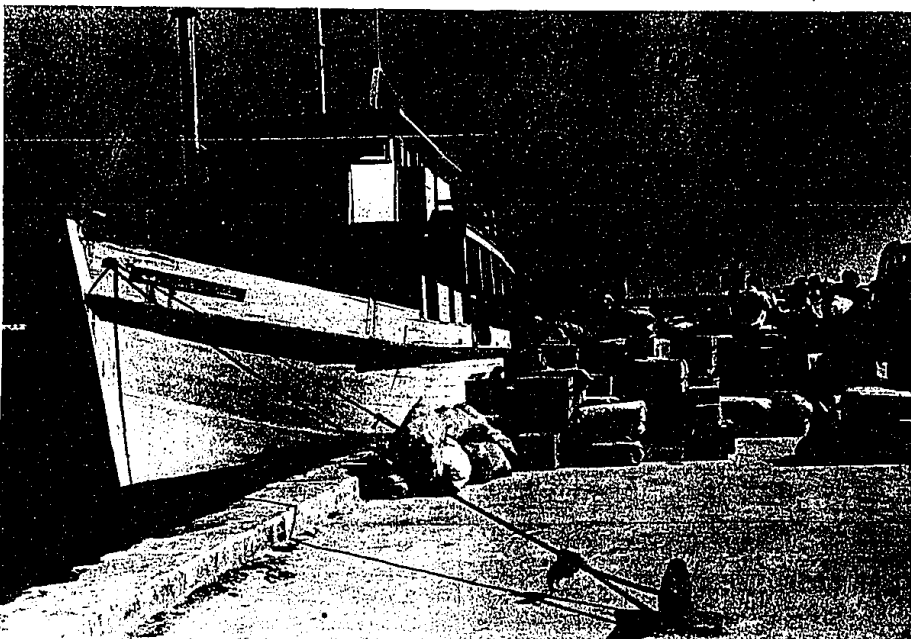


Thursday, July 28, 1983 O&E

(8-13A, F-14A, R-6C, P, C-8C, R, W, G-5B) (Wb, T9B)



IRIS SANDERSON JONES

If you can take the heat — which is no worse, and perhaps better, than the high temperatures Michigan's been having lately — a summer Caribbean trip may just be the thing for you. Once there, the

adventurous might enjoy a side trip aboard a mailboat, such as the one pictured (above) in South Andros, Bahamas.

## Summer bargain

### Some fares cut in half

If you don't mind the 90-degree heat we've been having the last couple of weeks, you might be a prime candidate for a summer vacation in the Caribbean. It is probably not as hot there now as it has been in the United States lately, and you always enjoy the heat more when you are relaxed and on vacation.

The Caribbean is a good buy in summer. Delta Air Lines offers four days and three nights in the Bahamas for \$324, eight days and seven nights for \$437, both per person double occupancy and including round-trip air fare. You can get similar bargains through Delta for San Juan, Puerto Rico; St. Croix, St. Thomas and other places.

Other airlines offer good bargains too. Check your travel agent. The Caribbean Tourism Association reports that air-fare reductions of up to 54 percent make the summer-fall season a bigger bargain this year than ever before. Pan American slashed fares to destinations such as Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad, and St. Martin. Other carriers soon followed suit, including American, Eastern, Air Canada.

New Yorkers can get unrestricted one-way fares not usually available in other parts of the United States: \$125 to Montego Bay midweek. But there are enough bargains to go around. Eastern Airlines and Delta Air Lines probably fly more flights to the Caribbean from Detroit than any of the other airlines.

IF YOU GO, you should know that 1983 is the 100th anniversary of the independence of the Bahamas, so a lot of activities are going on under their promotion title Goombay Summer '83. All of the islands of the Bahamas offer regular cruises, beach parties and enter-



1-of-a-kind traveler  
**Iris Jones**  
contributing travel editor

tainment, i.e., a p.m. Sunday folkloric performance in Nassau, a regular 7 p.m. Monday Bahamian night in Grand Bahama, plus "stoned" crab beach parties, Junkanoo nights etc.

If you would like an adventurous side trip, take the mailboat to one of the Family Islands, as the islands other than New Providence and Grand Bahama are known (that means outside the high-rise hotel and gambling casinos common to Nassau and Kingston).

The mailboats usually leave early in the morning from Potter's Cay, under Paradise Island Bridge in Nassau, and visit one or more of the family island docks on each trip. The voyages last from four hours to a full day.

There is a new cave-diving course for sports divers available through the Underwater Explorers Society of Grand Bahama Island. The six-day course, which includes 15 cavern and cave dives, costs \$175, however, including all of the specialized equipment.

If you don't mind boosting the prices that high, contact the Underwater Explorers Society, Box 15933, West Palm Beach, Fla.

For information on the Bahamas, contact the Bahamas News Bureau, 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10105.

## Big-game shoot

### Daring photographers can stalk Busch's beasts



IRIS SANDERSON JONES

If you are visiting Busch Gardens in Tampa, Fla., you might be interested in taking a safari into the 69-acre plain where the African animals roam.

I took this safari, on the back of an open, flat-bed truck, and highly recommend it to travelers who don't mind the discomfort or a little bouncing around and are thrilled by the idea of getting an insider's look at wild animals. You'll never get this close to them again, unless you go to a game park in Africa.

The safari costs \$30 per passenger. It leaves from the World of Wildlife at 1:30 p.m. Saturdays, provided that the eight-passenger minimum is met and the weather is clear. The tour takes one and one-half hours.

Animal attendants will accompany you on the back of the truck, which has waist-high rails but no walls or windows. You will receive a tip sheet from travel photographer Carl Purcell, travel photography columnist for Popular Photography magazine.

If you have been to Busch Gardens before, you probably rode over this Serengeti Plain in the monorail. On the safari you will get close enough to photograph elephants, zebras, giraffes, gazelles, waterbucks, rhinoceroses, chimpanzees, baboons and a variety of other animals and exotic birds.

You must be 12 years old or older to take this tour. Persons 12 to 15 years must be accompanied by an adult. You can make reservations only by writing to the Dark Continent, Zoo Education Department, P.O. Box 9158, Tampa, Fla. 33674 or by telephoning (813) 985-3514.

— Iris Sanderson Jones

Most visitors to Busch Gardens in Tampa, Fla., snap photos of the resident wildlife at safe distances, either behind a moat, as with the fellow (above) shooting the rhinoceros, or from a monorail, as the giraffe-gawkers (left) are doing. But Busch Gardens does offer more adventurous photographers the chance to shoot the animals close-up from the back of an open, flat-bed truck. Travelers who don't mind the discomfort or a little bouncing around are thrilled by the idea of getting an insider's look at wild animals.

## Globe-trotting club elects first woman

Two Birmingham-area men have been elected to positions in the International Circumnavigators and a Birmingham woman is the first woman member of the 60-year-old organization.

J. Thomas Smith of Martell Drive, Bloomfield Hills, is on the 18-member International Board along with Richard Coffin, former Birmingham resident now living in Scottsdale, Arizona. Harold Webster of Pleasant, Birmingham, has been elected to the nine-member Detroit Chapter Board. Helen Pierrot, widow of the late George Pierrot, of Stanley, Birmingham, has become the first woman member since a bylaws change this year.

Circumnavigators is a 900-member group composed of persons who have circled the globe on one trip. Membership information can be obtained by contacting AAA Michigan Living Editor Len Barnes, Auto Club Drive, Dearborn 48126.

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