

Jaycees to sponsor a girl scout troop

After a dramatic presentation from members of troop 301, the Raeford Jaycees consented to be a sponsor for the Hoke County Girl Scouts.

Lisa Simpson emphasized that the girls are obligated to give at least six hours of direct service to the community.

Monique Veal explained that same troops need help in securing books and other materials. She further explained to the Jaycees that the Girl Scouts need financial help with the Day Camp that will be held July 9 through 13 at Lake Alice in the Timberland Community.

Jennifer Lindsay reviewed projects they had completed for the year which included adopting a Christmas family, and a visit to the Rest Home. They are presently working on a First Aid Badge. Hilda Fields is the troop leader.

The Field Director noted that there are 254 registered Girl Scouts and 80 registered adults in Hoke County.

At present there are 15 troops. The immediate goals of the Hoke area are (1) Organize troops in the Antioch, Dundarrach, Arabia and Asheley Heights Communities and to finalize Day Camp plans.

Anyone interested in working with Girl Scouts should call 875-5237 after 5 p.m.



Flag given to Hoke Girl Scouts

Woodmen of the World (WOW) representative Jack Knowles (kneeling right) presented a group of approximately 150 girl scouts with an American flag. The presentation followed a girl scout parade on Raeford's Main Street with 150 girls from about 15 troops marching.

The parade, which started Saturday morning at 10 O'clock, was the climax of Girl Scout Week in Hoke County. (Photo by Pam Frederick)

Winging ibises welcome visitors to N.C. Zoo

The morning sun streamed through the leaves of the banana trees as brilliant ibises began flying laps around the 55-foot-high dome of the R.J. Reynolds Forest Aviary at the North Carolina Zoological Park.

The ibises' morning constitutional is just one of the activities that has become routine in the state zoo's jungle under glass, now well into its second year of existence.

The 18,000-square-foot structure is the zoo's newest showplace -- and one of the largest climate-controlled bird and plant exhibits in the country. The aviary's free-flight concept allows freedom of movement for birds as well as visitors, who follow winding pathways through an intimate ecosystem.

Settling into the new environment took some adjusting for the aviary's inhabitants -- 160 exotic birds and 2,300 tropical plants -- as well as for those who care for them, according to curator of birds Ron Morris. Several factors indicate that the aviary has come of age.

"The test of any aviary," Morris said, "is the amount of successful breeding that takes place, and in that category, the aviary stacks up well."

Nine of the 42 species of birds have reproduced, including the endangered Palawan peacock pheasant, which had four offspring. The red bishop, superb starling,

crested barbet, palm tanager, lilac-breasted roller, Indian shama thrush, red and white crane and ringed teal have also successfully mated.

The hatchlings represent a wide diversity of bird life: ducks, pheasants, marsh birds and songbirds.

The propagation rate of 21% is "a very respectable percentage," Morris said, especially considering the length of time the aviary has been open. Compared with other zoos in the country, "we're right up there with the best of them."

"The propagation rate is an important indication of an aviary's success," Morris said, "because conditions have to be near-perfect for a bird to reproduce. Breeding won't take place unless birds are properly fed, have places to nest and ample nesting material and feel comfortable in their surroundings. The birds' appearance also indicates they are healthy."

"We knew when we opened the place we had a fantastic exhibit," Morris said. "But that doesn't count for much unless the visitors think so, too."

Judging from the comments of aviary-goers one recent weekend, the aviary is a big success.

Terry Boyd of Charlotte, peering through foliage at two red-crested touracos, said, "When we walked in the door, I thought we were in Florida. We've been to different zoos, but we've never seen anything like this. We love it."

Patrick Lawson, a Louisville freelance photographer, was snapping a shot of one of the aviary's spur-winged plovers, who obligingly posed for the camera.

It was Lawson's fourth aviary visit. "This is the first place I wanted to come," he said. "You come in here and there's always something new to see. You can't see it all."

The aviary's tropical temperatures reminded Cary resident James Yao of his native Taiwan. "The weather here is just like there -- hot and wet," Yao said.

Yao also recognized a few aviary residents indigenous to his homeland -- the brightly colored Mandarin duck, for example. "Many Chinese painters like to paint this kind of bird," said Yao, who works for ITT. "It represents fortune and long life."

The balance between the plant and animal life in the aviary calls for complete cooperation from both the bird crew and the horticulture crew. And their working together plays an important role in the aviary's success.

"We have to cross-educate," said Delores Foland, a member of

the horticulture staff. "The animal people know all the plants and we know all the birds." Foland said that the plant crew is usually first to find newly laid eggs or nests which may be hidden under ground cover or in the treetops.

Aviary zookeeper Tracy Warren said that the aviary offers some unusual challenges and sometimes calls for round-the-clock dedication. The crew hand-reared one baby bird, for example, which required early-morning feedings. They took turns taking the bird home each night until it was practically grown.

"That was a success story,"

Warren said. "We had never had any experience raising a bird like that."

"It's the human factor which perhaps has contributed most to the aviary's fruition," Morris said. "The people who work there are very proud of it. That pride has a lot to do with our success."

What then, after what seems such an auspicious beginning, does one do for an encore?

"Our major hope," Morris said, "is that the aviary will continue to maintain its current splendor and the rate of propagation will continue to increase."

Flowering trees offered by Arbor Day Foundation

Ten flowering trees will be given to people who join the National Arbor Day Foundation during March, 1984.

The free trees are part of the Foundation's effort to promote tree planting throughout America.

The Foundation will give two White Dogwood, two American Redbud, two European Mountain Ash, two Washington Hawthorn, and two Flowering Crab trees to members joining during March. The six-to-twelve inch trees will be shipped at the right time for planting this spring, between March 1 and May 31, postage paid with enclosed planting instructions.

These trees were selected because they will give a colorful flowering of pink, white and red

blossoms throughout the spring, according to the Foundation. The trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

The National Arbor Day Foundation, a nonprofit organization, is working to improve the quality of life throughout the country by encouraging tree planting. The Foundation will give the ten free trees to members contributing \$10 during March.

To become a member of the Foundation and to receive the free trees, a \$10 membership contribution should be sent to FLOWERING TREES, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by March 31, 1984.

Stewart sees strong showing at May 8 Hoke County polls

During a recent campaign stop in Raeford, Lieutenant Governor hopeful Carl Stewart expressed beliefs that "he could be beneficial to small counties like Hoke" if elected to the second highest political position in the state.

"I think we have a good chance of winning in Hoke," Stewart said.

Stewart, a former speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives, is vying for the position against fellow Democrat Bob Jordan.

In addition to being house speaker, Stewart also served as a District 38 House Representative from 1967 to 1980.

Born in Gastonia, Stewart graduated from Duke Law School and received his Doctor of Law degree from Belmont Abbey College.

He is a member of the North Carolina Bar Association, North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers and the American Bar Association.

Stewart is presently a self-

employed attorney in Gastonia.

Since he was first awarded a house seat in 1966, Stewart has served as Chairman of the House Committee on Banking, Chairman of the Appropriations Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Budget Commission.

Stewart bases his campaign on "making a difference" in education, health care, public safety and "honest government."

According to a Stewart press release, the former house speaker "headed the effort for increases in teachers' and state employees' salaries," led efforts to improve mental health and retardation programs, promoted legislation to provide liability insurance for law enforcement officers and "opened both state and local government meetings to the press and the public."

Stewart, a Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the Brookleigh Baptist Church, is married to the former Donna Lynn Womble of White Lake and the father of five children.

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