

American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

NEWSLETTER

1 January 1973

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The New Year is a time for reflection and to look ahead.

In 1972 our new organization continued to grow in membership and services. The financial picture is good and will allow some expansion of central office activities.

This year let us focus on the activities that appear on most zoo and zoo and aquarium stationery: Education, Conservation, Recreation and Research. Concerted effort and financial resources must be expended to make the words a reality in our organization. Emphasis on one or more of these stated goals will vary in each case, and the collective diverse interests will make the national scene a most exciting one.

Cooperation rather than competition is for all our members a necessity, and exchange grouping of our animals for captive reproduction is now a frequent occurrence. Permanent records for every specimen is basic good husbandry and our expanded AAZPA code should be used.

I am grateful that the membership is supporting the Conservation Committee in the important task of evaluating endangered animal permits. Judging one's peers in an objective manner is extremely difficult and I strongly back their collective action.

Our annual conference this Fall will emphasize research that benefits captive wild animals. The scientific research community is anxious to cooperate in our meeting and to work more closely with our staffs in the coming years.

Publicity relating to zoos and aquariums, good and bad, reflects on all of us; and every member must accept responsibility for conditions that may initiate such news. Good organization public relations originates at each member's home base.

Committee work continues throughout the year, and our Animal Health Committee is working closely with the USDA on the Newcastle disease bird embargo.

Our New Year's resolution should be a commitment to excellence in administering the zoos and aquariums in the Americas.

L. E. Fisher, DVM, President



Births and Hatchings

SECOND GENERATION ORANG-UTAN BIRTH

The male Sumatran Orang-Utan (*Pongo pygmaeus abelii*) Thom born on 27 March 1963 at the Royal Rotterdam Zoo in Holland appears to be the first full captive second generation born in captivity. His father was Ernst born at Rotterdam Zoo on 20 September 1951 to wild born parents Bonzo and Tineke; his mother was Nina also born at Rotterdam on 11 October 1953 to wild born parents Adriaan and Julia. Unfortunately due to the accidental introduction of a fatal monkey pox many of the Orang-Utans at Rotterdam died early in 1965, including Thom on 7 January, Ernsy on 13 January and Nina on 8 February. It has been reported that the female Sumatran Orang-Utan Ivy of the Philadelphia Zoo who had young by her father Guas also had at least one young sired by her brother, also captive born, all young did not survive. In recent years there have been several young born to captive bred females sired by wild bred males, and at Rotterdam the male Peek born 19 January 1957 to Adriaan and Julia sired the Martijn born on 31 October 1967 to the wild bred female Tineke; Martijn is still living. (Marvin L. Jones)

SUMATRAN RHINOCEROS "SUBUR" DIED

Subur, the famous female Sumatran rhinoceros (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*) unfortunately died 24 February 1972 at the Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark. She was captured in the summer of 1959 in the surroundings of the Siak River by an expedition, which was organized by the Copenhagen and Basle Zoos, in association with the Bogor Zoo (see: Svend Anderson, in the International Zoo Yearbook, vol. 3, pp. 56-57). She arrived at Copenhagen on 4 December 1959 being at that time about three years old. Subur was the last survivor of this rhinoceros species in captivity, and it does not seem very probable that there will come another in the near future.

I thank Dr. H. Poulsen of the Zoologisk Have, Copenhagen (pers. Comm. 10 November 1972) for his kind information about Subur given above. Cause of death is stated to be old age.

(L. C. Rookmaaker)

RHEA REPRODUCTION AT THE TOPEKA ZOO

On 26 November 1972 the last Rhea egg of the season hatched at the Topeka Zoo. Out of

a total of 174 eggs laid from four females 134 hatched. The Zoo staff was greatly relieved to finally have the incubators free of Rhea eggs; however, within 24 hours the Emu laid the first egg of the season.

(Gary K. Clarke)

BOSTON (Dec): 1/1 Black Leopard.

BRONX (Nov): 2 Tree Kangaroo, 2 Streaked Tenrec, 3 Spiny Rat, 1 Yak, 1 Amazonian Tiger Bittern, 1 Red-gartered Coot, 1 Sun-bittern, 2 African Spur-winged Plover, 5 East African Pratincole.

BROOKFIELD (Nov): 1/0 Blackbuck.

DENVER (Sept-Dec): 1 Vervet Monkey, 1 DeBrazza's Monkey, 1 Spider Monkey, 1 Hooded Capuchin, 0/1 Margay, 1/0 African Lion, 2/4 BENGAL TIGER, 1/0 Grant's Zebra, 1/3 Greater Kudu, 1/0 Beisa Oryx, 1/0 Reeves' Muntjac, 3 Blackbellied Tree Duck.

HOUSTON, BUSCH GARDENS (Nov): 0/0/1 Pig-tailed Macaque, 1/0 Nilgai, 0/0/1 Blackbuck, 0/1 Axis Deer.

JACKSON: 0/1 Blackbuck, 1/0 Nilgai, 1/0 Aoudad.

LOS ANGELES (Nov-Dec): 2 Agouti, 0/1 Springbok, 1/0 SCIMITAR-HORNED ORYX, 2 Sonoran King-snake, 10 Cantil.

OKLAHOMA CITY (Nov): 1/0 ORANG-UTAN, 0/2 Sitatunga, 1/1 Blackbuck, 1/0 Brazilian Tapir, 1/1 ADDAX.

SAN ANTONIO (Nov): 0/1 Grevy's Zebra, 0/1 Nyala, 0/1 Dama Gazelle, 0/1 Dorcas Gazelle, 5 Black Swan.

SAN DIEGO (Nov-Dec): 0/1 HARTMANN'S MOUNTAIN ZEBRA, 0/0/1 Reeves' Muntjac, 1/1 Roosevelt's Gazelle, 2 Scaly-breasted Lorikeet.

SAN FRANCISCO (Dec): 1 Brindled Gnu.

SAN PASQUAL (Nov-Dec): 0/0/1 Southern New Guinea Scrub Wallaby, 0/2/1 Angolan Springbok, 1/0 East African Sitatunga, 1/0 SLENDER-HORNED GAZELLE, 0/0/1 ADDAX, 0/1 SOUTHERN WHITE RHINOCEROS.

ST. LOUIS (Nov): 4 African Lion, 0/1 Speke's Gazelle, 1 Sable Antelope, 1/0 Aoudad, 0/2 Llama, 1 Bison.

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