

For more information contact:

Lisa Foster

(216) 661-6500, ext. 4420

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Trustees Elected at the Cleveland Zoological Society's Annual Board Meeting

Cleveland – May 21, 2008 – The Board of Trustees of the nonprofit Cleveland Zoological Society, the advancement partner of Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, elected nine new trustees at its recent annual meeting and re-elected the following officers: Chairman, **Patrick S. Mullin** (Partner, Deloitte & Touche LLP); President, **Robert J. Rogers** (Managing Principal, Findley Davies Inc.); Treasurer, **Jeff Biggar** (Chief Operating Officer, Cedar Brook Financial Partners); and Secretary, **James M. Malz** (President, CHASE, Northeast Ohio Region).

New trustees include: **Julie Boland**; **Tom Brenner**, Vice President and Manager of the Commercial Real Estate Division for Dollar Bank; **Eric Hall**, Director of Operations for Dominion East Ohio; **Nicole Hilbert**, Audit Partner with KPMG LLP; **Deviani Kuhar**, Attorney with McDonald Hopkins; **Steffany Matticola**, Vice President of Finance and Corporate Controller for Medical Mutual of Ohio; **Jim Nash**, Managing Partner of Marcus Thomas LLC; **Tom Partridge**, Senior Vice President, Commercial Banking of Fifth Third Bank, Northeastern Ohio; and **Robert Soroka**, Senior Vice President, Retail Group Executive of Huntington National Bank, Greater Cleveland Region.

New members of the 2011 Class are resourceful professionals, representing Northeast Ohio's business community and bringing a range of expertise to the Zoo Society, which raises money to improve Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. As it prepares to expand its annual and capital campaign fundraising on behalf of the Zoo, the Zoo Society's entire Board of Trustees – now 56 members strong - will help the Zoo Society reach this year's ambitious goals. Goals for 2008 include \$4 million in operating funds and \$4 million for **African Elephant Crossing**, the Zoo's biggest project since The RainForest.

Chuck Emrick, Senior Vice President, TransAction Group, was honored as a Life Trustee, denoting his outstanding service to the organization.

The Cleveland Zoological Society promotes Cleveland Metroparks Zoo as a regional funding priority. Zoo Society donors underwrite the Zoo's margin of excellence through support from the largest membership program in Northeast Ohio (42,000 households), contributing 50% of the funding for capital improvements and 15% to the Zoo's annual operating budget. The Zoo Society is currently 72% to its fundraising goal for the Zoo's new elephant exhibit, *African Elephant Crossing*.

###

Cleveland Zoological Society – 3900 Wildlife Way – Cleveland, OH 44109

Phone: 216.661.6500

Fax: 216.661.7764

Web: ClevelandZooSociety.org