

RED PANDA SSP KEEPER TRAINING WORKSHOP HELD IN KNOXVILLE

The 2002 Red Panda SSP Keeper Training Workshop held at the Knoxville Zoological Gardens was a great success. A total of 11 participants representing 10 different zoological facilities attended, including keepers from Utah's Hogle Zoo, Prospect Park, Cape May County Zoo, Zoo Montana, Nashville at Grassmere, Nashville Zoo Breeding Facility, Little Rock Zoo, Zoo Atlanta, Chattanooga Zoo at Warner Park, and the Great Plains Zoo and Delbridge Museum.

Based on workshop evaluations and personal communication, all participants felt the workshop was a valuable educational experience and the information gained has enhanced their understanding of red pandas and their management. The participants were also pleased with the casual learning atmosphere, affordability of the workshop, and the friendliness of the instructors and volunteers.

The Knoxville Zoo would like to recognize Jim and Susan Miller and Miller Equipment Company for their generous contribution, which helped make this workshop possible.

It is the Knoxville Zoological Gardens' desire to continue the tradition of sharing valuable information about red panda life history/biology, mother/cub management, diet, veterinary care, training/enrichment, record keeping, SSP information, management plans with our colleagues nation wide. With 25 years of red panda management experience and 77 births, the Knoxville Zoo is strongly committed to the Red Panda SSP and the successful preservation of the species. 83 keepers representing 50 institutions have attended the Red Panda SSP Keeper Training Workshops. This workshop is also strongly recommended by the Species Survival Plan for any institution currently housing or interested in housing red pandas.

PARMA WALLABIES NEED HOMES

The parma wallaby (*Macropus parma*) was once thought to be extinct in its very limited native range in eastern New South Wales, Australia. However, in 1996 the species was rediscovered on Kawau Island, New Zealand, where it had been introduced in the 1880's by Sir George Grey, Governor of New Zealand and owner of the island. He hoped to create a paradise, but instead created an ecological disaster, as the many wallaby species he introduced to the island greatly impacted the native flora. Over the years, eradication efforts have taken place and, early in 2002, the New Zealand Department of Conservation decided that all wallabies would be removed from the island. A stay of execution was granted so animals could be trapped and sent to interested zoos. The AZA Parma Wallaby Population Management Plan (PMP), supported by Roger Williams Park Zoo in Providence, Rhode Island, coordinated an attempt to get as many individuals into North America as soon as possible. In early February 2003, two male and six female parma wallabies arrived from the island and were dispersed to four AZA zoos: Brevard Zoo, Riverbanks Zoo, Roger Williams Park Zoo and San Diego Zoo. It has recently been learned that massive poison drops will start on the island in June of this year. **If there are any institutions interested in acquiring animals from Kawau Island, please contact Adrienne Miller, Roger Williams Park Zoo at (401) 785-3510 immediately.**

CLEVELAND METROPARKS WELCOMES TREE KANGAROO

Scarlett and Randolph, Goodfellow's tree kangaroos residing at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, became first-time parents on 11 June

2002. This is the Zoo's first birth of this rare species and the only 2002 Goodfellow's birth reported among North American zoos. The birth announcement was delayed because Goodfellow's tree kangaroos are born the size of a lima bean so the big event can go unnoticed. Now that the baby has just started to venture out on its own, the public can visit the new arrival at the Zoo's *Australian Adventure's Gum Leaf Hideout*. Cleveland Metroparks is one of only three zoos in North America that exhibit this species.

PENGUIN HATCHES IN COLUMBUS

The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium has a new Humboldt penguin chick! Tressel, named in honor of Ohio State University football coach Jim Tressel, hatched on 22 January 2003. Zoo director Jerry Borin notes, "The Columbus Zoo is proud to participate in the celebration of OSU's Fiesta Bowl victory. Since Coach Tressel previously coached at Youngstown State University and their mascot is the penguin, we proudly named our newly hatched Humboldt penguin after him." There are currently 13 Humboldt penguins on exhibit at the Zoo. Humboldt penguins are flightless birds native to the South American islands of Chile and Peru. They are considered vulnerable and their numbers have dwindled significantly down to approximately 13,000 individuals.



© Fort Worth Zoo

IN SITU BONGO CONSERVATION

The Bongo Species Survival Plan (SSP) and Rare Species Conservatory Foundation (RSCF) have made significant progress with The Mountain Bongo Repatriation Project (MBRP). Bongo SSP Coordinator Ron Surratt, Fort Worth Zoo, traveled to Kenya in January to meet with Kenya Wildlife Service officials and to survey the forest property of the Mount Kenya Game Ranch (MKGR) where the bongo breeding sanctuary will be located. The MBRP will send 22 bongo back to MKGR to establish a breeding group of bongo in a fenced forest facility. The goal is to produce offspring from these bongo that are suitable for reintroduction onto Mount Kenya. Construction of the forest facility will begin in May 2003, and the first repatriation of bongo to Kenya is targeted for January 2004. Paul Reillo of the Rare Species Conservatory Foundation, has been successful with fund-raising efforts, although more funds are needed. Additional financial support is crucial by July 2003 to stay on track for this project. Please join us in this monumental conservation project. For more information regarding institutional participation in this landmark project, please contact Ron Surratt, Bongo SSP Coordinator, at 817-759-7160 or rsurratt@fortworthzoo.org.

BRONX ANNOUNCES NEW GIRAFFE

Bronx Zoo-goers can now visit two juvenile giraffes thanks to first-time mother Margaret II, whose new infant female born 20 January is the Bronx Zoo's first large animal birth of 2003. Named Margaret III, the new arrival made her official public debut on 31 January, joined by her older brother James XII, born on 25 December. Father James VI is keeping a watchful eye on the offspring from just off exhibit. The two juveniles can be seen playing together on exhibit as they explore their new environment, and will be growing approximately one inch per day. Calves nearly double their birth height within the first year: adult males can reach 18 feet tall and weigh over 4,000 pounds, while adult females can reach 13-15 feet tall and weigh as much as 2,600 pounds.

WICHITA WELCOMES WOLF PUPS

On 2 February, four maned wolf (*Chrysocyon brachyurus*) pups were born at Sedgwick County Zoo. It is the first successful birth of maned wolves at the Zoo. The mother moved the pups to another den, where a video camera was placed to allow staff to monitor the new family. The maned wolf is an endangered canid from South America and can be found in the open grasslands of Central and Eastern Brazil, Eastern Bolivia, Paraguay, Northern Argentina and Uruguay. This high-profile breeding pair at the Sedgwick County Zoo are on loan, the male originally from the White Oak Conservation Center in Florida, and the female from the Kansas City Zoo. The pair was bred based on Species Survival Plan (SSP) recommendations.

CALLIMICO BIRTH AT THE BIODÔME DE MONTRÉAL



© Biodôme de Montréal

On 31 January, keepers at the Biodôme de Montréal were thrilled to find a newborn Callimico (*Callimico goeldii*) gripping its mother's back. The Biodôme currently holds six Callimico: one 22-year-old male, the oldest in captivity, his 15-year-old daughter and a newly acquired pair, now parents for the second time (their first young was born in July 2002). The Biodôme participates in the Callimico Species Survival Plan (SSP) and is the only Canadian institution currently exhibiting Callimico. The SSP is working to establish a Canadian population of this species.

UTAH'S HOGLÉ ZOO WELCOMES TIGERS

Three Siberian tiger cubs were born on 16 February in Utah's Hogle Zoo's feline building. The birth of the cubs represents the first offspring for seven-year-old mother Tiksi and ten-year-old father L.C. In order to ensure their health, the cubs remained in a quiet, comfortable, off-exhibit area through March. Depending on their size and the stability of their bond with the mother, they may be placed on exhibit sometime in April. Siberian tigers, also known as Amur tigers for the region they inhabit in Russia and China, are the largest of all tiger species. It is estimated that only 350 to 400 Amur tigers are left in the wild. Loss of habitat and

illegal hunting are limiting their numbers. The birth of Hogle Zoo's cubs were recommended as part of the Amur tiger Species Survival Plan (SSP).



© Caldwell Zoo

BLACK RHINO BORN AT CALDWELL ZOO

The Caldwell Zoo recently announced the birth of a male black rhinoceros on 6 January. He is the fifth rhino offspring for both the Zoo and for mother Christa, on loan from Cincinnati Zoo. The father, Cornelius, is on loan from the San Diego Wild Animal Park. Mother and calf are on display in the Zoo's rhino building.



© Woodland Park Zoo

NEW STRIPES AT WOODLAND PARK ZOO

The birth of two Sumatran tigers at Woodland Park Zoo represents the first offspring between ten-year-old second-time mother JoJo, and nine-year-old first-time father Rakata. The cubs are currently off exhibit. The last birth of a Sumatran tiger at the Zoo occurred in 1992; only one Sumatran tiger birth occurred in North American zoos in 2002. Staff will monitor the cubs by remote visual monitor and weighing the cubs periodically to ensure consistent weight gain and hydration. 🐾