

# TRUNK LINES

SUMMER 2020

 **THE ELEPHANT  
SANCTUARY**  
IN TENNESSEE™



DEBBIE & RONNIE

## Inside The Sanctuary

This year, 2020, has turned into a truly unprecedented year the world over. As The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee celebrates its 25th anniversary of providing home and herd, we reflect on the many lessons of resilience and triumph in the face of adversity that we have learned from the elephants we care for.

Asian elephant Shirley turned 72 on July 6. She has now outlived the average lifespan of captive elephants by decades and continues to hold the record for the third oldest elephant in North America. African elephant Nosey already actively and enthusiastically participates in her own healthcare under Protected Contact (PC) management, a style of management she was introduced to only a short time ago upon arrival at The Sanctuary. And Asian elephant Billie, often thought of as a loner and now in her 14th year at The Sanctuary, continues to grow in confidence with her herdmates, choosing to spend more time exploring the habitat alongside The Sanctuary's "social butterfly," Ronnie.

Shirley, Nosey, Billie, and all of the elephants in our care have taught us that despite the odds stacked against us, there is always possibility for renewal and transformation.

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Updates on all the elephants living at The Elephant Sanctuary are included in this summer issue of *Trunklines*.



Observe the elephants via  
The Sanctuary's live-streaming  
EleCams at [elephants.com](http://elephants.com).



The Elephant Sanctuary is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, licensed by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, and certified by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

**Financial statements are available for review at [elephants.com](http://elephants.com).**

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#### OUR MISSION

Founded in 1995, The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee is the nation's largest natural-habitat refuge developed specifically around the needs of Asian and African elephants retired from performance and exhibition. It operates on 2,700 acres in Hohenwald, Tenn. – 85 miles southwest of Nashville.

#### With Your Support, The Elephant Sanctuary:

- Provides captive elephants with individualized care, the companionship of a herd, and the opportunity to live out their lives in a safe haven dedicated to their wellbeing;
- Raises public awareness of the complex needs of elephants in captivity, and the crisis facing elephants in the wild.

**As an accredited sanctuary, the habitat where the elephants live is not open to the public.**

To learn more about The Elephant Sanctuary and its resident elephants, connect with us online at [elephants.com](http://elephants.com)

## LETTER FROM OUR CEO

### Dear Friends,

Now halfway through 2020, The Sanctuary's 25th anniversary year, we recognize that it has truly turned into a year unlike any other. I am happy to report that the pandemic has had very little impact on the elephants and their day-to-day lives. They continue to spend their days traversing expansive areas of The Sanctuary, wading in the ponds and lake, rolling in mud, finding shade in the bountiful woods, munching on summer green grasses, and napping among the bright yellow wildflowers of late June. The Sanctuary's Staff have adapted to wearing masks and social distancing in the offices and barns to ensure health and safety for all. We have staggered schedules to make the most of cooler mornings for the heavy work and to coincide more closely to the elephants' expanded daylight hours.

While Elephant Care and Facilities Staff work to meet the elephants' needs and maintain trails, fence lines, and habitat infrastructure, COVID-19 has changed many of our public plans and programs. The 25th anniversary celebration slated for 2020 is postponed, our newly opened Elephant Discovery Center has been closed to visitors, and monthly Volunteer Days are rescheduled.

In 2019, The Sanctuary reached more than 14,000 students via Distance Learning. This year, with school closings and the additional challenges to teachers to provide educational programs outside the classroom, The Sanctuary's Education and Outreach Staff made changes and expanded their webinar educational series. We have pivoted the programs to meet new requests from families at home together, student clubs, corporate offices, and others seeking to learn more about elephants. Staff have already provided programming in 2020 to more than 8,000 people in 44 states and 11 countries. A special virtual World Elephant Day event is in the works for August.

We hope you enjoy this 25th-anniversary summer issue of *Trunklines*, in which we remember and celebrate each of the 28 elephants that have found safe haven at The Sanctuary. Special recognition is given to Dr. Steven Scott for his 25 years of dedicated work. You will also find updates from our daily activities. In our 25 years of providing sanctuary, we have learned strength and resilience from the elephants. It is this experience that guides us as we move through these difficult times. Thank you for partnering with us! We are deeply grateful because you are making sanctuary possible for all the elephants here and those to come.

Sincerely,

  
Janice Zeitlin, CEO



**Become a Member — Help Change the Lives of Elephants!**



NOSEY





NOSEY

## » Nosey Updates

Nosey has spent the spring and summer exploring parts of her habitat new to her, including wooded areas and a pond. Caregivers say that Nosey can be hard to spot as she ventures deep into the woods, until she flaps an ear or flicks her trunk as she eats. She has been observed periscoping — sniffing the air with her trunk up — and rumbling contentedly as she traverses the habitat. Caregivers often stand by and listen to the sounds of lush grasses being ripped from the ground and the crackling of tree branches as Nosey dines. Care Staff have been rotating Nosey through different habitat yards to introduce her to the many types of grasses available in her Middle Tennessee home. She eagerly eats the variety available to her!

As the weather warms in Tennessee, Caregivers offer the elephants both garden hose and fire hose baths. With a relatively cool start to summer, Nosey has not yet shown interest in a fire hose bath, but she has been accepting garden hose baths and long drinks of water from the hose.

When Nosey chooses to spend time near the barn, she often behaves playfully, running back and forth and spinning in circles through the barn's rubber flaps, which are used to keep the warm or cool air inside the barn, depending on the season. She also interacts often with scratching enrichment, like the large street roller brush, which she uses to scratch her head and behind her ears.

Nosey continues to express eagerness to learn while participating in her own healthcare. Care and Veterinary Staff have been working with Nosey on presentation of her legs for radiograph images and evaluations of her joints. She appears to trust the process and happily accepts food rewards as positive reinforcement.

“As her physical strength has grown, so has her understanding that she can exercise control over her own schedule and life. She eagerly embraces Protected Contact training and willingly participates in all aspects of her care, but also knows she can choose to walk away, take a swim, or a nap, strip some bark or knock over a tree.”

— Dr. Lydia Young, Veterinarian

NOSEY







TANGE & SUKARI

## » Africa Habitat & Barn

With the warm summer temperatures, the African elephants have been roaming deep into Africa Habitat both day and night. Flora, Sukari, and Tange are lively and active travelers, and most mornings, they are rarely found near the barn. Early morning diets are delivered along the fence line, where Care Staff can do a visual check of each elephant to ensure all is well. Flora is often found along a path into the East Valley recently cleared by The Sanctuary's Facilities Team, where she has kept busy knocking over pine trees and then foraging for a leafy snack amongst the branches of the downed trees. Sukari generally tags along on any adventure Tange chooses to take, "following the leader" as she sticks close to Tange's side while the pair explore. Oftentimes, Sukari patiently waits for Tange to take down a tree for the two of them and then helps herself to the leaves.

The elephants have been interacting with large culverts that Care Staff place in different locations throughout the habitat. Flora has been play-sparring with them, and all of the elephants push them around, sometimes deep into the forest! One of the culverts was pushed so far into the woods that an ATV was required to move it back into place. Caregivers enjoy seeing where the culverts end up as the elephants play.

SUKARI







On several occasions, while in the depths of East Habitat, Flora has come within eyesight of Asian elephants Debbie, Minnie, and Ronnie across the 75-foot buffer between Africa and Q Habitats. At The Sanctuary, African and Asian elephants do not share space, but they do have visual, auditory, and olfactory social opportunities across the buffer at various spots within the habitats. Flora and Minnie spent two days grazing and eating their dinners near one another at the buffer area. It is always an exciting moment for Care Staff to see the African and Asian elephants experiencing each other's presence!

In an effort to reduce food waste, global food distribution company Sysco delivered 28 pallets of un-purchased, restaurant-grade produce to feed The Sanctuary's elephants. With restaurants closed around the country in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, Sysco experienced a decrease in demand, and after food pantries and shelters across Tennessee took what they could, The Sanctuary was contacted. Flora, Sukari, and Tange seemed to favor the "greens"—in particular the butter lettuce. After produce was distributed between the three barns, The Sanctuary offered what was remaining to the city of Hohenwald. Following CDC safety guidelines, Lewis County Mayor Jonah Keltner coordinated distribution to local residents at the county courthouse!

The Sanctuary's Browse Committee has also been hard at work in the community, traveling around town to collect trees and other browse from residents. They helped several elderly neighbors remove branches from their yards, and while the residents are grateful for the good deed, The Sanctuary is equally appreciative to have this wide variety of browse to feed the elephants (especially for Bradford pear, which the African elephants seem to love). We are proud to be a part of our local community in Hohenwald.



FLORA



TANGE



Q ELEPHANTS RONNIE & DEBBIE SEE FLORA ACROSS 75-FOOT BUFFER





RONNIE

## » Q Habitat & Barn

At The Sanctuary, we have witnessed each elephant's amazing capacity for transformation when provided a safe and nurturing environment dedicated to her well-being. We rejoice in each moment of growth, and this spring, Billie exhibited bravery worthy of celebration. Billie, known to be fearful of new situations, and Ronnie, the "social butterfly" of the Q herd, spent time together for the first time in months. These planned social interactions are referred to by Staff as "playdates" and allow them to observe how the elephants interact and bond as a herd. As Ronnie entered Pond Yard, where Billie was grazing, Billie squeaked and looked towards her. Ronnie approached and reached her trunk out to touch Billie's tail and back. In the past, Billie has been fearful of such interactions, but she stood still and patient.

That night, Ronnie reunited with Minnie while Billie chose to spend the entire night traveling through Pond Yard. The following morning, Staff opened the gate to a section of Q Habitat known as the "40"— an area Billie does not often explore. She slowly made her way to the gate, dining on hay and bamboo along the way. To encourage her to continue her explorations throughout the 40, Staff scattered watermelon in the habitat. Billie grazed in the large grassy field and crossed the creek to see what was on the other side too. She eventually walked to the fence line where Minnie and Ronnie were standing on the other side.



DEBBIE





Minnie reached through the fence toward Billie with her trunk, and both elephants interactive positively, to Caregivers' delight. In the past, Minnie has displayed dominant behavior toward Billie. Although Billie had acres to roam, she chose to stand next to the fence near Minnie and Ronnie.

Since then, Billie and Ronnie have regular planned time together, during which they graze and explore close by one another. Caregivers are thrilled to see Billie becoming more adventurous and confident with Ronnie nearby and look forward to seeing future interactions between Billie and all of her habitat-mates.

Debbie has been cooling off from the Tennessee summer heat by swimming in the pond. After a recent storm, a large tree fell into the pond. Several days later, Caregivers discovered Debbie in the pond, grabbing branches from the tree, pushing them underwater while trumpeting and squeaking. She kicked at one branch with her back feet, turned around in circles, and then rushed at another branch to push it around too. She has also been known to use fallen tree branches as scratching posts, climbing all over the branches to scratch every inch of her body!

All of the Q elephants have been spending summer outside and away from the barns. When Caregivers arrive in the morning, they are usually still out in the habitats after a night of exploring. As soon as they hear their names being called for breakfast, they make their way over to find fresh piles of hay. Staff have also been scattering donated lettuce throughout the habitat, and the elephants search all over for this delicious treat before grazing on the abundant summer grasses.

The Sanctuary's Facilities Team made several improvements to Q Habitat this spring and summer. First, they installed a new water pump that carries fresh water to the uppermost part of the habitat. Caregivers previously had to manually fill buckets and drive them to each of the elephants' drinking troughs throughout the habitat. The water pump is especially helpful in the summer, when the elephants are spending more time in the far reaches of the habitat. Secondly, the Facilities Team dug a new mud wallow in the 40, which was the only area of the habitat that did not have a permanent water source when the creek occasionally runs dry. This new wallow will provide relief for the elephants in the thick of summer, as they can use the water to cool down from the sun and the mud to cover their skin to protect from insects. We are thankful to have such a dedicated and innovative Facilities Team to benefit both Care Staff and elephants!



MINNIE



DEBBIE & RONNIE



BILLIE





SISSY

## » Asia Habitat & Barn

In early April, Shirley made her first journey of the year from the barn to The Sanctuary's 25-acre lake, over a mile away. To make the trip easier on her joints and sensitive feet, Caregivers prepared the trail by covering the rockier sections with a bed of soft wheat straw. Despite health issues common to aging captive elephants, such as arthritis and diminished eyesight, at 72, Shirley remains very active.

"Shirley begins her explorations early in the morning while the dew is still on the grass," said Asia Barn Lead, Kaitlin S.

Shirley has now lived at The Elephant Sanctuary for 21 years.

July 6, 2020 marked Shirley's 72nd birthday. Born in Sumatra in 1948, Shirley was captured from the wild and sold to a traveling circus, entertaining audiences for more than 20 years. In 1974, she suffered a broken leg during an altercation with another elephant. As a result of her injury, in 1977, she was transferred to The Louisiana Purchase Zoo and Gardens where she was the sole elephant resident for 22 years. As Shirley aged, the zoo staff came to the decision that she needed more space and the companionship of other elephants and sought out retirement options. In 1999, Shirley made the journey to Tennessee, becoming The Sanctuary's fourth elephant resident.







Tarra has been on the move all summer, exploring the entirety of Asia Habitat while regularly checking in on Sissy and Shirley. One recent afternoon, Caregivers were offering foot care to Sissy, who had her foot presented in the foot hole of the Protected Contact training corral. Tarra walked over and put her trunk through the foot hole as well, and then both elephants reached out their trunks for treats.

Sissy spends a lot of time in the 2nd Pipeline area of Asia Habitat, so Care Staff have been encouraging her to explore other parts of the habitat. One early morning, Care Staff excitedly discovered Sissy had traveled farther from the barn and a short distance from the lake. Everyone was eager to see her go down to the lake, but Sissy had her own plans. She traveled throughout the day, stopping for fresh grasses in Marcella's Field and later met up with Shirley at North Trough. Just a week later, Sissy made the journey all the way to the lake for the first time this season! Caregivers looked on with delight as she went to the shoreline and took a quick bath.



SISSY



SHIRLEY



SHIRLEY & TARRA



SISSY



# celebrating 25 YEARS OF Sanctuary Stories



Founded in 1995 in Hohenwald, Tennessee, The Sanctuary has offered home and herd to 28 elephants in the past quarter century on a sprawling 2,700 acres of pastureland, rolling hills, and wooded valleys interwoven with freshwater streams, ponds, and a 25-acre lake.



## **TARRA** 1974 – | RETIRED: 1995

"Tarra is such a smart, curious, and adventurous elephant! It is always a pleasure to watch her daily interactions, whether it's being affectionate with Shirley and Sissy, or simply exploring in her environment!"

– Asia Barn Caregiver, Sarah F.



## **BARBARA** 1966 – 2001 | RETIRED: 1996

"She was quiet and kind. She mothered the other, younger elephants even though she never had a calf of her own."

– Lead Veterinarian, Dr. Steven Scott



## **JENNY** 1972 – 2006 | RETIRED: 1996

"Jenny really came alive when Shirley arrived! I'll always be glad that the two of them found each other again, and for those good years they had together."

– Lead Veterinarian, Dr. Steven Scott



## **SHIRLEY** 1948 – | RETIRED: 1999

"Shirley teaches everyone who cares for her patience and resilience. She lives her life with such an independent, trusting, and loving nature. She will always be in the softest part of my heart!"

– Asia Barn Caregiver, Sarah F.



## **BUNNY** 1952 – 2009 | RETIRED: 1999

"Bunny was adventurous and full of life from her first day in Sanctuary. She loved making new friends and exploring. She was a real trailblazer."

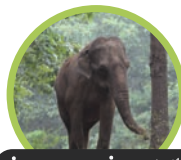
– Lead Veterinarian, Dr. Steven Scott



## **SISSY** 1968 – | RETIRED: 2000

"Sissy shows such perseverance and bravery each day. You can see her face change as she sets her sights on something she wants and decides to conquer it."

– Asia Barn Lead, Kaitlin S.



## **WINKIE** 1966 – 2017 | RETIRED: 2000

"Winkie absolutely adored her best friend Sissy. When Sissy would nap, Winkie would always stand nearby keeping watch."

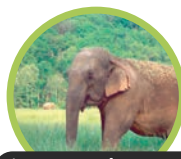
– Asia Barn Lead, Kaitlin S



## **TINA** 1970 – 2004 | RETIRED: 2003

"Tina was a big girl with a personality to match. She was playful and a little mischievous. She embraced life in Sanctuary every single day."

– Lead Veterinarian, Dr. Steven Scott



## **DELHI** 1946 – 2008 | RETIRED: 2003

"She arrived at The Sanctuary with chemical burns on both front feet, but she knew we were here to help. Once she was strong enough to be reunited with Misty, the two of them were never apart again."

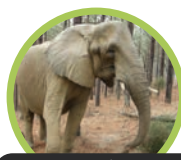
– Lead Veterinarian, Dr. Steven Scott



## **TANGE** 1973 – | RETIRED: 2004

"She takes full advantage of her habitat space, constantly roaming in the valleys and climbing the hills. She is playful with her herdmates but also the peacemaker."

– Africa Barn Lead, Kristy E.



## **ZULA** 1975 – 2009 | RETIRED: 2004

"Zula was always very full of energy and life. She and Tange were inseparable...I remember them trumpeting and spinning, being so silly and playful."

– Elephant Care Manager, Kelly M.



## **FLORA** 1982 – | RETIRED: 2004

"My favorite quality about Flora is her fearlessness. She approaches life head on and faces every new experience with determination and fire."

– Africa Barn Caregiver, Jessica B.



## **LOTA** 1951 – 2005 | RETIRED: 2004

"We'll never know what she went through before, but when she arrived at The Sanctuary, she was exhausted. She ate and slept and rested like she hadn't in years. I'll always be glad that she was able to spend her last months with us."

– Lead Veterinarian, Dr. Steven Scott



## **MISTY** 1963 – 2016 | RETIRED: 2004

"My greatest memory of Misty was seeing her swim in the 25-acre lake in Asia Habitat for the first time. She became the ultimate explorer after that."

– Africa Barn Lead, Kristy E.





in memoriam

**LOTTIE 1963 – 2016 | RETIRED: 2006**

"She was a wise lady who looked over her two closest friends, Queenie and Minnie, and was so gentle with her Caregivers."

– Elephant Care Manager, Kelly M.



**MINNIE 1966 – | RETIRED: 2006**

"Unlike the other Q elephants, it isn't often that we see Minnie act playfully. When she does, it is quite the sight, and Caregivers stop what they're doing to watch. It's always a joy to see that side of her come out."

– Q Barn Caregiver, Nicole W.

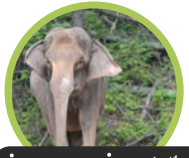


in memoriam

**QUEENIE 1959 – 2008 | RETIRED: 2006**

"Queenie was a very independent elephant. She didn't look towards her Caregivers for social fulfillment — she only needed her herdmates for that, Lottie and Minnie."

– Elephant Care Manager, Kelly M.



in memoriam

**LIZ 1957 – 2015 | RETIRED: 2006**

"Liz was very social and willing to be friends with any elephant that came her way. Although she had trunk paralysis, she was always able to get a drink of water, eat, dust, bathe, and even scratch those hard-to-reach places."

– Elephant Care Manager, Kelly M.



**DEBBIE 1971 – | RETIRED: 2006**

"Debbie embodies a lifestyle I would imagine the most ideal Sanctuary life to encompass: Napping in the sunshine and grazing all day."

– Q Barn Lead, Brandi R.



**RONNIE 1966 – | RETIRED: 2006**

"Imagine what your best friend would look like in elephant form, and that's Ronnie. She's a kind-hearted soul — if another elephant is anxious, she'll extend her trunk out to comfort them."

– Q Barn Lead, Brandi R.



**BILLIE 1962 – | RETIRED: 2006**

"Despite the hardships she endured before arriving at The Sanctuary, she has since adapted comfortably. In the five years I've known her, I've seen her grow a little every day, learning new skills and gaining many elephant friends."

– Q Barn Lead, Brandi R.



in memoriam

**FRIEDA 1966 – 2015 | RETIRED: 2006**

"Frieda was a strong elephant. She pushed through foot disease and arthritis to still enjoy the depths of the habitats and explore with her herdmates, Liz and Billie, who often looked to her for guidance."

– Elephant Care Manager, Kelly M.



in memoriam

**DULARY 1963 – 2013 | RETIRED: 2007**

"Dulary was the most gentle elephant. I loved watching her stand guard while Misty napped, and if she got an itch, instead of using her trunk, she would squat down a little and use Misty as her personal scratching post."

– Q Barn Caregiver, Nicole W.



in memoriam

**NED 1987 – 2009 | RETIRED: 2008**

"He really came out of his shell during his short time in Sanctuary. It made me happy to know that in the end, he got good treatment for his pain, and was free to graze and explore."

– Lead Veterinarian, Dr. Steven Scott



in memoriam

**HADARI 1980 – 2017 | RETIRED: 2015**

"Hadari found her place at The Sanctuary and really blossomed. She loved the mud and was almost always found in one of the wallows."

– Africa Barn Lead, Kristy E.



**SUKARI 1984 – | RETIRED: 2015**

"It has been incredible to watch Sukari's transformation since her arrival. She has gained massive amounts of confidence with her ability to traverse through the habitats with her herdmates and on her own."

– Africa Caregiver, Scott B.



in memoriam

**ROSIE 1969 – 2016 | RETIRED: 2015**

"We only had a year with her, but Rosie changed the way I work with elephants. She taught me so much and was the truest definition of a Sanctuary elephant. I'll never forget the day she figured out she had a choice and utilized it."

– Africa Barn Lead, Kristy E.



**NOSEY 1982 – | RETIRED: 2017**

"Watching Nosey slowly blossom at The Sanctuary, healing, building strength, confidence, and trust has been one of the greatest delights of my life. Nosey demonstrates a deep appreciation for the little things — picking up individual pine needles, walking through the forest while gently touching trees and branches, and savoring each trunkful of grass."

– Veterinarian, Dr. Lydia Young



**BELLA**

For eight years, Tarra and her loyal canine companion Bella were inseparable, exploring The Sanctuary side-by-side. CBS News aired a story on the pair's unique friendship in 2009 and the story went viral on YouTube. Bella passed away in 2011 but remains an important member of The Sanctuary family.

Thank you for being a part of our herd and joining us as we celebrate 25 years. We look forward to many more!





## » Have You Herd?

### Education Through Distance Learning

Following the guidance of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) amid the COVID-19 pandemic, community and group activities at The Elephant Discovery Center were suspended in mid-March.

During this time of social distancing, The Sanctuary's Education Team amplified online and virtual learning opportunities to better meet the needs of students and adults spending more time at home.

"We knew there were a lot of parents out there navigating the idea of homeschooling for the first time, and we wanted to be a resource for those families," said Joy Owens, Education Manager. "The Education Team decided to make our virtual field trips available to individuals and families, regardless of the group size."

The response was overwhelming. Well over 150 Sanctuary supporters reached out to schedule a call with The Sanctuary's educators. Thus far in 2020, our Education Team has already provided programming to more than 8,000 students, parents, and teachers from India to Illinois and Canada to Colorado.

"This was a fun way to split up distance learning while at home. We normally do not engage in web-based learning activities on a regular basis because we live near Washington, D.C. and have many museums in our backyard!" said Lara C. of Virginia, who called in with her 8-year-old daughter, Abigail. "We enjoyed the interactive element and being able to ask questions in real time."

Additionally, the Education Team expanded into the webinar space to offer donors and supporters a unique program about The Sanctuary's mission, history, and elephant care. We will continue offering new programs for adults as we move forward! In all, the expanded distance learning at home model has reached over 4,000 students, families, and adults in 33 states and 5 countries since mid-March.



### EleCrafts

The Sanctuary's Education Team developed a series of EleCrafts, simple activities for all ages to bring out the artist in everyone. Full craft tutorials can be found at [elephants.com/news/elenotes/posts/elecrafts](https://elephants.com/news/elenotes/posts/elecrafts).



“We wanted to encourage families to have some fun offline in a time when so much of our life has to be online for school and work. EleCrafts can be made with items you probably already have around your home, and it's a great way to upcycle items you would normally discard,” Owens said.

If you create an EleCraft, tag us on social media so that we can see your masterpiece.



## » Dr. Scott: 25 Years of Service



PHOTO BY RAFFE LAZARIAN

The Sanctuary would like to congratulate Dr. Steven Scott, Director of Veterinary Care, who is celebrating 25 years of service to The Sanctuary in 2020. Dr. Scott, affectionately known as “Doc,” has provided veterinary care to Sanctuary elephants since our founding in 1995.

Dr. Scott’s dream of becoming a veterinarian began at a young age. He says that a local veterinarian, who tended the cattle on the Scott family farm where he grew up, was his role model. Watching this vet work and recognizing his dedication instilled a love for animals that has remained with Dr. Scott throughout his life.

After attending Freed-Hardeman University in Henderson, Tennessee, Dr. Scott enrolled in the University of Tennessee School of Veterinary Medicine, completing his studies in 1981. Dr. Scott was recently honored as the featured UT alumnus in an article written by Jennifer Sicking for the university magazine, *Tennessee Alumnus*, in May 2020.

Upon graduating, Dr. Scott and his wife, Connie, opened his first animal clinic in Hohenwald, Tennessee. A second clinic was later added to serve animals in the nearby town of Linden. The two clinics now employ four veterinarians and 16 support staff.

In the early years of his veterinary practice, Dr. Scott’s clients were dogs, cats, horses, cows, and other farm animals. In 1995, his career changed forever when a refuge for captive elephants was founded in Hohenwald. Dr. Scott was greatly surprised to receive a phone call asking him to provide care to an elephant — The Sanctuary’s founding elephant resident, Tarra. Since then, he has provided care to all 28 elephants who have found refuge at The

Sanctuary. While he hopes his knowledge and skills have benefited the elephants, he acknowledges that he has learned “a whole lot” from them, especially patience.

Dr. Scott looks forward to the opening of the Elephant Health Care Center later this year. He is thrilled to have a state-of-the-art vet lab in a centralized location for The Sanctuary’s three-person Veterinary Team to work. His goal is to utilize the lab to expand elephant medicine. “We want to share our knowledge with others and in return, learn from them.”

Though much has changed at The Sanctuary over the past 25 years, one thing remains the same: the vigilant care and gentle nature of Dr. Scott.

**“ I have the best job in the entire universe. I believe you have to carve out your own niche in this world, and that’s what I did. This is exactly where I want to be.”**

**— Dr. Steven Scott, Director of Veterinary Care**



PHOTO BY RAFFE LAZARIAN



### DID YOU KNOW?

Dawn Wells, who played Mary Ann in *Gilligan’s Island*, was The Sanctuary’s first celebrity spokesperson? In 1995, Wells spoke about The Sanctuary on local talk shows, was featured in our brochures, and once earned \$6,000 for elephants on a nationally televised quiz show.





MINNIE

## » Support An Elephant

### GIVE THE GIFT OF SANCTUARY

Donations of any amount — investments in our mission from long-standing supporters and brand new Shirley fans, alike — help equip The Elephant Sanctuary with the necessary resources to provide gold-standard care to our resident elephants and those to come. When you make a one-time donation online or by mail, you give the gift of Sanctuary and contribute to the large, sometimes unexpected expenses that come with providing refuge to aging elephants. Every dollar counts in creating the best environment for elephants here in Tennessee and improving the lives of elephants worldwide through expanded education and awareness of their needs.

**Become a Sustaining Donor for as little as \$10+ per month by setting up an automatic, recurring gift to The Sanctuary.** Your dedication to the continued care of captive elephants and the future generations hoping to share a world with elephants, makes you eligible to apply for a Volunteer Day. Sustaining Donors also receive a one-year subscription to our triannual newsletter, *Trunklines*.

If you wish to set up a bank draft instead of a monthly credit card payment, please contact Kathy at 931-796-6500 ext. 107.

### FUNDRAISE FOR ELEPHANTS

Turn your next special occasion (birthday, marathon, wedding, graduation, anniversary, or “just because!”) into a chance to raise support for The Elephant Sanctuary! When you start a peer fundraising campaign — which takes just a minute to set up online with a name, photo and brief “call to action” — you can reach your elephant-loving friends with the mission of The Sanctuary and invite them to participate in changing the lives of the elephants here in Tennessee. Visit [shop.elephants.com/create-a-fundraiser](https://shop.elephants.com/create-a-fundraiser) to get started.

### Dedicate Your Gift:

For a unique gift to celebrate special days or to express sympathy and cherished memories, consider making a donation to The Elephant Sanctuary “In Honor” or “In Memory” of a loved person or pet. Visit [shop.elephants.com](https://shop.elephants.com) to learn more.

### Other Ways To Give:

To learn more about The Sanctuary’s VIP Membership Program and Shirley’s Legacy Program, contact [lorenda@elephants.com](mailto:lorenda@elephants.com) or 931-796-6500 ext. 105.

### Wishlist:

The Sanctuary maintains an ever-changing wish list to meet the needs of the elephants in our care. Visit [shop.elephants.com/products/wishlist](https://shop.elephants.com/products/wishlist) to see an updated list of needs.

### BECOME A MEMBER

The Elephant Sanctuary provides a sprawling refuge for elephants retired from performance and exhibition — a three-habitat property where they can express natural behaviors, enjoy the companionship of other elephants, and receive a lifetime of individualized care. **Join our herd as a Member with a donation of \$50 or more and receive**

- A one-year subscription to our triannual newsletter, *Trunklines*
- A one-time 10% discount on Gift Shop apparel
- Monthly *EleNews* email updates
- Eligibility to apply for a Volunteer Day in Hohenwald

### ADOPT AN ELEPHANT

By adopting one (or more) of The Sanctuary’s 11 elephants, you become a partner in our mission to provide the gift of herd, home, rest, refuge, and individualized care for life. **Make a gift of \$50+ to Adopt An Elephant and receive**

- A Certificate of Adoption and information on your “adoptee”
- Monthly *EleNews* email updates
- Eligibility to apply for a Volunteer Day in Hohenwald
- The latest issue of our triannual newsletter, *Trunklines*

### FEED AN ELEPHANT

Each of The Sanctuary’s resident elephants consumes about 150 lbs. of food each day, which costs approximately \$50 per elephant. To ensure a nutritious and balanced diet for each of these elephants, our Veterinary Team and Caregivers portion out hay, browse, fresh produce, and supplements according to the individual needs and preferences of the aging elephants. **When you help us offset these ongoing costs and give \$50+ to Feed An Elephant, you receive**

- A photo card with information about elephants’ diets plus access to “ele-inspired” plant-based recipes, updated seasonally
- Monthly *EleNews* email updates
- Eligibility to apply for a Volunteer Day in Hohenwald
- The latest issue of our triannual newsletter, *Trunklines*



# Elephant Sanctuary Merchandise



## Adult T-Shirts

**\$24.95**

SM, MED, LG, XL, XXL, XXXL

This worn-in vintage-inspired unisex T-shirt is made in the USA from 100% soft-spun cotton. The Elephant Sanctuary logo is printed on the back.



**Nosey T-Shirt**  
Color: Periwinkle

**Flora T-Shirt**  
Color: Poppy

**Tange T-Shirt**  
Color: Navy

**Sukari T-Shirt**  
Color: Khaki

**Shirley T-Shirt**  
Color: Ice Blue



**Tarra T-Shirt**  
Color: Brick

**Ronnie T-Shirt**  
Color: Seafoam

**Debbie T-Shirt**  
Color: Wine

**Sissy T-Shirt**  
Color: Royal Caribbean

**Minnie T-Shirt**  
Color: Yam

**Billie T-Shirt**  
Color: Blue Spruce



### Find Your Herd Original T-Shirt

**\$24.95**

SM, MED, LG, XL, XXL, XXXL

Looking for your herd? Find it in this super-soft 100% ring-spun "Find Your Herd" T-shirt.

Color: Kiwi Green



### Find Your Herd Women's T-Shirt

**\$24.95**

SM, MED, LG, XL, XXL, XXXL

Looking for your herd? Find it in this super-soft 100% ring-spun "Find Your Herd" T-shirt. Side-seamed with a contoured body for a feminine fit.

Color: Coral



### Find Your Herd Youth T-Shirt

**\$18.95**

XS, SM, MED, LG, XL

This youth T-shirt distinguishes your child as part of a global herd of elephant lovers. Made by Gildan, this 100% cotton T-shirt is perfect for playtime.

Color: Navy



**NEW!**

### Elephants Shape Our World Youth T-Shirt

**\$18.95**

XS, SM, MED, LG

This youth T-shirt distinguishes your child as part of a global herd of elephant lovers. Made by Gildan, this 100% cotton T-shirt is perfect for playtime.



**NEW!**

### Elephant Sanctuary Bandana

**\$12.95**

A quintessential summer accessory for you or your furry friend, this 22"x22" Elephant Sanctuary Bandana is made in the USA from 100% cotton.



### Reusable Stainless Steel Straws

**\$12.00**

Stainless steel straw set in a custom biodegradable drawstring pouch featuring The Sanctuary's logo. Contains two straight straws, two curved straws, and a cleaning brush.



### The Elephant Sanctuary Caps

**\$29.95**

This classic, unstructured cap with tri-glide buckle closure features The Elephant Sanctuary logo. One size fits all.

Color: Black

Find all your Elephant Sanctuary merchandise at [elephants.com](http://elephants.com), or place your order using the enclosed order form and envelope.





P.O. BOX 393  
HOHENWALD, TENNESSEE 38462  
ELEPHANTS.COM  
931-796-6500



## Elephant Health Care Center Update

We are incredibly grateful and humbled to report that The Elephant Sanctuary has been able to adjust its operations this spring and summer to ensure priority for safety of staff and elephants throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, while observing steady progress in building the Elephant Health Care Center!

The field where so much groundwork has been laid in the past year now features two structures raised and ready for interior construction and outfitting to begin. Construction crews have put in barn and lab concrete floors, installed plumbing, built insulated walls, and added the roofs for both facilities. With the buildings

now walled in, electricity and HVAC are being installed, and the focus shifts to the interior of the buildings with elephant gates and Protected Contact training wall construction. Soon solar panels will be added to the barn's roof, and our fencing contractor will dig the trenches necessary for laying reinforced steel fencing to enclose the 3.6-acre habitat. We hope for future expansion of this area to 20 acres, allowing even more space for elephants under close veterinary observation to roam and express natural elephant behaviors while remaining close to the vet team's diagnostic and treatment capabilities.

## Connect with us Online at **elephants.com!**

Stay current on news from The Sanctuary and support the wellbeing of captive elephants through your favorite social networks. You can also sign up to receive our free monthly online newsletter, *EleNews*, which includes information on special events, merchandise, and new posts to our blog.



### Awards and Recognition

Our strong performance as an animal welfare/wildlife conservation 501(c)(3) non-profit is recognized by reputable charity monitoring groups.



Global Federation of  
Animal Sanctuaries

ASSOCIATION  
OF ZOOS &  
AQUARIUMS

The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee is proudly accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries and certified by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

*Trunklines is printed on paper certified by both the Rainforest Alliance and the Forest Stewardship Council. FSC wood products are known to prevent decimation of forests located in or near native habitats for wild elephants.*

Please be a conscious consumer—look for FSC, Rainforest Alliance, and RSPO seals.

