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A Note From The Editor

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Dear Members and Friends,

Elephant continues to receive encouragement; readers expressed their moral support, willingness to assist with office work, and their wish to assist the EIG financially. A number of readers have been generous and donated well above the requested subscription fees. Those individuals and institutions were sent a special acknowledgment for their generosity. A financial report and pertinent acknowledgments are included in this issue. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped, financially or otherwise. Without their support this issue would have been delayed even further.

Daniel J. Graf, Acting Director, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Services of Wayne State University (WSU), has helped tremendously. John D. Taylor, Chairman, Department of Biology, WSU, has told us that the Department would continue to help whenever necessary, but added, "Try to be independent." Actual assistance and offers to help are also being made by different members in or outside the Detroit area. In particular, William Prychodko, Mary Jo Szuba, Sherri DeFauw, John McKinney, and Joseph Engelhard are acknowledged for their useful comments. Ray (Sabu) Moreau helped type part of the bibliography while Joy McElroy assisted with art work. Pat Wynn, Valerie Pfluke, Eileen Koglin, and Suzanne Hicks continue to contribute their clerical experience, with the cooperation of their supervisor, Lynne Aldrich. Jane Brower and Erica Sufritz typed some correspondence and Yvonne Lange is the EIG secretary. Janis Buchholz, Stephen Devoe, Earline Pawley, and Mary Shoichet of WSU Science Library assisted with various library matters. Additional acknowledgments are included under "Financial Report and Acknowledgments".

During the past summer, I travelled to Africa in connection with my research in mammalian phylogeny, and learned firsthand of the acceptance Elephant has received. Various individuals, as well as interested institutions, expressed their appreciation. Also there were comments that more residents and citizens of Africa and Asia should be aware of and be members of the Elephant Interest Group if it is to achieve its goals. The idea concerning the need to have more EIG members from the above continents is not new to us. Despite the geographic distance between the USA and Africa and Asia, the number of EIG members from these continents has recently increased: In Asia, due to notices published in Tigerpaper, and in Africa, as a result of my efforts to recruit new EIG members last summer. Nevertheless, more members are needed. I would like to take this opportunity to request EIG members to inform interested individuals and institutions, particularly from countries that have elephant populations, about the EIG and the need for their participation. Comments and criticism regarding any issues expressed in this publication are welcome.

At this printing, there are 522 names on our mailing list. Of these, 423 are Elephant Interest Group members, an increase of about 80% since the second newsletter was published.

On behalf of the Elephant Interest Group, I extend a warm welcome to our new members. Looking forward to hearing from you and/or seeing you all in Corvallis.

Jeheskel (Hezy) Shoshani
Detroit, April 22, 1979