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Information from the Elephant Interest Group Questionnaire

Elephant Editors

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OBJECTIVES OF THE ELEPHANT INTEREST GROUP

While preparing the present issue, it became clear that the objectives of the Elephant Interest Group should be stated more clearly. Below are the five objectives as suggested by the editor. Please feel free to make any suggestions as to whether changes, amendments or deletions should be made to any part of these objectives.

1. To promote interest in, and to increase our knowledge of elephants.
2. To collect and disseminate information through publications, personal communications, meetings and symposia.
3. To assist members with any information or material needed so that research can be coordinated and consolidated instead of being duplicated.
4. To meet at least once a year to discuss and exchange ideas.
5. To provide a support system for individuals and institutions interested in conserving elephants.

INFORMATION FROM THE ELEPHANT INTEREST GROUP QUESTIONNAIRE

Given below is the listing of members who are known to be involved with some type of elephant related activity, research or otherwise, currently or in the past. Their activities and requests, as given in the questionnaire or via recent communication, are included. Future plans are apt to change (many of the future plans sent to the editor are in the category of "maybe") and, therefore, we decided to wait and ask your opinion whether or not they should be listed in the next issue. Readers are requested to update their future plans and send them to me if they wish them to be included. Please find the attached questionnaire for updating or use by our new members if they wish this information to be listed in the next newsletter. Publications that were included in the questionnaire are listed in the appropriate sections in the bibliography. More back references will appear in future issues.

ACTIVITIES

Allaway, James: Currently is in the final stages of editing his Ph.D. thesis on the role of elephants in the natural resources systems in the Tana River region of Kenya.

Barnes, James (Earthforce Environmental Society): The society is currently involved with the plight of elephants. A team from EES has recently returned from investigating the present status of the elephants in Africa, and determining how to assist in their preservation.

Berry, Morgan H.: Has personally kept, raised and bred many elephants and still has 12 animals most of which are males. Morgan Berry has been keeping elephants for over 40 years and is responsible for breeding Asiatic elephants successfully in the States. He also knows most of the elephants in captivity throughout the world. (This information was sent to the editor by Maberry, Matthew on September 26, 1977.)

Bielitzki, Joseph T. (Topeka Zoological Park): Currently involved in preliminary work on anatomy and weight bearing in the elephant's lower limb with particular reference to any improved captive maintenance techniques which might be incorporated in prophylactic trimming to reduce the incidence of arthritis in the distal extremities.

Borysenko, Myrin: Has a general interest in preservation of endangered species.

Brookfield Zoo: See description under Osborn, Dale.

Buss, Irven O.: Currently continuing a study on the function of the temporal gland in the African elephant. This study is conducted in collaboration with Lois E. Rasmussen, James W. Wheeler and G. L. Smuts.

Butynski, Thomas M.: Had assisted in marking and relocating marked elephants in N.E. Botswana.

Calgary Zoological Society: See description under Kam, Robert.

Circus World Museum: See description under Parkinson, Robert.

Conway, William G. (New York Zoological Society): The society is currently one of the supporters of the Elephant Survey and Conservation Programme in Africa.

Croze, Harvey: See description under Douglas-Hamilton, Iain.

Dickerson Park Zoo: See description under Tuttle, Carter.

Doneghy, David A.: Currently working on the morphology of the Proboscidea, using fossil and extant species. Study will include: dentition, skull structure (including feeding mechanism), and tarsal and carpal bones.

Douglas-Hamilton, Iain, IUCN/WWF Elephant Survey and Conservation Programme, African Division): In conjunction with Croze, Harvey; Hillman, Alison, K. K. and Ross, Karen S. Currently compiling data and surveying the status and distribution of elephants on the African continent, formation of conservation and management plans for the elephants, plus many detailed related projects within this large scheme. In addition, this elephant specialist group is involved in planning an International Symposium on Elephants and Their Habitats in the near future. The Elephant Interest Group is planning to participate in this symposium, or in a regional plan leading to this event. See report on the African elephant in this issue.

Earthforce Environmental Society: See description under Barnes, James.

Eisenberg, John F. (U.S. National Zoological Park): Formerly (1967-1971) chief scientist for Ceylon-Smithsonian Elephant Survey.

Elder, William H.: Currently working on a paper dealing with elephant feeding preferences for different tree barks.

Eltringham, Stewart K.: Has studied elephant population dynamics and behavior in Uganda for ten years. Left Uganda in September 1973 but returned regularly to monitor the populations. Is currently involved in elephant studies in Uganda together with his research student.

Foose, Thomas J. (Oklahoma City Zoo): Currently is conducting research on the digestive processes in pachyderms and ungulates; 35 species investigated so far including both Loxodonta and Elephas.

Fowler, Murray E.: Currently working on general elephant health and is a consultant on estrus cycle in Asian elephant cows.

The Fund For Animals: See description under Newman, Marian.

Graham, Russell W.: Currently studying dentition of fossil Proboscideans from North America. In addition, is interested in predator-prey relationships of late Pleistocene mammoths, especially man - mammoth associations. As a result he has been researching the behavioral mechanisms of both modern elephant genera.

Hall-Martin, Anthony J.: Currently working on behavior and ecology of a rapidly expanding, protected, relict population of elephants in Addo Elephant National Park, South Africa. Studies include feeding impact on vegetation and long-term monitoring of ecological impact. Ninety-three individual animals are known.

Hammond, Nancy E. (World Wildlife Fund, U.S.): The WWF is currently one of the supporters of the Elephant Survey and Conservation Programme in Africa. WWF Newsletters and Annual Reports give regular accounts of the studies conducted.

Hanks, J.: Has been conducting extensive studies on the African elephant's anatomy, reproduction, conservation and wildlife management.

Hendrichs, Hubert: Has been involved in field studies on social organization and population biology of the African elephant in Tanzania and Kenya (January 1967 to May 1969, September 1972, August and September 1975) and in Zaire and Rwanda (July 1972 to January 1973, except September).

Hicks, Suzanne C.: Currently on the staff of the Elephant Newsletter.

Hillman, Alison K. K.: See description under Douglas-Hamilton, Iain.

IUCN/WWF/Elephant Survey and Conservation Programme, African Division: See description under Douglas-Hamilton, Iain.

IUCN/WWF/Elephant Survey and Conservation Programme, Asian Division: See description under Olivier, Robert.

Jones, Marvin L.: Is interested in the history of captive animals and keeps extensive files on about 2500 species and subspecies of mammals in zoos world wide. He is a consultant to the San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park where he does the ISIS work for them. See Jones's contribution to this issue under "Captive elephant population".

Jungle Larry's African Safari Park: See description under Tetzlaff, Lawrence.

Kam, Robert W. (Calgary Zoological Society): Main interest is elephant training and discipline. He and another keeper, Ron Green, are working with three 3-year-old Ceylonese elephants.

Kawata, Ken (Tulsa Zoo): Currently studying statistics of North American zoo elephants.

Lincoln Park Zoological Garden: See description under Rosenthal, Mark.

Lindsay, Keith W.: Currently studying the movements and feeding strategies of cow/calf family units in the Amboseli ecosystem.

Maberry, Matthew B.: Has worked with elephants very closely for over 20 years; 15 years in the Washington Park Zoo (known then as Portland Zoological Gardens) where he delivered 12 baby elephants. Currently is working with private and circus elephants and is still interested in their reproduction and related problems.

Malpas, Robert C.: Currently completing his Ph.D. thesis on the ecology of elephants in Kabalega Falls and Ruwenzori National Parks, Uganda.

McCusker, Stephen J. (Washington Park Zoo): Several research projects regarding elephants are currently being carried out at the Washington Park Zoo.

Metro Toronto Zoo: See description under Styles, Toby.

Miller, Richard S.: Currently studying and developing computer simulation models of elephant population. He is also interested in the population dynamics of long-lived and endangered species.

Moss, Cynthia J.: Currently carrying out a study of the social behavior of the Amboseli elephants in Amboseli National Park, Kenya. The study started in September 1972 on a part-time basis, and on a full-time basis in September 1975. It will be completed in December of 1978.

New York Zoological Society: See description under Conway, William.

Newman, Marian (The Fund For Animals): The Fund is currently involved in the overall efforts to enlist the African elephant as an endangered or threatened species.

Oklahoma City Zoo: See description under Foose, Thomas.

Olivier, Robert C. D. (IUCN/WWF/Elephant Survey and Conservation Programme, Asian Division): Currently compiling data and surveying the status of elephants in Asia. Office address is in England but there are a number of co-ordinators, assistants and other personnel elsewhere in Asia. This elephant specialist group is planning and involved in education, conservation and management programs. Robert Olivier is in the final stages of compiling a new text on Asian elephant (see Bibliography). See also a report on the Asian elephant in this issue.

Osborn, Dale J. (Brookfield Zoo): Main interest is in Egyptian mammals. Elephants became a hobby after he did a graphic exhibit on them in the zoo's elephant house.

Parkinson, Robert L. (Circus World Museum): The museum's library has extensive references on circus elephants.

Pearson, Virginia R.: See description under Reuther, Ronald.

Petrides, George A.: Some of his students have recently graduated with advanced degrees and are now working in Thailand, India and Nepal studying elephants.

Philadelphia Zoological Garden: See description under Reuther, Ronald.

Ramsay, Edward C.: Has been working with the detection and recognition of estrus and ovulation in elephants. He also worked with blood progesterone levels in an Asian elephant cow last fall.

Randall, Jan A.: Had been studying the function of the temporal gland in conjunction with Irven O. Buss.

Rasmussen, Lois E.: Is actively pursuing the biochemical aspects of the temporal gland fluid with emphasis on proteins and enzymes including immunochemical-albumin characterization. This study is conducted in conjunction with Irven O. Buss, James W. Wheeler, and G. L. Smuts.

Reuther, Ronald T. (Philadelphia Zoological Garden): Currently conducting studies of behavior and the estrus cycle in conjunction with Virginia Pearson, Jessica De Miezio, and R. W. Amand.

Reynolds, Richard J.: Is on the Board of Trustees of the Zoological Society of Atlanta and is interested in exotic mammals.

Rich, Mark S.: Has worked with the conservation of the Ceylonese and African forest elephants.

Rosenthal, Mark A. (Lincoln Park Zoological Garden): Has been working with elephants for ten years - involved in nutrition, training and general zoo management. Will be designing a new elephant area for the master zoo plan.

Ross, Karen K.: See description under Douglas-Hamilton, Iain.

Sacramento Zoo: See description under Wilson, Dinah.

Shoshani, Jeheskel, H.: Currently studying the phylogenetic affinities among the Paenungulata and their relationships to other mammalian orders. Methods employed are serology and morphology. Editor of the Elephant Newsletter.

Straith, Russell L.: Has long been concerned with the decline in world elephant populations, and has a small collection of elephant figures and drawings.

Styles, Toby E. (Metro Toronto Zoo): Currently has a breeding program with 1.7 Loxodonta africana. Recently completed a digestibility trial with Tom Foose of Cornell University.

Tetzlaff, Lawrence E. (Jungle Larry's African Safari Park): Has lived among elephants in Africa. Plans to have breeding and training programs of African elephants.

Tipton, James S.: Is interested in circus elephants in America and has written poems about elephants.

Topeka Zoological Park: See description under Bielitzki, Joseph.

Towner, Jeffrey K.: Is currently working as a Peace Corps/Smithsonian wildlife volunteer in National Park W in Niger, West Africa. The Peace Corps volunteers' findings are used by the Nigerian government in managing elephant and other wildlife in the Park.

Tulsa Zoo: See description under Kawata, Ken.

Tuttle, Carter D. (Dickerson Park Zoo): Has worked with two, single, captive Asiatic elephants. Very interested in captive elephants' behavior and artificial insemination.

U.S. National Zoological Park: Currently conducting research covering several aspects of elephants. (Information sent by Cunningham, Diane - National Zoological Park Library).

Van Gelder, Richard G.: Has made observations of elephant behavior and censusing in South and East Africa. See report in this issue.

Washington Park Zoo: See description under McCusker, Stephen.

Wilson, Dinah L. (Sacramento Zoo): Currently elephant trainer at the Sacramento Zoo in California, and is working in conjunction with the Davis Veterinary School to determine the estrus cycle of their two Asian females. Also hopes to artificially inseminate at least one of them.

World Wildlife Fund, U.S.: See description under Hammond, Nancy.

Wylie, Kenneth C: Currently working on a project on the ivory trade with relevant detail on the ancient relationship between elephants and men, particularly hunting. See report in this issue.

REQUESTS

Animal Welfare Institute: See description under Stevens, Christine.

Anonymous (Name withheld upon request. Please send information to the editor.): Is extremely interested in obtaining as much information as possible regarding elephant trunk musculature and its mechanism. Would like information on the shear stress between the skin and the underlying tissues.

Calgary Zoological Society: See description under Kam, Robert.

Circus World Museum: See description under Parkinson, Robert.

Clark, Harold W.: Would like to obtain references and information pertaining to the medical aspects of diseases or abnormal conditions in elephants. In particular would like information on rheumatoid diseases and mycoplasma.

Dickerson Park Zoo: See description under Tuttle, Carter.

Doneghy, David A.: Is interested in acquiring elephant material for dissection, specifically head and foot material from juvenile elephants.

Douglas-Hamilton, Iain (IUCN/WWF/Elephant Survey and Conservation Programme, African Division): Is interested particularly in the measurements of known age elephants, in addition to other general or specific information about elephants.

The Fund for Animals: See description under Newman, Marian.

Goodman, Morris: See description under Shoshani, Jeheskel.

Graham, Russell W.: Is interested in the different developmental stages of tusks for scanning electron microscope analysis of the dentine structure.

- Hall-Martin, Anthony J.: Is interested in data on the incidence of tusklessness in elephant populations other than that at Addo Elephant National Park, for comparison. Is also interested in data on numbers of toenails in populations other than the population of Addo Elephant National Park.
- Hiley, Peter G.: Is interested in thermoregulation of elephants in reference to an existing hypothesis stating that no sweat glands are present in these animals.
- Hillman, Alison K. K.: See description under Douglas-Hamilton, Iain.
- IUCN/WWF/Elephant Survey and Conservation Programme, African division: See description under Douglas-Hamilton, Iain.
- Jungle Larry's African Safari Park: see description under Tetzlaff, Lawrence.
- Kam, Robert W. (Calgary Zoological Society): Is interested in obtaining information on elephant training methods. Particularly would like to obtain information on racking (swaying vigorously from side to side) of elephants in captivity.
- Kawata, Ken (Tulsa Zoo): Is interested in the captive management of both species.
- Lillie, James H. (U.S. National Zoological Park, Elephant House): Would like information on elephant weight determination by calibrated displacement of water.
- Lincoln Park Zoological Gardens: See description under Rosenthal, Mark.
- Lindsay, Keith W.: Is interested in information on the digestibility of different quality food, assimilation efficiency of the elephant gut, throughput rate for different quality food, and faecal nitrogen concentration for possible calibration of field food intake estimation methods.
- Metro Toronto Zoo: See description under Styles, Toby.
- Moss, Cynthia J.: Is interested in any material relating to elephant behavior (including zoo work), with particular interests in postures, gestures and vocalizations.
- National Park W.: (Niger, West Africa): See description under Towner, Jeffrey.
- Newman, Marian (The Fund for Animals): The Fund is interested in obtaining material concerning recent elephant research.
- Parkinson, Robert L. (Circus World Museum): Is interested in exchanging library references.
- Pearson, Virginia R.: Is interested in obtaining information relating to captive breeding - natural and artificial.
- Petrides, George A.: Is interested in publications exchange.
- Prychodko, William: See description under Shoshani, Jeheskel.
- Ramsay, Edward C.: Would like very much to communicate with anyone doing research in the area of elephant reproduction, specifically the ovaries and artificial insemination.

- Rasmussen, Lois E.: Is very anxious to have elephant samples of serum (frozen), cerebrospinal fluid, and possibly ocular fluid.
- Reynolds, Richard J.: Is interested in photographs and biographies of captive elephants.
- Rosenthal, Mark A. (Lincoln Park Zoological Garden): Is interested in any information on management, nutrition, training and reproduction in elephant groups at zoological gardens.
- Ross, Karen S.: See description under Douglas-Hamilton, Iain.
- Sacramento Zoo: See description under Wilson, Dinah.
- Shoshani, Jeheskel H.: Is interested in obtaining an elephant for dissection, preferably from Michigan or the neighboring states. If a whole elephant is not available, we (Morris Goodman, William Prychodko and myself) would like to obtain frozen serum (about 10 ml.) and muscle tissue (about 1 kg.) from Elephas maximus. In addition we are studying the phylogenetic relationships among the Paenungulata and are particularly interested in learning whether readers are aware of similar, active research projects involving or seeking to determine a relationship between Proboscidea and Tubulidentata.
- Stevens, Christine J. (Animal Welfare Institute): Is interested in any advice on proper training methods for young elephants.
- Styles, Toby E. (Metro Toronto Zoo): Would like to acquire an elephant foot (skeleton) to be used for training keepers in foot trimming.
- Tetzlaff, Lawrence E. (Jungle Larry's African Safari Park): Is interested in any information available on African elephants.
- Thompson, William L. (Wayne State University, Department of Biology, Museum of Natural History): The department is interested in obtaining elephant skeletal material for the museum.
- Tipton, James S.: Is interested in circus history information related to elephants.
- Towner, Jeffrey K.: Towner and the other Peace Corps team are in need of a four-wheel drive vehicle, and also would like a prismatic devise like that used by Douglas-Hamilton for estimation of elephant ages (or the plans of how to build one), in order to study the elephants and other wildlife of the park.
- Tulsa Zoo: See description under Kawata, Ken.
- Tuttle, Carter D. (Dickerson Park Zoo): Is interested in any work that has been published concerning the problems of keeping captive elephants (especially anything on artificial insemination), and also general information on elephants.
- U.S. National Zoological Park, Elephant House: See description under Lillie, James.
- Walton, Melva: Has an extensive collection of photographs, data, etc., about captive elephants in America, including several hundred negatives.
- Wayne State University, Department of Biology, Museum of Natural History: See description under Thompson, William.

Wilson, Dinah L. (Sacramento Zoo): Is interested in any studies dealing with breeding behavior, mother/infant relationships, and training.

Wylie, Kenneth C.: Is interested in any data relating to the numbers of elephants still found in specific regions (to be compared with earlier populations).

AVAILABLE

Van Gelder, Richard G.: The Department of Mammalogy at the American Museum of Natural History, New York, has a large collection of elephants' skins and skeletons which are available for studies. The skeletal collection has recently been relocated and reorganized. Researchers are encouraged to make use of this material.

TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR THE UPCOMING MEETING OF THE EIG

This meeting will be held during the 58th Annual Meeting of the ASA, Athens, Georgia, June 13-17, 1977. For exact date, time and place, please look for a notice to be posted or listen for an announcement to be made.

- I. Movie: "The African Elephant". This movie was originally scheduled for the EIG meeting but then arrangements were made to show it to all members of the ASM. It is a regular, commercial movie, 35mm., with sound and is one-and-one-half hours long. Most of the movie (about 2/3) is on elephants and the rest is about African wildlife in general.
- II. Latest news.
- III. Elephant symposium: This symposium is scheduled to take place during the 59th Annual Meeting of the ASM, in Corvallis, Oregon.* See Erratum later in this issue.
- IV. Slides or movie(s) members wish to show: Please bring with you any items regarding elephants you wish to share at the end of the meeting.
- V. Miscellaneous.

* A telephone conversation and a subsequent letter (April 13, 1978) from B. J. Verts, the Chairman of the Local Committee at Corvallis, Oregon, confirmed that "...there is a strong likelihood of the (Elephant) symposium being a part of the 59th ASM meeting."

BAN THE IVORY CAMPAIGN

As of this writing, the plight of the African elephant is being discussed and debated at the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, headquartered in Washington, D.C. The final decision was just made. Various articles have been published dealing with the urgent need "to do something" in order to save the elephants (see references in the Bibliography). By this time, most of our readers are probably aware of the course of developments regarding the plight of the African elephant and the actions taken for its preservation. However, for the sake