a dream becomes a reality: the belize zoo

by Micki Roenspiess Maddox '82

Sharon Matola '81 always did have a way with animals. During her stay at New College, she did a project on animal behavior. After graduation when word reached New that she had taken a job as a lion tamer in a Mexican circus, those who know her well were not surprised. When she and her pet monkey, Rocky, returned to Sarasota, hardly an eyebrow was raised when it was learned that she swam the Rio Grande with Rocky perched atop her head in order to bring him across the border. When she signed on as assistant to Richard Foster, the British film maker, as the animal handler for a film in Belize, Central America, it seemed the next logical step in a sequence of events that was preparing her for the most important work of her life.

Shortly after she joined the company, funds were cut for the film, and the film crew left. Sharon chose to remain, having fallen in love with the enchanting, pristine beauty of Belize and the animals that had come to depend upon her. They included jaguar, puma, ocelot, peccary, brockett deer, parrots, a boa constrictor and other reptiles. Leaving them was out of the question. Being the level-headed and resourceful person that she is, Sharon knew that she had to find some way to feed the animals. Her solution to the problem: a zoo.

At that time, the Belizean government agreed to temporarily fund the project for two years; after that, she would need to move the zoo to a permanent location and acquire another source of funding. She has enlisted the support of private patrons as well as U.S. and international organizations. In September 1984 at a national zoo conference in Miami, she met Johnpaul Jones, of Jones and Jones Architects, Inc., known worldwide for their naturalistic zoo designs. Jones offered to donate an elegant master plan for the permanent establishment of The Belize Zoo. More patrons are needed. ARCO Solar will provide the zoo with solar photovoltaics for its energy requirements, making it the world's first sun-powered zoo. According to Sharon, “The Belize Zoo will become a ‘Walk Through Belize’ design, where the visitor will walk down a forest path through the four major habitat areas of Belize, observing the animals as they would appear in their natural surroundings. Part of the beauty of this design is that the ‘Walk Through’ theme can be extrapolated and applied to other zoological facilities in developing third world countries, drawing attention to the relationships that exist between animals and the lands necessary for their sustenance. The Belize Zoo, evolving from modest beginnings, is destined to become a model zoo for the developing world to look towards.”

The Belize Zoo welcomes all assistance with funding. Patron's dues are only $5 per month, or $60 per year. Newsletters and an annual report are sent to patrons to keep them informed of new developments. For more information on becoming a new patron, Sharon can be contacted at: The Belize Zoo P.O. Box 474 Belize City, Belize Central America

Tax-free contributions may be sent to: Dr. Archie Carr, III The New York Zoological Society 185th Street & Southern Boulevard Bronx, NY 10460

Please make checks payable to the New York Zoological Society, and specify that they be used for The Belize Zoo Fund.
Paul Scudder, chemistry, was a visiting scholar at Stanford University for fall 1985-86 semester. Peter Kazaks, physics, spent the fall 1985-86 semester at the University of Pennsylvania as a visiting professor of physics. While there Dr. Kazaks participated in meetings of the nuclear and intermediate energy theory group and departmental and high energy seminars. Physicist, Tyler Estler returned to New College and Sarasota for a spring visit. He has been promoted at the National Bureau of Standards and says that he continues to enjoy his work in metrology and his life in Maryland. Alfred Beugl, biology, gave a presentation on "Reproductive Biology of Fundulus," at the 19th International Ethological Conference in Toulouse, France in the fall. Joining us in mathematics/computer science is German-born Karsten Henckell. He came to the US from Fulbright and remained to earn his Ph.D. at Berkeley. His research is in complexity of finite semigroups but he has also taught laymen in Willits, California about home computers, and 10-15 year-olds at a Montessori school.

John MacInnes, French, has read papers at conferences on Florida State University, Eckerd College, Furman University, Saint Leo College, Rollins College and the University of Florida. He was also presented with the poetry of Baudelaire, Samuel Beckett's theater, Ibsen's "The Doll House," and contemporary feminism. He also participated in Cornell University's Proseminar series last fall, presenting a seminar on the concept of laughter in Baudelaire's writing. Dr. MacInnes' paper, "Apocalyptic Nostalgia," has been accepted for the national meeting of the Popular Culture Association. Jay Moseley, religious studies, during 12 years at New College, will move this summer to Chapman College (Orange, CA 92666), where he has accepted the position of chair of the religious studies department and professor of religion. He hopes that NC alumni will continue to stay in touch with him in his new address. Before leaving New College this summer Dr. Moseley directed a Summer Seminar for Secondary School Teachers sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Replacing Dr. Moseley during the coming year will be Russell Sizemore, whose initial course at New College is "Can one understand religion if one does not believe in it? Can one be an honest and critical scholar while also a believer?" Mr. Sizemore holds a master's in religion from Yale and is completing his doctorate in religious studies at Harvard. Robert Knox, literature, has elected to teach half-time starting in the fall. He will teach each spring semester but will be in Sarasota all year, where he will devote himself to the writing of fiction and drama. New address: 4107 Roberts Point Rd., Sarasota 34242. New telephone: 813/546-1422. Douglas Langston, philosophy and religion, has had published a book, God's Willing Knowledge: The Influence of Scoto's Analysis of Omniscience. The Pennsylvania Univ. Press; 1986. Andrea Dimino becomes the Sonny and Mary Yale Ph.D. on the faculty as she joins us in literature. She has a special interest in Faulkner's fiction and in gender studies. Before coming to New College Dr. Dimino was Mellon Junior Scholar at the University of Virginia. One of her fall courses here will examine "Major Women Writers: The Tradition in English." Arthur "Mae" Miller, literature, continues to write and publish poetry. His latest, Express Mail from Seoul, for O'Fallon, will appear in the next issue of Poets On: Arrivals.


This has been an active year in the field for anthropologists Anthony Andrews and Gary McDonough. Dr. Andrews completed a second field season at Isla Cerritos, off the north coast of Yucatan, during the summer of 1985. Andrews and his Mexican colleagues carried out excavations that yielded strong evidence that the island was the port of the ancient capital of Chichen Itza. Dr. McDonough, on leave during 1985-86, spent the fall studying Black Catholics in Savannah, Georgia. During the spring he conducted research in the underworld of the Barrio Chino, in Barcelona, Spain. Several New College students also spent time in the field during the spring and summer of '86. Four students participated in archaeological excavations at Caracol, Belize, while another studied Protestant sects in the highlands of Chiapas, Mexico. Others joined archaeological projects in Apalachicola, Florida and Grasshopper, Arizona. Provost Robert Benedetti was elected to the board of directors of the American Conference of Academic Deans for a three year term.
The 1986 New College commencement on May 23 commemorated a quarter century of independent learning and the first decade of the merger with the State University System. As New College tradition would have it the sun set over the bay as the graduates, their families and friends were welcomed by Provost Bob Benedetti and degrees were conferred by Greg O'Brien, Provost of USF. Adding a special dimension to this commencement, Warden Harvey McGregor brought greetings from our namesake, New College, Oxford University, England.

In Warden McGregor's address to the graduates and their guests, he defined his role at New College, Oxford: "a warden is somebody who looks after you and protects your interests as students." Describing his recent election to the post of warden, he related that the news leaked to the press a year too soon. Warden McGregor quipped that at Oxford, "I'm told that the definition of confidentiality is telling only one person at a time."

In his closing statements, the Warden expressed his concern over the tendency in the University for the students, fellows, faculty, and staff to be rather separate from each other: "I'm trying to bring them all together as far as I can. I think it would be a wonderful thing if I could perhaps bring the two New Colleges together in the future. And this visit will perhaps lay the path for that."

Extending greetings on behalf of the alumni, Dr. Daniel F. Chambliss '75, assistant professor of sociology at Hamilton College, New York, established an immediate kinship with the graduates as he examined universal commencement cliches. His remarks stressed that commencements are neither the beginning nor the end.

Dr. Chambliss concluded with his hope that at New College, the student would learn that "criticism is not treason and that honesty, while it may get you in trouble sometimes, probably fairly often, also helps you sleep better at night and makes laughter come more easily, and sometimes may even improve your little piece of the world."

"Even if you've done a lousy job of your New College education, and some of you have done a lousy job of it I'm sure, the fact of simply having done something once in your life, separates you from most of the college graduates and virtually all of the high school graduates in America. And if this seems to you a pretty minor accomplishment let me remind you that, as Woody Allen once said, 90 percent of life is just showing up."

"Thanks to New College, you can discuss Foucault and Wittgenstein with people you meet in bars. I happen to think this is a good thing, but it won't get you a great job with Proctor and Gamble."

"In the last analysis, each student is responsible for his or her own life."
...you will certainly find that New College has made you in the eyes of the rest of the world at least, somewhat arrogant, contentious, elitist, sacrilegious, vulgar, really smart but kind of weird, and honest, sometimes to the point of political subversion.

"Even though your education probably won't help you fit in, New College showed you that people can have fun talking about ideas, argue for hours without becoming enemies, and contradict the authorities without becoming traitors."

reunion '86

The Flax-Davidson family--Ron '74, Cheryl '76 and Skylar.

Susan Wahl and Laura Heery '77--a classic New College collection on Lido Beach.

Abby Allgood Misemer & Kay Moller Todd '67 plotting events for the 1987 Charter Class Reunion.

Jennifer Hurst Kroner '73 and son Michael with tropical headgear.

Two Florida boys--Mike Lasche '85 (Sarasota) & Ross Burnaman '80 (Tallahassee).
sixties

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the following missing students is urged to contact the Campus Union reunion organizer Kay Mollendorf at 261-6371.Water
Lane NE, Atlanta, GA 30319.

Ronald Robertson '70 has an M.A. in Russian
language and literature from the University of California
at Davis, working as a teaching assistant there in
at the Instituto de Estudios Internacionales in Mexico
City. By the summer of 1984 he came across the Soviet Union
visiting the countryside from a rented V.W. Since 1982 he's been in
Washington, D.C., teaching and publishing books on Soviet
military history. In January 1986 he returned from a five-
week trip through Siberia and Soviet Central Asia.

James Reynolds '78 says that he was not among
the lost students until the spring of '86. They are happily
encouned in Berwyn Heights, Maryland.

seventies

Michael Armstrong '77 writes that his next short
story will appear in a collection called Reeds in Hell to
be released in July by Bantam Books.

C. Thomas Baker '78, University of Hawaii zoologist,
recorded the call of a whale in a southeastern Alaskan
inlet which was used to lure "Humprey" the misinformed
whale, out of the Sacramento River estuary in October.
Scott finished his Ph.D. in the fall of 1985 with a
dissertation on the social organization of hump-backed
whales. His work was discussed in the December 1985 issue
of Natural History Magazine. Scott is married to
oceanographer Anjanette Peuy, and they live in Honolulu
when he's not on assignment. Alan

Barber '72 serves as the weekend anchor for
Radio and lives in Washington when he
works out of Harrisburg.

Buddie D. Bantum '72 works as an intensive care nurse
at Atlanta's hospital, has a ten-year-old daughter and
d Just bought a house. Andy is working with other
Colleges to concentrate on this Fall's Senate races. Chip
figures that the political installments would be more
profitable in the next election.

Michelle Magar '76 works at a National Public Radio
and lives in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Steve Kaplan '78 has been named a partner in the
prominent Washington law firm of Arnold & Porter.

Jack Leggett, Jr. '78 recently moved from West Los
Angeles to Phoenix, Arizona to work as an Associate
Attorney with the law firm of Skaggs, Bland and
Bawden (the firm's Phoenix office) working on the
psychological services) Jack's wife, Linda, also works as
an Associate Director with Bodine.

David Parsons '75 reports that he has managed to
stay out of jail since the last Nimbus, no small accomplishment
for a lawyer these days, and that he hasn't managed to
get more than a $250 fine over the last few high profile cases.

Jimmy Pritchard '76 received an M.A. in Russian
language and literature from the University of California
at Davis, working as a teaching assistant there in
at the Instituto de Estudios Internacionales in Mexico
City. By the summer of 1984 he came across the Soviet Union
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the lost students until the spring of '86. They are happily
encouned in Berwyn Heights, Maryland.

David Sieminski. Elizabeth

David Silverman '73 married Estal Malamos '74. They
are living in Alexandria, Virginia. David received his
B.A. in 1976 and an M.A. in international relations in 1980
and has been working at the Institute for National
Strategic Studies in Washington, D.C. Since 1981 he has been
visiting professor at George Washington University in
Washington, D.C. He was awarded an Alfred P. Stolz Fellowship
in September of 1985 to study nonrespect chemistry. He
is beginning work in molecular biology to learn how
biotechnology can be used to study chemical problems.

Jordan Young '76 received an M.A. in international
relations from the University of California at San Diego.
He has recently returned from International Studies
at Johns Hopkins University. Jordan is now an officer with Chase Manhattan
Bank in New York. Jordan is interested in
refining his skills as the island's top tuna fisherman and
guide.

David Rollow. Jimmie Pritchard '76 received an M.A.
in Russian language and literature from the University of California
at Davis, working as a teaching assistant there in
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Washington, D.C., teaching and publishing books on Soviet
military history. In January 1986 he returned from a five-
week trip through Siberia and Soviet Central Asia.

T. Scott Baker '77, University of Hawaii zoologist,
works as an Associate
Director with Biodyne (Nick
Bars and is in charge of litigation and

Robert Dunsworth, Roberta

Jack Malanos '74 and Tanya Leggett '83 had a wedding in the
house of the Hoyt family in Savannah, Georgia.

Deborah Berwick '86 writes that she will be working as an
executor to the publisher of the Miami Herald. "I'm also trying to sell expropriation insurance
in Chicago. I'm making $50,000. I'm buying a boat and
moving to New Zealand.

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class notes

Gwen Perkins '86 has secured her fine arts degree at New College with plans to initiate her tenure in the world as a "starving artist." Gwen, we hope this friendship ends early.

Steve Petticord '86 writes in May 1986 that his "wife Leslie Smart, should be giving birth to our child any day." Write as Bert - was it a boy or a girl? Bert plans to enroll in a math program at USF/Tampa next year.

Stuart Phillips '85 and Nancy Marchetti Phillips '83 are living in their native Bucks County, just minutes from Center City. They live there and have only one complaint to file - the winter weather. Stuart is enjoying his law school work at Temple. He interned with the Philadelphia Special Investigation Commission, assembled by Mayor Wilson Goode to assess the May 13 bombinating incident in which 11 members of the radical group MOVE were killed and an entire city block destroyed by fire. Nancy left the Sarasota Herald Tribune in July 1985 to join The Philadelphia Inquirer. After suffering through a 46 day strike, Nancy is now working as a reporter.

Cheryl Roessl '86 is working as a research technician at MarieSelby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota. William C. Schulte III '82 has earned an M.B.A. and an M.A. in political science. He writes that he is headed to Los Angeles to begin work in the textile industry with Richard Snider '82.

Steve Sensoli '80 has been with Leeco Diagnostics, Inc. (A Southfield, Michigan medical reagent producer) since January (98). He has worked as a chemist and later as a financial analyst after receiving his M.B.A. from the University of Michigan. Steve has been recently appointed President of Leeco's new Tianjin, China Division. More news - Steve will be married in September 1986 in Dearborn, Michigan to Kim Smyth.

Howard Smith '86 has plans to be included in the charter class of the proposed USF Master of Architecture program.

in memoriam

Sarah Dean Ludwig, a member of the first charter class of New College, died of cancer in Minneapolis on September 5. She was 38. Laird (Larry) Gurel '74

We have received word that Larry Gurel died of illness this spring.

an alum speaks

"New College the progressive, liberal, daring institution that was, still is." - Richard Moll, The Public Ivy

"The fundamental things apply/ no time goes by/"

As Time Goes By

During a "disorientation" session upon arrival at New College, a third year student confided to our group that Time was a pink convertible on Highway 41. He told us that it rode the Trail, always and, in fact seem uncomfortable passing by New College. At the time, I thought it a wonderful origin. handicap, or age, as with the University's respect for personal dignity.

This public document was produced on an annual cost of 3400 or 425 per copy to pro vide information about New College of USF.

New College
of the University of South Florida
5700 North Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, Florida 34580

Bob Wilson '54 has finished his second year at Southern Illinois College of Osteopathic Medicine, North Miami Beach. He'll be in Kodiak, Alaska this summer pursuing a preceptorship with an orthopedic surgeon. He hopes to set up a family practice in Sarasota in 1990. William Wymer '80 has received his Ph.D. in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from USF.

Virginia A. Phillips '82

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