch." The entire Ranch includes the following: A small log house with rustic stone fireplace and bear rugs on the floor, an old time wood burning stove and furniture made of poles. The ranch house is fenced with a split picket fence; there is a small garden spot and an open-bucket well. The clothes line displays various types of baby clothes, and in the backyard is the comfort station displaying a modern Montgomery Ward catalogue. Beyond that lies the chicken house which is stocked with small types of chickens. Next is the pig pens stocked with small pigs. We have the rustic ranch barn with the high loft and pole corrals where we corral various types of animals including burros, various sheep and lambs. Beyond that is the old ranch barnyard where we have turkeys, peafowls, baby buffalo, cow and calf, shetland ponies and others. In the corral there is the farmer's haystack; a stack of cedar posts; and some various types of farm equipment such as old-time horse-drawn types. Besides the entire ranch on one side we have the small lake which is covered by various types of ducks, swans and geese. On the other side of the ranch house representing the farm land are sugar beets, alfalfa, corn, pumpkins, milo maize, sedan grass and a small orchard of ornamental fruit trees, and in the center of the alfalfa field is the beehive. The old water outlets such as for stock water tanks are all old time water pumps, and these pumps are also used for drinking fountains. We also have a rancher's blacksmith shop, where we have various types of old-time branding irons, plow shears, grinding shears and all other items ordinarily found in an old ranch blacksmith shop. The barn is well decorated with harness, and to greet you when entering the ranch are small goats, which look forward to

the children and their popcorn, and also tame rabbits and other animals. This ranch is not only enjoyed by the children, but we find adults very happily spending hours there.

In the back of the caged animals we have a large building with two walk in coolers. One is for the fresh fruit and vegetables and milk for most of the animals, and the other one is for the meat that we feed to the meat eating animals. In this building we also have a kitchen in which we cook and bake the food for the animals. We bake potatoes, sweet potatoes, and cook rice and raisins; oatmeal and raisins, and prepare any other food necessary for the well being of the animals. In one room we have a small office, rest room, and cabinets in which we store any uncooked food needed for the zoo. We also have an air filter creamator distructor which burns diesel oil to burn the and other trash etc.

We are in the process of a new project for the building of a larger zoo. The plans call for several new buildings to be constructed to house such animals as Elephants, Giraffes, lions and other large animals. A new building which will house birds and water fowls is also in the plans. This project will cost more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  million dollars.

We also have a large lake with about 150 different species of wild ducks on it. The lake is also stocked with many different kinds of fish for the youngsters to catch.

At the present time we have four full time Zoo-Keepers. During our busy summer months, we always need extra help for odd jobs around the zoo. Our City Park Zoo is the second largest zoo in Colorado. There is no admission or charge to visit the Zoo.

I might mention that my father was the first Zoo-Keeper in charge. I started as an assistant Zoo-Keeper until the retirement of my father at which time I became the Zoo-Keeper in charge. I have been employed at the zoo for



forty-one years.

In addition to our Zoo, City Park features a mechanical Kiddy-land which includes a Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel, Boat Rides, Car Rides, Airplane Ride, Whip and Roller Coaster. Many children take advantage of the rides at 5¢ and 10¢ per ride. Our City Park also has a large swimming pool, lighted ball fields, lighted tennis courts, standard softball fields, and a baseball field. Another popular segment of City Park is our Municipal Golf Course. The park is fully equipped with all standard playground equipment. There are picnic tables and ovens throughout the park. There is also a dance pavillion which is used by various groups for recreation and square dancing and family parties.

IT WAS REPORTED in the last issue that AAZK members and their immediate families would be admitted to the San Diego Zoo by presenting the current membership card. Please be advised this applies only to KEEPERS and their families with NATIONAL membership card.

#### HOW ABOUT AN HOUR WITH THE KEEPER?

by John Wortman

(This article was originally written for "The Bear Facts", Newsletter of the Topeka Friends of the Zoo, Vol. V, 1 January 1969.)

Last February, the late afternoon week-day educational tour was originated. There had been a desire for a limited and informal tour for small groups of Cubs, Brownies, Bluebirds, Campfire Girls, and Scouts which would be both entertaining and educational.

Although the Zoo's staff was hard-pressed for time, we decided to try the new series of special tours (not to be confused with the Educational Tours conducted by the



Junior League Docents) between 4:00 and 5:00 P.M. in the Large Mammal Building. An indoor tour had a definite advantage because, regardless of the weather, it could be presented in all seasons. We agreed that an animal Keeper (whose job is to provide daily care for the animal collection and to maintain the exhibits) should lecture the young assemblage. The tours, therefore, were to be called an 'Hour With The Keeper'.

The Keeper Hour begins with observing the second of the daily Elephant training sessions. Then the group visits and talks about Giraffes. At the same time, we watch both the Elephants and the Giraffes eat their supplementary vegetable meals. Next, we observe and discuss the DeBrazza Monkeys, Mandrill Baboons, and the ever popular African Chimpanzees. While viewing the Chimps, we see them receive their fourth and final meal of the day.

Now, we survey the exhibit of that distant relative of the Elephant, the Hyrax. A highpoint and the conclusion of the Hour is watching the underwater antics of the famous hesitant Hippo, 'Peka-Sue. At this time, she demonstrates that she is a trained Hippo. When the Hippo dinner bell is rung, 'Peka-Sue beats it out of the water and up to the concrete landing area where her vegetable meal is waiting. She, therefore, can be seen in and out of her pool.

In addition to discussing the mammals, the Large Mammal Building's physical plant briefly mentioned, with emphasis on the Education Room and the purpose it serves, the Diet Kitchen, the Baby Animal Nursery, the storage areas, and the service aisles. The Keeper expects (and usually gets) questions about cleaning procedures, conservation programs, and any general or specific questions about animals in the wild and in captivity. This is a large task.

This Hour is conducted for groups of children that average eight years of age. One cannot be too technical in lecturing, but he must be prepared to answer many very intelligent questions. In fact, often it is apparent that the young school children have a greater understanding of Zoological concepts than their adult sponsors.

One of the most important aspects of this type of tour is the added prestige given to the Zoo Keeper. The public, in this case the children, realize that the animal Keeper is a skilled worker. The Keeper must possess a vast amount of knowledge of animal behavior, and he must be accomplished in building maintenance. In addition, he must foster good public relations, as this is an extremely important aspect in a zoo's operation.

In its first year, 1968, 23 "Hour With The Keeper" tours were conducted. These tours reached a total of 412 children. The success has been greater than anticipated because of the excellent response from the children.

We are looking forward in 1969 to a large increase in these tours, which will extend the educational programs offered by the Zoo to even larger numbers of Topeka school children.

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