

REALLY, RHINOS!

Vol. 2 #2 Summer 1988

PACHYDERM

is the newsletter of the *African Elephant and Rhino Specialist Group*, produced with the assistance of three major conservation groups: Wildlife Conservation International (New York Zoological Society), Foundation to Save African Endangered Wildlife, and the World Wildlife Fund. It's a straightforward, no-nonsense report of various professionals in the field of conservation. I have no information on subscription costs or eligibility requirements, if any. The list of members is quite impressive and a bit intimidating, but if you wish to have a sample copy or more information, contact one of our subscribers: Mr. Geoffrey B. Mellor, Manager, Conservation Affairs, New York Zoological Society, Bronx, NY 10460, (212) 220-5090.

"YES, SHOOT THE POACHERS."

I've frequently said in public that we should shoot the poachers. It is an all-out, Mafia-style war, not just men with bows and arrows but gangs with automatic weapons. Look at the Luangwa Valley - two foot patrols of fifteen men each, patrolling an area the size of Wales with no decent uniforms, three rounds of ammunition each, getting shot at by gangs with AK47s. And they get killed. One ranger got killed when I was there last year. So shoot the bloody poachers as well.

"But really we ought to be able to stop it before it gets to the point of killing. These things ought to be discussed at the top international level - at the United Nations in fact - because we're not just talking about poaching, we're talking about conservation, which means we're talking about our own survival. We're dependent on everything around us, and we're wiping it all out. So it bloody well ought to be discussed at the UN, because its us we're talking about.

"Where rhino poaching is concerned it's the big-time organisers we've got to get at - sitting in their offices in Hong Kong, Khartoum, London, Rome and organising the poaching. Co-operate internationally, catch these men and people won't have to get killed any more."

A quote from David Sheperd, top-ranking wildlife artist.
Zimbabwe Wildlife, 12/87

ZIMBABWE WILDLIFE

is the official magazine of the *Wildlife Society of Zimbabwe* where current conservation efforts are trying to protect and relocate the remaining rhinos in that country. I don't have monetary conversion figures but the cost for a membership in the Society which includes the magazine is Z\$25. Write to: Wildlife Society of Zimbabwe, Wildlife Centre, PO Box 3497, Harare, Zimbabwe. I came across some past issues and share with you some rhino-related news from Zimbabwe (9/87).

"Zimbabwe's wild black rhinoceros populations are seriously threatened by poaching, notably in the Zambezi Valley and the Gonarezhou National Park. Zimbabwe still has Africa's largest coherent wild rhino population, but animals are being killed at a rate of one a day (Dr. D Cumming).

"Action thus far has consisted largely of in-situ protection combined with overseas efforts to halt international trade in rhino products. However, a considerable number of animals has been relocated in other wildlife area such as the Hwange National Park and on some game ranches. Captive breeding programmes are also being planned, but this requires exhaustive assessment of genetic factors and the necessary research is now being undertaken by Parks biologists with financial assistance from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

"The Zambezi Valley currently heads the conservation priority list evolved by IUCN's African Elephant and Rhino Specialist Group, chaired by Dr. David Cumming, Deputy Director of the Dept. of National Parks."

CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS you should know about...

Rhino Rescue Trust
PO Box 4597
Nairobi, Kenya

Zoo Check Charitable Trust
Cherry Tree Cottage
Coldharbour, Dorking
Surrey RH5 6HA England

Save the Rhino
East African Wildlife Society
PO Box 20110
Nairobi, Kenya

David Sheldrick Wildlife Appeal
PO Box 15555
Nairobi, Kenya

For current information on the status of rhinoceros populations and research the best source is *Oryx*, the journal of the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society. It is mailed to members of the society; membership is available from FFPS, c/o The Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY. The cost is \$25 a year and is tax-deductible.

My kind of town, Chicago is...

...because the Lincoln Park Zoo has adopted the RHINO as its mascot. If you become a member of the zoo, you get, among other benefits, a great mug with a dancing rhino on it and also six colorful issues of Animal Kingdom magazine, 10% discount in Zoo shops, four issues of Lincoln Park Zoo Review and the satisfaction of helping America's most-visited zoo care for animals, educate humans, and welcome all visitors free! An individual membership is \$25, a family membership is \$35. For more information, write to Maggie Schmid, Membership Director, Lincoln Park Zoological Society, 2200 North Cannon Drive, Chicago, IL 60614. (312) 935-6700

RHINOCER SAC BOP

The next time you're stressed to the max and really feel the need to punch someone out, may we

suggest something more effective and less litigious? Now and for a short time only (while supplies last), a 48" rhino punching bag from France (o.k., so it's from Taiwan) called "Rhino Bop Bag" and it can be yours for only \$15 including postage and handling. Send your check to Really,

RHINO RAP

In my role as a thanatologist and human-animal bond specialist, I have come to understand that the use of language and references to animals delivers a very strong underlying message. This is something that is of concern to me as a good deal of these "messages" are negative in nature. I was reminded of this when I read about the Rhino's Horn... a restaurant that serves the flesh of slaughtered cows, refers to them as "Rhino" and joins together the attitude that cows and rhinos are equally acceptable for slaughter and consumption. I should be very much interested in your reaction to my comments and welcome your response.

Barbara Meyers
Holistic Animal Consulting Centre
Brooklyn, NY

Well, readers... any comments? Please send them directly to the Editor. Your feedback to articles is welcome and encouraged and may be edited for publication.

Rhinos! *Caveat emptor*: it's from a series called "Battle of the Beasts"; the rhino is armor-clad, very militant looking, not at all cute and huggable, and meant to be bopped. Definitely a whimsical addition to your collection and a most naturopathic way to lower your blood pressure!!

LET MY RHINOS GO!

According to the issue of *Pachyderm* sent to me (December, 1986), rhinos were located or relocated to some of the following national parks/reserves in East Africa:

Etosha National Park (Namibia)
Selous Game Reserve (Tanzania)
Hwange National Park (Zimbabwe)
Chirisa/Chizarira (Zimbabwe)
Matusadona National Park (Zimbabwe)
Tsavo National Park (Kenya)
Luangwa Valley (Zambia)

Kaokoland/Damaraland (Namibia)
Kruger National Park (South Africa)
Mt. Kenya National Park (Kenya)
Aberdares National Park (Kenya)
Umfolozi/Hluhluwe Game Reserve (S. Africa)
Gonarezhou National Park (Zimbabwe)
Solio Ranch (Kenya)

RHINO G. BORAMURA ⇒

Magnificent RHINO DOLLS! 11" tall. Pin stripe suits, Samurai, tribal, leather jacket and lewis, Save the Rhino T-shirt, other possibilities. All handmade. For more information, write to Rhino G. Boramura, 417 Seabright, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

(Ed. note: I bought the "Save the Rhino" doll and it's really boffo; a unique addition to my collection and a constant advertisement for rhino-conservation!)



SQUASH POACHING

and patronize the East African Wildlife Society's gift shop through the mail. In addition to items with other animal logos, here's what you can get in a rhino. Prices are approximate so write directly to EAWS (PO Box 20110, Nairobi, Kenya) for current ordering information:

- Three decals, two with rhinos for \$2.30*/\$3.50*
- T shirt with two rhinos on it, also says "Kenya" for \$12.40*/\$18.75*

*surface fair

1st ANNUAL SOUTHWEST RHINOCEROS EXHIBITION

to be held in Tucson, Arizona from August 13-14, 1988.

- Meet other rhinophiles like yourself
- Come bring your rhinos to share, swap, sell
- Visit Yabanga & Zibulo, white rhinos at the Reid Park Zoo
- Puruse the rhinos for sale at African Arts, Ltd.

For information on accommodations contact Judyth Lessee c/o Really, Rhinos! Ltd, PO Box 1285, Tucson, AZ 85702-1285 or call her at (602) 327-8277 [evenings are best]. It's not that hot in Tucson, really, RHINOS!

RHINOS (delicately) FOR SALE

How would you like to own Bavarian crystal that has rhinos engraved on them? Rowland Ward's prices are not cheap but then consider the cost of a plane ticket to Nairobi and you'll think you're getting a *gonga* (that's a bargain down here in these parts!) Prices range from about \$23 for a wine glass up to \$400 for a decanter. You can get glasses of all shapes and sizes, an ashtray, tankard, ice pitcher, water jug and more. An original ruby red color is also offered for certain items at an additional cost. For a free descriptive brochure, write: Rowland Ward (E.A.) Ltd, PO Box 40991, NAIROBI, Kenya. They respond promptly.

REALLY, RHINOS! is published 4 times a year with an annual subscription rate of \$15 (USA, add \$4 for overseas postage), \$5 of which is donated to the East African Wildlife Society's *Rhino Project*.

Reader feed-back is encouraged. All correspondence should be sent to Really, Rhinos!, LTD, PO Box 1285, Tucson, AZ 85702

Yes, I want a subscription to **REALLY, RHINOS!** so I can keep charging!!!

check enclosed
 bill me

name _____

address _____



RHINO REVIEWS

For Children...

Oops by Mercer Mayer. Dial Press, 1977. A wordless picture book excellent for preschoolers in which a klutzy hippopotamus has one disaster after another on a visit into town. The rhino's fruit stand almost becomes salad. Cute black and white pictures.

Just Enough Rose by Giulio Maestro. Grosset & Dunlap, 1983. A young rhino learns that being "zaftig" is o.k. and even comes in handy. Whimsical color illustrations which help promote self-esteem especially for children who are overweight.

You Look Ridiculous, Said the Rhinoceros to the Hippopotamus by Bernard

And who

is the rhinoceros "Envoy Extraordinary" (last issue)? Mr. Ramatur comes from the delightful children's book, **Babar's Fair** by Laurent de Brunhoff. Random House, 1954 (still in print!)

REALLY, RHINOS! LTD.
P O Box 1285
Tucson, AZ 85702-1285

Waber. Houghton Mifflin, 1966. I wish this was really a rhino book since rhinos seem to get bad press as much as hippos but at least the rhino gets to start this story off. This is another picture book in which self-esteem is the key theme. The rhino thinks the hippo looks ridiculous

because the hippo has no horn. This worries the hippo who checks this out with the other jungle animals who of course perpetuate the hippo's anxieties by adding other features which the hippo-lacks. A strange dream helps him realize that being himself is the only thing he can be.

For Adults...

There's a Rhino in the Rose Bed, Mother by Betty Leslie-Melville. Doubleday, 1973. By the authors of *Elephants Have Right of Way*, the experiences of living in Kenya and having your backyard animals be extraordinary. It's not all light-hearted though. Both husband and wife co-authored the tome and there are passages regarding the political climate in Africa (at that time). If you are interested in personal narratives especially about East Africa, then this book is for you.

Rhino Express by Joel D. Wallach. Vantage Press, 1978. The improbably romantic story of a few friends and their dream of saving the rare white rhino from

extinction against nearly impossible odds. Includes black & white photos.

BRAND NEW! Rhinos, Endangered Species by Malcolm Penny. Facts on File, 1987. Copious color photos and black & white illustrations, charts and maps are added to this very extensive work on the status of world rhinos today. Each of the five major rhino species are covered including conservation efforts both in Africa and Asia. A must for serious collectors/conservationists. Send \$19.95 to Facts on File Publications, 460 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016. I think they pay postage and handling if you prepay.

The Rhino's Horn; a Threat to the Survival of the Species by Lutz Ruhe (1970). Lutz Ruhe, currently the director of the Happy Hollow Zoo (1300 Senter Rd, San Jose, CA 95112) sent me a copy of this brochure which though no longer accurate in statistical information, is still timely in its urgency for conservation efforts. He gives numbers and descriptions and locations of rhinos worldwide. If you would like a copy of this brochure, write directly to Mr. Ruhe.



HELP SAVE ZIMBABWE'S
BLACK RHINOS. SEND YOUR
DONATION TO:
The Rhino Survival Campaign
c/o The Zimbabwe National
Conservation Trust
P. O. Box 8575 Causeway
Harare, Zimbabwe