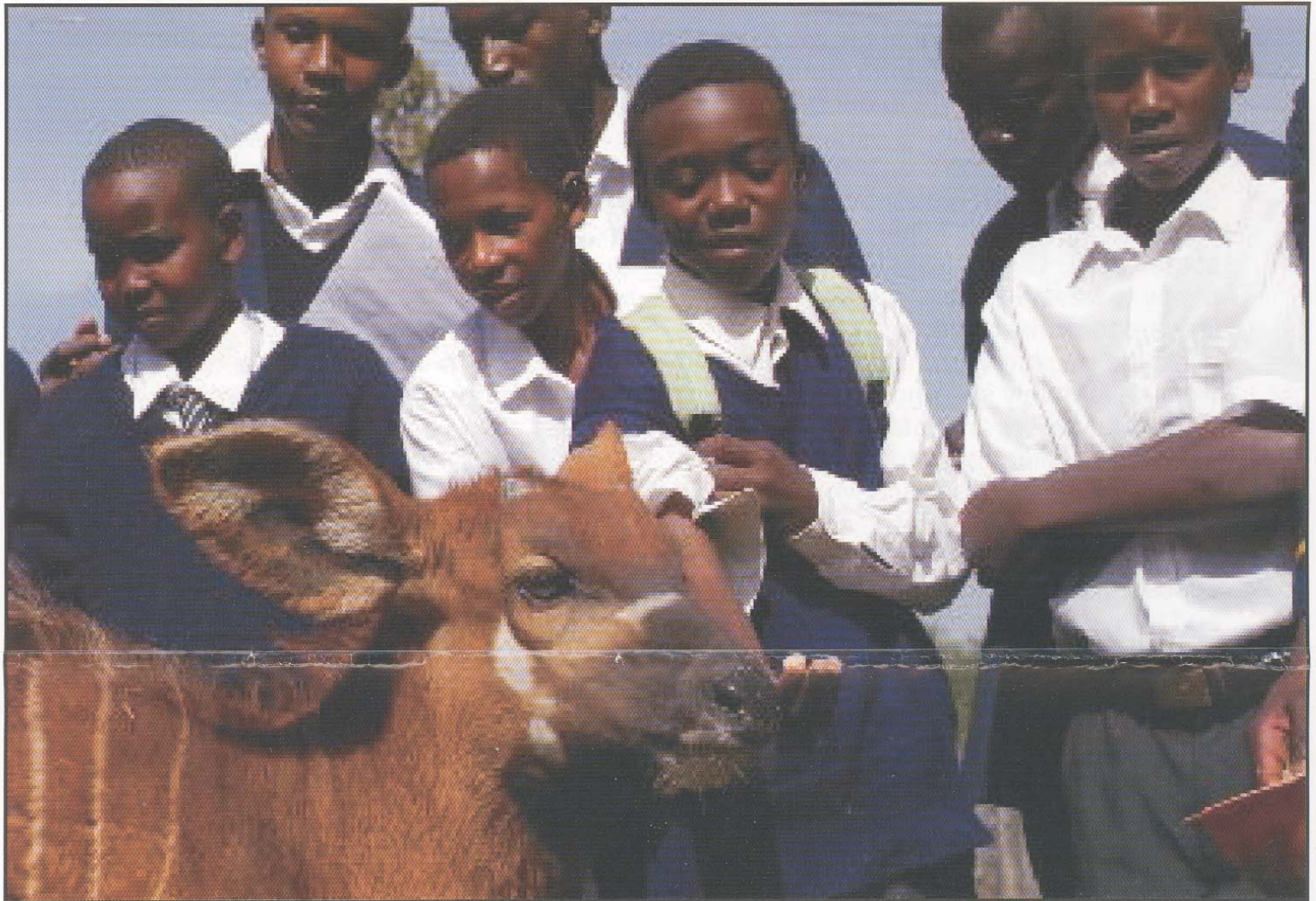


P.O. Box 16637, Beverly Hills, CA 90209 Tel: (310) 274-3169



(Photo: Iris Hunt)

Kianyaga High School students' first contact with wild animals at the Mt. Kenya Game Ranch Animal Orphanage during their lecture tour.

## DIRECTORS

Stefanie Powers  
Don Hunt  
Iris Breidenbend Hunt  
Tom Mankiewicz  
Julian McKeand



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Dear Friends,

Many requests for a more colorful newsletter have led us to produce this issue. This is an experiment so we need your feedback, please. Iris Hunt, our director in Kenya and one of the founders of the Mt. Kenya Game Ranch and WHWF worked together with an overseas intern from Germany, Franziska von le Fort, to create a new format and bring some new life to our newsletter, so we all hope you enjoy the new look.

Kenya has a new president, President Mwai Kibaki, and a new government, which is now well in place and creating a clean sweep. It seems that 'new' is the word of the day. Prof. Wangari Maathai has been appointed as Asst. Environment Minister. The Professor has a long history of personal dedication to environmental conservation and started "THE GREEN BELT MOVEMENT" while still in the private sector. We are happy to have a person of commitment in such an influential position, and we look forward to working with her.

At the beginning of this year there were some terrible fires in Kenya, some of which were deliberately set, and some of which were very near our Education Center. Fortunately, we were untouched and the damage was not as bad as it might have been, still it was another blow to the environment, the forest, bird life and ground animals all of which pay the highest price when a fire occurs. The rain in April and May has done much to repair the grasses and bush but the trees are another subject, emphasizing the crucial role our Education Center has in teaching the lessons of animal conservation/preservation as well as those of the land and forests in which they dwell, and from which, we drive the gifts of live support as well.

The past year and a half has been for all of us a most difficult time financially; our life support for the work we do depends entirely on our donors. This November 1<sup>st</sup> we will be presenting a 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert in Los Angeles with the JR. Philharmonic Orchestra, the Debbie Allen Dancers, the International Youth Choir, and a star studded cast to help us celebrate while raising vital funds for the continuation of our work. I hope you will join us for this gala event.

Warmest regards,

Stefanie Powers

## SPECIAL FRIENDS & BENEFACTORS

Welcome to all our new supporters around the world. Through your generosity we are able to continue our much needed work.

.....

### SPECIAL THANKS

A very special thank you to members of the Stefanie Powers Official Fan Club who worked tirelessly to collect a donation of \$5,000.00.

Like most non-profit organizations, the William Holden Wildlife Education Center relies on membership donations to fund its operations. Annually we ask our existing supporters to renew their memberships and to encourage their friends to support our work. Your support has enabled us:

- To host more than 5700 children in 2002
- To protect 13 acres of land for the use of our students
- To build constructed wetlands worth more than \$16,000
- To plant 130 indigenous trees in the nearby Kanyoni Village
- To support three rural school libraries

If you are not yet a member, we want to invite you to invest in the education of Kenya's children and in the support of conservation of game and indigenous forests in Kenya.

## A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO

Jane McKeand; for her very kind assistance with our tree-planting project.

.....

### IN MEMORY OF:

Roselle Cameron  
Margaret Maye

.....

A big thank you to all of those who make our conservation projects possible. We are extremely grateful to all our friends and supporters!

## UNESCO

On January 15, 2003, we hosted a group of six experts from the UNESCO (United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) and the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) led by Professor Eric Edroma.

This was a joint IUCN / UNESCO World Heritage Monitoring Mission to Mt. Kenya National Park / Natural Forest World Heritage Site (WHS). The mission's aim was to assess current state of conservation of the WHS and provide recommendations to the Kenyan authorities. The secondary objective was to investigate development paths for the site, as a part of the UNESCO project "African Network for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain World Heritage Sites".



Photo: Iris Hunt

Vice Chairman, Mr. Don Hunt, welcomed the mission to the Education Center and spoke to them on the operation and programmes the Foundation is involved in. I made a brief statement on the relevance of our education curriculum in regards to conservation of the Mt. Kenya ecosystem from where the majority of our students come from.

Francis Maina, Education Coordinator

## THE BIG GOOD NEWS: EDUCATION FOR ALL

One of the exciting promises newly elected President Kibaki made to the parents of Kenya was to provide FREE PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR ALL Kenya's children. This marks the beginning of a whole new world of hope for many children of all ages that had previously no means or hope for any kind of education.

This is the same group of children that our own education programs were unable to reach previously because they were not part of the system. In many Kenyan families, available money could only be stretched to send one or two children to school. For many others, fate dictated that they should go without any form of education forever. Experience has taught educationists worldwide that programs exposing young students to both academic and extracurricular experiences produce more graduates capable of making positive contributions to every field of development later.



Photo: Nyumbani

The William Holden Education Center has proved this theory time and again. We are especially proud to have some of our students return to lecture as successful adults. Many never forgot what they learned at the center and found it important enough to pass on. The Center at Nanyuki, Kenya teaches young students of all ages the importance of safekeeping our environment and the wildlife that is part of it.

We now face the challenge to bring this message to approximately 4 million new students enrolled in schools this year. All of us here are very excited at the prospect, however we need our donor's continued support to make this great challenge a reality.

YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL HELP US TO OPEN A NEW WINDOW OF HOPE FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE YOUNG SOULS, THEY ARE OUR BEST INSURANCE FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR PLANET.

I.H.



Photos: Iris Hunt

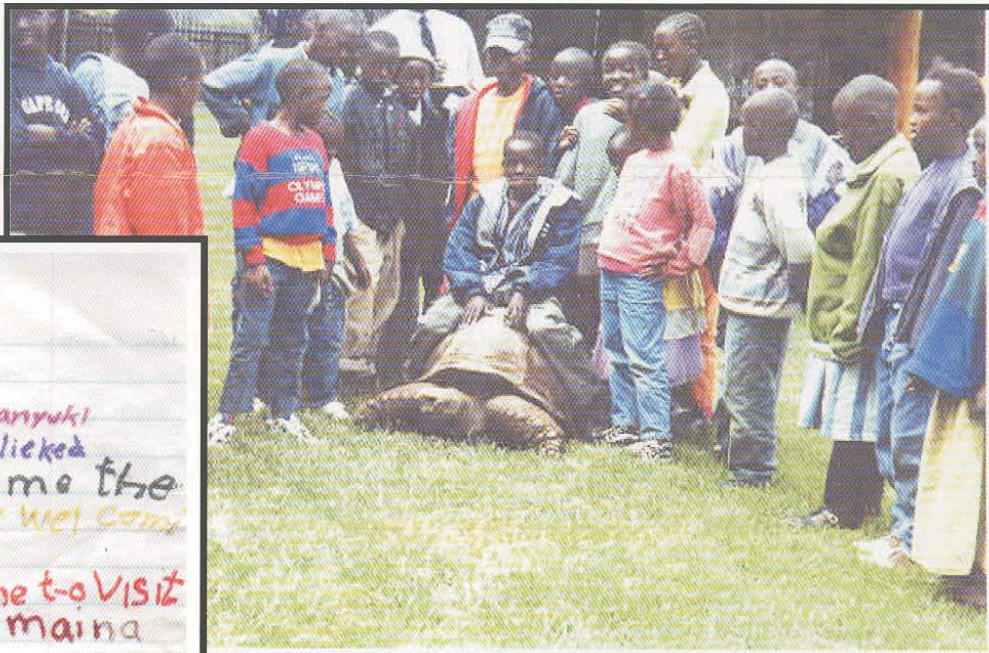
*Since 1982, the William Holden Education Center housed more than 85,000 children and created in them an awareness of their valuable heritage of wildlife and forests. Thanks to the vision of William Holden and with our donor support, Kenya's children are privileged to receive the knowledge that will enable them to prevent environmental mistakes made by previous generations.*

**NYUMBANI CHILDREN'S HOME**

The Nyumbani Children of God Relief Institute is a special hospice that cares for HIV+ orphans. It is the realization of the vision of Fr. Angelo D'Agostino to care for HIV+ children in Kenya. With many willing helpers, he created a caring and loving hospice for 300 HIV/AIDS orphans.

They brought 40 children aged 8-10 years to the Education Center who were accompanied by Miss Kenya 2002 - they could not take their eyes from her. It was our pleasure to brighten up their day when they visited the William Holden Education Center in November 2002.

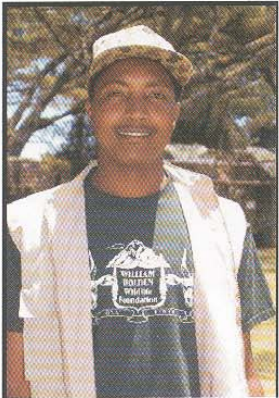
Letter from Elizabeth (7)



Nyumbani children at the animal orphanage (Photo: Nyumbani)

AT NANYUKI

I had a nice time at Nanyuki  
the most thing that I liked  
thank you to show me the  
Animals thank you For wel come  
ing me to Nanyuki  
I was happy to come to visit  
I will party For you maina  
my god bless you  
Form ELIZABETH  
I Love you maina

**STAFF CORNER****New appointment:**

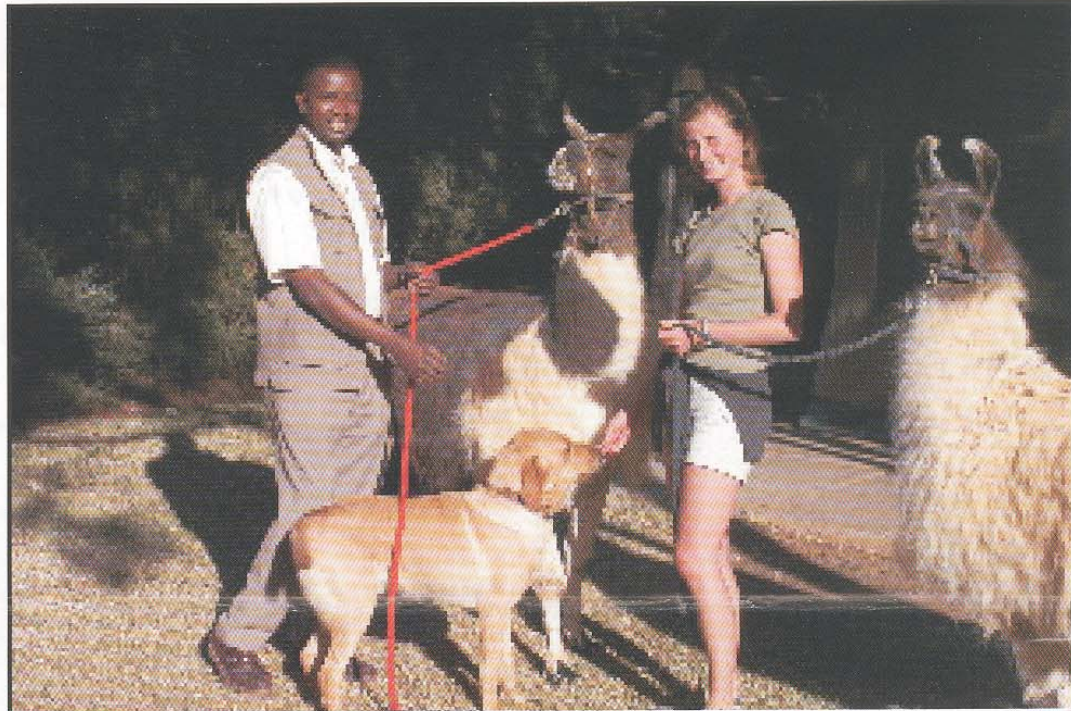
On 15/01/03, I was appointed the Senior Lecturer at William Holden Wildlife Education Center. I originally started as an intern student at the Mt. Kenya Game Ranch Animal Orphanage having completed a BSc degree in Wildlife Management. I later joined a wildlife conservancy to initiate and lead an Environmental Conservation Education program.

Due to the continued environmental degradation we are experiencing today - as a young Kenyan - I am very concerned. I firmly believe that the solution to all these problems is environmental education to each and every one. Our actions matter most. The actions we take today will determine how the world will be tomorrow. As a senior lecturer at the William Holden Education Center, I have an obligation to meet: to educate people, to conserve the little that is left, and offer possible alternative solutions. My dream is to have an environmentally friendly future generation.

*Michael Ng'ang'a, Senior Lecturer*

**INTERNSHIP**

In January 2003, I joined the internship program of the Education Center for two months. I am currently studying International Management in Europe and have never had the opportunity to learn about Kenya's wildlife and natural environment before. I am now very enthusiastic about its protection and conservation. I am fascinated by the Center's work and am not surprised by its echo among Kenyan students. But there is a lot to be done. They must now be given the chance to actually apply at home or in their future businesses, what they have learned in our Center.



(Photo: Iris Hunt)

I had the chance to talk to the students on social, cultural and environmental issues regarding Germany and Kenya, which was most interesting to me, and I hope as well to the children. Most of them believe Europe or the US are a paradise compared to Africa. It is difficult to show them what great potential lies in Kenya, especially when the environment will not be destroyed as a consequence of development. I sincerely want to thank all the staff of the Education Center for this unforgettable experience in Kenya. I had a wonderful, very different time, and I think I have learned more than ever about life. I hope my future will enable me to continue contributing to conservation wherever I am.

Thank you, Franziska von le Fort

## CAPTURE



(Photo: Iris Hunt)

A graceful killer has been stalking the game and Llama on the Mount Kenya Game Ranch.

A trap was set and she has finally been captured! She is a beautiful young adult leopard in prime condition. Unfortunately she had developed quite a taste for Reedbuck and young Llamas bred there for the use as pack animals for our student's treks up Mount Kenya.

The Kenya Wildlife Service was quick to respond and the beautiful animal has now been released into the Meru National Park under the supervision of Mark Jenkins, the senior Warden there. We are grateful to the KWS for giving this lovely creature a new secure home.

## UPDATES:

- On the 27<sup>th</sup> of December, Kenya peacefully elected a new government headed by His Excellency Honorable President Mwai Kibaki.
- President Kibaki has placed conservation and education as one of Kenya's priorities under his administration.
- 4 million extra children are going to be enrolled in primary schools in 2003
- 5762 students attended our programs in 2002
- Michael Ng'ang'a, started in January as our new senior lecturer
- The Constructed Wetlands are near completion
- On New Year's Day, Dr. Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director UNEP, visited the Center and was shown around by one of our local supporters, Dr.med. Detlef Laue. He was very impressed by our efforts.
- Tree-Planting Day: We are planning to take part in the national tree-planting day to be announced by Prof. Wangari Maathai, now the Assistant Minister for Environment our new government.

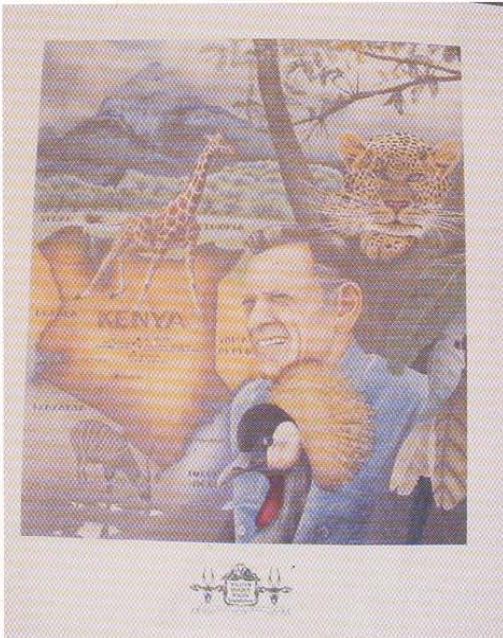
BAMBOO AS A CASH CROP FOR KENYAN FARMERS

In order to offer an alternative for the use of indigenous wood, the William Holden Wildlife Education Center is currently planning to use Bamboo wherever wood is needed for construction and repairs.

In Kenya timber prices have soared throughout the country and much illegal logging continues in our forests today. Forests have been closed to all until adequate forest guards can be deployed.

A species of bamboo growing in excess of 100 ft in 2 years can produce over 10,000 culms per year per hectare for harvest. Certain species are also termite and borer resistant. Little cultivation of bamboo has been undertaken in Kenya. Indiscriminate harvesting of indigenous bamboo threatens bamboo in the National Parks and Forest Department Reserves.

All its characteristics prove that bamboo has the potential to be a very profitable alternative to indigenous wood. We want to show our students that very useful alternatives exist in order to protect Kenya's indigenous forests. With the help of our students, we are assisting local farmers in the cultivation of bamboo as a cash crop.



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

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ poster(s) to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

Country \_\_\_\_\_

***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 \_\_\_\_\_

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