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Miscellaneous

Elephant Editors

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MISCELLANEOUS

ERRATA AND COMMENTS

These ERRATA are in addition to those published in Number 2 p. 35, the ERRATA SHEET for Number 2, and the ERRATA in Number 3 p. 51.

ELEPHANT NEWSLETTER NUMBER 1:

Page 17. Reference: Ogilvie, P.W., A. Moody, and S. Seitz. Date should be 1974. Change source to: "Paper presented at the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, Western Regional Conference, Typescript, 10 pp. + 9 photographs."

ELEPHANT NEWSLETTER NUMBER 2:

Page 1. Last paragraph, 2nd line: "237" should be "247."
 Page 50. Reference No. 135: Date should be 1974.
 Page 56. Reference No. 273: Title should read: "Plasma testosterone levels in relation to musth and sexual activity in the male Asiatic elephant, Elephas maximus." "29:99-103" should be "29(1):99-103".
 Page 57. Reference No. 290: "(A),49(1A):175-181" should be "49A:175-181."

ELEPHANT NUMBER 3:

Page 1. Second paragraph, and Page 69 under Bibliography Committee: "Devoe" should be "DeVoe."
 Page 27. First line: "6th time: should be "8th time."
 Page 36. Top of page: "England" was omitted from the end of the title.
 Page 43. Second paragraph, 8th line: "Reynold" should be "Reynolds."
 Page 47. Third paragraph, 3rd line: "680" should be "676."
 Page 51. ERRATA for Page 60: "Reference No. 355" should be "Reference No. 366."
 Page 72. Reference No. 451: "I love rogues: should be "I loved rogues."
 Page 79. Reference No. 594: "background" should be "backboned."
 Page 80. Reference No. 621: "Gordan" should be "Gordon."
 Page 84. Reference No. 702: "117:171-192" should be "117(3):171-192."
 Page 86. Reference No. 756: add second author "H.P. Ledger."
 Page 87. Reference No. 761: "22:10-17" should be "22(1):10-17."

In addition to the above corrections, there were other minor errors, such as spacing, punctuation and reference order within a particular author's list of references. These errors were not significant enough to be included here.

See also: "Corrections to names and addresses" under EIG MEMBERSHIP LIST in this issue.

Kindly write us about any errors you may encounter while reading Elephant.

CONCERNING OUR READERS . . .

Recipients of Elephant who wish to become Elephant Interest Group members may make their requests known in writing. Membership fees, which include at least one copy of Elephant, are presently US \$10.00 for a calendar year. These fees are tax-deductible; a receipt will be provided.

Members who have had recent address changes should inform us so that they may continue to receive mailings promptly. There have been several letters sent to all members during 1980, and some envelopes were returned to the office as "undeliverable". Our file, "RETURN TO SENDER", is bulging with returned mail for members who have been removed from the mailing list in the last year due to their "undeliverable addresses". Please keep us up-to-date.

A slightly modified version of the Elephant Interest Group Questionnaire which appeared in the previous issue is included in this issue, to encourage our new and old members to send in any information or requests they wish to see in future issues. (See section entitled INFORMATION FROM THE ELEPHANT INTEREST GROUP QUESTIONNAIRE.) Please PRINT CLEARLY or TYPE the information; some forms have been returned in illegible writing.

Back issues of Elephant Newsletter No. 1 (limited amount) can be obtained for US \$1.00 per copy, Number 2 (limited amount) for US \$2.00, Elephant Number 3 for US \$4.00, and Number 4 for US \$10.00. Add US \$1.00 to these prices for postage and handling. We would appreciate payment in advance. When making contributions, please send a check or money order payable to WAYNE STATE FUND/ELEPHANT.

We have in stock a T-shirt with a modified elephant design. This new T-shirt has the same drawing on the front: Ahmed. The elephant stands among vegetation and acacia trees. Above it is the phrase "SAVE THE ELEPHANT" and below is: "ELEPHANT INTEREST GROUP". A total of four colors is incorporated on the T-shirt: 1) the T-shirt itself, in orange, yellow or beige, 2) grey and black for the elephant and acacia trees and 3) green for the grass. The sizes are still the same: S.M.L., (and X-L in men's only). Orange T-shirts are in children's sizes (6-8, 10-12, 14-16), yellow in women's sizes (8-10, 12-14, 16-18), and beige in adult (men's) sizes (34-36, 38-40, 42-44, 46-48). Due to increasing overall costs, our price for a T-shirt must be US \$7.50 per shirt, regardless of size and color. The modified design has a special appeal and one can be proud to wear this T-shirt in support of a conservation oriented group.

We also have available limited supplies of the old T-shirt design featuring Ahmed with "E.I.G.": in dark brown lettering. The basic colors and sizes are the same as above. The price is US \$5.00 each. Bumper stickers reading "Trumpet If You Like Elephants" and decalcomanias (decals) depicting Ahmed with "E.I.G." are also in stock. Prices: bumper sticker - US \$1.50, decal - US \$1.00. T-shirts and decals were designed and produced by Susan E. Smith, bumper stickers by Glenn Hauseman.

For purchases and contributions, please send a check or money order payable to WAYNE STATE FUND/ELEPHANT. A receipt will be sent for purposes of tax deduction. For any order (except "EIG Package", see Order Form), add US \$1.00 to defray postage and handling.

CONCERNING OUR ELEPHANTS . . .

Additional information on Ahmed the elephant

The Elephant Interest Group has used a logo developed from photographs of Ahmed for publications, T-shirts, and decals. In order to familiarize readers and members with the history of Ahmed, we have incorporated some material into the blurb inside the front cover of Elephant and on EIG information sheets. A short report by Alison K.K. Hillman on the preservation of Ahmed was published in Elephant Newsletter Number 2, page 35. An interesting account of Ahmed's death has been written by Patrick Marnnam; an excerpt from his book, Fantastic invasion: notes on contemporary Africa (to be published by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc.) appeared in Harper's, January 1980, under the title "Ahmed and the gamekeepers".

In particular, Marnnam has included some details on the process of preparing Ahmed for the National Museum, as carried out by Wolfgang, "Nairobi's leading taxidermist". Here is a condensation of that section in Harper's:

It took Wolfgang four days to remove the skin from Ahmed. The skin was kept damp throughout the process and salted. The ribs, limb bones and skull with tusks were separated from the rest of the carcass.

At the time when Ahmed's body was found, the cause of death was unknown. Wolfgang speculated at various points during the dissection on the reason for death. Ahmed's teeth were found to be in good shape; two bullets were uncovered at the base of the tusks but they might have been there for years; and the septic wound in the side did not appear serious. Wolfgang's only suspicion was that something had upset Ahmed's digestion since there had been no food in the stomach.

Wolfgang was clearly not impressed by Ahmed. He is quoted as saying: 'Why am I stuffing this elephant? He is not even very big. His tusks weigh 100 pounds below the record. He is only ten feet at the shoulder.'

Ahmed obviously had become a symbol of conservation - and he remains a symbol today.

"The World's Largest Performing Male Elephant?"

On August 31, 1980, some members of the elephant Interest Group were privileged to visit and measure an Asian elephant called "Tommy" at the Michigan State Fair in Detroit. Arrangements were made with Lee Keener, the

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trainer of six Asian elephants (owned by Tony Diano) who perform in the M & M Circus Internationale. The circus introduces "Tommy" as "the World's largest performing male elephant". We would like to share our measurements of "Tommy" with readers and ask if anyone knows of an elephant close in size to "Tommy".

Shoulder height: 2.70 meters (8.86 feet)

This was measured holding a stick level on the shoulder of the elephant and measuring the distance from the stick to the ground.

We were told that the height of the elephant was "9 feet plus" and its weight was estimated (seven years ago) to be 9,600 pounds (4,353.6 kg). A method of estimating shoulder height from foot circumference (Boyle, D. 1929. Height in elephants. J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc., 33(2):437.) was applied to our measurements as a check. By multiplying the circumference of the base of the right forefoot (130.0 cm) by 2, an estimated height of 2.6 m was obtained. For our reader's interest, to our knowledge, the largest recorded height for an Asian elephant is that of a skeleton which measures 3.35 m (11 ft. 3 in.) (Pillai, N.G. 1941. On the height and age of an elephant. J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc., 42(4):927-928.).

"The world's largest elephant in captivity?"

September 10, 1980, "Ole Diamond," an African male and the first elephant acquired by the Knoxville Zoological Park, Knoxville, Tennessee, died unexpectedly. He was approximately 30 years old and may have been the largest elephant in captivity at that time. His height at death was estimated to be 11+ feet (3.35+ m) and his weight 16,000 lbs. (7,256 kg). He sired the first two African elephants successfully born in the Western Hemisphere (see Elephant, 3:41-42) and was the central focus of visitors to the Zoo because of his playful antics and awesome strength. (Information taken from Zoo View, the quarterly publication of the Appalachian Zoological Society, 7(3):1-6.)

Necropsy was performed by a team of veterinary pathologists of the University of Tennessee and lead by M. Donald McGavin, D.V.M. "The cause of death was toxemia (poisoning of blood), secondary to infection of the tusks which could be treated only with difficulty because of Ole Diamond's temperament." Several bile stones were found in the interhepatic duct. Few parasites were also found in the bile duct. The heart, weighing 28.12 kg (62 lbs), and other internal organs of Ole Diamond were sent to Detroit for study. Using Benedict's (1936) estimate that the heart weighs 0.5% of the total body weight, we calculate that Ole Diamond's estimated weight was 5,624.5 kg (12,400 lbs.).

Who was the first captive elephant in the U.S.A.?

While compiling more information on the performing elephant named "Old Bet" (see Elephant Number 3, p. 52), we have uncovered differences in the dates and circumstances associated with that name. Also, the names "Betsy" and "Betty" have been used erroneously and posthumously for the same animal.

According to C.P. "Chappie" Fox of the Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey Circus, "The Elephant" was the first elephant in the United States; this Asian female was brought from Calcutta to New York by Captain Jacob Crowninshield on a ship (Reference No. 791). "Old Bet" was the second elephant in the U.S. and was owned by Hackaliah Bailey of Somers, New York, one of the founders of Barnum & Bailey Circus. The animal arrived in 1804, performed in New England, and died in 1816 from a rifle blast fired by a Maine farmer. Bailey replaced her with "Little Bet": who was also shot, as she crossed a bridge in Rhode Island (year not given by Fox, 1977). With respect to the account of the first elephant, the facts presented by Fox (1977) are in agreement with those published by Ivan T. Sanderson in 1962 (Reference No. 1212, pages 275-280). Sanderson reported, in addition, that the elephant was purchased from Crowninshield by Pepin and Breschard and that the trainer, a Welshman named Josh Owen, took her to numerous cities on the eastern coast from 1796 to 1812. In 1812 she was purchased for a circus owned by Cayetano, Codet, Menial and Redon.

Sanderson (1962) described the second elephant in North America as a "professional circus performer named Old Bet", who arrived from London (no date given). She was purchased for exhibition by Hackaliah Bailey but died in 1818; a monument was erected in Somers, New York, and dedicated to "Betsy". Sanderson did not mention "Little Bet" as a replacement for "Old Bet". He did, however, suggest ". . . in fact, she may have been the same animal who appeared under the various names of 'The Learned Elephant' or 'Little Bet,' who in 1822 was killed in an accident. Whether this was The Elephant we do not know, because curiously her age was not 'upped' for some twenty years. The handbills appear to pertain to two animals, but the wording remained similar for years" (Sanderson, 1962, p. 278). In a similar account, James Tipton assigned 1824 as the year of "Old Bet's" death in western Connecticut (Reference No. 384). And in 1976 the Rhode Island legislature voted to honor the slain elephant "Betty", on the 150th anniversary of her death by gunshot with a bronze tablet in northwest Rhode Island (Reference No. 1295).

Notwithstanding these accounts, the arrival of the first elephant in the United States in 1796 has been carefully documented (Goodwin, G. G. 1925. The first living elephant in America. J. Mamm., 6(4):256-263 and Goodwin, G. G. 1951. The Crowninshield elephant. Nat. hist., 60:357-359). "Old Bet," by name, was a two-year old female Asian (Elephas maximus indicus) from Bengal, was acquired by Hackaliah Bailey of Somers, New York, and was exhibited for an indefinite time. Her death probably occurred before 1824, about which time Bailey built The Elephant Hotel in Somers and erected an elephant monument on the grounds. Goodwin (1925) pointed out the problems of chronicling "Old Bet's" death by including a statement from the Boston Herald, December 22, 1895, announcing her death in North Carolina in 1827.

The confusion over dates and places may be dispelled in part by a comment in the Salem (New York) Gazette in 1895 (cited in Goodwin, 1925) that after the first elephant was killed in Rhode Island, a second one was imported and named "Old Bet". Richard J. Reynolds, III, (Reference No. 801) has reported that "Old Bet" was replaced after being shot in Alfred, Maine, on July 26, 1816. Her replacement arrived in 1817, was called "Little Bet" or "The Learned Elephant," and was shot in late May 1826 at Chepachet, Rhode Island. "Old

Bet," he stated, was the second elephant in the U.S. Reynolds (1979) also reported that the first one arrived on April 13, 1796 on the ship "America" captained by Jacob Crowninshield, was a two-year old female Asian from Bengal and was sold to a Welshman named Owen who exhibited her for at least 12 years. The only name used in newspaper accounts which he found was "Rajah" but most of the time she went nameless. "Old Bet," on the other hand, was a four year old female African elephant acquired by Hackaliah Bailey.

Thus, it appears that the identity of the First Elephant in North America continues to be shrouded in mystery. Editor's note: The attention of the reader is drawn to the facts on which all the above mentioned references agree:

1. The first elephant arrived in the U.S. on the ship "America" captained by Jacob Crowninshield on April 13, 1796.
2. The first elephant was a two-year old female Asian from Bengal.
3. "Old Bet" was owned by Hackaliah Bailey of Somers, New York.

The issues regarding the first elephant which require resolution are:

1. Six different names were assigned to one individual elephant ("The Elephant", "Old Bet", "Betsy", "Betty", "Rajah", "The Learned Elephant").
2. Six different years were given for her death (1816, 1818, 1822, 1824, 1826, 1827).
3. Four different places were proposed for her death (Alfred, Maine; western Connecticut; Chepachet, Rhode Island; North Carolina).

Readers who have access to additional information on this problem are invited to help us try to solve this historical predicament.

The first recorded birth of a captive elephant in the U.S.A.

Harper's Weekly, April 3, 1880, pages 219 and 221, published the announcement of the birth of a baby elephant at the barns of Cooper & Bailey Circus in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., on March 10, 1880. The magazine stated that this birth was "the first authenticated instance of the kind that has ever taken place among these animals in a state of captivity." The mother was "Hebe", a 20 year old Asian who weighed 8000 pounds; the father was "Mandrie", a 23 year old Asian. The parents were brought from Ceylon to North America together. The baby elephant (name not given) was 35 inches high, measured 3 feet 11 and ½ inches "around the body", and weighed 213 pounds. (This article was donated by Joseph Engelhard to the Elephant Library.)

ALPHABETICAL LISTINGS IN ELEPHANT

The reader is advised that we follow a system whereby names beginning with "Mc" are treated as "Mac" and appear in straight alphabetical sequence within the "M's". Names beginning with "De" or "de", such as de Beer, and with "Van"

and "Von" appear alphabetically. This system applies throughout our publication in places such as the BIBLIOGRAPHY and MEMBERSHIP LIST.

ELEPHANTINE FAUNA AND FLORA

In addition to collecting references to elephants and related taxa, we are accumulating names of animals and plants which refer to elephants. Two articles by Dale J. Osborn were included in Elephant Newsletter Number 2, pages 17-19: "Elephantine animals" and "Elephants in the plant world." Readers are requested to send additional names and information on such animals and plants for our future publications and to the Library (see section ELEPHANT LIBRARY in this issue). Credit will appear on the literature and in any publication.

HOT LINE

In Elephant Number 3, page 53, we included a suggestion from Harold Clark that a medical "hot line", whereby elephant owners and attendants could call for information and assistance, be established. Pros and cons have been expressed and two letters appear under RECENT CORRESPONDENCE in this issue.

Our editorial attitude is that, if one individual benefits from such a service, then it is worthwhile. The "hot line" is, at present, still in the planning stage and further discussion and suggestions are invited.

DEBATABLES

The two issues introduced in Elephant Number 3, page 53, under this section, are discussed in detail in the section ELEPHANT TRAINING: CORRESPONDENCE AND ARTICLES in this issue. Further expression of opinion on these issues and suggestions for other topics are welcomed.

SUPPLEMENT to Elephant Volume 1

A SUPPLEMENT entitled "Proceedings of the Elephant Symposium, Corvallis, Oregon, 1979, and related papers" is available from our office for U.S. \$6.00, postage included. Listed below is the Contents of this SUPPLEMENT.

Opening comments	Jeheskel Shoshani
Ivory, elephants and man: a survey.	Kenneth C. Wylie
Management suggestions for the African elephant.	Irven O. Buss
Ecology and behavior of the Asian elephant.	John F. Eisenberg
Behavior associated with feeding in captive African and Asian elephants.	Richard N. Racine
A note on the nutritional requirements of the Asian elephant (<u>Elephas maximus indicus</u>).	C. R. Ananthasubramaniam
Questions and answers.	Panel
Closing comments.	Jeheskel Shoshani

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