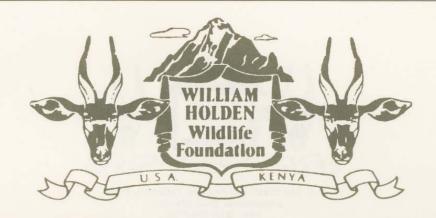
NEWSLETTER MARCH, 2000



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Dear Friends.

As I write to you I am on the verge of departing for Kenya. In this new year, new century and new millenium, we are more than ever before charged with the enormous task of combating the apathy that seems to have put the cause of conservation and preservation into the doldrums.

As the political arenas heat up for a new election, the mention of conservation has all but disappeared from the platforms. Not one candidate offers viable recipes whereby industry and conservation can work together to formulate programs that will answer the needs on both fronts. Not one candidate has offered tax incentives for conservation programs that are now available in the market but are costly for the average person to employ. It depends on each and every one of us to make our candidates accountable to the conservation causes they once supported when it was a hot issue.

Our opinions are important and politicians who want votes will listen if we are voluble enough. I urge you to support voter coalitions that demand a voice for crucial conservation and preservation issues in this election period.

We have recently watched many parts of the world explode with political and social upheavals. Indonesia, has made the nightly news on a regular basis. Along with riots comes lawlessness, and when no one is looking nature is raped and pillaged with no remorse, no pity and no outcry. Such is the case in Borneo where our good friend Birute Galdikas has worked for nearly 30 years studying and rehabilitating the orangutan. Recently, her study area was burned and many of the lives of her workers threatened. They are in a crisis. If any of you wish to have more information, please contact our office.

We thank the JL Foundation who have generously given us a grant for the purchase of a generating plant that will allow us to be electrically self-sufficient.

Warmest Regards,

Stefanie Powers

### **News From Kenya:**

As of the end of December, 1999, our student attendance was up 23% over last year. These consisted of students who visited the main education center for a cursory one day visit. This does not include any of the other students or adults that we reach through our rural library programs. In addition, we hosted students who camped at the center for three days. This curriculum includes indoor classes, as well as using the Mt. Kenya Forest, Mt. Kenya Game Ranch and the Animal Orphanage for field trips.

The trout pond has been drained, repaired and cleaned. It's now filled and ready for the next batch of fingerlings, which we hope to have in by the end of this month.

The annual painting and refurbishing of the entire education facility has been completed — ahead of schedule — and the center is looking terrific.

### **WHWF Member Honored**



WHWF longtime supporter and IPS Teacher of the Year, Ramona Griffin, is congratulated by Board President Marianna Zaphiriou and Superintendent Duncan N.P. Pritchett, Jr. during the Teacher of the Year Reception



# A Student Introduction to the William Holden Wildlife Foundation Education Center

Hello boys and girls!

Welcome to the William Holden Wildlife Foundation Education Center. We hope you are going to enjoy yourselves, but you will also have a lot of work to do and it starts right now.

(WHWFEC lecturer tosses an inflatable world globe to the students and asks whoever is holding it "Where is Africa?" ... then the globe is passed on to another student who answers the question "Where is Kenya?" ... next, where is Europe, America and Los Angeles, etc. and says, "This is where the people live who give money to make this visit possible for you". The lecturer then asks the students to look at the tiles outside the library to try and recognize any names. He then points out Mr. Holden's photograph and asks if anyone knows who it is.)

This is the man whose name is over the gate. Mr. Holden came to Africa a long time before you were born. He fell in love with the animals and people. He was a big movie star, a Schwarzenegger of his days. He would leave his successful acting career to come to Kenya where he had invested his money in the Mt. Kenya Safari Club and was deeply involved in conservation. At that time the term

'conservation' was rarely used. His biggest conservation project was the Mt. Kenya Game Ranch, which he established with his partner Don Hunt.

After running the game ranch for 20 years, it was his dream to build an education center with an education program to back up the animal preservation already going on at the game ranch. Sadly, he did not live to see that day.

In his memory, the William Holden Wildlife Foundation was created in order to fulfill his dream and build this education center. The WHWF is a public charity in the United States and the money is donated by caring people who make it possible for you to experience this facility. The president of the foundation is the well-known actress Stefanie Powers, who was a close friend of Mr. Holden. The vice-chairmen are Mr. Holden's former partners, Mr. and Mrs. Don Hunt.

We currently serve about 10,000 students a year and we have an outreach program that consists of three rural libraries attached to primary and secondary schools.

All of us are hoping that while you are here you will learn about the relationship between animals and people, and the need to preserve the natural world.



## Greenacres School Post Office Box 63450 Nairobi, Kenya

Dear Mr. Maina,

I apologize for taking so long in writing to thank you for allowing our students to visit the William Holden Wildlife Foundation Education Centre earlier this year. I wrote a letter to you shortly after the trip and have just found it in my desk, having forgotten to post it!

The students thoroughly enjoyed their visit and clearly learned a lot. They have since undertaken a science project based upon Kenyan wildlife and food webs. In addition, as the Head of Geography, I find myself constantly referring to the centre when talking about renewable energy, river studies, ecosystems and even the film industry.

As a teacher who has worked in the UK, Spain and now in Kenya, I can honestly say that your centre offers one of the best educational facilities I have visited. Not only is the centre well organized and immaculately maintained, but most importantly, your staff are extremely knowledgeable and helpful.

In the near future we will be planning the next academic year and I wish to ensure that a visit to your centre is included. As such, I would be grateful if you could confirm our provisional booking in writing.

Once again, thanks for affording our students the opportunity to learn something about their own country's flora and fauna. In my experience, outsiders such as myself marvel at the wonders of Kenya, whilst the majority of Kenya citizens never have the opportunity to do so. Your work is helping to change this; long may it continue.

Yours Sincerely, Neil R. Wrightson Teacher in Charge of Geography



The William Holden Wildlife Foundation is listed as a non-profit organization on a unique new website called iGive.com. iGive.com (www.igive.com) provides online shoppers an e-commerce portal with a twist — visitors can make donations to their favorite charities while they're buying items over the Internet everyday.

The iGive.com website contributes \$10.00 to the selected charity on behalf of each new registered shopper. An additional percentage, up to 15%, will be given to those charities on all purchases by each registered shopper at affiliated merchants. Among the 80 merchants currently working with iGive.com to increase charitable contributions are Reel.com, CDNow, 800.com, eToys, J. Crew

and J.C. Penny.

Shoppers also have the chance to expand the universe of causes that can benefit. Visitors are invited to list any non-profit organizations that aren't already benefiting from iGive.com donations, and they will receive a portion of the proceeds of purchases the consumer makes going forward.

In a statement issued by the company, iGive.com founder and CEO Robert Grosshandler said that he hopes members would add an additional 7,000 to 8,000 of their favorite charities to the 5,700 already listed on the site.

We invite all WHWF supporters to visit iGive.com, become registered shoppers and consider making your online purchases at this unique website.

# California School for the Deaf in Riverside, California Rallies for the Protection of Elephants

Fifth grade students at the CSDR, under the guidance of their teacher and longtime WHWF supporter Nancy Norton, have once again raised funds to help protect the African elephant. Students Ashten Johnson, William Albright III, Fallon Haney, Susan F. McDonald, Alvin Padilla, Cassaundra Roberson, Czaza Reyes, Tatiana Gonzala, Shaquice, Bobby, Paul, Bryan, and Brandi Evans worked together to collect pennies, recycle cans and have a bake sale to raise a \$400.00 contribution to the WHWF.









Posters are \$18.00 each (\$15.00 plus \$3.00 postage.) Please send check or money order to:

WILLIAM HOLDEN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION Post Office Box 67981, Los Angeles, CA 90067

Please send	_ poster(s) to:
Name	
Address	
City	
State	Zip Code

### Just a reminder ... the Foundation has WHWF t-shirts!

T-shirts are \$12.00 each (\$10.00 plus \$2.00 postage). Please send your check or money order to:

WILLIAM HOLDEN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION Post Office Box 67981, Los Angeles, CA 90067

Please circle color, and indicate size and quantity below:

White Powder Blue Safari Green Black

Small \_\_\_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_\_

Large \_\_\_\_\_ Extra Large \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_