

FALL 2005



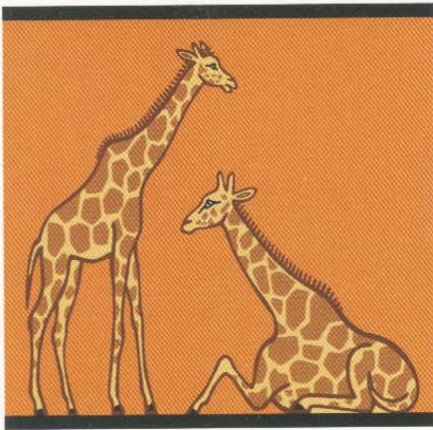
PLASTIC - FROM BLIGHT TO PROFIT CONSERVATION AND BUSINESS SENSE



REFUSE COLLECTED ON A SINGLE DAY FROM A PORTION OF THE NANYUKI RIVER

COMMUNITIES CREATING JOBS AND PRESERVING THE LAND





William Holden Wildlife Foundation

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DIRECTORS

Stefanie Powers

Don Hunt

Iris Breidenbend Hunt

Tom Mankiewicz

Julian McKeand



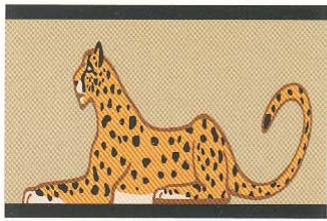
DEAR FRIENDS:

I have just returned from two months in Kenya which were action packed with some of the items you will read in this newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading our newsletters as well as looking in on our web site to learn of other stories and view some video. We are most hopeful that our website will gradually transition our supporters from the paper version of a news carrier. Having opened the subject of the newsletter, I am obliged to report that we have not been as successful as we had hoped in having the newsletter serve us in generating donations. I realize that we are all besieged by solicitations in the mail and that our newsletter is sometimes just another in the "pile", therefore we would ask your cooperation in letting us know your preference (see insert). Clearly, the rising cost of printing and postage could perhaps be used in a more beneficial way.

While our individual projects are doing well, we still have operating costs that escalate in Kenya, as they do everywhere else in the world, and we look to you, our loyal supporters, for assistance.

Warmest regards,

Stefanie Powers



FUND RAISING

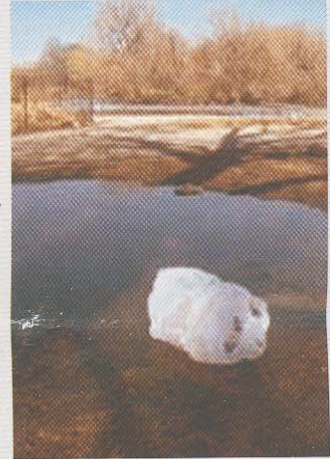
Our last fund raising event occurred in April when the national tour of **The King and I** opened in Los Angeles at the Pantages Theater. The management of the theater was kind enough to give us over 200 seats to sell benefitting the foundation. After the opening, a wonderful theme party was sponsored by **Venice Magazine**. We raised nearly \$30,000 from ticket sales and donations. Thanks are in order to Sharon Weisz whose tireless dedication to detail and terrier like determination pulled off a fabulous evening. Thanks also go out to Wayne McWorter, Director of Marketing for **Broadway LA**, his wonderful volunteers and **Venice Magazine**.

After the summer off, which allowed me to spend two months in Kenya, we will begin the Fall schedule of **The King and I** tour in September.



PLASTIC - FROM BLIGHT TO PROFIT CONSERVATION AND BUSINESS SENSE

Unfortunately our environment cannot depend on the benevolence of either governments or citizenry to protect it from many of the ills of civilization. Last fall we reported on one of the worst offenders – the ubiquitous plastic bag. We also told you about a seminar we sponsored which examined the possibility of conservation efforts also making good business sense.



We concluded from our seminar that Kenyans are extremely interested in green business potential. Representatives from the business sector and the Youth Federation for Nature Conservation met and exciting ideas emerged. One idea was to sensitize the public through all media – TV, radio and newspapers; another was making corporate responsibility an act of self-interest rather than forced compliance. What was clear from this pilot project is that the group was ready to identify problems and offenders, but was not immediately accepting of personal responsibility or the potential of inspiring individual enterprise. Accepting personal responsibility is the key that will open the door to the view that conservation efforts can also be viable business propositions.

One such enterprise was launched by Nakumatt, one of Kenya's largest supermarket chains, who in cooperation with the Packaging Industries, LTD. has introduced self-disintegrating, biodegradable shopping bags. Environment and Natural Resources minister Kalonzo Musyoka has asked consumers to use the new bags not only to reduce environmental pollution, but also to "stop the ugly scenes of bags hanging on trees along highways." Current plastic bags not only block gutters and drains, choke farm animals and marine wildlife and pollute the soil, but according to 2004 Nobel Peace Prize winner Prof. Wangari Maathai, plastic bag litter has also been linked to malaria. When discarded, bags fill with water and offer ideal and new breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

Kenya has made plastic bags a test case for what could lead to wide ranging and creative ways of developing more modern business models and job creation. With approximately 8 million bags given out each month, there is little wonder that the children and volunteers at the Education Center were able to collect the unsightly and dangerous heap of bags from the Nanyuki River depicted in our cover photo. **WHWF** has made it a priority to engage children in this process.

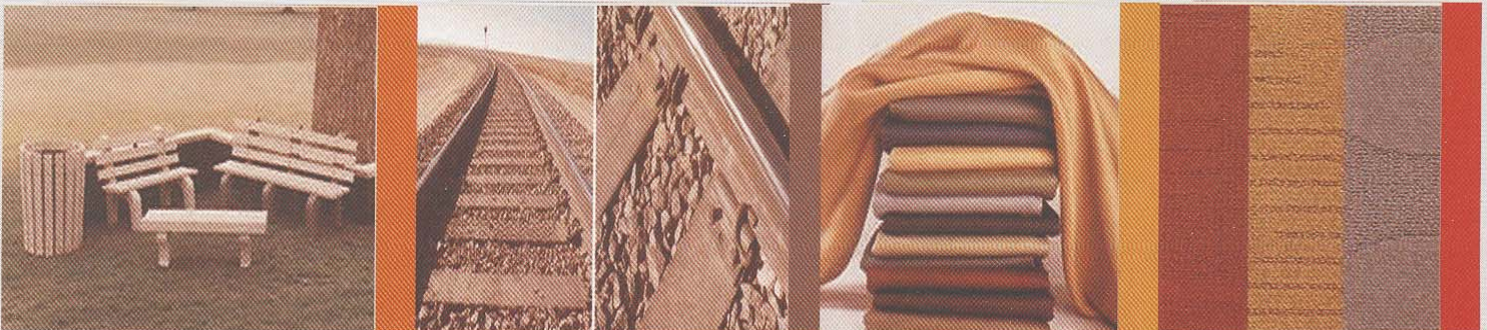


By creating awareness early in life, it makes for more responsible adults as children are often instrumental in persuading parents and other adults to act in more ecologically responsible ways.

Another way to handle waste may be as simple as affording all plastics a Redemption Value, thereby making it a cash commodity and too valuable to throw away. Three years ago Ireland imposed a surcharge on plastic bags with revenue going to an environmental fund that develops recycling centers. In Australia, IKEA put a 10-cent charge on bags and also provided a re-usable alternative. Perhaps even banning plastic bags altogether as one town in Australia did (**Coles Bay**) we will help stay the tide of plastics flooding the environment. Kenya has proposed a ban on the very thin (30 microns) bags and a levy on all other bags which would help support the further use of eco friendly alternatives such as cotton bags and would also have the benefit of helping Kenya's cotton agriculture and industry.

Finally, while traveling in the Midwest with the **King and I** production this year, SP visited the Petoskey Plastics plant (Flint, Michigan) to learn more about their use of plastic recycling in the creation of many product lines and to explore how this could present viable business opportunities in developing countries. Plastic waste has been fashioned into extremely durable and good-looking wood facsimiles which can be used for a variety of building purposes from decking to railroad ties and has even been woven into beautiful textiles and carpeting. Petoskey, for example, has supplied 2.6 million pounds of plastic products to Ford. "It gives hope to all of us working in conservation and environmental protection," said SP.

We invite you to start thinking of conservation making good business sense and as always, we continue to find simple actions and methods that have meaningful impact on our education programs.



These products are doing a brisk business not only using plastic, but environmentally safe manufacturing methods.



◆ **Stephen Mwangi** (pictured left, in white coat) Nanyuki's resident bee expert, has joined us to give periodic lectures and field trips enlightening our students as to the importance bees play in the eco system and in agriculture. Stephen also teaches non-lethal methods of harvesting honey and how to maintain hives that can potentially produce a cash crop of honey.

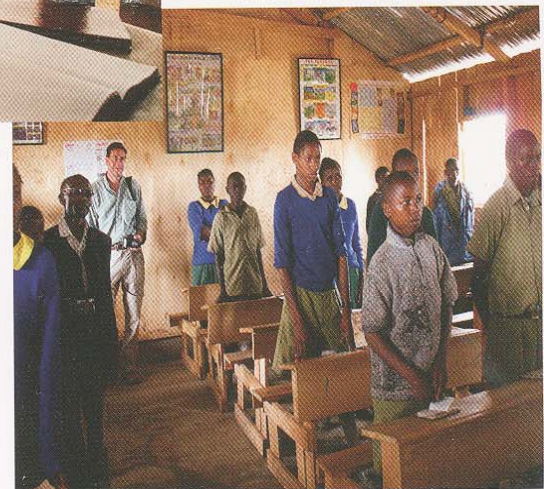
◆ **WHWF is sad to report** the passing of friends and supporters whose final wishes named our organization as one whose work they appreciated and wished to help continue. They are Mrs. Edward Collins, Mrs Frances Leventritt and Mrs. Mara Leucter. We have planted trees at the foundation as a living memorial to their friendship and generosity.

◆ **The New Mlima School** classroom has been completed and

these pictures were taken at the opening. However, that wasn't the only good news. In 1985, one of our most successful rural libraries was built at the Wathituga Primary School through the generosity of Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Norris.



Mrs. Harlyne Norris recently gave her official permission to utilize The Norris Foundation funding for a second library and we have chosen Mlima Kenya Primary School as the location. We are currently in the process of accepting construction bids.

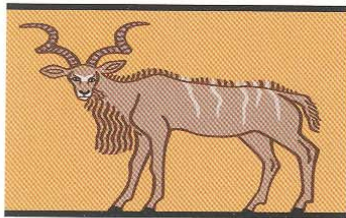


NEWS

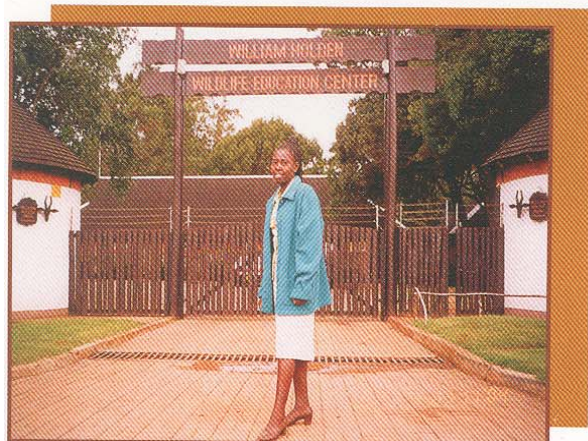
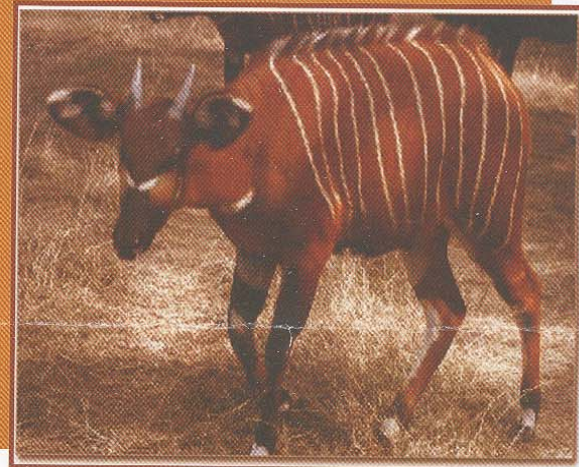


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◆ **Two More Bongo Births** at the **MOUNT KENYA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY!** It's hard to believe that the U.S. bongos arrived in Kenya over a year ago. 4 babies have been born so far and as nature takes its course every 9 ½ months, the prospects are good for the future of the herd. Designed to reach populations living on the perimeter of the Mt. Kenya National Park, the **WHWF** Bongo Awareness Program, has just completed its first year having reached a total of 28,000 people. For more information please visit our website.



◆ **Phyllis Nkirote** wishes to thank loyal on-line SP fans as she attends her first classes at Nairobi Hospital Nursing School. Nancy Dugan's ladies raised enough to pay for tuition, books and living expenses. "My dear friends – I am writing this through Ms. Powers," writes a grateful Phyllis, "today is the greatest day of my life! Words would never be enough to let you know how grateful I am. You have contributed greatly towards changing my life for the better. May God forever bless you."

◆ **New Principal at Ngenia Secondary School** Ms.

Winnie Thaiya tells us "the library is faring well, but we must still encourage the culture of reading. This problem is not within our school alone, it is country wide. Our students are encouraged to make use of our library, which they do, but the library has also been valuable and beneficial to the whole community."

◆ **Los Angeles Office** has a new software system thanks to the very generous donation of time and expertise by Mr. Joe Bruce who completely redesigned our entire data base. Thank you Joe!

◆ **Joshua Ravetch** a great friend and supporter of the foundation has donated a DVD dubbing machine that will allow us to transfer our extensive video archives to DVD for better preservation. Thank you J.R.

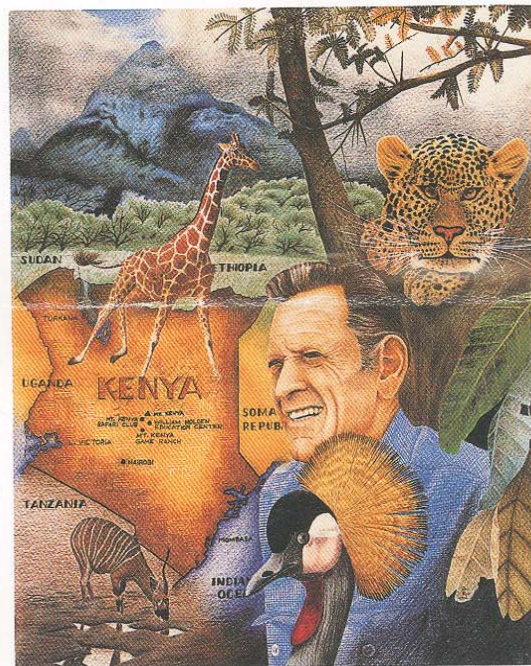
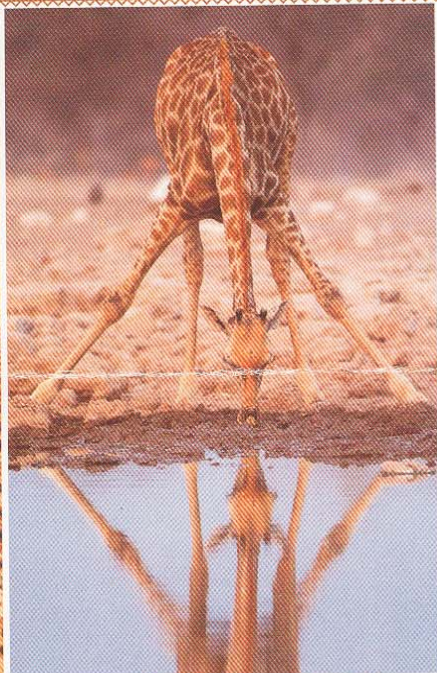
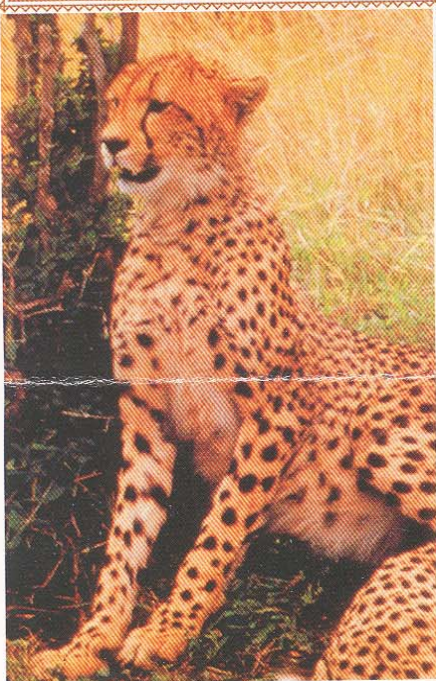
◆ **JL Foundation Library** - we have just purchased an additional 200 books to replace as well as enlarge the collection.

◆ **Thomas the Llama has died** after many years with us. Sadly, our Thomas died of old age – he was nearly 20 years old!



WWWF Merchandise

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