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Information from the Elephant Interest Group Questionnaire

Elephant Editors

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INFORMATION FROM THE ELEPHANT INTEREST GROUP QUESTIONNAIRE

This listing is a continuation of that presented in previous issues of Elephant. It includes members who are known to be involved or who have been involved with some type of elephant-related activity. Their activities or requests as given in the questionnaires or by recent communications are included. Our major source for this section was the Elephant Interest Group Questionnaire. Therefore, members whose names are not included or who wish to update information are asked to fill in and return the questionnaire at the back of this issue. Publications which were included in the questionnaires are listed in the appropriate sections in the Elephant Bibliography. (Please contact the individuals listed here directly rather than writing to the EIG office).

ACTIVITIES

Agenbroad, Larry D.: In addition to being Principal Investigator and on the Scientific Advisory Board for the Hot Springs Mammoth Site, South Dakota, has directed small excavations in Northern Arizona including five sites in six weeks in Spring 1984.

Association for the Conservation of Wildlife: See Lair, Richard C.

Basappanavar, C. H.: Is working on Asian elephant studies in Bandipur Tiger Reserve and writing a book entitled Temple of the Elephant, subject area is confined to Bandipur National Park, India.

Brookfield Zoo, Illinois: See Landwehr, Craig A.

Burnet Park Zoo, New York: See Gucwa, David K.

Carroll, Richard W.: Is preparing research on the status and distribution of lowland gorilla and forest elephant in southwestern Central African Republic.

Chevalier-Skolnikoff, Suzanne: Is investigating elephant intelligence (see REQUESTS).

Cricket-St.-Thomas Wildlife Park, United Kingdom: See Sutton, Michael A.C.

Goode, Karen L.: Has worked briefly with two female African elephants about five years old and three African elephants about two years old. Is most interested in African elephant ethology training techniques, and all areas of physiology.

Grim, F. A. Peter (Santa Barbara Zoo): Is conducting artificial insemination in cooperation with Washington Park Zoo.

Gucwa, David K. (Burnet Park Zoo): Compiled information and data on tactile skills and mental acuity of elephants for three years with a 14 year old Asian female elephant and in the interim while Burnet Park Zoo is closed. He has collected pencil and paper drawings made by "Siri", the

elephant, and correlated them with her temperament and emotion.

Hayes, Thomas P. (Pittsburgh Zoo). Has started an elephant training program at the Pittsburgh Zoo, for the safety of employees, handling animal, and better adjustment of the animal to captive life.

Heffner, Rickye S.: Has begun a survey of mammalian visual fields and visual acuity in relation to sound localization.

King, Gary L. and Barbara L.: Are putting the Elephant Bibliography on computer for future publication as one unit.

King, Kathryn L.: Has been a junior curator at the Oklahoma City Zoo for three years, working with pachyderms, and spent the summer of 1984 at the zoo as a temporary animal technician.

Kogler, Herbert C.K.J.G.: Has worked as a volunteer for the World Wildlife Fund in Austria and for an orthopedic clinic on a research project on movement analysis. Is also completing a film on Sri Lanka elephants for television. In 1985-1986 was in the Republic of South Africa studying at the University of Pretoria.

Lair, Richard C. (Association for the Conservation of Wildlife). Is writing a report for the FAO on the Asian elephant both wild and domestic, to be completed in early 1985. Report will concentrate on the current status of the domestic elephant, of which we know little since their welfare falls between wildlife management and animal husbandry.

Landwehr, Craig A. (Brookfield Zoo): Is working with two Asian and three African elephant at Brookfield Zoo, Illinois.

McCann, John A.: Is interested in the possibility of complex communication at low frequency.

Natal Zoological Gardens: See Stockley, Jim.

Oklahoma City Zoo: See King, Kathryn L.

Pittsburgh City Zoo: See also Hayes, Thomas P.

Poole, Joyce H.: Will be in the United States (Princeton University, Department of Biology, Princeton, NJ 08544) July through December 1986. She will be studying musth in captive African elephants (see REQUESTS).

Porec, Bob: Is presently an elephant handler at San Diego Wild Animal Park. Was previously an animal trainer for 8 years for the motion picture and television industry.

Port Lympne Wildlife Park, England: See Smith, Martin.

Roocroft, Alan (San Diego Wild Animal Park): Is Animal Training Supervisor for elephants and responsible for elephants shows and rides on a daily

basis. The Park has established an Asian elephant breeding facility (October 1984) and they are taking blood samples three times a week and urine daily from two cows.

Ruebel, G. Alexander: Is currently studying reproductive behavior, physiology of reproduction (estrous cycle, gestation, hematological values), skin disease in a female, and biotin effect on the nails in the Asian elephants at the Zurich Zoo, Switzerland.

San Diego Wild Animal Park: See Roocroft, Alan.

Santa Barbara Zoo: See Grim, F.A. Peter.

Smith, Martin (Port Lympne Wildlife Park, England): Is section head at Port Lympne Zoo Park where there are 1/4 adult Asian elephants with two suspected pregnancies. One male Asian was euthanized in 1984 due to arthritis and a calf born in August 1984 was killed by its mother seconds after birth.

Stanley, H. Alan: Has been conducting an independent study of reproductive physiology and the relationship to nutrition in captive African elephants. He seeks to document "sterile cycles" relationship to improper diets and habitational stress in captives.

Stockley, Jim (Natal Zoological Gardens): Is establishing a breeding program for Asian elephants in the Republic of South Africa. Brian Boswell's Circus (Pty) Ltd. owns seven of the Asians in Africa.

Sukumar, R.: Is writing a doctoral dissertation on a three year study to be entitled "On the ecology of the Asian elephant and its interaction with man in South India". The study covered the status and distribution of elephants, movement patterns, growth, population dynamics, feeding habits, impact on vegetation, crop raiding, attacking humans and measures for conservation of elephants and protection of agricultural crops.

Sutton, Michael A. C.: Is handler of two Asian females maintained at Cricket-St. Thomas Wildlife Park, United Kingdom. Is interested in training them for riding and some timber work around the park. Has been contacting elephant people in the United Kingdom on behalf of EIG, with the goal of having a group to hold meetings and communicate among members.

Tassy, Pascal: Is interested mostly in fossil proboscideans, their evolutionary relationships and classification. Pascal and his wife Dominique Visset are helping with the exhibit "Elephantillages" which will be open to the public on April 1st (this is not a joke!) 1987, in Paris, France (see also under "Elephantillages" in ELEPHANT NOTES AND NEWS in this issue).

Treadwell, B. Dean: Has been a wildlife ecology consultant in the Gambia River Basin, Africa.

Waggoner, Lila D.: Has been studying for an animal health technician license in order to work with the African elephant directly in maintenance and medical care.

FUTURE PLANS

Basappanavar, C. H.: Plans to work on wild elephants with regard to their home range, herding system, migratory routes, feeding and breeding habits, etc., in Bandipur Tiger Reserve, India.

Carroll, Richard W.: Will be conducting field research on the status and distribution of lowland gorilla and forest elephant in the Central African Republic for a thesis supervised by Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

King, Kathryn L.: Has observed a male African elephant at the Oklahoma City Zoo and plans to do a study on the estrus cycle of both Asians and Africans.

McCann, John A.: Plans to work with captive elephants on low frequency communication.

Porec, Bob: Is compiling information on elephant attacks on humans which may provide a psychological profile of elephant and human interactions useful in uncovering reasons for and solutions to this problem.

Ruebel, G. Alexander: Plans to continue studies on physiological values and work on rheumatoid diseases.

Waggoner, Lila D.: Would like a position working with the African elephant preferably in the field, in an area of ecology. See ACTIVITIES above for Lila's present studies.

REQUESTS

Basappanavar, C.H.: Is interested in obtaining radio collars for the study of elephants' movements and their migratory characters and other connected problems. Also needs tranquilizing equipment and equipment for fixing telemetry.

Brookfield Zoo, Illinois: See Landwehr, Craig A.

Burnet Park Zoo: See Gucwa, David K.

Carroll, Richard W.: Is interested in material on survey/census techniques, in dense forest, field aging for both species, autopsy techniques in the field and methods of measuring in the field.

Chevalier-Skolnikoff, Suzanne: Is interested in examining some elephant brains and/or skulls. If such material is available, please contact her directly.

Gray, Charles D.: Is interested in behavioral enrichment in zoos to combat boredom and stereotypic behavior in elephants. Would like to hear other members' ideas and experiences in dealing with this kind of situation.

Gucwa, David K. (Burnet Park Zoo): Is interested in obtaining information pertaining to elephant tactile skills and animal mentality.

Heffner, Rickye S.: Would like to obtain microscope slides of the brainstem and thalamus of an Asian elephant OR a fairly well preserved brain which could be processed into slides. She would make several sets of slides for archival purposes. Also interested in obtaining an eye of an Asian elephant (preserved in formalin.)

King, Kathryn L.: Is interested in new material pertaining to behavior of male African elephants and to estrus cycles of both Asians and Africans.

Landwehr, Craig A. (Brookfield Zoo): Is interested in obtaining as much information as possible on elephant foot care, including pictures.

McCann, John A.: Would like to obtain brain tissue samples.

Natal Zoological Gardens: See Stockley, Jim.

Poole, Joyce H.: Is seeking information on captive male elephants (African or Asian) that come into musth, the birth date of these males, the year of first musth, the patterning of the males's musth periods and the social set-up on a daily basis. Contact until the end of 1986: Dept. of Biology Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544.

Porec, Bob: Would be interested in hearing from any person involved in an attack by a captive elephant; has a questionnaire for his study (see FUTURE PLANS.)

Port Lympne Wildlife Park, England: See Smith, Martin.

Ruebel, G. Alexander: Would like to have histopathological slides of normal skin from a female Asian elephant with staining: HE, PAS, taken from just above the nails and from the side near the last rib.

Schotman, Thomas B.: Has a question concerning perineal hernias in elephants. Anyone with information on them is requested to write Dr. Schotman at Lake Wales Veterinary Hospital, 2748 Highway 27 North, Lake Wales, Florida 33853 USA.

Shoshani, Jeheskel, and V. Louise Roth: Please send us the following dental information on known-aged Asian elephants (Elephas maximus):
(1) number of teeth in wear on each side of the upper and lower jaw,

(2) number of plates present on each tooth [total number including small ones, and number of plates (=loops) that are in wear or that are exposed on the chewing surface], (3) length of the chewing surface of each tooth and the combined length, (4) widest width of each tooth, and (5) weight of each isolated tooth. Please collect these data only on anesthetized or dead elephants. When possible, kindly also send a photograph (with scale) of the teeth.

Smith, Martin (Port Lympne Wildlife Park, England): Is very eager to swap elephant T-shirts, sweat shirts and/or zoo badges with other elephant handlers.

Stockley, Jim (Natal Zoological Gardens): Wishes to purchase an Asian male elephant for a breeding program in the Republic of South Africa or to participate in an artificial insemination project.

AVAILABLE

Burnet Park Zoo: See Gucwa, David K.

Carroll, Richard W.: Will provide manuscript on elephant ecology in Manovo-Gounda-Saint Floris National Park, Central African Republic (life history table and data, feeding ecology seasonal and diurnal distribution, behavior, census data and parasitology).

Cricket-St.-Thomas Wildlife Park, United Kingdom. See Sutton, Michael A.C.

Gucwa, David K. (Burnet Park Zoo): Is making available photographs and drawings of a foot care stand and a hot/cold leg wrap which he designed. A set of these is on file with the Elephant Interest Group, through his kind donation.

Jackson, Wayne A.: Has available information and photographs of captive elephants of Europe and Australia, as well as Canada and USA and wild elephants and those in the orphanage in Sri Lanka.

Sutton, Michael A. C.: In the event of the death of one of the Asian females at Cricket-St.-Thomas Wildlife Park, United Kingdom, would make the corpse available for study; contact him now. (The cows are 13 and 16 years old.)