



Nation's Single Natural-Habitat Refuge Where Sick,
Old and Needy Elephants Can Once More
Walk the Earth in Peace and Dignity

Elephant Update



Jenny, Shirley and Bunny

Severe storms tore through Tennessee this spring. Damage was widespread. Although the Sanctuary saw high winds, rain, and even quarter-size hail, there was no damage.

Throughout the season our supporters E-mailed with concerns at seeing the elephants on the EleCam outside during the storms. One thing that we have learned from the girls is not to underestimate their intelligence and ability to make sound judgments relating to their health and well-being. Scientists believe that elephants possess an internal barometer, which acts as a natural early warning system for approaching storms and changing weather patterns. Over the years we have come to rely on the elephants to alert us to a drop in temperature or onset of a storm. This storm season they reminded us once again that they do not need us; they do just fine on their own.

Prior to one rather intense storm, the sun was shining, and a slight breeze was blowing down the valley. Shirley and Jenny huddled close together under a huge oak tree. This caught our attention, as we had not seen them act exactly this way before. Ten minutes passed, the sky quickly grew dark, the wind began to gust, and then we heard it—hail. The hail came down hard for five

minutes covering everything with a layer of ice that seemed out of place on an 80-degree day. As quickly as the storm rolled in, it was gone. Jenny and Shirley nonchalantly strolled out from under the tree and returned to grazing as if nothing had happened. This is the magic; in their world nothing unusual had happened. Storms come and they go; sometimes there is rain or wind. The creeks rise, and the mud gets thick, and sometimes, as on this day, it hails. All of this is viewed as normal in their world. They do not fight nature; they immerse themselves in it and become one with it.

Late the same evening, during the 10 p.m. feeding, Jenny and Shirley did something else that shows just how intelligent, considerate, and comfortable with their environment they have become. Jenny had climbed up the face of a steep hill with Shirley in tow. When they heard the four-wheeler with the evening groceries approaching, they turned to come back down the hill. Shirley descended first and then turned to see Jenny climbing down another area of the hill approaching a steep drop-off. With instinctual precision Shirley moved into place perpendicular to the embankment, which was nearly shoulder

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Our Mission

The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee, founded in 1995, is the nation's single natural habitat refuge developed specifically for endangered Asian elephants. It operates on 2,700 acres outside of Hohenwald, Tennessee—85 miles southwest of Nashville.

It exists for two reasons: To provide a haven for old, sick or needy elephants in a setting of green pastures, hardwood forests, spring-fed ponds and a heated barn for cold winter nights.

To provide education about the crisis facing these social, sensitive, passionately intense, playful, complex, exceedingly intelligent and endangered creatures.

A 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization



The land acquisition is complete. The Sanctuary is proud to announce that our natural habitat now encompasses 2,700 acres. It would be a relief to be able to announce that we have no debt associated with the land, but the fact is that now is when the real work begins. Acquiring the land was a challenge, but now we must raise nearly \$6 million dollars to pay off the debt and build the required barns and fencing. Once complete we will even have an education center for visitors. Located on the outskirts of elephant country, the education center will provide visitors with a firsthand, nonintrusive sanctuary experience, unique in this country.

We are calling on each of you, asking that you help us provide an unequalled environment for captive elephants. We simply cannot do it without your help. The history of the Sanctuary has always been, **trust, build it, and they will come.** You have shown your trust by supporting our work. Now it is time to build it because they are ready to come. This expansion is a dream come true, for we now have the land required to offer sanctuary to all elephants in need for the foreseeable future. This means African elephants will soon be a part of the Sanctuary. We now have room enough to create a separate spacious habitat for both species.

They are ready to come, three new residents, two from a zoo and one from a circus. The contracts insuring their lifetime care have been signed, but we must finish the fencing and new barn construction before they can come. All three are wild-caught African elephants, the result of culling activity in their homeland when they were babies, decades ago. Although they are not related, two have shared the same zoo space for nearly 30 years.

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To learn more about The Elephant Sanctuary and all of the resident elephants visit www.elephants.com.

Lota Update



Lota...held by the Hawthorn Corporation

An online petition electronically gathers signatures while individuals and organizations across America rally once again to free Lota from John Cuneo, owner of the Hawthorn Corporation. The controversy surrounding Lota's illness and exploitation at the hands of a multimillionaire Illinois businessman is now the focus of two lawsuits as well as a massive effort by the public. Over the past five years Lota has suffered from and been repeatedly treated for the human strain of tuberculosis. In response to complaints about Lota's emaciated condition, Cuneo said, "She's not thin. Unfortunately, she's got this ugly, bony head."

In 1990, the Milwaukee Zoo sold Lota to Hawthorn Corporation with the understanding that she would be retired and not used for circus work. Cuneo denies the claim, stating that all of his elephants must work for a living. "If they are costing me money, they are no good to me."

According to the Chicago Tribune, the United States Department of Agriculture has filed charges against John Cuneo and several contracted employees, after inspectors cited 47 violations of the Federal Animal Welfare Act. If successful, the USDA could revoke Cuneo's operating license. John Cuneo continues to insist that his animals are well cared for and that the USDA is sympathetic to animal activists.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Add your signature to the online petition
<http://www.elephants.com/lota.htm>

Contact the USDA, your U.S. representative, and your two U.S. senators. Let them know that you support the USDA's actions against Hawthorn and that Lota, along with Hawthorn's other animals, should be immediately confiscated and sent to a sanctuary.

The Honorable Ann M. Veneman
Secretary of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave. S.W., Rm. 200-A
Washington, DC 20250
Fax: 202.720.6314

Chester Gipson, D.V.M.
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Information for your senators is online at
<http://www.senate.gov> and for your representative at
<http://www.house.gov>. Please consider making a polite phone call or sending a letter. E-mail communications tend to be less effective.

New Law to Help Elephants Passed! More in the Works

Congratulations to Maine—the first state to adopt a law to improve conditions for performing elephants! The Maine law sets state standards for elephant welfare equal to or more stringent than federal USDA standards. Maine bill supporters are working with rule makers to create regulations to improve the care of elephants and address public safety concerns. Banning elephant rides and other direct public contact are on the agenda for discussion. Supporters see this law as a starting point, their statement to the circus industry that they are serious about the care of elephants in their state.

Tennessee's bill to ban performing elephants in

circuses in the state has rolled over to 2004. In April the bill went before a House subcommittee and a standing-room-only crowd. Limited testimony was heard; and although the bill didn't have the votes to pass out of committee, a motion to hold it over for reconsideration was made and passed. Over the coming months, Sanctuary staff and elephant supporters statewide will be working to build public awareness and support. We have great hope for a positive run next year.

Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Rhode Island all have bills on the table to ban performing exotic animals in their states. The bills differ somewhat with

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Sissy by the pond

high. Calmly she leaned in, creating a solid barrier for Jenny as she gracefully slid over the edge of the embankment and down onto the ground where Shirley was standing. It was awesome to watch the two work in silent unison. Shirley has learned that she cannot prevent Jenny from doing what might appear to be dangerous, like climbing over the side of a steep embankment. Instead she has learned how to assist Jenny so she does not hurt herself. The two are so connected they move in unison effortlessly.

Earlier this year we observed another example of Bunny's humor. She has always had a comical way of expressing her affection. While Bunny and Shirley shared mutual caresses, Shirley became distracted by some activity in the pasture. As she attempted to walk away, Bunny made it perfectly clear that she wanted Shirley to stay. She reached out with her trunk and grabbed Shirley by the tail. Even as Shirley continued to walk away, Bunny held tight. She squeaked and talked and finally released Shirley's tail and followed in her direction.

Tarra has bridged the gap with Winkie and is now completely relaxed in her presence. We realized that the two elephants had become quite comfortable together when Tarra began to display play behavior toward Winkie. Although Winkie did not reciprocate wholeheartedly when Tarra began playing, she did not leave—a good sign. Tarra backed up to Winkie, reaching out with her back leg and tail in a playful manner, squeaking and talking, trying to get Winkie to engage. Although Tarra was only marginally successful, it is a start. Soon we will be watching Tarra and Winkie tussle around the pasture together like playful calves.

It is now a common sight to see Sissy and Winkie in the midst of all the elephants. Sissy is a natural when it comes to herd life. Winkie is her accomplished student. On a daily basis we see the herd move in unison, interact affectionately, graze peacefully side-by-side, and share a nap in the afternoon sun. The serenity they experience is contagious. With Winkie finally a bonded member of the herd, we are ready for our next arrival.

Creative Education Space for the Future

On May 29, the design team from Manuel Zeitlin Architects, Nashville, Tennessee, visited with Sanctuary staff and advisors to discuss ideas for a new education center. The center is an incredible opportunity to explore ways to allow for human observation and education without creating an adverse physical or psychological impact on the elephants in their habitat. Possibilities for the center

include creating space for hosting national and international conferences, student groups, and academic researchers. The facility design will also be environmentally sustainable. Thank you to the Zeitlin team for their profound commitment and generosity for donating their renowned expertise for this project. We all look forward to seeing their creation come to life.

Volunteer Day

The Elephant Sanctuary now offers a volunteer opportunity for individuals and groups. The 2003 Volunteer season is well underway, but several dates are still available. This is your opportunity to participate in the Sanctuary's growth while immersing yourself in a most inspiring wilderness setting. Yes, you will be right in the center of "elephant country," 2700-acres designated exclusively for the Sanctuary elephants. **Please note: Volunteers have no direct contact with any of the elephants and the elephants will not be in sight.**

This year the volunteers will be doing more than just painting. You might help renovate an old hay structure, tear down miles of old barbwire fence, or do general clean up on the newly acquired land. Whatever project you do will benefit the elephants.

Although some of our volunteer projects might not be terribly labor intensive, the terrain that you will be working in, coupled with the sometimes-oppressive weather conditions, requires that you be in good physical condition and at least 15 years of age. Anyone under 18 years old must be accompanied by an adult.



First "Volunteer Day" group of the season

Sign up on-line at www.elephants.com/volunteer

Available dates are July 12, July 26, August 9, August 23, September 6, September 27, October 11, and October 23, 8:45 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. A

member of the staff will accompany you throughout the day and join you for a bring-your-own brown-bag lunch—a great time for questions and answers! Although volunteers have no contact with the elephants, they report the sense of accomplishment they feel by contributing, in such a unique way, to the well-being of the elephants.

Elephants on Rescue Mission

SAPA (South African Press Association)
April 8, 2003

Members of a conservation team were left baffled when eleven elephants arrived at their camp in Empangeni, Zululand, to rescue a herd of antelope who were being held in a boma.

Conservationist Lawrence Anthony said on Tuesday that a private game capture company had been working on the Thula Thula Exclusive Private Game Reserve capturing antelope that were to be relocated for a breeding program.

Shortly before relocation the antelope were being housed in a boma enclosure. Team members were settling in for the night when a herd of eleven elephants approached the boma, he said.

"The herd circled the enclosure while the capture team watched warily, thinking the herd were after lucerne

being used to feed the antelope," Lawrence said.

"This went on for quite a while until the herd seemed to back off from the boma perimeter fence." The herd's matriarch, named Nana, approached the enclosure gates and began tampering with the metal latches holding the gates closed. She carefully undid all the latches with her trunk, swung the gate open, and stood back with her herd.

"At this stage the onlookers realized this was not a mission for free food, but actually a rescue," said Lawrence. The herd watched the antelope leave the boma and dart off before they disappeared into the night. Thula Thula resident ecologist Brendon Whittington-Jones said: "Elephants are naturally inquisitive, but this behavior is certainly most unusual and cannot be explained in scientific terms."

Ways You Can Help the Sanctuary

You can contribute in as many ways as you'd like, in your own name or in honor or memory of a friend or family member. Contributions can be all at once or once a month for as long as you specify.

The Elephant Sanctuary is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation. Your donations to any of the programs below are tax deductible.

Use the form on the enclosed envelope to provide information and indicate which giving program you have chosen. Be sure to include the name and address for any In Honor gifts so we can send the honoree(s) a certificate(s) and Trunklines.

Membership

Choose your level and become a part of the nation's first natural-habitat sanctuary for old, sick, and needy elephants retired from circuses and zoos. Members receive a certificate and subscription to Trunklines for a year. Give a membership as a gift and you also get an elephants.com sticker for your window.



Donor Society

_____ \$10,000+	Founder
_____ \$5,000-\$9,999	Benefactor
_____ \$1,000-\$4,999	Patron
_____ \$500-\$999	Sustainer
_____ \$100-\$499	Supporter

Friends

_____ \$75	Associate
_____ \$50	Family
_____ \$30	Individual
_____ \$10	Elder/Student

Acres for Elephants

You can be the first in your group, neighborhood, classroom, or office to buy real estate for elephants. Help the Sanctuary's expansion give elephants the room they need to roam. Acres for Elephants donors receive a subscription to Trunklines. Donations of \$30 and more also receive a certificate.



Square Elephant \$3 X _____ = \$ _____
Space for an elephant to stand at rest
6 x 12 ft

Sleepy Square \$5 X _____ = \$ _____
Space for an elephant to lie down and take a nap
9 x 14 ft

Dumbo \$55 X _____ = \$ _____
Space for a small herd of elephants to stand
1,440 sq ft

Jumbo \$350 X _____ = \$ _____
Space for a big herd of elephants to play
1/4 acre

Mammoth \$1,400 X _____ = \$ _____
Space for a herd of elephants to explore
1 acre

Feed for a Day

Winkie, Bunny, Shirley, Jenny, Tarra, and Sissy eat a lot of food! You can help by feeding any or all of them for a day, a week, or . . . \$30 feeds one elephant for one day. Just tell us which elephant you'd like to feed and how often. Every Feed for a Day gift generates a certificate and a bio with a picture of the elephant(s) you choose to feed.

You can contribute in as many ways as you'd like, in your own name or in honor or memory of a friend or family member.* Contributions can be all at once or once a month for as long as you specify.

\$30 X _____ (# of days) X _____ (# of elephants) = \$ _____



**WORK GLOVES \$5, HAMMER DRILL \$100, DRILL PRESS \$450,
having the right tools for the job...PRICELESS!**

A few months ago one of our many generous donors visited our Web site, checked out the wish list, and then called the Sanctuary. After a brief introduction she informed us that a check was in the mail for a generator and a four-wheel ATV. WOW! What incredible generosity. According to Celine, her reward was the comfort of knowing that, thanks to the generator's back-up power, the elephants would never experience the fright of a cold winter night without heat. A concern for the elephants' welfare was also the reason she donated the four-wheel ATV, a lifeline between caregiver and elephant in the form of an all-terrain vehicle.

Many donors prefer to give through the wish list, sending needed supplies like work gloves to protect our keepers' and volunteers' hands while they perform their daily chores. Sometimes wish list items are a little unusual, like a drill press. Hay, produce, rakes, and shovels make sense, but a drill press? The truth is that The Elephant Sanctuary has saved thousands of dollars by completing most construction projects in-house. When you've got a half-inch thick steel plate that needs 30 holes drilled in it, a drill press is the tool of choice. Wish list buying gives

many donors the sense of satisfaction that comes from providing something that will become a tangible part of the Sanctuary, used and appreciated for years to come.

Each time we use a donated item, we feel eternally grateful for the kindness and giving of our supporters. Few can imagine the appreciation and relief we feel when entering the workshop to find that the perfect tool for the job is right there, ready to go.

Donating in-kind items is easy. First, go to www.elephants.com, click on *Donations and Memberships*, then *Wish List*. You'll see an up-to-date list of items we need. For most, click on the item description, and you'll go right to the seller's Web site to complete the purchase. For others, you'll underwrite a purchase instead of completing it online. We use underwriting when it's easier for us to order the item directly from the supplier. Rest assured, if funds are designated for a specific item, they go to that exact item.

I would like to personally thank all of our donors for their gifts and support.

—Scott Blais

Patron Level Donor

A special thanks to Patron Level Donors Greta Green and The Born Free Foundation

In-Kind Donors 2002

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Carol Ann Baily
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South Africa's Addo Park Boasts 56 New Elephants

According to an SABC News release, South Africa bought new land and has completed the expansion of its Addo National Park in the Eastern Cape. The expansion effectively doubled the available habitat, which was urgently needed to accommodate Addo's growing elephant population. Houses were moved and fences relocated to prepare the habitat for its elephant residents.

Once the new land was ready, getting the elephants there became the challenge. The main railway line and a national road had to be closed to allow the herd to cross the park. The park plans to release four bulls from Kruger Park in the area to strengthen the gene pool.

Spotlight on Sanctuary Staff

JOHN SHEFFIELD



John Sheffield was hired on as a full-time keeper in April 2002. After spending 19 years running his own construction company and five years managing people in a warehouse setting, John began to think about a career change. He says that he wanted to spend the second half of his life doing something that made a difference.

When he read "She Gives Them a Haven," an article in the February 24, 2002 issue of Parade Magazine, he went to the Sanctuary's Web site and found that there were openings for keeper positions at the Sanctuary. John sent in his resume thinking that without prior experience caring for elephants his chances would be slim. Little did he know then that it is often much easier to teach someone without experience the Sanctuary's unique, nondominant style of elephant management than it is to retrain someone who has worked with elephants using a traditional, dominance-based philosophy.

John traveled to Hohenwald from his home in Brandon, Florida, for a workday interview. During the course of the day, it became clear that John had the qualities we desired in a keeper. His sensitivity and compassion toward animals, attention to detail, and eagerness to learn made him a good candidate for the job.

Within a month John and his wife, Alethea, sold their home, packed their belongings, their giant cat, Lucky, two hedgehogs, guinea pig and hamster, and moved to Tennessee. John's dream to do something meaningful with his life had materialized.

Ask Lanette Williams, the newest addition to our keeper staff, how she became interested in caring for elephants, and she will take you back to her childhood, a time when her parents recognized and nurtured her fascination and compassion for all nature.

Although her career path took her into the service of people, Lanette, a 20-year veteran sergeant of the San Jose, California police force, always remained active in the care and welfare of animals—whether it was through service to animal welfare organizations or personal rescues of animals in need.

Because of her past service as a local humane officer, the police department assigned Lanette to assist the Humane Society in monitoring circuses that came to town. This was a bridge between her chosen career and her calling to serve animals. At this time Lanette became aware of the life of performing elephants. Her desire to learn more about the needs of captive elephants took her to the Oakland Zoo as a volunteer. During her three years volunteering at the zoo, Lanette was promoted from apprentice keeper to back-up elephant keeper. While caring for Oakland's five African elephants, Lanette realized the path she wanted to follow.

Then Lanette had the good fortune to visit the Sanctuary with a colleague from the Oakland Zoo. During her visit she saw a chance to make two dreams come true. In the landscape of Hohenwald, she saw a place to retire all of her rescued animals. Equally important she saw a place to serve elephants in a way that she had only imagined, in a natural habitat. Suddenly childhood memories of her family exploring nature and the respect those times instilled came rushing back.

This past March, after early retirement from the police force, Lanette loaded up her family (three horses, two cows, two goats, and four dogs) and moved to Tennessee to continue to learn about and serve the elephant residents at the Elephant Sanctuary. She has become a valued member of our staff.



LANETTE WILLIAMS

JOANNA BURKE



During her internship at the Sanctuary five years ago, Joanna Burke, woke up from a dream. She was reminded of a trip she'd taken to the Nashville Zoo about three years prior, long before she ever thought of a career serving animals. The dream reminded her of watching an elephant being bathed at the zoo and how awe inspiring the elephant was to watch. Something about the dream prompted her to engage in a midnight hunt through the photos she had taken while visiting the zoo. To her surprise the photograph she was searching for was of Scott and Carol bathing Tarra at the Nashville Zoo—their last stop before creating the Elephant Sanctuary.

Joanna is a native New Englander who originally came to the South to teach in the Appalachian Mountains. She later moved to Nashville to begin a graduate program in organizational psychology. Near the end of the program, she realized she felt no passion for the subject—her heart was with animals. So she left school and started to investigate ways to gain experience in

the field. Joanna applied for an internship at the Sanctuary. She was accepted and rewarded with an opportunity to do something she wanted at a place that needed a person like her to do it. That was five years ago this August.

When asked what a lead keeper does, Joanna answers, "Anything at a moment's notice and then some." Her responsibilities include the daily care of elephants and supervision of fellow keepers and volunteers. She now coordinates the intern program that brought her here in the first place.

For Joanna, what has become the most rewarding aspect of being at the Sanctuary is observing the elephants building relationships with one another, healing and becoming whole. Being here to observe that process and helping to create an environment that supports it are by far the best parts of the job. She says, "Working in a place where the philosophy is so progressive, where things are always growing and never stagnant has been great for me in my own growth as a person and a keeper."

USDA and Elephants on Exhibit

In response to our members' increasing interest in the welfare of circus elephants, Sanctuary staff interviewed Jim Rogers, Public Affairs Officer of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Animal Care Program, in an effort to clarify USDA's role in captive elephant welfare.

Elephant Sanctuary – Can you briefly describe USDA's responsibilities with regard to captive elephants?

Jim Rogers – *The USDA mostly regulates elephants via the Animal Welfare Act. The Act sets national standards for animal exhibitors like zoos, circuses and other shows [commercial users] where regulated animals perform for the public. For the most part, the Act is not species specific. Its language is more general, like "enclosures must be of sufficient size so animals are able to stand up, sit down and make normal postural adjustments." There are specific sections that address elephants, like with regard to tuberculosis, but otherwise the standards apply across species. There may be other laws and regulations at the state and local level that affect elephants, but national rules don't interfere with those. USDA inspects to our own standards and works informally with others in animal welfare.*

To see federal Animal Welfare Act standards for elephants and other performing animals, go to www.aphis.usda.gov/ac. You can also find USDA contact information at the site.

If you see mistreatment of an elephant or any other animal, also report it to your local police department, sheriff's office and humane society. Make sure to follow-up your complaint. Local animal cruelty laws may be more stringent than the federal standards and enforcement may be more immediate.

ES - How do you enforce USDA standards?

JR – *We use inspections. All exhibitors of animals covered by the act [commercial users] are required to have a USDA license. USDA has 99 inspectors nationwide, each serves a specific territory and inspects licensees within their area. Many have been specially trained in large animal inspections. In every inspection, inspectors look at all the standards. If any non-compliance item is found, it is written up in an inspection report. Unless a non-compliant item is corrected during the inspection, most are given a "fix-it-by" date and a follow-up inspection.*

ES – How frequently are exhibitors inspected?

JR - *With the exception of certain labs, inspection frequency is not regulated, but USDA has moved to a merit-based system where licensees with the most problems get the most inspections.*

ES – What happens if a non-compliance item is not fixed?

JR – *If found in the next inspection, it becomes a repeat non-compliance item and is written up again. If we find multiple repeat items, an investigation is our next step.*

ES – Can you explain the enforcement options available to USDA?

JR – *As I mentioned, we write up all the non-compliance items we find. If fixed, there's no further action. If not, we can open an investigation. If insufficient evidence is found to pursue further action, the investigation is closed. If solid supporting evidence is found several things might happen: (1) a "ticket" [a warning letter] may go in the licensee's file, (2) a stipulation, or on-the spot fine, may be levied against the exhibitor, or (3) a charge may be filed. The charge could either be settled out of court where any combination of fines and consequences are possible—in a settlement the licensee does not admit guilt or innocence—or a case can go before a USDA judge for a hearing. When a judge hears a case, the exhibitor is found innocent or guilty. Consequences can include fines up to \$2,750 per count per animal per day and license actions like revocation or suspension.*

ES - We hear circus representatives say they have no USDA violations even with a documented history of non-compliance. Can you explain?

JR - *Only when a USDA judge hears a case, finds the licensee guilty, and the appeals process is completed, does a non-compliance item become a violation. Most cases are settled before they get to a hearing, so there is no violation. It's a matter of definition.*

USDA recently filed a formal complaint against John F. Cuneo, Jr., Hawthorne Corporation, Walker Brother's Circus, Inc. and four others for 47 alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act. The court document named 12 elephants in the case including Lota who is once again the focus of renewed efforts to send her to a sanctuary. The case has been scheduled for expedited hearing before a USDA judge.

ES – We are continually asked why licensees with repeat history of non-compliance have not had their licenses revoked or suspended. Why is this?

JR - *A USDA judge can only revoke or suspend a USDA license if a case is brought to hearing and, as I mentioned before, not all cases get to that point. Licenses can also be suspended or revoked as part of a settlement but this requires agreement from both sides. For example, when settling a case we might agree to a much smaller fine if a facility gives up its license. USDA does have the administrative authority to do what we call a "summary suspension" where we shut an exhibitor down for up to 21 days.*

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AZA Raises the Bar for Zoos—Will This Improve the Life of Captive Elephants?

As reported by AZA

In March the American Zoological & Aquarium Association (AZA) took action to improve standards for zoos with elephants. To maintain accreditation with AZA, elephant program managers are now required to attend the association's Principles of Elephant Management course. Walking elephants in public areas during public hours and visitor-elephant interactions outside of the primary enclosure are strongly discouraged in the new standards. AZA continues a commitment to continuing

education by developing new workshops and other ways program managers can remain current in best practices in elephant management.

AZA's resolution states "we believe that these steps will further enhance the safety of our public and our staff and animal welfare for the elephants in our care. The AZA encourages the continued evolution of elephant management practices." Good news for elephants living in zoos.

Shop at Our Girls Gift Shop

.....
Note cards, elephant videos, books, T-shirts, ball caps, tote bags, and fine art can be found at the Sanctuary's on-line store www.elephants.com. All profits from sales go directly to help the elephants.



Directors' Voice...continued from pg 2

Tangi and Zula are residents of the Chehaw Wild Animal Park in Athens, Georgia. Thanks to the vision of newly appointed director, Glenn Dobrogosz, the Chehaw Wild Animal Park's elephants will spend the remainder of their lives in a natural-habitat setting among others of their own kind—a gift for any captive species. Dobrogosz recognized that the Elephant Sanctuary could provide the most appropriate environment for captive elephants. Dobrogosz's desire to "send the elephants to the very best environment available" demonstrates his depth of commitment to the welfare of the animals in his care. Initially, the American Zoological Association's African Elephant Species Survival Plan (SSP) was against the move, recommending that Dobrogosz send the elephants to another zoo. Following Dobrogosz's research of other institutions, SSP declared the elephants surplus, making it possible for them to be moved to the Sanctuary. In addition to ensuring a quality life for Tangi and Zula, Dobrogosz was instrumental in our decision to extend sanctuary to African elephants. We all owe Glenn Dobrogosz a debt of gratitude for his influence.

It did not take long for the word to get out. When Ivor David Balding, founder of the not-for-profit Circus Arts Foundation in St. Louis, Missouri, found out that the Sanctuary was Going African, he asked if there was room for Flora. Balding has been Flora's guardian for nearly two decades. She was the center-ring superstar and namesake of Circus Flora, delighting crowds for years until Balding recognized her need to be with other elephants. He set out to find a permanent home where Flora, who has lived most of her captive life alone, since orphaned when poachers killed her mother in Zimbabwe, could live freely as part of a family of African elephants. The thrill of knowing that Flora, Tangi, and Zula will soon meet and become a family makes the wait unbearable. Please help us raise the funds to complete our facilities so we can begin to offer sanctuary to African elephants.

The elephants are depending on you.
Sincerely,
Carol Buckley and Scott Blais

New Law to Help Elephants Passed! More in the Works...continued from pg 3

regard to specific wording and which species would be banned, but each state's proposed law would prohibit performing elephants in circuses. Bills are at various stages in the legislative process. In Pennsylvania proposed legislation would prohibit the use of bullhooks to "beat, discipline, prod, train, yank or otherwise control any elephant." The bill is in process with lawmakers discussing exempting zoos from the prohibition.

Track Legislation Online

State	Web site to check bill status	Bill Numbers
Tennessee	www.legislature.state.tn.us/	SB 1068, HB 26
Massachusetts	www.state.ma.us/legil/ltsform.htm	S 184
Rhode Island	www.rilin.state.ri.us/	S 341, H 5388
New Jersey	www.njleg.state.nj.us/	S 2204, A 892
Pennsylvania	www.legisl.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/BI/billroom.htm	SB 453

A Good Time to Give

We hope you are as excited about the future of the Sanctuary as we are! There has never been a time when the need was so great and the opportunity to meet that need so reachable. The land is now ours, and elephants are ready to move in.

Many of our members have requested more information on the various ways they can make donations to the Sanctuary. Donations can furnish needed funds for our programs and land debt and give donors tax deductions and/or significant estate and inheritance tax reductions.

To help explain the tax and financial benefits of donations to the Sanctuary, staff contacted one of our members, David Hayes, a professional financial planner working in financial and estate planning.

Q. Planned giving sounds really technical. Is there a non technical way to understand it?

A. Yes. *Planned giving is an umbrella term that is used to group various methods of contributing together. Most of us contribute cash, which is tax-deductible, or our time, which is not. Planned giving opens the door to deductible gifts of non cash items with special tax advantages for the donor and extra support for a charity like the Sanctuary.*

Q. You mention giving non cash items. Some of our members have contacted the Sanctuary and asked about contributing stock and other investments during their lifetimes. What should they consider when making this kind of donation?

A. *Our members' first priority should be their own needs. They should never give away what they might need for themselves.*

Having said that, there are a number of ways for them to make a donation using their wills or other sophisticated lifetime techniques. For example, a donor might include a bequest to the Sanctuary in a will. Or a donor might opt for a more sophisticated charitable remainder trust, a technique that might help both the donor and the Sanctuary meet their financial goals.

Q. Some of our members own land or other property they wish to donate. Is this a good idea?



Tarra with one of her favorite snacks...the watermelon

A. Yes, this is, in many cases, a very good idea. Gifts of appreciated property are usually tax-deductible. Also the donor can often avoid capital gains or other taxation on the sale of the property donated to the Sanctuary.

Q. Are there any other factors that influence the tax-deductibility of a gift?

A. Yes. *In order to be deductible, the gift must be "completed." By that, I mean the donor must turn over control of the donated item. This includes not putting any restrictions or requirements on the donation unless those restrictions or controls are of the type allowed by the IRS.*

Q. It sounds like a lot can go wrong. What help can the Sanctuary give its members who are thinking about making non cash donations?

A. *Members who have professional advisors should first check with them. For those who have questions, my office is always ready to help members and their advisors think about the best way to support the Sanctuary financially. We always want our members to make their gifts in the way that is most beneficial to them. One method most definitely does not fit all.*

Sanctuary much, David Hayes! A word to our members who would like to contact David: his business phone is (615) 504-0622 and his email address is david@PlanningSupport.com.

USDA and Elephants on Exhibit ...continued from pg 9

This action is rarely taken, but is used if we need to prevent some sort of action or allow us time to gather information. USDA also has the authority to confiscate animals when we find what we define as "unrelieved suffering"—things like an untreated broken bone or an animal who can't move inside a contained space for a long time. This action is also rarely used and mostly in dog and cat cases.

ES – Does USDA respond to complaints from the public?

JR- Yes. We encourage people who see something out of compliance to contact their regional USDA office by phone,

fax or letter. (Go to: www.aphis.usda.gov/ac for contact information.) Our job is to enforce the law, so the complaints have to be addressed in the Animal Welfare Act plus be substantiated by a USDA inspector. Our job is much like the detectives on shows like Law and Order. We have to be sure we can prove something without a doubt: who did what, when, and to which animal. Getting a solid case is critical. We are happy to get whatever help we can.

If a person calls in a complaint and wants to know the outcome, they must tell the USDA staff that they want to be informed and leave their contact information.

Upcoming Exposure

Look for the Sanctuary in the following venues.

- *Smithsonian Magazine*—June
- *Guidepost Magazine*—July
- *Weekly Reader*—this fall
- Hallmark Channel—this fall
- Channel 1 (a nationwide school network)—this fall

Sanctuary Much to Our Corporate Donors:

Tappedinto.com

Kricos.com

Moses.com

BellSouth

Business Wire

Please visit

www.elephants.com/expansion.htm

to learn about our 2500 acre
expansion project,
complete with a 25-acre lake.

Bangkok Elephants Off Streets for National Park Patrols

A recent article in *The Nation* reported a project approved by the Thai government to rid the capital of elephants plying busy Bangkok streets in hopes of handouts. The plan is to hire all the mahouts and elephants currently roaming around the city for Bt 15,000 (\$317 U.S.) a month to patrol forests in the provinces.

According to Natural Resources and Environment Minister Prapat Panyachatraksa, "The mahouts will be offered jobs and allowed to choose the national park where they want to work." Although mahouts can choose their preferred province, the minister said, they cannot turn down the job offer. "The measure should be effective because they will get jobs and salaries," the minister said. He insisted that this was a long-term project, even though the initial budget is for six months only. Prapat also said long-term measures included measures to stop domesticated elephants being transported by vehicle, and the establishment of an elephant-conservation foundation under royal patronage. "Our main goal is to send 1,600 domesticated elephants into forests or areas that better suit their lives," he said.

2003 Combined Federal Campaign

The Sanctuary has been accepted to participate in the 2003 Combined Federal Campaign listed among national/international unaffiliated agencies under the number 1312. If you are a federal employee, you can now contribute to the Sanctuary through the Combined Federal Campaign.

NEWS FLASH...as the newsletter went to print

Sanctuary director Carol Buckley flew to Vancouver to negotiate moving Tina, a female Asian elephant from the Greater Vancouver Zoo, British Columbia, Canada, to the Elephant Sanctuary. Check our web site for updates.

<http://www.elephants.com/soon.htm>

**the
Elephant
Sanctuary**
in Tennessee

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