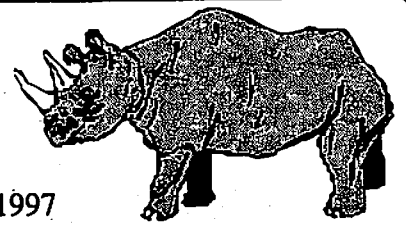


REALLY, RHINOS!

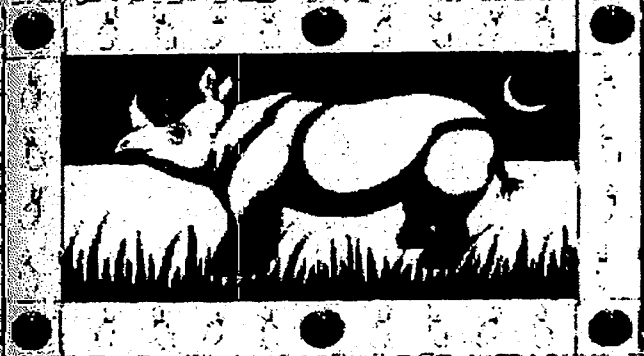


Volume 11, no.3, 1997

"T" for 2?

The Rio Grande AAZK Chapter (probably) still has BFR t-shirts available. If you are interested, call Rhonda Saiers at 505.254.7833.

1987 First Annual Bowling for Rhinos



American Association of Zoo Keepers
Rio Grande Chapter

Music has charms to soothe the savage beast. Make your own music with a beautifully crafted red heart wooden flute with a carved white rhino made of holly. Charlie Oakwind says, "Remember that anyone can sound good on a native flute as long as they play slowly. Your Native flute loves to be played every day and will reward you with an opportunity to express the music of your spirit." \$183 from Native Heart Music, PO Box 6250, Colorado Springs, CO 80934. 719.685.0904.

Flutes by Charlie Oakwind



Report from Patty Pearthree, Bowling for Rhinos National Coordinator

[Animal Keepers' Forum 24(9):394, 1997]

Patty visited Ujung Kulon (Java) this summer. A portion of BFR funds go to support this reserve. Here is an excerpt from her report:

"Anna Mertz was visiting Ujung Kulon at the same time so I was able to squeeze in a day of hiking with her looking for a Javan rhino. A few days later, Anna was successful in finding the rhino, giving her the thrill of a lifetime."

"Another rewarding part of the trip was be able to attend 'the Javan Rhino Colloquium' which was held in Bogor the first three days of our trip. This meeting brought together 40 people from all around the world to meet and find out who was doing what for Javan rhino conservation. We discussed the needs of Ujung Kulon, prioritized these needs, and tried to determine who would fund different projects. We learned of all the work being done in Vietnam where it is believed 15-20 Javan rhinos still exist. Although I would always rather be trekking in the jungle, this was the most important and informative meeting I have ever been able to attend. I was able to see how Bowling for Rhinos funds could best be used within the parks."

Speaking of Bowling for Rhinos...

Yes, Mama.

I came in 3rd for the 2nd year in a row! I still want to earn that trip to Africa. Won't you get your rhinofriends to help me?

#3 again?



CITES Update

[Focus, 19(5):6, September/October, 1997]

"A South African proposal that would have opened the way to future trade in southern white rhinos was defeated. WWF opposed this proposal, given the risks inherent in taking even preliminary steps towards a legalized trade in rhino horn. Yemen's formal accession to CITES was confirmed at the conference bringing to a successful conclusion to a marathon effort by WWF and TRAFFIC to crack down on one of the world's most important remaining rhino horn markets. The challenge now is to ensure that Yemen effectively implements the treaty and stops illegal imports of rhino horn. To that end, WWF and TRAFFIC met with Yemeni government officials at the conference and agreed to assist with a CITES enforcement program."

What's white about a white rhino?

Not a lot. They are the same color as black rhinos. The difference lies in the shape and use of the mouth. The white rhino is really the 'weit' rhino - an African word meaning 'wide'. Unlike the black rhino, which has a beak-shaped lip adapted for browsing, the white rhino's lip is wide and square like a lawnmower, which is basically what it is, since the white rhino's diet consists solely of grass.

White rhinos are the second biggest land mammals after elephants, and they weigh on average twice as much as black rhinos. There is still hope for the Northern white rhino, despite its scarcity. At the beginning of the century, the southern white rhino was itself nearly extinct, but concerted conservation measures have seen rhino numbers rise to 6,300, all in South Africa.



RHINOBUY\$RHINOBUY

Do YOU have a rhino pog? (Do you even know what a pog is?!) I found some on a sale table at PetSm but if there is no such store where you live, try this source: Pacific coast Distributing, Inc. PO Box 846 Phoenix, AZ 85071-4613.

No picture but great name. Blue Rhino 16 function army pocket knife! Found at MacFrugal's and less than \$4. Gotta love it.

When pigs fly? How about when rhinos fly? Now the time to order your flying rhino Christmas ornament from Ken Briscoe. For \$20+ shipping, you can have a beautifully crafted wooden rhino with wings. Write to: Ken Briscoe, 910 N. 10th St, Fairfield, CA 94556.

It's cheap. It's practical. It's a rhino (what else?) Not as wonderful as the rhino shaped mouse pads I have available of course, But still, Rhino Pad II by Artic insulates and prevents build up of harmful static charges (preventing computer extinction??). Available at Office Depot for under \$5.

Christmas is coming. Need extra income? Job available: **Lead Keeper/rhinos**...requires the minimum of an A.A. or equivalent from two-year college or technical school; three-five years experience in rhinoceros husbandry, particularly reproductive programs and calf management [ed note: see book from Ft. Worth Zoo.] Duties include: supervising and participating in the daily activities of an active conservation program for the maintenance, reproduction and rearing of white and black rhinos, scheduling and supervision of 2-3 keepers, providing guest tours as scheduled. Salary range: \$25,000-\$35,000. For future details, contact White Oak Conservation Center, 2823 Owens Rd, Yulee, FL 32097-2145. Ph: 904.225.3396, e-mail: stevesh@wo.gilman.com

Shed some light on your rhino collection. Now available, a wrought iron rhino lamp for only \$80+ postage. Write to Cochise Ironworks, RR#1, Box 671A Cochise, AZ 85606.

Special orders accepted. (I just ordered a really big rhino statue for my front-lawn!)

STORY CORNER

The Prince and the Rhinoceros

A folktale from India

Once upon a time in India, a rare white rhinoceros was born. It was given to a noble prince who was very lonely and whose kingdom was poor. The prince was so delighted with the unusual gift that he laughed joyfully. So he named the little calf Great Joy.

The prince treated the rhino with great kindness. He fed him rice, fruit and choice tender plants, and he always spoke in a kind and gentle voice. Great Joy grew and was happy.

The prince thought Great Joy was quite beautiful. At sunrise he would be golden. At sunset, he would be a canvas of pink and red and orange, and later the dark blue of evening. Sometimes after a rain, he would reflect everything around him. He seemed almost enchanted.

"You are wonderful and special to me," the prince whispered softly.

In time, Great Joy grew into an enormous animal with fine horns. He was very strong. One day he thought about his good life with the prince and what he could give him in return. "I am only a rhino, but I can use my strength to help him earn gold for his kingdom."

He suggested to the prince that he compete in a contest of strength against the town's strongest bulls. A rich merchant with many fine oxen agreed to the wager: Great Joy would pull a hundred loaded wagons usually pulled by his team of eight oxen. The bet was one thousand gold pieces.

The next day, the prince inspected the wagons and harnessed Great Joy to the front. Then he climbed onto the driver's seat. Great Joy waited for a few kind words of encouragement before starting. Instead, the prince waved a whip in the air and shouted, "Pull, you big wretch. Move, you worthless rhino."

Great Joy was shocked at his beloved prince's words. Wretch? Worthless? "I'm no wretch," he thought. "I'm not worthless, either." He stiffened his huge legs and refused to move an inch.

The prince was so humiliated that he ran home and hid in his royal bed. "I'm ruined," he cried.

Great Joy was filled with pain and sorrow. He needed to understand what he had done to deserve such cruel insults. After many days and nights without food or sleep, he went to the prince's shabby palace. "Oh, Prince, in all our years together, have I ever done anything to hurt you?"

"No, never."

"Then why did you say those terrible things to me? Was the thought of gold worth more than what I can offer?"

The prince hung his head. Tears ran down his face. "The gold blinded me. I forgot the importance of our friendship. I am so ashamed."

"Then we will try again," said Great Joy. "Go back to the merchant and double your bet."

Again the carts were loaded and Great Joy was harnessed to the front. The prince climbed up and sang out, "All right, you marvelous marvel, you splendid rhino, my Great Joy. It's up to you!"

The powerful rhino snorted, pawed the ground and charged forward. His sides heaved as he pulled, until the last cart crossed the finish line. The townspeople cheered wildly as they covered him with garlands of flowers and strands of tinkling bells.

The prince collected his two thousand pieces of gold, then humbly thanked Great Joy for a job well done. That very evening, the prince and the rhino walked along the river in the red glow of sunset.

"I didn't mean to say such hurtful words to you," the prince whispered. "Please forgive me."

"I already have," said Great Joy.

And that's how they lived forever after — in friendship and great joy. Never an unkind word passed between them. ♦

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Rinehart Publishers, Boulder, Colo.).

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Includes your choice of T-shirt, BRF, Inc. Mug & Newsletter, *The Nose for News* published quarterly

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 - C. The Last Dinosaur (4 color - Available in children's sizes)

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Now available from the Ft. Worth Zoo:

Rhino Husbandry Resource Manual

After more than four years of research, planning and production, the Fort Worth Zoo has recently published the AZA Rhinoceros Husbandry Resources Manual (M. Fouraker and T. Wagener, eds.) Funding and support for this publication was provided by International Rhino Foundation, the AZA Rhino Taxon Advisory Group (TAG), White Oak Conservation Center and the Fort Worth Zoo. All U.S. and international institutions holding rhinos, as well as contributors and meeting participants, were forwarded complimentary copies.

This manual was designed as a guide to captive management of the three most common species of rhinos currently held in institutions worldwide: the white, black and greater one-horned rhinos. It includes chapters on Taxonomy and Conservation Status, Management and Behavior, Design, Health, Nutrition and Research, as well as appendices on general rhinoceros behavior (a manager's ethogram), information specific to Sumatran rhinos, and data needed.

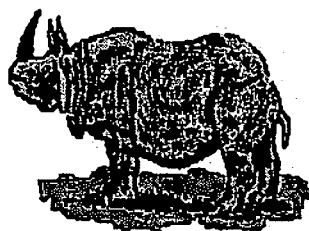
If you would like to purchase a copy of this manual, please send a check or money order for \$12 (\$15 int'l) payable to the Fort Worth Zoo to: Tarren Wagener, Rhino Husbandry Resource Manual Co-Editor, Fort Worth Zoo, 1989 Colonial Parkway Fort Worth, TX 76110.

A subscription to *Really, Rhinos!* would make a great holiday gift. Only \$20/year (\$25 int'l) for 4 great issues and the satisfaction of knowing 100% of the money goes to rhino conservation.

Really, read all about rhino and meet some great rhinophiles too!

Send your check, payable to:

Judyth Lessee,
PO Box 40503
Tucson, AZ 85717-0503



R is for the ridiculous and near-sighted Rhinoceros. The Rhino's horn is made of hair and the creature is rather rare.



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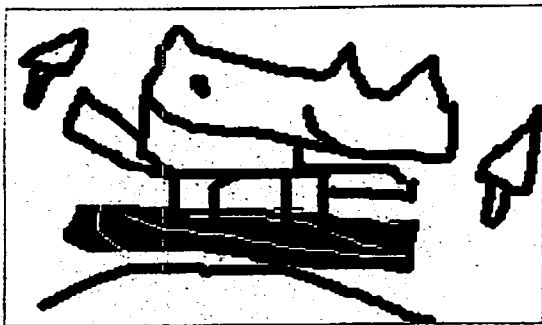
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(Wonder if they serve Rhino Ale or Hornsby?)



Rhinos who Snowboard by Julie Mammano. (1997) San Francisco: Chronicle Books (\$11.95). The pachyderms who tore up the waves in *Rhinos Who Surf* are now hitting the slopes. They bonk while riding fakie. They plant hohos. They freefall to gnarly faceplants. Foreign language? Nah! It's snowboard lingo. Get ready for winter sports with this delightful colorful children's picture book. Gotta have it. P.S. Order through www.amazon.com and save money!

Rhino Contest

1. In what book will you find a pop-up rhino?
2. Who is Tilly in the story *Tilly and the Rhinoceros*?
3. In what city does Michael Werikhe live?
4. Which rhino species was thought to eat fire?
5. Who is Rataxes?

Answer all 5 questions correctly and you could win a rhino prize. Send a \$5 entry fee (really a donation to the rhinos!) with your answers, your name, address, phone and e-mail to: Judyth Lessee, c/o Really, Rhinos!

A one year quarterly subscription to *Really, Rhinos!* is \$20 (\$25 foreign). Make check payable to Judyth Lessee. 100% of each subscription is donated to rhino conservation projects. Send feedback or rhino citations to: *Really, Rhinos!*, PO Box 40503, Tucson, AZ 85717-0503. Phone: (520) 327-9048. e-mail: rinophyl@rtd.com. (WWW cite coming soon!)

If you find errors, please know they are printed for those who always look for them. We try to print something for everybody.

Really, Rhinos!

PO Box 40503 **NEW!**

Tucson, AZ 85717-0503

"Old rhino is frightened -
he fears man's axe and gun -
and, unless the world takes care of him -
One day there will be none!"



Female rhino arrives safely in Cleveland

A 4-ton, two year old female black rhino named Inge (named after the daughter of a South African helicopter pilot) arrived at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo this summer. It is hoped she will mate with the zoo's resident male, Spike. Inge was raised at the Addo Elephant National Park in South Africa. Though she laps up handful of alfalfa and milkweed, Inge's favorite food is a thorn-laden acacia. She was so well crate trained, that when her traveling crate was opened, Inge lay down and took a nap, declining the opportunity to leave (and she stayed there all day!). When you are in the Cleveland area, after visiting the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, go see Inge and Spike at the zoo. Don't forget to go to The Wilds (big animal park) too.

If you can still see your refrigerator door, you don't have enough magnets. Order a laminated "I Love Rhinos" magnet from Sandy of Scottsdale for only \$1.95+. She would be happy to personalize it for you. Sandy also has hand-painted ornaments, light switches and soft sculpture. Sandy of Scottsdale, 9443 E. Jenan Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85260. 602.391.0120.