# **FALL 2010**

The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee

501 (C) (3) Nonprofit Organization





Shirley & Tarra

### Welcoming Autumn: Elephant Update

Fall has graced Hohenwald, and how quickly it reminds us why it is one of the Girls' favorite times of the year. The days start out chilly, making for a morning routine that involves caregivers in sweatshirts embracing their coffee cups with two hands. Once the sun rises above the trees, the warmth radiates through the hillsides. The gentle breezes blow through the meadows of flowers, highlighted with purples and yellows overlaying the greens and reds. And when the temperatures cool off a touch, the Girls change their routines as well.

Shirley and Tarra, who have spent the majority of the summer at the lake, have moved to higher ground where the temperatures are slightly warmer on chilly nights. Oak Tree Pasture, the woods above, and Blackberry Gauntlet will be some of their usual haunts for the next couple of months. Their first visit to Oak Tree Pasture was filled with eating passion fruit vines and flowers, and on their latest visit, they began clearing all of the fruits and plucking the persimmons from the trees. Although Tarra still goes down to the creek with Bella, their visits now are brief and they return shortly to Shirley's company.

Sis and Winks have wandered away from their favorite pond, exploring the branches of Marcella's and the many

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in Tennessee

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The Elephant Sanctuary is accredited by the Global Federation of Sanctuaries (GFAS), and is Licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA).

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### Our Mission

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

The Elephant Sanctuary 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 heated barns for cold winter nights.
- To provide education about the crisis facing these social, sensitive, passionately intense, playful, complex, exceedingly intelligent, and endangered creatures.

To learn more about The Elephant Sanctuary and all of the resident elephants, visit:

www.elephants.com

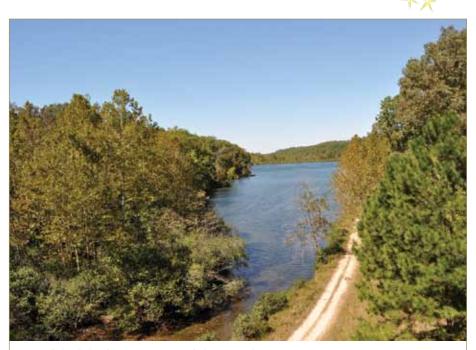
### **Note From Scott**

The summer heat has broken, bringing a renewed skip in everyone's step as the calm and peace of autumn settles. Projects of unparalleled proportions are wrapping up, and we begin to prepare for the next step in our evolution—opening our virtual window even wider to share the secret lives of Sanctuary elephants over hundreds of acres.

Looking back, this year has been extraordinary. We walked hand in trunk with Lizzie as she struggled through many months of anti-TB therapy, and experienced an awakening of sorts with Shirley's edema. Our "grandma" Shirley reminds us all to open our hearts to all that life has to offer, while Lizzie cautions us to take it one day at a time, embracing the good times to the fullest.

Looking forward...Rob! Our new CEO arrives in November and our hearts and minds are open and ready for the new challenges and opportunities that he will bring, helping us take the next monumental steps forward. We are grateful for your continued support and we thank you for believing in our mission.

Scott



View of the lake from atop one of the new Elecam towers

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### The Elephant Sanctuary Welcomes Rob Atkinson as CEO

Head of Wildlife for UK's Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals brings years of management and elephant welfare experience

On September 7, the Sanctuary's Board of Directors named Robert Atkinson as the organization's new CEO, after an extensive international search. Rob brings a wealth of knowledge in animal welfare, research and policy, having served as the Head of Wildlife for the United Kingdom's Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) for more than eleven years. Rob will take on his duties as CEO of the Sanctuary this November.

Born on a farm in rural England, Rob grew up around animals and knew very early he wanted to work with them as a career. In pursuit of this goal, Rob received a degree in zoology from London University and worked through his master's and a doctorate at Oxford before focusing firmly on animal welfare.

Rob has worked with captive elephants since 1982 and, as the Head of Wildlife for RSPCA, he has developed the strategy for four wildlife centers leading efforts to raise awareness about the impact of captivity on elephant welfare. Eight years ago, Rob started a movement that brought the welfare problems of elephants in zoos in the UK to the public's attention. These efforts have resulted in 25% fewer elephants in the UK's zoos and 28% fewer zoos keeping elephants.

It was during this time that Rob first learned of The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee. After hearing about a place that was trying to give elephants "the chance for peace and to allow them to simply be elephants," he knew he wanted to visit. Rob describes his first trip to the Sanctuary: "I flew from England to Nashville, arriving late at night, and hired a car. I'd never driven on the right side of the road before, or in a car with an automatic gearbox, and was completely baffled by American road signs! Somehow,



Rob Atkinson with Rambanayi Kamizola in Zimbabwe



Rob Atkinson

after eighty miles of nervous driving, I found my way to Hohenwald and to the Sanctuary. It was all worth it. I was struck by the clarity of mission and commitment, and I was completely convinced that if elephants have to be kept at all, then this was the only way."

Rob said that on his most recent trip to the Sanctuary, he was convinced that every single staff member cared passionately about elephants, and that staff whose duties did not call for interaction with the elephants had the same degree of devotion as that of the caregivers. "An organization whose mission is so clear and so deeply held in the hearts of all employees cannot fail."

When Rob assumes his role as CEO in November, he says he is excited by the opportunity to live once again in the countryside among the friendliest people he has met. He looks forward to all the new challenges and opportunities to help more captive elephants reconnect to the natural world in which they were born to live and exist. Rob stated, "The Sanctuary's mission to provide a refuge for distressed elephants is wonderfully worthy in itself. Through education and through providing a living, breathing example of how animals can be valued and protected, the Sanctuary is a role model for peaceful living. It's a champion of freedom, of life. I'm extremely proud to join their cause."

### **Welcoming Autumn: Elephant Update...** (cont.)



meadows on the north side of the property. Night feed in this area is a game of "Marco-Polo" with them. In the darkness with limited sight, which can sometimes be pitch-blackness in absence of the moon, caregivers can cheat when it comes to finding them. They have discovered if they shut off the 4-wheeler and loudly ask, "Where are you?", inevitably they hear a forceful blow, which is Sissy's excited response. Her answer is soon followed by some of Winkie's "oohs" that point them like a compass in the right direction. Sissy and Winkie have been very light and vocal each morning as well, greeting their caregivers with their barrage

of noises and deep Winkie rumbles; they completely embody

a feeling of contentment.





Dulary & Misty

Without a strong desire to be in the pond for the majority of the day this time of year, Misty and Dulary have started their wanderings both north and south. On the south side, Dulary has been grazing up and down both sides of the hill, whereas Misty prefers to explore towards the back of Delhi's yard. When they venture down Lake Road, their process isn't exactly speedy. Dulary seems eager to press ahead to areas unknown, while Misty seems content with each new spot they hit, so their journeys are stop-and-go and exercises in compromise.

The cooler temperatures also mean group naps for these two. During hotter months when escaping the hot sun is a necessity, they are rarely seen napping together—Misty will be in the woods, while Dulary continues to dust herself. But with the temperature drop, they have been spotted napping side-by-side, basking in the mid-day sunlight.



Lottie & Minnie

We are nearing the end of the latest phase of installing the new, stronger Minnie-proof fencing in the Q-Barn habitat. At times, it has been quite a spectacle with a steady line of big cement trucks loading into a separate large, green pump truck capable of reaching the steep hills.

Minnie generates a burst of excitement with the arrival of these trucks first thing in the morning, but after everyone settles down and breakfast is served, the Ladies are soon quiet and contentedly grazing on the long grasses in the pasture.

Minnie and Lottie have continued to show remarkable patience throughout this fencing project. All summer long they have shifted easily to other pastures, allowing work crews to complete their jobs. Minnie seems to be more and more at ease with life, just settling in to whatever direction the day takes and welcoming the events as they unfold. She still shows her silly side by running across the fields, with an enormous dust cloud trailing behind her. Sometimes Minnie gets so excited that it appears she is at a loss for anything specific to do, so she'll settle for twirling in circles, pulling



### Shirley's Resolve

This past month Shirley had a little health scare, and although thankfully she is fine, it reminded us again of the frailty that is life.

Shirley had developed a ventral edema along the underside of her abdomen. Edema is swelling caused by excess fluid trapped in the body's tissues. It can have many causes, including "undetermined," and can last for months. In Shirley's case, we were unable to determine the exact cause. The moment we discovered it, the Sanctuary's three vets were notified and recommendations were made: blood was taken to check Shirley's organ functions and her cell count. She was prescribed a treatment and put on an additional supplement. A poultice was used on the area of swelling and she was monitored closely. We took daily pictures to provide an accurate visual comparison for her vet team and maintained good records.

All the while, Shirley, for the most part, acted as if nothing was out of the ordinary and wondered what all the extra fuss was about. The only

thing out of character was that there was just a touch of neediness on her part, which is not like our stoic grandma. That toughness is what makes it so easy to forget that Shirley is 62; she has been through so much and always finds her way to overcome things. The hard reality of finding something physically wrong with her brings a different perspective.

There was comfort not only in the fact that Shirley's appetite remained intact and overall she seemed fine, but also in that Tarra did not seem very concerned about her. In the two weeks before Bunny lay down to begin her exit from this world, Tarra had uncharacteristically remained with Bunny and Shirley, foregoing her usual wanderings. Even though Bunny's blood work indicated everything was fine, Tarra's behavior suggested otherwise. In reflection, it seems that Tarra wanted to spend Bunny's last days by her side.

This time with Shirley, Tarra's behavior did not change, as she continued to venture off for her swims with Bella, and even returned to the barn for one of her visits with Misty and Dulary. Shirley's edema resolved within weeks, and her independent edge returned as she decided that the extra pampering she had readily accepted earlier was no longer necessary.

We have not seen any indications of a recurrence or any related health issues with Shirley. Her latest blood work is fine, and other methods of checking her health status are being discussed as additional precautions. Although Shirley continues to demonstrate her strength, our job will be to make sure that we continue to support her as much as we can, even if she doesn't seem to think she needs it!

up large clumps of rooted weeds and swinging them over her head, while trumpeting and prancing around. Lottie almost always comes to join Minnie's happy display, holding her smaller ears straight out and sounding off with her signature snorty-trumpets and trunk pops.

Debbie and Ronnie have broken from their summer routine and no longer frequent the back of the barn for drinks from the hose. They have gotten used to the convenience of the new automatic waterers that were installed with the corrals around the new Elecam towers. Whether they take a nice, long drink or a cooling self-shower, these new additions have given our Girls even more independence. Deb and Ron enjoy socializing with Minnie and Lottie here at their new "water cooler," and all four like to keep tabs on what any

visitors are up to on their separate sides of the fence.

Liz's appetite and general condition remain stable as she continues to fight TB. She got a major boost when we were able to find some new "gourmet" hay. Once she started eating this more refined hay for a couple days, it seemed to stimulate her appetite even more, and then she began accepting a healthy variety of foods. Her demeanor quickly improved as well; she became more active and responsive compared to a couple of months ago when she experienced a negative reaction to one of her TB medications.

While she appears to feel a little better now and continues to be treated with the first two medications which produce few side effects, unfortunately we are still not out of the

### **Elephant Update...** (cont.)



Debbie & Ronnie

woods yet. There are still several months left of necessary TB therapy, with the possibility of adding another drug or increasing the current dose. These are difficult, yet vital decisions to ensure a healthy future for Lizzie. We are on the verge of getting some new options from our TB Advisory Committee, and needless to say, we are eager to move forward for Liz's sake.

While caregivers focus a lot of time and attention on Liz during her illness, we are reminded every day of Billie's unique needs, too. Life as a circus elephant wasn't pleasant for any of our Girls, but Billie's situation was much more difficult. Her headstrong personality made her harder to control, which resulted in circus trainers treating her much more harshly in order to maintain their dominance.

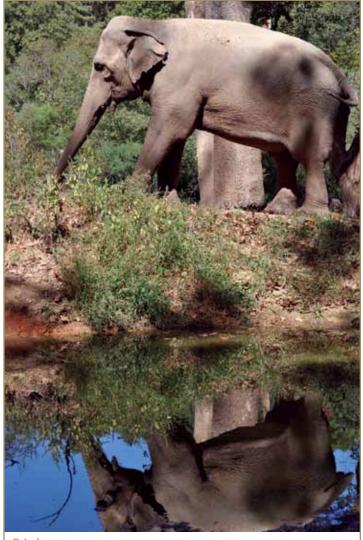
Here at the Sanctuary, Billie's emotions can change from one minute to the next. Sometimes they show up as wild excitement and playfulness, sometimes nervously fearful, and when it comes to her best friends, Billie is very passionate and protective. When Liz is finished with her daily TB treatment, Billie will sometimes tenderly approach her afterwards, carefully and quietly touching Liz's trunk, mouth and her temples.

Although it happens much less often now, compared to when she first arrived, sometimes Billie's soft side is nowhere to be found. We are not sure what triggers it, but she can suddenly become loud and spontaneous, determined to remind us she is strong and defiant. We understand this is ruled by her insecurity and distrust; fear is a powerful emotion. Because of this, Billie often takes center stage and needs some extra reassurance from us that she really has found sanctuary now, and that no one is here to harm or control her.



Billie & Liz

In an effort to help Billie overcome this, recently we started a new form of therapy. Whenever she seems to get anxious, we introduce a simple game. We ask her if she will move over to a certain spot in the barn, and when she does, she gets special treats. The great thing about this "game" is that Billie wins every time. When we first started this, we immediately began to see a soothing effect on her mood. Instead of acting impatient while waiting for Frieda



Frieda

to finish eating, Billie will calmly move to her "spot." There is more at work here than just rewarding an elephant with food. Through these interactions, Billie is learning to trust her caregivers and how to move away from the anxiety. She now has a new way to communicate, "I'm a little nervous and I need some support right now."

The vast majority of the time, Billie, Liz, and Frieda's days are very low key and tranquil. As with all Sanctuary elephants, there are no pressure or stress factors in their daily routine; they prefer spending time with each other, grazing and napping and just being elephants.

This has been a great year for Tange and Flora, who continue to grow in so many ways, towards one another and their habitat. They are both embracing new adventures and letting go of some old fears. It has been a challenge for caregivers to keep up with these two, as their explorations seem to be all over the place, and no two days are alike.

Despite the cooler temperatures, these Girls are still finding warm parts of the afternoons to have a little mud bath, but since we have not had much rain lately, their once giant mud holes have been reduced to only a foot or two of mud—

hardly enough to wrestle in! For favorite mud holes within reach, caregivers will go out with a water hose to help revive them. Tange is always sure to let them know just where to spray the water when she is not busy drinking it. Flora, on the other hand, will wait patiently for the dirt to moisten, then dive in.

With soft, short trumpets, they still enjoy life's simple pleasures. ❖



Flora & Tange

### The Elephant Sanctuary's 15th Anniversary: Growth Through Change

A look back from co-founder Scott Blais

While 2010 could certainly be described as a year of great change at the Sanctuary, we could almost say that every year. All fifteen years have been filled with constant change, growth and lessons—an evolution that ranged from slow and gradual to quantum leaps forward. All of these past experiences have shaped the Sanctuary into what it is today, and ensures it will remain resilient to the changes we have yet to experience. If I had to put my finger on one thing that the Sanctuary has never altered, it would be opening our hearts to the truth of the elephants.

With each new arrival since 1995, there were new stories to learn and share. Some were glorious new beginnings with immediate healing and recovery, while others demonstrated a continuing struggle for positive change. The first eight elephants of our Founding Herd taught us the importance of family; even in this makeshift natural world, a group of elephants learned how to bond through one another's struggles. Sissy took Winkie under her broken wing, helping Winkie to accept and explore a world that was still foreign to Sissy. Flora's struggles taught us that time and space can't be defined. For a while Flora needed more space from people, but less space to explore. Too much freedom was overwhelming. With more time, she has learned to relish the freedom of self-discovery, while opening her life to the growth of friendship with Tange.

For us as caregivers, living in the duality of the elephant world and our human society, the elephants have helped open our eyes. On the most basic level, but also the most profound, they have reminded us of the balance of life and death. Each passing of a dear friend is a struggle beyond words, but the lessons and cherished memories that they brought stretch beyond time.

Billie continues to teach us to be ready for diversity. Today may be a little quiet, while tomorrow may bring uninhibited play and triumphant joy. Shirley reminds us to embrace the journey; it may be really tough for a while, but you can make it through. Tange is teaching us that friendship is more than just play time and good cheer; it is often about learning the boundaries of another, when to step back a little and hold a space open for when your friend is ready, and when to say, "no more self-pity, let's go for a walk." And one of the simplest and most difficult lessons comes from Misty—to just let it all go, life is too short, be grateful for everything that is around you.

These lessons will undoubtedly continue to lead us through the unchartered waters of tomorrow. For now, we keep our hearts open to all the wonderful possibilities of change, as we get ready to welcome The Elephant Sanctuary's sixteenth year.  $\Leftrightarrow$ 



### **Elecam Expansion Update**

The Sanctuary is in the midst of an unprecedented Elecam expansion project which will soon open up new areas of the habitat for caregivers to monitor the Girls, and will enable viewers to once again see elephants from the Founding Herd and the African habitat. These new Elecams are also a key component of the Elephant Sanctuary's plans for expanding education through an enhanced Distance Learning Project.

At the time of this writing, the towers are finished, the video cameras are installed (most are solar-powered), and the high speed internet system designed to connect the cameras, barns and offices to a central network is currently operating in test mode. As soon as we bring this new technology infrastructure up to full power and get familiar with the new hardware, our final step will be to take the new Elecams live! We hope that by the time you are reading this, you can go to the Elecam page on our website (www.elephants.com/elecam/) and see for yourself!

There is a lot of excitement and anticipation in the air surrounding this event. Not only from supporters, who are eager to meet or get reacquainted with some of the Girls on the new Elecams, but also with caregivers and staff, who welcome this new, non-invasive technology to help them monitor the elephants more closely when they are out in the habitat.

For years, caregivers have crisscrossed fields near and far on 4-wheelers stocked with meals or hitched to water wagons looking for the elusive Girls. This game of hide and seek was especially challenging for elephants like Tarra, who loves to travel and explore, and will rarely be in the same place you last fed her. The upside is that they have now given us several years to study their migration habits and favorite places, which was instrumental in determining where to locate the towers and coverage areas for the cameras.

As before, elephants who choose the canopy cover of the woods will still escape the camera's eye, but having better surveillance equipment on more



Elecam towers are solar powered and surrounded by a safety corral. Many are also outfitted with automatic waterers for the elephants.

acreage brings an extra level of comfort and security. It gives us the ability to deliver meals sooner and respond faster if a situation we observe should happen to raise concerns.

We are thrilled to have this opportunity to take the Sanctuary to a whole new level of silent observation, care and education in a digital age—and happy that we can do all of this without intruding on the Girls as they continue to go about their daily lives grazing, napping, browsing, swimming, socializing and just being elephants.

### A Supporter's Journey with Our Beloved Shirley

In 2007, in Skillman, New Jersey, Linda Dineen sat patiently waiting for her grandson after tennis practice. As she waited, she browsed through a few magazines.

"I vividly remember thumbing through Hallmark Magazine and seeing a full page image of Tarra. It was absolutely gorgeous. I read the article and learned about the wonderful work being done in Tennessee and had to ask the owner if I could keep the magazine to learn more. I was hooked from that very day," says Linda.

At the time, Linda was looking for a good charity to which she could contribute. After returning home and visiting the Sanctuary's website, she knew the Sanctuary was the place she had been looking for. As the year progressed, Linda learned more and more about each of the Sanctuary's elephants and their histories; however, there was one particular elephant to which she was drawn—and with whom she felt a special connection—our beloved Shirley. Linda is quick to point out that they both share the same age, but beside that simple fact and more importantly, she's always felt connected to the survivor inside of Shirley.

"As a single mother and grandmother I've had to struggle sometimes in my life. Shirley's survival through the fire in Nova Scotia, her attack and hind leg injury, and the many years she spent being held captive and alone, created an intense inner bond that I can't describe."

Her obvious adoration for Shirley and strong support of the Sanctuary was evident to Linda's family, and on Mother's Day of 2008 they surprised her with the ultimate gift—the monetary means to become a VIP patron. This contribution commitment would allow her to do what she'd always dreamed of—visit The Elephant Sanctuary in Hohenwald, TN.

The following May, Linda and her daughter excitedly attended a VIP tour hosted by the Sanctuary Board and staff. Linda believes memories of her visit that day will forever remain with her—the visit to Lota's grave, seeing Billie and Minnie. She never got the chance to see her dear Shirley that day, but still whole-heartedly believes the trip was worth it and cherishes a small piece of grass she collected as she was leaving the grounds that day.

"I can still feel the goodness, the kindness," she shares. "I left wondering what can I do to save more elephants and bring them to this glorious place of love."

The discovery of an area of edema on Shirley's stomach this past August caused much worry for Linda. She remembers writing to Scott, and hoping for the best. She was extremely relieved when Scott shared that Shirley was still the happy,



Linda Dineen on the Sanctuary's VIP Tour

feisty girl she'd always been and doing well. "If Scott hadn't given that report, my weekend would have been ruined," says Linda jokingly. "Shirley and the other elephants are in my mind and in my heart for the better part of the day."

In her community today, Linda is a local advocate for elephants. She's proud to boast that her family and coworkers no longer attend circuses. Last year a nearby New Jersey city brought a circus to town. The circus act was full of performers, including elephants. She asked the city to go to the Sanctuary's page to see the work being done to protect the rights of elephants and was pleasantly surprised to find out that the following year they hosted a circus that did not use animals.

Throughout the years, Linda has unselfishly donated money and sponsored needed items for the Sanctuary's use. For the past couple of years she's worked with her grandson to collect aluminum cans to fund the purchase of needed fourwheelers, all named in honor of Shirley ("For Shirley" and "Shirley Girl"). One of Linda's 60th birthday gifts was a pair of gray boots with pink elephants. Linda and her daughter searched and bought as many pairs as they could find to ship to caregivers. "When you give something you don't tell someone you did it. You do it from the heart, not for praise," says Linda. "For me to be recognized is great, but I truly do what I do to say thank you for all the work they do and to lighten the financial load."

"My wish is for every captive elephant to find a home at The Elephant Sanctuary and live free. I will continue to spread the word and teach others to spread the word about the good being done there. I'm honored to have found them."



In recognition of the commitment, perseverance, and milestones achieved by The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee, the State of Tennessee, Lewis County and the City of Hohenwald declared October 2010, as Elephant Awareness Month.

The official Tennessee proclamation recently signed by Gov. Phil Bredesen states, "The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee continually sets and reaches goals to better the lives of all elephants worldwide."



City and County Mayors also signed proclamations to kick off the month, with representatives of the city and members of Sanctuary staff present. Photo by Becky Newbold, Lewis County Herald

This is the Sanctuary's third year for recognition and, as in years past, we have developed plans to help raise awareness about the crisis facing captive and wild elephants and about the need for educating others on the issue. While the Sanctuary's mission incorporates this philosophy yearround, having a special month of activities brings it into sharper focus.

With the completion of our downtown Welcome Center, this year we are pleased to introduce new opportunities in education-related events in support of this effort. During the Hohenwald Oktober Heritage Festival on Oct. 8-9, The Elephant Sanctuary's Welcome Center opened to the public for the first time, offering visitors a chance to view the upcoming Education Gallery space, watch videos, and see artwork created specifically for Elephant Awareness Month by Lewis County Elementary School second graders. During this festival, we also hosted a presentation dedicated to elephant diets at the Welcome Center and a "meet the caregiver" discussion.

In late October, two field trips from our adopted school classes also visited the downtown facility and received a special presentation about elephants. It has been an exciting experience to begin utilizing this new public space for education, as well as having the opportunity to meet our supporters face to face. In the coming months we hope to begin adding more planned events while we continue to explore funding to begin construction of the exhibits. ◆

### Tourism in the "Loop"

On September 13th, Board members Sandra Estes and Janice Zeitlin hosted a meeting of the "Loop 4 Tourism Association, High Forest to the River" at our downtown Welcome Center. This group is dedicated to creating and promoting tourism in Lewis and Perry Counties, which comprise "Loop 4" of the famous Natchez Trace. This was our first opportunity to introduce individuals involved in local traveler destinations to our new downtown space. Approximately thirty guests took advantage of the luncheon meeting to learn more about The Elephant Sanctuary and the Education Gallery plans. Having a Sanctuary that remains closed to the public has never qualified us as a tourism stop before, but once our Welcome Center and Education Gallery officially open, we can finally become an exciting destination for travelers.



## Holidays with the Elephants

The holidays are a special time for most people, and that is no different here at the Sanctuary. Not only do we like to make things special for our Girls, but our traditions are also for the sake of caregivers, whose duties mean they will be spending their holiday with their Sanctuary family. No matter what religious affiliations we have, there is a general cheery feeling all around this time of year which seems to be contagious.

The keeper areas are festively decorated with snowflakes, icicles, and muted lights, lending to the spirit of giving that the holidays embody—and of course, that carries over to the Girls. One of the favorite holiday traditions is giving the Girls Christmas trees.

It usually starts with caregiver discussions on how to string things together in a manner that's not only edible, but is something the girls should be eating. The pine trees come from our property on land the previous owners clearcut, then replanted on top of each other. So we select pines that are growing too close together and cut those.

On Christmas morning in Asia, after the barn is finished being pressure washed, the trees are set up, and everyone at the barn participates in the decorating. With corn "stars" and the stringy material in their husks used as tinsel, they start to quickly take shape. Fruit and vegetable ornaments, small blobs of peanut butter with Cheerios squished into them and strings of grapes appear with edible toys underneath; the trees are decorated with detail and love and end up being picture perfect—at least in the eyes of an elephant!

All of the Girls go about eating their gifts differently. Sissy will excitedly knock her tree straight to the floor and pick it apart, Tarra patiently picks off ornaments one at a time—although if she can reach Shirley's, she'll try to help 'un-trim' her tree, too. Last year, Dulary went for her "toys" first and then traded Misty's toy for her tree when Misty seemed willing, then they switched off about halfway through. Throughout the night, the Girls returned to their unfinished trees, getting off every bit of peanut butter, then nibbling on the tree itself.

Q-Barn caregivers did similar things: lots of oranges, apples and melons were sliced into flat circles, then holes were cut into the centers.

Bins filled with Cheerios were gathered, as well as that ever-versatile ingredient—peanut butter, and they, along with the trees, were scurried into the stalls. Once the trees were upright, they smeared the peanut butter on the lower areas of the tree trunk and branches. Fistfuls



of Cheerios were then plastered on the peanut butter, followed, of course, by fruit rings—top and bottom. The end result was a team of very messy, but very pleased caregivers and seven beautifully decorated pine trees. With cameras in hand (like proud parents on Christmas morning) caregivers waited with anticipation for the Girls to return.

Minnie, Lottie, Debbie and Ronnie are generally not as excitable when they come into the barn, but Billie, Frieda and Liz are more apt to express themselves. So we had a multitude of mixed reactions from the Divas. It wasn't long before each tree was knocked over by exuberant trunk explorations. Cheerios were sucked off and fruit rings were quickly consumed. Once the trees were picked clean of their ornaments, the Girls went about consuming the rest. All the caregivers' elf workshop efforts were gone within a couple of minutes, but the elephants were so enjoying themselves, it was worth every minute.

Celebrating the holidays in Africa typically involves caregivers bringing in all types of special treats for the Girls. A variety of fruits, seeds, vegetables and whatever remaining plants from the habitat that are still edible in winter are gathered, and caregivers like to decorate their stalls. Sometimes they just randomly offer these goodies to the Girls in between doing daily chores. Tange and Flora really enjoy these interactions—it almost seems as though they wait patiently and wonder what surprise they will get today. Flora usually eats very slowly, savoring each little flavor, but Tange likes to throw it all in her mouth at once for a burst of all the flavors.

Every holiday, it's nice to be able to do a little something extra for the Girls here at the Sanctuary, but the nicest part is just the warm, giving feeling that surrounds the entire season.

# A Message from one of our Corporate Sponsors

B&G Continues to Find Value in Partnership with The Elephant Sanctuary

Birthed from a simple volunteer letter to B&G President and Chief Executive Officer David Wenner in 2007, we at B&G have been a proud corporate sponsor of The Elephant Sanctuary. At B&G Foods, we take pride in manufacturing great tasting and nutritious food products that all can enjoy, and as a proud sponsor of The Elephant Sanctuary we have extended this philosophy to include some of the world's most majestic creatures, elephants.

What started as a commitment of a year's supply of our Grandma's Molasses has naturally extended for the past three years. In addition to being added to the elephants' oats and barley, our Grandma's Molasses' sweetened flavor has helped conceal the taste of crucial supplements, so that Sanctuary elephants are able to receive the essential iron and calcium needed to stay healthy. For senior elephants, the molasses mixed with glucosamine condroiton has helped keep their joints flexible and active as they move about the Sanctuary's vast habitat. While reflecting on the difficult times most of the elephants endured for many years prior to moving to the Sanctuary, we find our ability to help enrich their lives truly rewarding.

On occasion people may inquire as to why we continue to partner with The Elephant Sanctuary and our answer is simple: we help support The Elephant Sanctuary because we believe in giving back and we continue to be amazed by the Sanctuary's commitment to aid these regal, deserving animals. We are pleased that the elephants enjoy the taste and are delighted to see that our product appeals to ALL of us that inhabit the earth. We are delighted to be of value to such a wonderful organization and applaud their dedication for the past fifteen years.



### Caregiver 'Chefs'

We sometimes wonder if our caregivers could qualify as "Iron Chefs" when they skillfully create and mix the special diets for the Girls each day. Getting the elephants to take their special meds or supplements usually means disguising it with something they really love, like molasses or peanut butter.



Adding Grandma's Molasses to the Girls' grain and other specialized supplements.



Strong arms make great hand mixers!



A special peanut butter creation for Winkie contains Vitamin E, Cosequin and Schisandra berry.



Apples for Shirley are carved out and stuffed with Vitamin E, Cosequin and CoQ10.



Grain mixes and produce favorites are loaded on the 4-wheeler for special delivery.



Ready to go!



In the habitat, Tarra's molasses-sweetened grain is placed on top of her hay, with fruit and veggies on the side.

### 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 on a one-time basis or once a month for as long as you specify.

The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee is a non-profit 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 and Trunklines.

### **Membership**

Choose your level and become part of the nation's largest 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/Studen

### Feed for a Day

Tarra, Shirley, Sissy, Winkie, Tange, Flora, Misty, Billie, Debbie, Frieda, Liz, Lottie, Minnie, Ronnie and Dulary 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" donor

receives an acknowledgement of their gift and a copy of the bio of the elephant(s) you fed.

You can contribute in as many ways as you'd like; in your own name or in honor 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) = \$

Name of Elephant \_\_\_\_\_

### **Education Gallery**

These donor levels offer an opportunity to become a founding supporter of the Elephant Sanctuary's "Paving The Way" campaign for the Education Gallery and Welcome Center.

### **Paving The Way Campaign**

 Platinum Circle* (\$25,000+)
 Gold Circle* (\$10,000 - \$24,999)
 Silver Circle (\$5,000 - \$9,999)
 Bronze Circle (\$2,500 - \$4,999)
 Founders Circle (\$500 - \$2,499)
 Members Circle (\$50 - \$499)
Friends (\$10 - \$49)

### Sponsor a Sidewalk Paver

Visit our web site to sponsor a sidewalk paver, engraved with your name or other designated message, that will soon line the walkways entering the Education Gallery. For more information,



contact us at elephant@elephants.com \*Platinum and Gold Circle donors will receive special nameplate recognition on a designated wall.

### ise

*Use the order form envelope inside this newsletter or* shop online at: www.elephants.com/estore

<b>Elephant Sanctuary Mercha</b>	nd
Sanctuary Clothing  Tan T-Shirt with Green Logo - \$15.00  Adult   (M)   (L)   (XL) Youth   (L)   (XXL) \$17   (XXXL) \$17   Blue T-Shirt with White Logo on Chest - \$15.00  Adult   (S)   (M)   (L)   (XL)   (XXL) \$17	Zi (La the mu the pre Gr.
CLEARANCE SALE:	L
While supplies last!	(L
All Commemorative           T-Shirts \$10.00 \$5.00           Logo, website address, elephant's name and the date she came to The Elephant Sanctuary printed in green. XXL sizes are \$12.00 \$6.00.         Ronnie & Debbie           Barbara         Adult   (M)   (L)   (XL)   (XXL) \$9         Youth   (L)           Jenny         Adult   (M)   (L)   (XL)   (XXL) \$9         Youth   (L)           Shirley         Adult   (M)   (L)   (XL)   (XXL) \$9         Youth   (L)           Bunny         Adult   (M)   (L)   (XL)   (XXL) \$9         Youth   (L)           Sissy         Adult   (M)   (L)   (XL)   (XXL) \$9         Youth   (L)           Winkie         Adult   (M)   (L)   (XL)   (XXL) \$9         Youth   (L)           Delhi         Adult   (M)   (L)   (XL)   (XXL) \$9         Youth   (L)           Zula         Adult   (M)   (L)   (XL)   (XXL) \$9         Youth   (L)           Flora         Adult   (M)   (L)   (XL)   (XXL) \$9         Youth   (L)           Misty         Adult   (M)   (L)   (XL)   (XXL) \$9         Youth   (L)	a w
Lota Adult □ (M) □ (L) □ (XL) □ (XXL) \$9 Youth □ (L)	d
Ron & Deb       Adult □ (M) □ (L) □ (XL) □ (XXL) \$9       Youth □ (L)         Dulary       Adult □ (M) □ (L) □ (XL) □ (XXL) \$9       Youth □ (L)	
The C	eeds efit
Tarra & Bella T-Shirt (4-color) \$19.00  Women's adult & youth sizes in green, toddler sizes and XXXL in royal blue  Adult (S) (M) (L) (XL) (XXL) (XXXL-Royal Blue)  Youth (YXS) (YS) (YM) (YL)  Toddler (2T) (3T) (4T)  Long Sleeve Organic  Brown T-Shirt \$20.00  This long sleeve tee is 100% certified organic preshrunk cotton. Logo is imprinted on the chest in	To
gold. Made by Anvil Örganic. Unisex sizes.(XXL \$20)  Adult □ (S) □ (M) □ (L) □ (XL)  □ Adult (XXL) \$22	
Flora T-Shirt (4-color) \$19.00 Womens adult sizes in green, youth & toddler sizes in blue Adult \( \) (S) \( \) (M) \( \) (L) \( \) (XL \( \) (XXL) Youth \( \) (YXS) \( \) (YS) \( \) (YM) \( \) (YL) Toddler \( \) (2T) \( \) (3T) \( \) (4T)	

### ippered Hoodie Sweatshirts - \$40.00 arger sizes \$42 where noted) Stay warm in ese new hoodies by Port & Company with a ılti-colored Sanctuary logo embroidered on chest. Two-ply hood. Set-in sleeve. 9 oz. 50/50 shrunk cotton/poly fleece. ay w/Color Logo **Adult** □ (S) □ (M) □ (L) □ (XL) ☐ (XXL) \$42 ☐ (XXXL) \$42 yal Blue w/Color Logo Ádult □ (S) □ (M) □ (L) □ (XL) □ (XXL) \$42 □ (XXXL) \$42

### .ogo Sweatshirts - \$20.00

Larger sizes \$22 where noted) Super-comfortible Sanctuary sweatshirts from Gildan Activevear in Heavy Weight Blend 50/50.

Green w/White Logo **Adult** ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) (XXL) \$22 (XXXL) \$22 Grey w/Blue Logo **Adult** □ (S) □ (M) □ (L) □ (XL) (XXL) \$22 (XXXL) \$22 Youth  $\square$  (S)  $\square$  (M)



### Baseball Cap \$15.00

Comfortable, casual and adjustible 50/50 cotton/poly blend with Sanctuary logo embroidered on the front and website on the back. Two colors available.





Denim Bill

Green Bill



### ote Bags

Sanctuary Logo Tote Bags - \$10.00 Beige with blue lettering or beige with green lettering. Tarra & Bella Tote Bag - \$15.00 Beige with 4-color imprint (not pictured) Commemorative "Jenny" Tote Bag - \$24.00 Beige with 4-color imprint

Lots of other merchandise available. Please visit our Gift Shop online at www.elephants.com/estore

Follow the links on our website to order Elephant Sanctuary US Postage Stamps and "Ele-Checks." A portion of proceeds benefits the Sanctuary!





### **Elephant Sanctuary Merchandise**

Use the order form envelope inside this newsletter or shop online at: www.elephants.com/estore

### **DVD Videos**







"All of Our GirlsSo Far"
"Tarra & Bella - The Video"
"Flora"
"Dulary's Homecoming"
"Our Girls: The Early Years"
"Tina's Memorial Video"
"The Urban Elephant"
•

# \$30.00 \( \bigcirc \text{(DVD)} \)

\$15.00 (DVD) \$15.00 (DVD)

\$15.00 \( \bigcup \) (DVD)

### \$15.00 \( \bigcirc \text{(DVD)} \) \$15.00 \( \subseteq \text{(DVD)} \$30.00 \(\sigma\) (DVD)

### **Greeting Cards**

### **Elephant Note Cards - \$10.00** Blank inside; ideal for any occasion! Featuring Illustrations of Queenie, Tarra & Dulary, Debbie and Frieda; Mixed pack of 12 w/envelopes.





### Children's Elephant Art Cards Illustrations by Lewis County grade school students

☐ Mixed pack of 12 w/envelopes: Blank inside \$12.00

### **Elephant Sanctuary** Mouse Pads \$10.00

- ☐ Tarra & Bella Founding Herd
- ☐ Billie-Sue, Frieda & Liz







Color Mugs \$15.00

■ Ned ■ Dulary ■ Tarra & Bella

### **Stocking Sutffers!**

### **Elephant Sanctuary Eco-Friendly Turbine Key-Ring Light - \$8.00**

Ultra-bright, two LED keychain fits in the palm of your hand. Batteries never need replacing. A convenient crank makes for safety-conscious and eco-friendly use!



### Vehicle License Plate

☐ \$20.00



☐ Measures 4" x 4"--here's your chance to take Flora with you everywhere you go!



### 15th Anniversary Eco-Friendly **Travel Mug - \$20.00**

The Elephant Sanctuary 15th Anniversary logo imprinted on the side in black. Limited quantities available.

### Shop now for the holidays!



### **Shirley Optical Crystal** Ornament. \$40.00

First in the series! This oval shaped optical crystal ornament will sparkle on your tree. Shirley's photo is digitally etched inside; two dimensional. Gift box included. High grade glass contains no lead. Size: 3-3/4" x 2-5/8" x 3/16"

### 15th Anniversary Puzzle - \$25.00

Our first-ever, limited edition, 200-piece puzzle measures 11" X 16" and commemorates all 24 of our elephants! Fun to assemble and ideal for ages 8 and up. Comes in a beautiful keepsake tin for storage. Makes a perfect gift.



### COMING SOON

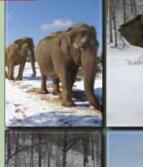
- 2011 Elephant Sanctuary Calendar
- Shirley Tote Bag

Available for order on our website in November!

### **Elephant Photo Holiday Cards**

Pack of 12 w/envelopes Inside message "Peace on Earth, Sanctuary To All"

### **NEW!**











Version 5 Tarra & Bella \$20.00

Inside message : "Peace to All Creatures Great and Small"

Version 4 \$15.00 The Divas



## Heartbreaking News at Press Time: Our Lottie Has Passed Away



Just as we were going to press with this edition of *Trunklines*, our dear Lottie passed away.

Caregivers looked for her out in the habitat during morning feed on October 10 and discovered her under a tree. She appeared to have passed away earlier, in a manner that was very sudden. There were

no signs of struggle, nor had she been in ailing health. Her passing has come as a shock to us all and we hope a necropsy will give us some answers. For now, we are all finding a little solace in the final expression on Lottie's face—there was a peace beyond words.

So far, Minnie appears to be handling the loss of her best friend well. She has been passive and calm, continues to eat well and has been socializing with Debbie and Ronnie. We will continue to monitor her closely and will be there for her in every way we can. For updates on this developing story, please go to our website.

Lottie's grace and presence will be missed by all. We love you Lottie and miss your beautiful eyes already. Namaste.

Please visit our website: www.elephants.com

501 (C) (3) Nonprofit Organization

# For news between *Trunklines* issues, follow us on the 'net!

eTrunklines: monthly email newsletter; sign up on our website or email cathy@elephants.com



"The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee"



"ELEPHANTSdotCOM"



Please visit our website:

www.elephants.com

To improve the lives of captive elephants, please contact your legislators.



### Sanctuary Much

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