

# REALLY, RHINOS!



VOL. 3 #2 SUMMER 1989

## UPDATE

### to "On the Brink of Extinction" (Spring, 1989):

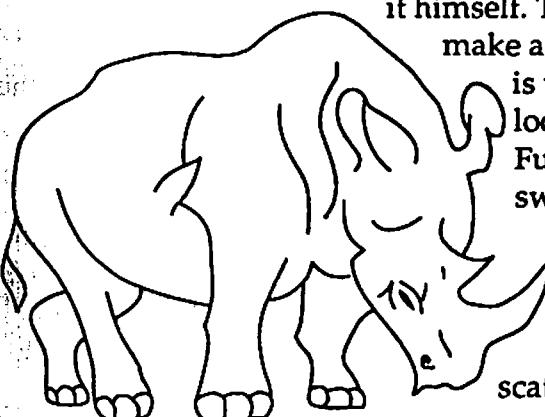
South Africa is now the primary entrepot for rhino horn and ivory. North Yemen has long since ceased to be the largest rhino horn market (dagger handles). South Africa with one of the few convertible currencies in Africa (gold standard) and a large arms industry, has now become the African villain. Poaching for hard currency is a way to maximize profits via the black market. According to the *Monitor* (Washington, D.C.), African guerilla armies are financing their civil wars, using hard currency earned thru poaching. Example: Jonas Savimbi's Unita forces in Angola. Taiwan has also become the leading importer of rhino horn and ivory, with direct commercial flights from South Africa. North Yemen's economy was hard hit by the oil slump due to the war between Iraq and Iran. North Yemen oil workers were sent home and the high wages cease to exist.

(per letter from G.F. Roosz, May 10, 1989)

## African Animal Sayings

Researched by George F. Roosz

God sewed skins on all his animals with a big needle and becoming tired, asked the Rhinoceros, which was last, to do it himself. The Rhino did not make a good job of it, which is why it has so many loose folds and wrinkles. Furthermore, it had swallowed the needle with the job half-finished. This is why, still searching for the needle, it keeps on scattering its dung.



## Adopt a Rhino

Ever thought about owning a pet but don't want to feed it, walk it, clean up after it, or take it to the vet? Are you tempted to have children but are afraid of the responsibility and expense? Have I got a deal for you! Wildlife Safari has animal adoptions available. For only \$1200 you can be the parent of your very own rhino. Parents receive a certificate of adoption, photo of your animal,



bumper sticker, information about your

animal, a letter of appreciation and your name added to the Adopt-An-Animal Board. For only \$50 a year you could be its aunt or uncle. Wildlife Safari is a designated breeder of white rhinos by the Species Survival Plan. You may pick Jack or Mshuara (males) or Neva (female). The gift shop also offers some rhinos in the form of myrtlewood ornaments (\$4), stamps (50¢), erasers (25¢) and various stone carvings (\$9 & \$13). For more information about the adoption program, contact Sally Lawson, Public Relations, Wildlife Safari, Box 1600, Wiston, Oregon 97496. If you want to purchase rhinos, write directly to the gift shop at the same address. (I can hear the patter of little feet now...)

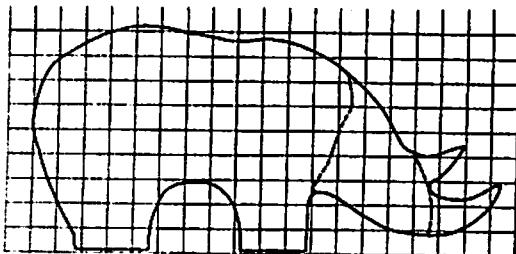
## Summer Sales...

Thanks to Rhino Jane for the following rhino sighting:

No doubt about it. It's a jungle out there with zebras and rhinos and tigers and lions and monekys swinginf fromteh treess and crocodiles floating int he water. Sandra Boynton illustrations adorn cans filled with butter popcorn or a 3-way combination of real butter, double cheddar cheese and homemade carmel popcorn. You can choose from a 6 1/2 gallon can with jungle animals: Butter popcorn (Gift No. 1701...\$23.95) or 3-way (Gift No. 1707...\$29.95) or choose a 4 gallon can with a birthday motif: Butter (Gift No. 8541...\$19.95) or 3-way (Gift No. 8547...\$25.95) Order from The Popcorn Factory, Mail Order Department, PO Box 4530, Lake Bluff, IL 60044.

Are you a doodler? Now you can have your own rhino pad. Mead Paper has a 8 1/2" x 11" spiral notebook with a rhino referee on the cover. I got it as a gift but you can hunt the stationery and office supply stores or write directly to The Mead Corporation, Dayton, OH 45463.

Brushing your teeth doesn't need to be a chore if you can have your very own rhino toothbrush holder. I found a guy at our famous "4th Avenue Street Fair" who is willing to create a two toothbrush holder for \$21 plus tax (6%). Write to Nag Originals, 2100 Llano Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95401, (707) 528-6155. You can get Christmas ornaments too!



For kids of all ages, a rhino pull toy you can make! Construct a white

rhinoceros from layers of wood that are cut and sanded into shape. To order the pattern, send \$10 to Better Homes and Gardens Shopping Service, Locust at 17th, Dept. 2TA, Box 374, Des Moines, IA 50336. Satisfaction guaranteed!

## PLENTIFUL PACHYDERMS?

Here's a report from the January/February 1989 issue of *SWARA*, magazine of the East African Wildlife Society.

"There are at least 47 rhinos in Nairobi National Park with probably another five in the forest. This means that the population is doing very well.

Two more northern white rhino calves were born in Garamba National Park, Zaire in the fall of 1987. This brings the known number of northern white rhinos at Garamba to 21. Since 1983 nine calves are known to have been born and survived. This rate of reproduction considerably exceeds that in captivity under present conditions.

Improvements to the park and the increase in the rhino population have fully justified the decision to protect the animals within their natural habitat but the operations in the park still rely heavily on international aid. A long-term continuation of some form of aid and development of tourism to improve the park's income will continue to be important for the survival of the rhinos and the park.

"Two separate sightings of northern white rhinos have been reported in Southern National park in Sudan. While this confirms that some still remain in Sudan, the current political situation there means that very little can be done about them and the best hope for the survival of the subspecies in the wild remains at Garamba.

"India probably has the best record for improving rhino conservation in Asia, with the number of rhinos killed having declined from 50 in 1986 to 41 in 1987. India has built up its rhino population from a few dozen to over 1,300 today."

# R H I N O P H I L I G H T S

Gerry Anderson

It all started when I was a mere child of five. My parents took me to see the John Wayne movie "Hatari," which centered on the lives of a bunch of men who spent their off season in Africa catching wild game for zoos. The movie starts with scenes of them chasing and trying to lasso a rhino. I was in awe watching this animal I had never seen before, running alongside the catching truck battering and ramming the side of the truck with its horn. Even then I thought to myself, "What is that?...it drives just like my mother! Always leaning on the horn!"

When my parents explained to me that it was a rhinoceros I was hooked...a rhinophile for life. My dad used to say to my mother, "Dear...there's something wrong with our son. Every other kid in the neighborhood wants a dog and our kid wants a rhino! Do you think we can take him somewhere and trade him in for a normal kid?"

Well, my parents never traded me in and in fact, they bought me my first rhino shortly thereafter. Now, some 26 years and 600 plus rhinos later, my entire family has that strange affliction that causes

them to seek rhinos whenever they are out shopping. It has made my quest much easier other than the continual battle to finance my rhino habit.

Some of my more prized items, other than my very first rhino include a rhino liquor bottle complete with contents and sealed cork, a rhino necklace charm, a print of a charging rhino entitled: "I may have my faults but being wrong isn't one of them!" and two hand carved and painted seashells



with African grassland scenes including rhinos.

I am proud to say that the rhinoceros has truly become a

symbol of my existence. Even my wife has been subjected to the rhino "trademark." At our wedding, our favors included napkins and matchbooks displaying two rhinos (male and female), in full wedding dress, walking hand-in-hand (or

should I say hoof-in-hoof) complete with raised toast glasses. Needless to say, my wife is now also addicted to the habit. As a wedding present to her husband she gave me a crystal rhino, which also happens to be one of my favorite pieces in the collection.

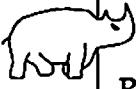
A special note to Jane Kenney Norberg (subject of the last rhinophilights): I was also fortunate enough to visit the San Francisco Zoo while on business in February, 1988. At that time the zoo had two white rhinos one being a male named Stonewall who was purported to be the oldest living rhino (over 40 years old) in captivity. I obtained this information from one of the zookeepers who happened to come by while I was climbing back over the fence after my unauthorized up close and personal visit with Stonewall for a "photo session." I was also informed how easily Stonewall could have broken

*Gerry Anderson, continued...*

through the retaining rail around his pen to get even closer than the two feet away that I already was. I can just see it now, "Bank Vice President impaled on rhino horn after foolishly dropping in for a visit." I must admit, when Stonewall came trotting toward me it was a bit more alarming than being chased by your average neighborhood dog.

Sorry fellow rhinophiles... I'm not as talented as Jane. I have no self-made rhino items to offer. I'm just your basic banker/certified public accountant from Albany, New York. I guess all I can do is offer to do your taxes or balance your checkbooks. I would be happy to hear from any fellow rhinophiles and shoot the breeze (not rhinos)

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## **Boys & Girls, Do Not Try This At Home!**

"Dream of the Rhinoceros" is a limited edition viscosity etching. This is a unique method of printing more than one color from a single etching plate. In traditional etching a separate plate is generally used for each color. The viscosity technique is based on the principle that an oily ink will reject a less oily (or viscous) ink. The zinc viscosity plate has to be etched with nitric acid to many different levels. The finished plate is first inked in the traditional manner, rubbing the ink into the lower levels and then wiping the surface clean. Then a second color is selected, oil is added, and it is rolled onto the surface of the plate. A third color is rolled on top of this. The second color, on the surface, should reject most of the third. Then the plate is printed onto damp rag paper with the tremendous pressure of an etching press. What actually happens is magical! The colors react in all sorts of strange ways and, depending on the oiliness of the inks, the thickness of the rolled ink, the pressure applied to the rollers, and any number of other conditions, each print is a little (or sometimes a lot) different from the others. I just snagged one and it is truly different. Price: \$130 including postage. MC or VISA accepted. Write to Julita Jones, Serigraphs and Etchings, 490 Arroyo Chico, Laguna Beach, CA 92651, (714) 494-3780.

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Reader feedback is encouraged. All correspondence should be sent to  
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