

September-October 1972

Vol. 5 Nos. 9 & 10

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A New Member of the Zoo and Aquarium	Team by Richard Sweeneypg. 2
Guide Line for Potential Officers of	AAZK and and also also also also also also also also
Official AAZK Nominating Ballot	
Notes on Breeding of Harpy Eagles by	
San Diego Zoo News by Richard Sweene	y more such state state than will be such state state state state and state

The AAZK Bulletin is the official national publication of the American Association of Zoo Keepers.

Staff: Editor; Ken Kawata, Topeka Zoo, Topeka, Kansas Coordinator; Richard G. Sweeney, San Diego Zoo, Calif. Reporters; All AAZK members Mimeographer; Virginia L. Sweeney, San Diego Editorial Advisor; Gary K. Clarke, Director, Topeka Zoo

The AAZK Bulletin is edited, compiled, printed and distributed at Topeka, Kansas. Printed bi-monthly.

AAZK MEMBERSHIPS

Affiliate (Keeper)	\$10.00 annually
Associate	\$10.00 annually
Foreign	\$10.00 annually
Student	\$ 5.00 annually
Contributing	\$25.00 annually
Supporting Life	\$200.00

For details and applications for membership, please write to AAZK Headquarters. All memberships include subscription to AAZK Bulletin.

A NEW MEMBER OF THE ZOO AND AQUARIUM TEAM

1 " 1 " "

The American keeper is trying to climb out of the darkness of antiquated tradition into the daylight of new concern. It's a difficult task when you consider the fact that their feet have been tangled in the roots of zoological hypocrisy for generations; and their professional incentive burried in the underbrush of despair; cultivated by the shortsightedness of some zoo leaders and nourished by the keeper's own lack of initiative.

But, thank God, AAZK has given the zoo and aquarium keeper a new and exciting means to contribute toward his or her own professional recognition; and a means to strengthen the task of proper animal care in all zoos and aquariums in the United States and Canada.

The Keeper of today has added the key of concern to his keychain; and a pledge, through membership in AAZK, to play a greater part in his absolute role as a most important member of the zoological team.

The Zoological Park or Aquarium can survive only by the professional capability of its keepers.

The members of our organization, and indeed all members of our profession has something of value to lend to the betterment of important animal care procedures. The dissemination of practical techniques is beneficial in achieving success of protecting the world's wildlife. None of us can afford to consider the Zoo or Aquarium as just a place to work. Our service is also an obligation. We are charged with the survival of animals, and ultimately with the survival of their only haven—the modern zoo or marine park.

Your Zoo or Aquarium has never been more important than it is today. Take a special pride in it, and in your important role as a keeper.

RICHARD G. SWEENEY AAZK, Executive Secretary

GUIDE LINE FOR POTENTIAL OFFICERS OF AAZK

Nominees <u>must</u> meet the following qualifications to be eligible to hold office as a member of the national Board of Directors.

- 1. Nominee MUST be a member of AAZK, in good standing, and must have been a member for at least three years.
- 2. Nominee must presently be a full-time employee of a recognized zoo or aquarium, and must have been employed in the zoo field a minimum of five (5) years.
- Nominee must agree to uphold the constitution of AAZK, and must agree in writing that he or she adheres to AAZK policy that the association is not a labor organization, and must not be utilized as such.
- 4. Nominee must agree to travel to Board meetings (usually in conjunction with a national or regional conference) at his or her own expense.
- 5. Must agree to devote time to correspondence pertinent to all Board business.
- 6. Must be willing to answer correspondence promptly and efficiently.
- 7. Must be willing to accept committee position appointed by Board officer.

AAZK nominating committee will consider qualifications over and above geographical considerations.

Nominating committee, comprised of five members of AAZK, will choose three nominees, who will appose three incumbent members of the present Board of Directors.

Each candidate will serve a two-year term upon election.

Elections will be by written ballot, mailed to the election committee. Ballots, including resume's of each candidate will be mailed to all eligible voting members at least 30 days prior to election deadline.

Nomination forms NOT properly filled out, or not meeting minimum qualifications will be VOID.

Election ballots marked incorrectly, or with names other than the nominees will be VOIDED.

PLEASE NOTE ADDRESS WHERE NOMINATING FORMS ARE TO BE MAILED. ALSO PLEASE NOTE DEADLINE DATE FOR NOMINATIONS.

ELECTION INSTRUCTIONS WILL APPEAR IN WRITING TO ALL MEMBERS.
PLEASE FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS TO INSURE YOUR VOTE....

(AAZK Directive dated 15 April 1972, #333)

OFFICIAL AAZK NOMINATING BALLOT

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
MR. CHAIRMAN,
I, being a member in good standing would like to nominate the following AAZK member for the position of MEMBER, National Board of Directors, AAZK. NOMINEE:
ADDRESS
CITYZIPZIP
ZOO/AQUARIUM
ADDRESS
NOMINEE PHONE NUMBER
NOMINEE QUALIFICATIONS:
••••••••••
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
••••••••••
••••••••••
••••••••••
HOW LONG IN ZOO/AQUARIUM
IS NOMINEE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING?
PLEASE SEND FORM TO: Mr. Toby Styles, Chairman CALGARY ZOO CHAPTER AAZK #92-5425 Pensacola Cr. Calgary 22, Alta., Canada
PLEASE RETURN FORM NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 1973.

NOMINATION FORMS RECEIVED AFTER JANUARY 1, 1973 WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

NOTES ON BREEDING OF HARPY EAGLES by Tom Meacham, Los Angeles Zoo

The great Harpy Eagle, Harpia harpyja, is well named after the hideous monsters of Greek mythology. The mythical Harpies were half women, half bird, with the nightmarish duties of seizing dead souls or snatching away the food of those accused by the gods.

Fortunately, interest in raptor conservation is increasing and a real emphasis is being placed on breeding, as zoological priorities begin to shift.

The Harpy Eagle stands over three feet high. With its double crest, cruel face and deadly hooked beak, it makes a horrifying impression. Its wicked-looking claws and powerful legs are unequaled by any other bird of prey in the world. The pearly gray plumages enhance its slinky appearance. In South America in local lore, the Harpy is sometimes referred to as the "flying wolf."

Nesting near the top of a tree on a high elevation, the Harpy Eagle builds a solid nest. The female usually lays two eggs after the first nesting. The slowly developing young have insatiable appetites. To keep them reasonably well fed, the parent Harpy eagle flies out on those raiding forays that are the terror of the tropical forest, zooming down with brutal force on monkeys, sloths, large birds, and even deer. The Harpy kills them with its sharp talons, and soars aloft with the lifeless body in its mighty grasp.

Raptor breeding is a long term project and may require years before ultimately realizing success. All phases of the nesting process, from nest building to care of the young, apparently has to be learned and each successive nesting attempt should be carried further than the previous nesting.

Our pair of Harpy Eagles are housed in one of three pie-shaped units, the eagles being in the middle unit, flanked by spider monkeys and margays. This nearness doesn't concern either the primates or the eagles.

This pair of eagles is extremely aggressive and no one is allowed to enter the aviary which is maintained externally. (Two men have been attacked at different times - the last instance the man required surgery).

This unit is quite small, but adequate at ll' x 18' x 23' by ll' tall. This nest, 3' x 3' x 5' in size, proved to be too small and as of this writing has been increased to 7.5 feet on all three sides. The frame was partially covered by the staff and nesting material is given daily in the form of split palm fronds, green twigs with leaves, and sticks up to 1 inch in diameter.

NOTES ON BREEDING OF HARPY EAGLES (Continued)

We found that this material plays a major part in breeding Harpys, as both the male and female are sexually aroused in nest building activity.

Copulation has been observed twice on the concrete floor of the exhibit; the remainder of the copulations were on the nest rim or upon perches.

The first serious sign of nesting activity occurred during July of 1970. By the 24th, both sexes were actively engaged in nest building. On August 1st, the first egg was laid, but was precariously balanced on several crossing branches outside the nest depression. We were able to recover the egg and replace it in the nest. The keeper requested the exhibit be closed to the public, which was granted.

Status of Eggs

August 1, 1970	Broken, August 3.
October 3, 1970	Fell through nest October 3.
November 25, 1970	Female driven from nest by rain; egg put in incubator December 1, infertile.
December 14, 1970	Broken January 1, 1971
February 28, 1971	Broken April 4.
October 10, 1971	Broken, November 23.
October 39, 1971	Hatched, December 15; consumed.
January 25, 1972	Egg disappeared, March 11.
February 3, 1972	Hatched, March 29; survived four hours.
June 1, 1972	Punctured, June 20.
June 9, 1972	Hatched August 2, crushed August 18. (Nest has been enlarged.)

Curator of Birds, Mr. Frank Todd, decided to leave the eggs with the parents for hatching and rearing, which I believe was a good decision. However, if the eggs or young are removed, a commitment has been made to remove all future eggs or young as the adults will probably never learn to rear their young. Also if chicks are hand reared, there is the additional hazard of imprinting.

Summary:

Two eggs probably form a clutch. Three hatchings were recorded with incubation periods of 58 days, 56 days, and 56 days. The first three chicks failed to survive. It would appear from data collected, that nesting occurs year round.

SAN DIEGO ZOO NEWS by Richard Sweeney, San Diego Zoo

SAN DIEGO ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS HAS NEW DIRECTOR: Dr. Charles R. Schroeder, 71, has stepped down as Director of the San Diego Zoo, and has been succeeded by Dr. Donald J. Kintner. Dr. Schroeder will remain as a consultant to Dr. Kintner until January 1, 1973 and then will serve in an advisory capacity for the San Diego Zoo and San Diego Wild Animal Park at San Pasqual.

Dr. Schroeder served as Director at San Diego since 1953. He also served as the zoo veterinarian from 1932 to 1937 and again from 1939 to 1941.

Dr. Kintner was with Teledyne Inc., where he was group executive reporting directly to the President. He earned his Doctor of Science degree in Administration and Management and B.S. Degree in Zoology and Chemistry.

SAN DIEGO CURATOR DIES: We are very saddened to report the recent death of Dr. George Pournelle, Ph.D., Curator of Mammals at San Diego Zoo. Dr. Pournelle also taught at San Diego State College. His vast experience will be greatly missed by everyone in the zoo field.

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER AAZK ELECTS OFFICERS: Mr. Mickey Barrett, Bird Dept., was elected President of the local chapter of AAZK at a recent meeting at the zoo. Mr. Jim Tillotson will serve as Vice President, and Bob Dill as Secretary/Treasurer.

SPECIAL OFFER TO ALL AAZK MEMBERS!!

Receive a <u>free</u> copy of <u>INTERNATIONAL</u> <u>ZOO</u> <u>NEWS</u> as a special introduction to <u>AAZK</u> members only!!

Subscriptions to <u>INTERNATIONAL</u> <u>ZOO</u> <u>NEWS</u> Published by Zoo-Centrum, Holland can be obtained at 50% savings.

All subscriptions must be ordered through AAZK Head-quarters. Cannot be obtained if you order direct.

This special rate of \$7.75 per year is available to AAZK members only!

Place your order now...for a free copy of <u>INTERNATIONAL</u> <u>ZOO</u> <u>NEWS</u>.

Write stating name and address to:

AAZK Headquarters 8024 Tommy Drive San Diego, Ca 92119

For subscription rate send check or money order to AAZK Headquarters.

ZOO DIRECTORS - VETERINARIANS - KEEPERS

PROTECT YOUR VALUABLE MEAT EATERS

with NEBRASKA BRAND HORSE MEAT

U.S. Government Inspected — Your assurance of a Quality Product — backed by Products Liability Insurance.

WE OFFER A PROGRAM TO HELP ZOOS SECURE THEIR OWN FREEZERS.

LET US GIVE YOU THE DETAILS. PAY AS YOU USE.

ALSO WRITE FOR NEW BOOKLET "HELPFUL INFORMATION ON THE ART OF ANIMAL KEEPING"

We also offer ground frozen NEBRASKA FELINE FOOD for a prepared mix as well as a complete line of DRY FEEDS and a fine BIRDS OF PREY DIET.

For Information and Prices Contact:

DUANE A. STROTHER or LOREN MORRIS

CENTRAL NEBRASKA PACKING CO.

P.O. BOX 550 NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA 69101 Phone (308) 532-1250

A SUBSIDIARY OF ALLIED MILLS, INC., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Published by

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS

8024 Tommy Drive
San Diego, California 92119

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
TOPEKA, KANSAS
PERMIT No. 387