

Docent Officers Elected

The Zoo's volunteer Docent Council recently held elections of new officers. Those elected were: President—Mrs. John S. Entwisle; First Vice President—Mrs. Chester Heller; Second Vice President—Mrs. Alfred M. Johnston; Secretary—Mrs. Edward Bresnan; and Mr. Cranston Brewer was re-elected Treasurer.

All officers will serve one-year terms. Retiring officers are: Mrs. Rulon Wetherill, President; Mrs. Stuart A. Jackson, First Vice President; Mrs. Philip Staples, Second Vice President; and Mrs. William E. Learnard, Secretary.

"Our Docent Council is one of the Zoo's greatest assets," said Ronald T. Reuther, Executive Director of the Zoo. "Our sincere appreciation goes to all retiring officers for their assistance and support. We also offer our congratulations and best wishes to the new officers and their committee chairmen."

Duikers Arrive

The Zoo recently received a herd of blue duikers from Africa and hopes to begin breeding them shortly. The duikers, which are a gift of the Pennsylvania State University, are on exhibit near the Greenhouse. Offspring from the herd will be given to Penn State's College of Agriculture, Department of Dairy and Animal Sciences, for ruminant nutrition studies.

Blue duikers are found in the tropical rain forests of Central and Southern Africa. They are the smallest species of duiker measuring only 30-40 cm (12-16 inches). Their diet consists mainly of grasses and leaves, and they are more active at night than during the day, when they usually hide in the shadows.

The Zoo last exhibited common duikers in March, 1950. This is the first time the Zoo has ever exhibited blue duikers.

The Docent Council consists of 74 active members which conduct special educational tours of the Zoo from October to May. They also operate off-premise tours for Philadelphia schools, conduct animal behavior studies, and perform various other duties for the Zoo.

Golden Girl Dies

Golden Girl, the Zoo's rare Indian rhinoceros which was sent to San Diego's Wild Animal Park in December, for breeding, died May 12.

An autopsy performed at the San Diego Zoo indicated she had severe inflammation of the large bowel and an abnormal genital tract because of fibroid tumors of the uterus. The tumors would probably have precluded her carrying a full-term baby.

Got An Old Moose?

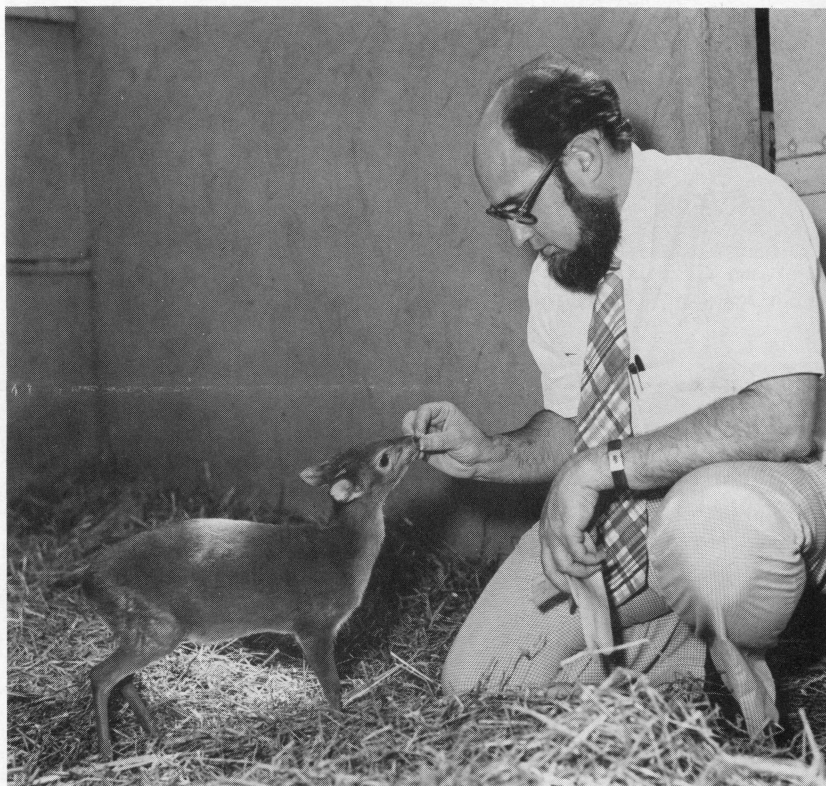
Any skeletons in your closet? How about an old moose in your attic?

The Education Department would like to hear from you if you have any taxidermied animals stuck away in your garage, attic, etc. Also, if you have any interesting specimens from animals, such as antlers, horns, feathers, teeth, etc., we'd like to know about them. Other items we'd like to have include a portable record player and a cassette tape recorder. If you have an item you think we could use in our educational efforts, please write Dr. Jack Delaini in care of the Zoo.

ATTENTION MEMBERS!

We'll have a breakdown on the results of our readership survey (April/May issue) available for you shortly. Many thanks for your help.

The Editor



Dr. Wilbur B. Amand, Curator of Mammals and Senior Veterinarian, makes friends with one of the blue duikers. Duikers are usually very timid animals but Dr. Amand has this one eating out of his hand.