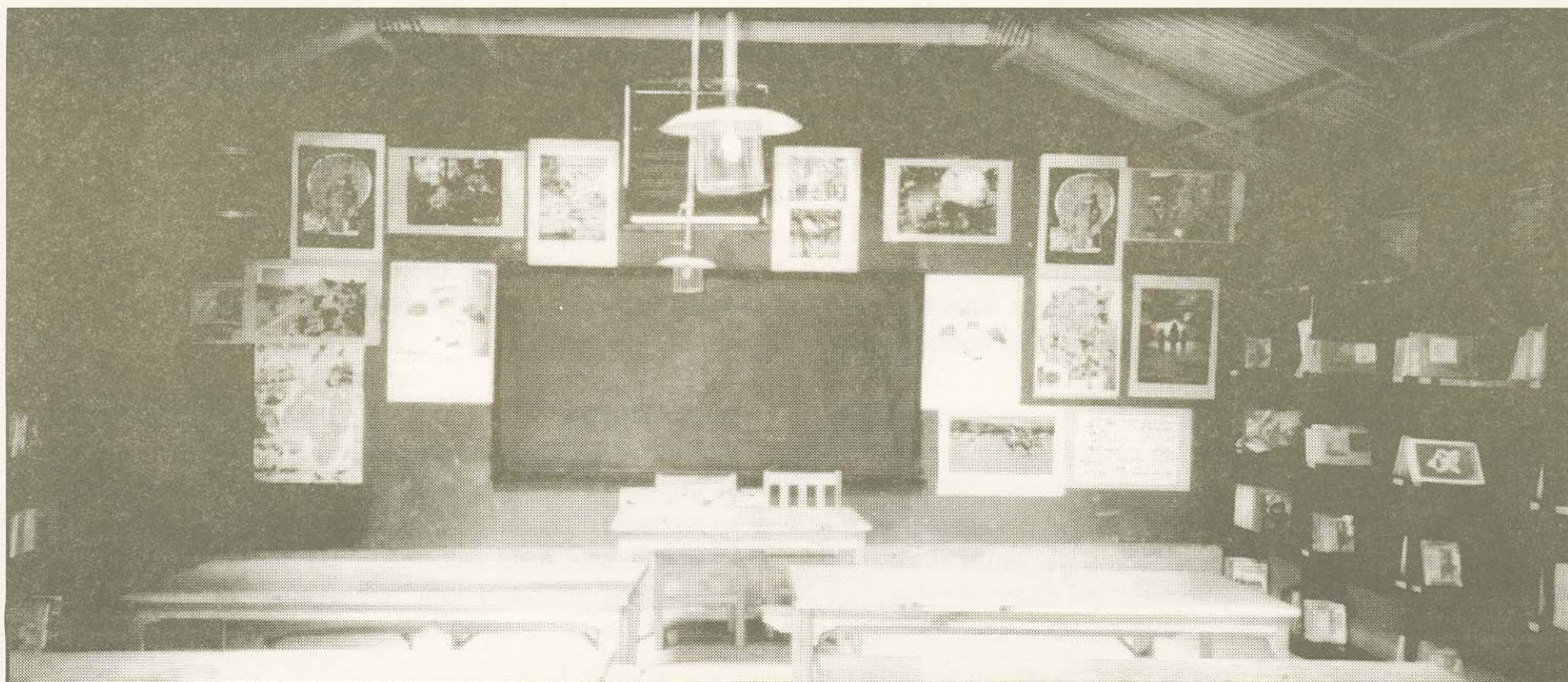


P.O. Box 67981, Los Angeles, CA 90067 Tel: (310) 274-3169



Interior of Rural Library
at
Nyariginu

Inside This Issue:

- * President Stefanie Powers visits Jardin Gaia in Costa Rica
- * Permaculture seminar
- * News from Kenya

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Dear Friends,

I have just returned from an extremely eventful trip to East Africa. The worst forest fire in 20 years engulfed a vast area of Mt. Kenya directly above the Mt. Kenya Game Ranch and the WHWFEC. Our entire staff was occupied well into the night for the better part of three days putting out fires, building roads and generally diverting the path of the fire. All hands were on board in this fight directed by our vice-chairman Don Hunt and aptly aided by Francis Maina and his crew of men. Eventually, they were joined by others, and finally, the Kenya Army arrived with bulldozers. A vast area of habitat has been destroyed, and one can only guess at the toll in wildlife. It was a major disaster; however, nature is amazing, the rains finally arrived, late but just in time to snuff the fires. Nothing can replace the loss of primary forest with mature trees and the wildlife has so much pressure on it already it certainly did not need this fire. Nevertheless, it was a relief to see the rain fall and to hope that this renewable resource will have the opportunity to one day recover entirely.

We are increasing the focus on our rural libraries, installing more programs as the student bodies step up to the challenge of global education. With a population that puts Kenya among those countries in the world with the highest annual growth, the pressure is on all the students to maximize their education. Clearly, if we are to spread the 'gospel' of conservation, it is important that we also aid in general education so that the students will better comprehend our message. To give you an idea of what the population "explosion" really means, contemplate this;

At independence in 1963, the population of Kenya was roughly 9 million people ... today ... 34 years later, the population is over 29 million and roughly 50% of that number is under the age of 21! That should make your mascara run! It is a fact that all the schools that have had the benefit of our rural libraries show a remarkable advance in scholarship. One step at a time, and soon we can run. With your help we will win the race!

Warmest Regards,

Stefanie Powers

News From Kenya:

International School of Kenya Visit to the William Holden Wildlife Foundation Education Center

From October 30 to November 1 and from November 6 to November 8, 1996, two groups of fourth grade students from the International School of Kenya visited our education center for our three day conservation education program.

The International School of Kenya is mainly attended by children whose parents are from different countries and work in Kenya. The group that visited our education center comprised of 20 nationalities from around the world.

During their stay here, the students attended a lecture on the importance of wildlife, spent time on an "African Safari" with the robot 2-XL, played wildlife board games in our library and visited the Mt. Kenya Game Ranch and Animal Orphanage.

The International School of Kenya students also got to meet their counterparts at Wathituga Primary School where the William Holden Wildlife Foundation has the Ken Norris Library. After a fifteen minute football match involving mixed teams from both schools (during which the ball never left a radius of 5 meters!!) the International School students then presented to the Wathituga students books, magazines, paints and footballs for the Ken Norris Library.

We are all very grateful for the kind gesture from the International School of Kenya and wish the students from the Wathituga Primary School and the International School of Kenya continued success.



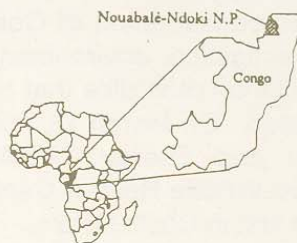
News from Africa:

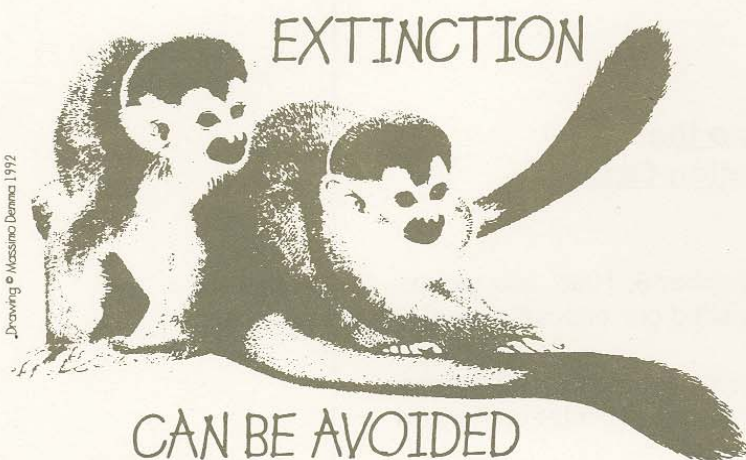
Wildlife Conservation Society

Congo Basin Forests: The tropical lowland forests of central Africa are second only in sized to those of South America. They are home to some of the world's best-known mammals - elephants, leopards, chimpanzees, gorillas - as well as towering trees, splendid birds and tens of thousands of other species, many of them unique to the region. The forests are thinly populated by humans. Nonetheless, hundreds of thousands of people depend on them for their livelihood. In the Republic of Congo, 60% of the land is covered by forests and, in fact, it represents the nation's greatest natural resource.

Nouabale-Ndoki Forest: In northern Congo lies one of Africa's richest and least disturbed treasures: the Nouabale-Ndoki forest. Mineral deposits in forest clearings attract scores of elephants; chimpanzees and gorillas show little fear of humans; and the renowned bongo is found in profusion. Apart from the Ba Aka pygmies who hunt and gather on the periphery of the area, there is very little human activity in Nouabale-Ndoki. The most direct threat to the forest is posed by illegal hunters, many of them drawn to the area by its rich elephant population. However, commercial logging operations in surrounding forests are expanding at an accelerated rate, causing great forest destruction and access by more and more hunters.

For more information, contact the Nouabale-Ndoki Project in care of the: Wildlife Conservation Society, Bronx NY 10460 USA.





JARDIN GAIA

Recently our president Stefanie Powers visited Costa Rica and was particularly impressed by the efforts of Dario Castelfranco. His family and staff have dedicated their lives to the objectives of Jardin Gaia. With extremely limited funds, borrowed equipment and resources constantly pushed to the edge they rescue, rehabilitate and release wildlife of all kinds into the rich Central American rainforests.

Jardin Gaia functions on such minimal funds that Dario told Stefanie that on at least two occasions he had to rescue and release animals by taxi service since he had no money for a car. To the best of our knowledge there is no other facility in Costa Rica that offers vet students the opportunity to work in the field with the variety of species found in this part of the world. Through the magic of the internet Dario is attracting volunteers from all over the world to help. They give their services for no salary and no frills.

Jardin Gaia (pronounced hard-eeen guy-oh, or "Earth Garden") Wildlife Rescue Center began in 1991 with the objective of contributing to the conservation of Costa Rica's biodiversity through investigation, environmental education, training and rehabilitation of wildlife that has been hurt, confiscated or donated. On March 13, 1995 the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINA E) declared Jardin Gaia the Official Wildlife Rescue Center of the Central Pacific Area, the first in Costa Rica.

Wildlife Veterinary

Jardin Gaia provides an excellent opportunity for wildlife veterinarians and vet students. Students in

their final year at the Costa Rican Veterinary School are required to spend several weeks here, in an effort to foster an interest in wildlife veterinary medicine. The rescue center is eager to develop exchange programs with other veterinary schools. In 4 years they have received more than 400 birds and 70 mammals, many in danger of extinction. To develop a Program of Rehabilitation and Reintroduction of wildlife species from confiscation and donations, they invited specialists from 5 Universities to participate in Jardin Gaia's Board of Scientific Advisors.

Research

Jardin Gaia supports researchers concerned with the survival of Central Pacific Conservation Area (ACOPAC) species. In the last 5 years, in coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Energy and national and foreign universities, Jardin Gaia has supported more than a dozen different biological, veterinary, botanical and tourist investigations.

Education

In coordination with the Central Pacific Conservation Area and the Ministry of Public Education we intend to inform local area students about the importance of taking care of the remaining wildlife. We are working on two permanent educational exhibitions and one transportable to schools. We hope these communities will become responsible for the reintroduction of the species rehabilitated at Jardin Gaia. We also offer a training program in veterinary emergency management. This program is directed to the personnel of the Ministry of Environment and Energy and to conservation organizations.

Training

The reintroduction program will not be successful if we don't support efforts to improve the living conditions of the communities next to the releasing site. We will train the communities of the agricultural frontier in cultivating orchids in greenhouses using seeds, since this is a sustainable alternative to their illegal extraction from the forest. It is also important to establish nurseries of native species of interest to the wild fauna to supply the Biological Corridors that will connect already protected areas. The above activities will see the active participation of Jardin Gaia.

Volunteers

Within the last two years 120 plus volunteers from 18 countries have worked at Jardin Gaia, helping with cleaning cages, feeding and taking care of the animals, or in investigation and protection projects. Our dedication to the problems of the Manuel Antonio National Park and to the actions taken to conserve the squirrel monkey give the volunteer a diverse experience here. When they return to their countries of origin many keep helping and have given donations of veterinary equipment, supplies, medicine and have succeeded in recruiting more volunteers. Many return for a second or third volunteer period. We require a financial contribution of \$100.00 per month in order to cover part of our increasing operational costs.

Financing

From 1991 until March, 1994 all the investments and the operational costs have been paid for with private funds. To attend to a growing number of emergencies in a better way we need to strengthen the Rescue Center in terms of equipment, infrastructure, human and economic resources. With this goal a new Management and Development Plan, which defines the operational costs and investment priorities, has been developed in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Energy. This plan gets the approval of Costa Rican environmental organizations and we invited them to supervise the realization of the plan. Last December a large grant was finally approved to Jardin Gaia by the Dutch Cooperation Agency funding about 2/3 of the new plan. Since then we are working harder than ever to find the needed resources to realize the rest of the Development Plan.

Adoption Campaign

Since the monthly support from the MINAE to Jardin Gaia only covers 15% of the operational costs and the Dutch Grant about 60%, they are asking for the cooperation of the community of Quepos - Manuel Antonio and visitors to cover the increasing Jardin Gaia's operational costs. The needed support will allow this unique conservation program to expand their activities, improve the

clinic's equipment, establish a permanent releasing center, and promote research in wildlife veterinary medicine. They invite these groups to become 'patrons' of existing cages, or cages under construction, to improve the conditions of the animals lives, because animals sometimes are confiscated because of a lack of appropriate infrastructure or a sufficient quantity of cages. We will place a plaque with the name of the sponsor on the individual cage, a certificate will be given, each sponsor will receive the Jardin Gaia newsletter with the most recent activities and will receive an invitation so that they can participate in special activities organized by the Jardin Gaia Wildlife Rescue Center.

Come and Visit Us

In order to keep to a minimum the disturbance to the animals they allow only 20 visitors per day and in small groups. Tours are given by a volunteer four times a day at 9:00AM, 11:00AM, 2:00PM and 4:00PM. The entrance fee is 200 colones for Costa Ricans because they are considered the most important actor in the reintroduction program. They ask a \$5.00 contribution from all foreigners and do not charge for children up to 12 years old.

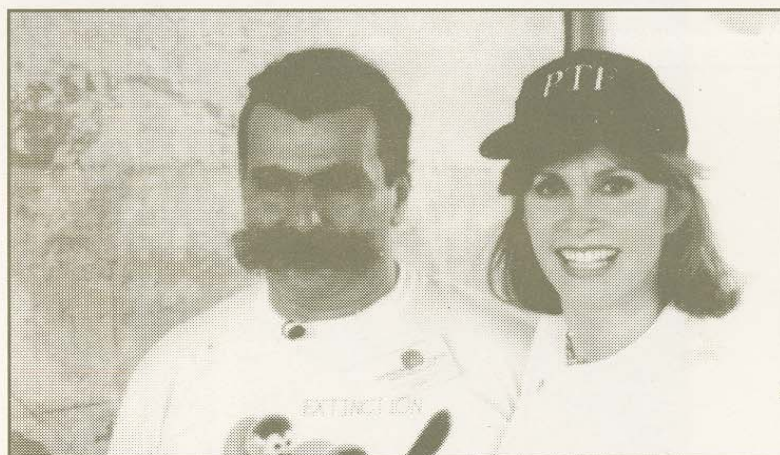
Jardin Gaia is located at km 2.7 of the road to Manuel Antonio National Park.

Tel: (506) 777.0535 Fax: 777.1004

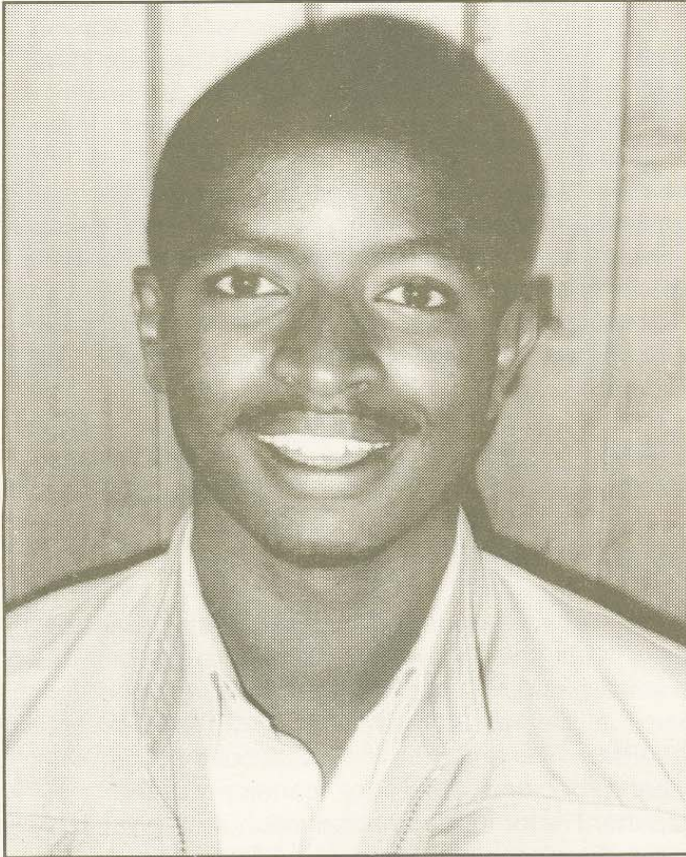
P.O. Box 182 - 6350 Quepos - COSTA RICA

email: wildlife@cariari.ucr.ac.cr

<http://skynet.ul.ie/~gwh/jg/index.html>



**Stefanie Powers with Dario Castelfranco
at Jardin Gaia**



Francis Maina

3 Day Intensive Course in Sustainable Land-Use Practices **October 15th - 17th, 1996**

In an effort to address the needs of all sectors of the population and all ages, our Education Center was the scene of a three day course on permaculture. The course was conducted by Ms. Dee Raymer, who is a specialist on sustainable agricultural systems.

In the seminar were: Mrs. Jane McKeand, Mrs. Joan Root, Mr. Tom Ings, Mrs. Buntly Granville-Ross, Mrs. Bisto Fernandes, Mrs. Enid Dawson, Mrs. Katie Critchley, Mr. John Carver, Mr. Jan Allen, Mrs. Sue Allan, Mr. Francis Maina and Mr. Nicholas Kilole. All keen gardeners and farmers, and all residents of Kenya. In addition, the entire senior staff of the foundation sat in on the discussions which they will use and adapt to the ever-increasing needs of our education program.

Permaculture or permanent agriculture was developed in the early 1970's as a sustainable land use system for farmers. It involves, among others: the use of organic manure as opposed to chemical fertilizers, the use of biological pest control by companion planting, the more efficient use of water and energy, feeding the soil and not the plant, and the use of constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment.

Only about 20% of Kenya is suitable for rain fed agriculture and this combined with an ever growing population gives us a more compelling reason to teach our students permaculture because it not only gives quality yields it also keeps the soil permanently arable.



**The Headmaster and Librarian from the rural library at Nyariginu with
WHWF president Stefanie Powers and Francis Maina**

13TH NOVEMBER, 1996.

THE MANAGER,
WILLIAM HOLDEN WILD-LIFE EDUCATION CENTRE,
P.O. BOX 288,
NANYUKI

THRO:

THE HEADMISTRESS,
ST. LUCY'S SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND,
P.O. BOX 22, EGOTI - NIA-MERU.

Dear Sir / Madam,

REF: LETTER OF APPRECIATION

On behalf of our Wildlife Club members and of the entire Community of St. Lucy's School for the Blind, I wish to express our sincere thanks for the reception, hospitality, films and the lectures you offered our group which visited you on 2nd to 3rd of November, 1996.

I'm glad to point out that the films on the wild-life, the tour to the Animal Ophanage, the trip to the game ranching area and the lectures were of great educational and ecological value to our members. Generally the tour was very educational and enjoyable to our group members.

I also wish to commend the professional approach to tasks, extended to our Visually Handicapped Children by Mr. Francis Maina. It was very appropriate. Keep it up. Our Special Commendations still goes to Mr. Maina for the patience he had towards our group which required more time. Indeed, he understood us and he even sacrificed his own time.

Finally, and not the least, may I kindly request you to extend our sincere appreciation to all members of the entire fraternity of the William Holden Wildlife Education Centre.

Wish you all the best.

Thanks.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Leonard Mbaye.
(Patron - WCK - St. Lucy's).

**"Swinging Safari Celebration!"
to benefit the
William Holden Wildlife**

On Saturday, June 7th, from 11:00AM to 6:00PM, there will be an all day event to be held in The Marketplace Long Beach at The Painted Ladys, 6451-3 East Pacific Coast Highway in Long Beach, California. There will be a drawing to win a 10-day photographic safari to Kenya. Raffle tickets are \$20.00 each. Special guest Stefanie Powers will be on hand during the day to talk about the work of the William Holden Wildlife Foundation. Other guests include Reginald Oliver Smythe, Steiff Toy Company's Safari Bear and author Susan Hoy will sign her latest book, "Safari - My Trip to Africa". During the day, there will be themed music, food and prizes, an artmaker and crafts for kids. For more information, please call: (562) 493-6775.

**Campaign for William Holden Commemorative
United States Postage Stamp**

WHWF supporter, Marian Robinson, is campaigning for a U.S. postal stamp commemorating William Holden. For our members who wish to join this quest please fill in the below and mail to: Marian Robinson, 4630 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55422

We, the undersigned, wish to have the United States Post Office make a commemorative stamp for the film actor and superstar William Holden. He has 68 films to his credit during his 63 years of life. Mr. Holden was born in 1918 and died in 1981.

Name: _____

Town: _____



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 that 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 indicate size/color and quantity below:

White or Power Blue

Safari Green or Black

Small _____

Medium _____

Large _____

Extra Large _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone () _____

