

TRUNK LINES

SUMMER 2021

**THE ELEPHANT
SANCTUARY**
IN TENNESSEE™



SISSY

Inside The Sanctuary

With 2,700 acres of diverse habitat — hills and valleys, woods and meadows, ponds and a 25-acre lake — there are always opportunities for exploration and discovery at The Sanctuary. Seasonal rainstorms bring lush green grasses for grazing, rain-filled ponds for swimming, and plenty of mud for the elephants to wallow in. During the warmer days of summer, we observe the elephants taking long daily treks across the habitat side-by-side with their chosen companions and staying out at night to sleep under the stars. **Sukari** and **Tange** have been observed in far reaches of their habitat in the early hours of dawn; **Billie**, The Sanctuary's most timid elephant, has been socializing with **Ronnie** in the barn and habitat; **Nosey** — who had not had physical interaction with other elephants for decades prior to her retirement to The Sanctuary — has officially met **Sissy** and **Tarra** over the fence line!



BILLIE

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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.

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.

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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.

LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Dear Friends,

Welcome to summer! Here in Tennessee, the elephants are spending warm, lazy days napping in the shade of the trees, swimming in the ponds, and rolling in the mud. Like many of you, we often watch them on EleCams as they explore new areas of the habitat and revisit favorite spots. With the elephants choosing to spend days and nights in the habitat, many long-planned projects are being completed. Last month, a group of student volunteers from Illinois State helped paint the interiors of Africa Barn so it is clean and fresh for the elephants' return. This week at Q Barn, a new cushioned rubber floor to increase elephants' comfort is being installed by special contractors. And at Asia Barn, our Sanctuary Facilities Team has added a long-awaited new gate to ensure emergency equipment complete access, if needed. In this issue of *Trunklines*, you will read about a "Day in Sanctuary" and all the many activities that are a part of each day. We are reminded once again "it takes a village" to provide for the elephants' care and wellbeing.

As our world reopens and we learn of new challenges faced, we recognize how very fragile life is on our planet. In March, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature announced that African Forest elephants would join Asian elephants as **critically endangered**, and African Savanna elephants would now be considered **endangered**.

We are acutely aware of the dire circumstances facing elephants and their conservation in the wild and hold to the value that people can and must make a difference in protecting elephants so that the species can survive for generations to come.

The Sanctuary has pledged to making sustainable decisions, processes, and purchasing to demonstrate advocacy for the planet we share with the elephants entrusted to our care. For the past three years, The Sanctuary's Green Team has been working with Nashville sustainability nonprofit Urban Green Lab to establish sustainability goals for the organization — from transitioning to paper-free task lists to reducing single-use plastics in product shipments from vendors, and so much more. To engage others in taking action for the planet and for the elephants, The Sanctuary's Education Team planned and carried out a series of programs in April and May highlighting ways in which our everyday choices affect elephants and ecosystems across the globe. Challenges were launched on social media each week encouraging individuals to take a nature walk, participate in a neighborhood cleanup, or create recycled art. These activities, designed to be fun, were also promoting tangible solutions that hopefully will become lifelong practices for an even greater impact on this world we all live in.

We thank you for your support and for being a part of our village.

Sincerely,


Janice Zeitlin, CEO



Thank you for supporting our mission!



TARRA



NOSEY

» Nosey Updates

After many decades in human care without physical interaction with another elephant, **Nosey** has now been introduced to **Tarra** and **Sissy** over a fence line!

As noted in her health record since 2012, Nosey has a history of exposure to tuberculosis (TB). The other African elephants at The Sanctuary have no history of exposure to TB. Because of this, the decision was made for Nosey to live in a section of The Sanctuary's Asia Habitat, with access to the Asia Barn. As we awaited confirmation that The Sanctuary had permanent custody of Nosey, she had the ability to socialize with her Asian elephant neighbors, Tarra and Sissy, across a 25-foot buffer zone. Caregivers often observed the elephants rumbling to one another, with their ears out, listening attentively.

In the fall, The Sanctuary's Veterinary Team made the decision to trim Nosey's tusks to help prevent future breakage, forming them into a more useful shape that would encourage her to use them more naturally when interacting with her surroundings, and making it safer for her to interact with other elephants.

A long-time priority of The Sanctuary has been to create opportunities for Nosey to interact physically with other elephants. With her tusks trimmed, we felt it safe to facilitate a supervised introduction between Nosey and Tarra over a fence line. Cognizant of the physical differences between African and Asian elephants, a fence line introduction allows the elephants to grow comfortable with one another in their own time, with the added security that a barrier allows.

When introduced, Nosey and Tarra were both very relaxed, and spent several minutes smelling one another's trunk, face, mouth, ears, eyes, and feet. Tarra showed particular interest in Nosey's tusks and mouth, while Nosey used her trunk to explore Tarra from head to toe! They rumbled to each other softly. The two were given opportunity for supervised access to each other for three hours and were seen on four occasions meeting up for minutes at a time expressing the same relaxed, exploratory behaviors.

Two days later, Care Staff facilitated a brief introduction between Nosey, Tarra, and Sissy inside the barn. While Tarra greeted her new friend, Sissy was reserved and somewhat hesitant. She acknowledged Nosey with soft rumblings and stood by the stall fencing with her back to Nosey and ears out indicating submission and interest.

Since then, Care Staff have continued to create opportunities for Nosey, Tarra, and Sissy to interact over the fence line, and all interactions have remained positive! Just a few weeks after their first encounter, Sissy approached Nosey at a shared barrier, and the two touched trunks for the first time. Nosey opened her mouth for Sissy to investigate and Sissy welcomed Nosey touching her head and back.

Even though she has access to the barn overnight, Nosey has been choosing to stay outside most of the night and is often out exploring in the morning when Caregivers arrive. **"It's great to see Nosey's independence grow as the seasons change," said Asia Barn Lead, Sarah F.**



SUKARI & TANGE

» Africa Habitat & Barn

Late spring and summer in Tennessee are marked by both beautiful, sunny days and frequent rain storms. The elephants at Africa Habitat are always on the move, no matter the weather! **Flora**, **Sukari**, and **Tange** make the most of the summer warmth, traversing the habitat day and night and returning to the barn less often. Care Staff deliver a breakfast of fresh hay and produce to the fence line along a hillside or plateau where the elephants have spent the previous night exploring, making for a peaceful, picturesque meal at sunrise.

Rainy days are filled with excitement too, as rain means more mud — and mud wallowing is a favorite activity of the African elephants. Tange was observed rolling and lying in a bathtub-sized wallow one afternoon, while Sukari dug her feet in the shallow waters nearby. The next morning, Flora opted to take a nap in a mud puddle, then awoke to splash around and spray her entire body with mud, before dining on the grasses along the side of the puddle at her leisure. Not only does mudding serve a practical purpose for the elephants, protecting their skin from the sun and insects, but it is also a form of relaxation, play, and socialization.



FLORA



Although summertime offers many opportunities for the elephants to engage with their natural environment, Caregivers supplement their habitat with enrichment to ensure they maintain strong trunks, bodies, and minds. Enrichment items may target specific needs for an individual elephant, from increasing movement and exploration to stimulating their senses or prolonging foraging. One form of enrichment is placing hay under a large tire to encourage the elephants to use their trunk to lift the tire before eating. After discovering the hay underneath, Sukari had no problem carrying a 351-pound tire across the habitat — African elephants have been known to lift up to 700 pounds, which is the weight of a baby grand piano!



Caregivers also provided special enrichment treats for St. Patrick's Day and Easter — “pots of gold” filled with fruits and vegetables of all colors of the rainbow and handwoven baskets made of grapevines donated from the local vineyard and filled with lettuce, strawberries, carrots, and hay. In addition, The Sanctuary celebrated Flora's 39th birthday with a heart-shaped wreath crafted from bamboo, rice paper “balloons,” and several grapefruits.



While elephants and Caregivers alike have been busy this season, The Sanctuary's Facilities Team has also been hard at work at Africa Barn, conducting regular maintenance on gates, machinery, and vehicles. They also work to maintain the many miles of trails around the habitat, especially after heavy summer rains, which may cause parts of the trails to wash out. They use bulldozers, backhoes, skid steers, and more to regrade the ground in order to keep it safe for Care Staff, who utilize the trails to care for the elephants no matter where they have chosen to explore each day.



FLORA



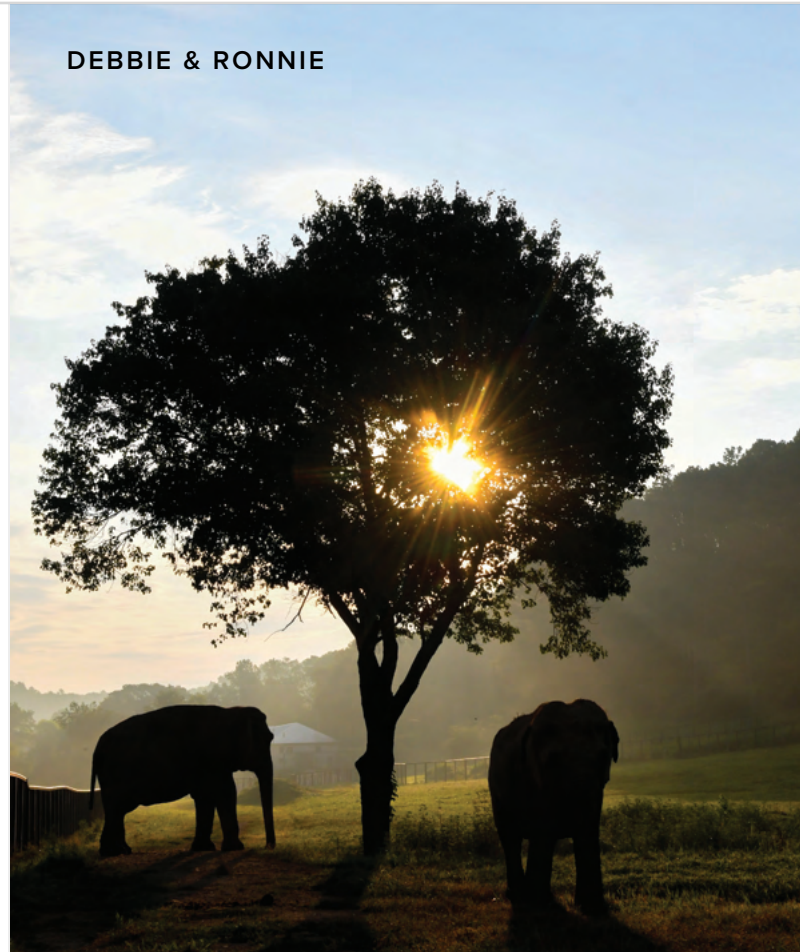
RONNIE

» Q Habitat & Barn

Elephants at The Sanctuary have year-round access to heated barns, but in the summer months, it becomes rare for the elephants to return to their barn at night, preferring to spend evenings traveling and nights under the stars. **Ronnie** and **Minnie** were the first to spend nights outside of the barn as the weather warmed. While **Billie** was still choosing to sleep in the barn throughout April and into May, she would get an early start into the habitat, before the sun had risen and Caregivers arrived at work! **Debbie**, who Caregivers affectionately refer to as the “queen of naps” often chooses to spend nights outside, but has been known to return to the barn in the early morning hours for a quick snooze before breakfast.

Warm weather also signals the start of swimming (and mudding) season at The Sanctuary! The Q elephants have been using the many ponds, streams, and mud wallows within their habitat to cool themselves. Debbie was the first to test the waters in late April, but by May all of the Q elephants were participating in water activities. Minnie seems to enjoy the rain-filled mud puddles that appear after a summer storm. She has been observed kicking the muddy water with her feet, using her trunk to blow bubbles, and bending down to smush her face into the mud.

DEBBIE & RONNIE





Minnie has also been taking advantage of firehose baths offered by Care Staff — eagerly presenting every side of her body for hosing down, voluntarily lifting her legs to make it easier for Caregivers to reach every last spot. “She seems to relish every second!” said Caregiver, Caitlin M.



Asian elephants are known to be creative when they play, sometimes picking up sticks, stones, or other items as props. Perhaps the most recognized playful behavior among Asian elephants is the “floppy run,” in which they trot and trumpet, ears swinging side-to-side. Asian elephants Ronnie and Debbie were recently observed acting playfully atop a dirt mound in their habitat. Ronnie did a “floppy run” toward the mound, then climbed to the top, kicking mud and trumpeting. Debbie joined in the chorus with a roaring noise — while Ronnie presented each foot to Debbie one by one. Caregivers said it was quite the show!

Billie, who is known to be timid around her Q habitat-mates, has been spending more time with Ronnie this summer. Although Billie has had socialization opportunities with Ronnie for years, Care Staff report they continue to see Billie grow in confidence and closeness with Ronnie year after year. Often during their time together, Care Staff observe the two touching one another’s faces with their trunks. Q Barn Lead, Brandi M. said, “In the past, it was a toss-up if Billie would want to share space with Ronnie, but now you can almost feel her excitement when we open the gate between the two. She will immediately back into the stall and start eating browse alongside Ronnie.”





TARRA

» Asia Habitat & Barn

This time of year, **Tarra** and **Sissy** are on the move in search of the tastiest lush grasses to munch on, fresh water to drink from The Sanctuary's 25-acre lake, and new corners of the habitat to explore or nap in. Caregivers enjoy seeing the elephants' travel time expand as the seasons change and are delighted when the elephants choose to spend warm nights outside exploring rather than returning to the barn. On the rare occasion that Sissy makes her way back to the barn, she greets Care Staff with her signature trunk popping noise, indicating that she is excited to see them.

Tarra alternates her time frequenting the lake and grazing alongside Sissy at Dr. Scott's field. Sissy is often seen in the Second Pipeline area, but if Tarra is on the hillside at Dr. Scott's, Sissy journeys to that area to join her and dine contentedly on the tall grasses dotted with yellow and white flowers. Caregivers recently witnessed a special reunion between the two after a morning apart. They approached one another with excitement — Tarra making her signature barking noise and rubbing her body against Sissy and Sissy softly trumpeting.

In addition to all the delicious summer grasses in the habitat, Tarra has been devouring pear tree branches donated by supporters in the Lewis County community.

SISSY





Through The Sanctuary's browse donation program in partnership with the city, local residents are encouraged to donate their trimmings to help feed their elephant neighbors. The program creates a sustainable alternative to bagging and disposing of the trimmings and provides special treats for the elephants. Tarra seems to enjoy the pear browse so much that she is eating much thicker branches than her usual preference!

Foot radiographs are taken at least two times per year and help Caregivers and Vet Staff monitor for disease or arthritis. Caregivers prepare for radiographs by detailing all the behaviors that will be used, ensuring the elephant is trained for those behaviors, and creating a list of the necessary equipment, team members involved, and the role each member will play. They also must prepare the elephant by introducing her to each item that will be used — “desensitizing” her to the radiograph block, plate, and generator. These steps ensure that the elephant is comfortable with the process, and there are no surprises. Overall, the radiograph process is conducted quickly to minimize the time the elephant has to hold a certain position while images are taken of each digit. Caregivers report that Sissy was very calm and cooperative during her radiographs!



Remembering Shirley “Heart of Sanctuary”

Sanctuary Staff gathered to celebrate the life of Asian elephant **Shirley**, who passed in February at the age of 72. Care Staff have always said that The Sanctuary operated on “**Shirley time**,” and in true Shirley fashion, her memorial service was certainly on “Shirley time” too. Several attempts to gather were rained out before finally holding the event on a beautiful, sunny day — befitting for an elephant who thrived during Tennessee summers. Staff members from all departments shared fond memories, lessons learned, and read tributes from supporters around the world. We are so grateful for the privilege of having cared for Shirley for 21 years and for all she taught us.

ELEPHANT CARE | A Day at The Sanctuary

» 6:30 A.M.

Caregivers begin their work day! Elephants eat between 200 and 600 lbs of food each day, and food preparation is often the first task in the morning. Summertime in Tennessee means a bounty of grasses and browse to dine on in the habitat, and this is also supplemented with “diets” prepared by Care Staff. Grains are measured, supplements weighed, hay divided, and restaurant-grade produce chopped.



Care Staff deliver Nosey breakfast after preparing meals for each elephant.

» 7:30 A.M.

Supply Manager and Warehouse Staff fill barn orders for the elephants’ diets, which might include Mazuri (a feed specially formulated for elephants), probiotics, and other medications. On average, close to 2,000 pounds of produce is ordered each month! Other items purchased in bulk include fly spray and sunscreen for elephant care in the summer.



Ronnie devours a juicy watermelon, one of the many kinds of produce Sanctuary residents dine on.

» 8:30 A.M.



Minnie dusts on a dirt mound created by the Facilities Team.

Facilities Staff are on the job. With four barns, over 20 miles of fencing, and 2,700 total acres, habitat maintenance is a crucial aspect of daily operations to provide an enriching, safe environment for the elephants in our care. An on-site workshop houses large machinery that allows the Facilities Team to dig mud wallows, build sand mounds, clear downed trees, carve out trails, and more.



» 9:30 A.M.

The Veterinary Team makes their rounds to each barn. Caregivers work with the Veterinary Team to develop individualized care plans that are then carried out at Protected Contact training walls.



On any given day, they may offer simple treatments like dry scrubbing for skin exfoliation, or provide more complex care such as cold laser therapy or taking dental and radiograph images. Construction of a new, state-of-the-art Elephant Health Care Center is almost complete, which will expand in-house diagnostics and provide opportunities to share knowledge about geriatric elephant care with other professionals.



The Vet Team works with Care Staff to check Sukari’s feet and offer cold laser therapy to Sissy.

» 10:30 A.M.

Supporting a staff of 43, our Administration Team is hard at work implementing and maintaining administrative and accounting systems, training staff in safety protocols, and ensuring our accountability to charity monitoring organizations.



Flora and the other elephants spend most of the day traversing the habitat while office staff are hard at work.

Whole Elephant Care at The Elephant Sanctuary is provided by a team comprised of 15 full-time Caregivers, three barn leads, Elephant Care Training Manager, Elephant Care Program Manager, Director of Veterinary Care, Veterinarian, and Registered Veterinary Technician. Additionally, The Sanctuary employs habitat maintenance staff, educators,

development and donor services staff, communications staff, and office administrators to carry out The Sanctuary's mission! Together, we work to ensure the highest quality of lifetime care possible for our resident elephants and those to come.

» 11:30 A.M.



Rooftop solar panels provide a sustainable energy alternative at the Elephant Health Care Center.

Special projects are always ongoing at The Sanctuary! Our Operations Director oversees our Facilities Team and outside contractors at work on new fencing construction, the installation of rubber flooring in Q Barn, maintenance of The Sanctuary's solar arrays, and much more.

» 2:00 P.M.

A member of our Education Team is guiding a family through interactive exhibits at The Elephant Discovery Center, while another educator is conducting a virtual field trip in our Distance Learning Lab for a group of students in New Jersey or Mumbai, India.



Students and families interact with exhibits at The Discovery Center, while our Education Team answers any questions they may have.



Caregivers clean up outside the barn while the elephants explore.

» 12:00 P.M.

LUNCH!



Tange eats an afternoon snack of fresh hay.

» 3:00 P.M.

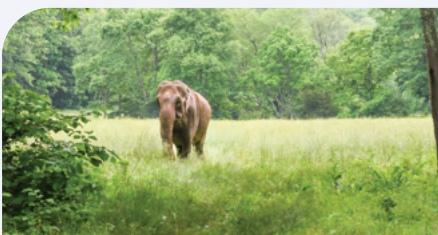


The Communications Team sorts through stories and photos like this one of Debbie to share with donors across the globe!

It's time to post on social media! The Sanctuary's Communications Team compiles stories from the barns to share in *EleNews*, *Trunklines*, and on social media to keep our supporters up-to-date.

» 1:00 P.M.

Our Development and Donor Services Team is in the office filling online merchandise orders, acknowledging donor gifts, reporting to a foundation on progress of a recently funded project, and sharing elephant stories with new and long-time supporters over the phone.



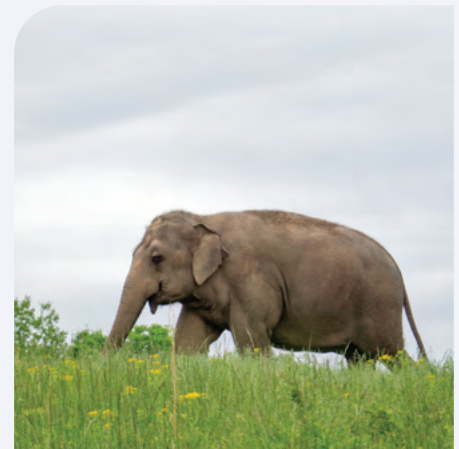
The Donor Services Team shares success stories of elephants like Billie with our generous supporters.

» 4:00 P.M.

In the summer, the elephants travel deep within their habitats, which gives Care Staff time to prepare for the next day...and scoop poop! Elephants may defecate between 9 to 13 times per day, and elephant dung can weigh up to 50 pounds. Although much of this is scooped by shovel, the barns also have a "track" system where Caregivers push the dung from the stalls onto a conveyor belt that leads to a trailer, which will then be used to transport the waste to our on-site compost pile.

» 5:00 P.M.

As the day comes to a close, Staff return home — several to on-site housing, where they're available overnight should an elephant need special monitoring, or in winter months, to return to the barns to provide a nighttime meal.



Tarra and all of the elephants may be seen via EleCams exploring the habitat and barns long after Care Staff end their day.

It takes a village to provide home and herd for our ten resident elephants, Sukari, Tange, Flora, Nosey, Tarra, Sissy, Minnie, Debbie, Ronnie, and Minnie. We celebrate those who work hard to ensure individualized care for the elephants, those who advocate for better lives for elephants around the globe, and those who provide the support and foundation to make Sanctuary possible.



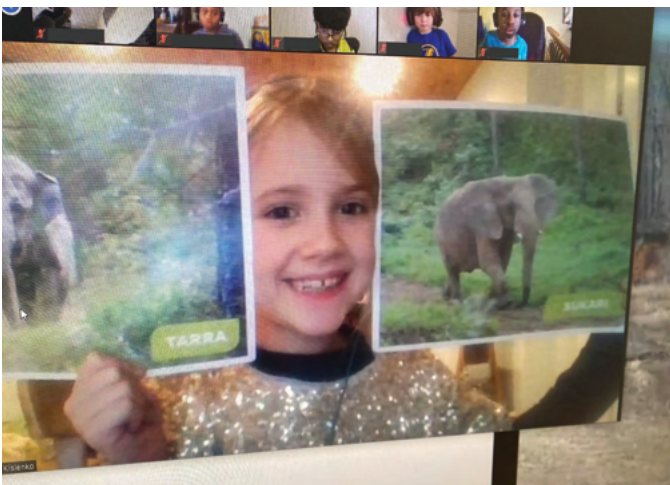
» Have You Herd?

Education Through Distance Learning

Distance Learning has been a major part of The Elephant Sanctuary's educational programming for several years, primarily connecting with school groups in their classrooms around the globe. In the past year, however, the Education Team has seen exponential growth in the demand for virtual programming from many new audiences, including corporate offices looking to spice up virtual staff meetings, adult social groups who moved their meetings online, senior centers whose residents were facing a particularly isolating time, and teachers who began serving their students virtually for the first time.

To better serve this expanding audience and to offer clearer expectations for teachers new to the virtual space, The Sanctuary's Education Team launched **Virtual Field Trips**. Each Virtual Field Trip is differentiated by grade level to match specific curriculum goals and to discuss the elephant topics most relevant to that age group, with accompanying vocabulary as well as pre- and post-activities.

"The response to the new Virtual Field Trips has been great," Education Coordinator Laura Roddy said. "The teachers know what to expect, the students are better prepared, and we get to focus on specific content instead of trying to guess what will best fit a class's needs."



Distance Learning student Katya K. of Canada shows her Adopted elephants to the class.

In addition to Virtual Field Trips, the Education Team began offering asynchronous content in January 2021 through FlipGrid. The Sanctuary's FlipGrid library covers a range of questions from "Why do elephants play in the mud?" to "What is enrichment?". Students and individuals can respond to these prompts with short video messages and are encouraged to get creative.

FlipGrid is available to teachers, individuals, and families. Sign up at flipgrid.com, and check out The Sanctuary's library of topics. New topics are added quarterly.



Sanctuary Education Team Member Todd M. presents to a Lifelong Learners group.

While Virtual Field Trips and FlipGrid largely serve a school-age audience, the Education Team has launched a Lifelong Learners program to meet the growing desire for educational opportunities for adult audiences.

"Our adult groups have different needs and interests than school groups, and we wanted to recognize that formally by creating a program specifically designed for adults," said Education Manager Joy Owens. "It has been especially fun to see adults connecting not only with the elephants but with each other, and knowing we provided a bit of a social outlet for them as well."



Sanctuary Distance Learning

The Sanctuary's Distance Learning program is more in-demand than ever before. New fall dates were made available June 15. You can find scheduling information and program descriptions at elephants.com/distance-learning.

Welcome to THE ELEPHANT DISCOVERY CENTER

We invite you to explore our exhibits to learn all about our resident elephants and the care that The Elephant Sanctuary provides. See and hear how these very social animals communicate. Read facts about the elephants' amazing life stories. Experience the connection between elephants and their human caregivers. Virtually explore The Sanctuary's elephant habitat.

THE ELEPHANT DISCOVERY CENTER



» Elephant Discovery Center

The Elephant Discovery Center welcomes individuals, families, community groups, and school groups to:

EXPLORE the many ways elephants shape our world, develop a deeper understanding of and compassion for elephants

DISCOVER what a day-in-the-life at The Elephant Sanctuary is like — all while allowing the elephants to remain undisturbed in their habitats.

Our Education Staff is on hand to answer questions and guide you through our interactive exhibit space, or you may choose a self-guided experience.



Sights and Sounds Exhibit

Featured Exhibit *Sights and Sounds*

Step up to the sound pedestals to make some noise! All species of elephants have elaborate vocal and non-vocal communication methods utilizing a number of sounds, smells, and body language.

Sound pedestals fill the exhibit space with sounds of elephants at play, greeting one another, acting defensively, and more — while corresponding flip books show their non-verbal communication in action.

Sounds of African savanna elephants in the wild were collected by The Sanctuary's international partner, ElephantVoices — led by acclaimed elephant scientist Dr. Joyce Poole and her husband Petter Granli. In May, ElephantVoices launched The Elephant Ethogram: A Library of African Elephant Behavior, a uniquely detailed catalogue of the diverse behavior and communication of African savanna elephants. The Elephant Ethogram includes more than 3,000 video and audio clips that illustrate detailed written descriptions of the observed elephant behaviors.

Sanctuary Staff had an opportunity in June to speak with Dr. Poole and Petter via Zoom about their experience documenting wild elephant behaviors for this incredible scientific resource and we look forward to continued opportunities for collaboration and knowledge-sharing.



Joyce Poole making a recording of elephants in Amboseli National Park in southern Kenya.

Elephant Ethogram Inspiring Conservation Efforts

As reported in *National Geographic*, *Scientific American*, and *The New York Times*, The Elephant Ethogram aims to document the rich behavior and communication of this species — whose lives and behavior are increasingly impacted by humans — including rare,

novel and idiosyncratic behavior, and those acquired, through social learning, in response to rapidly increasing anthropogenic threats.

In late March, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature announced that for the first time, both African species of elephants — African Forest and African Savanna — were assessed separately, leading to new conservation designations for each species. African Forest elephants would join their Asian cousins as critically endangered, and African Savanna elephants are now considered endangered.

Elephants face unique, multi-layered threats including poaching and habitat loss. Add to this their need for expansive habitat, mass quantities of vegetation, and their slow reproductive rate, and it is clear why the species is in crisis.

The Elephant Ethogram is intended to be a repository for scientific study and comparison, and to inspire broader interest in elephant behavior, conservation, and welfare.

Visit www.elephantvoices.org/elephant-ethogram to explore The Elephant Ethogram.



Discovery Center Hours

Tuesday - Saturday
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

To schedule a group tour, field trip, or guided programming, visit elephants.com/discovery-center.

The elephants' habitats are closed to the public. Visitors to The Discovery Center will not see or interact with elephants.



TANGE & SUKARI

» 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 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 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 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 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 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*

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Elephant Sanctuary Merchandise



Adult T-Shirts

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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: Watermelon



Tange T-Shirt
Color: Navy



Sukari T-Shirt
Color: Khaki



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

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A BPA-free, stainless steel 20 oz bottle with a wide Cafe Cap and a "bonus" Chug Cap! Co-branded with Klean Kanteen, this insulated bottle keeps contents hot or cold for hours, fits in most cup holders.



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XS, SM, MED, LG | Color: Light Blue

Made by Gildan, this 100% cotton T-shirt is perfect for playtime.



Onesie
\$18.95

SM (6/12), MED (12/18), LG (18/24) | Color: White

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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 Cap
\$29.95 | Color: Tan, Contrasting Forest Green Pancake Visor

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Find Your Herd Tote Bag
\$24.95 | Color: Natural

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



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