

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



## LLAMAS TEACH STUDENTS ABOUT BIO-DIVERSITY

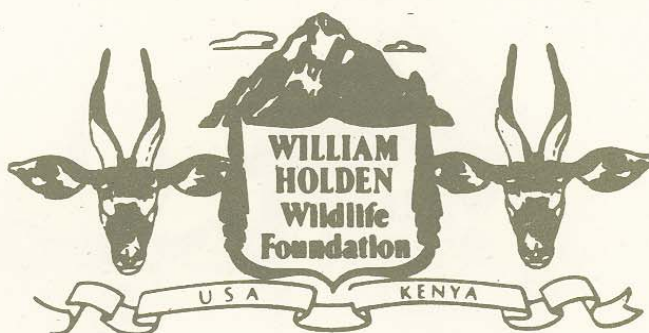
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actor Richard Anderson
- \* Explore the wonderful world  
of llamas in Kenya



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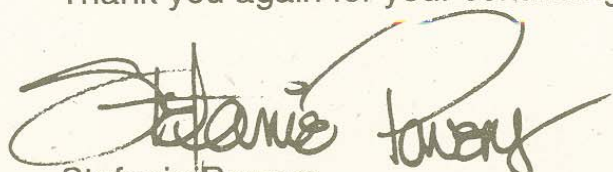
Dear Friends,

I sincerely hope you enjoy our new newsletter. We have all worked very hard to find the available bio-degradable and recyclable materials and use them in conjunction with a format that will allow more news as well as features from contributing writers. I would love to hear back from you if you like our innovation and how we might continue to bring you even more in our newsletter that informs and entertains. The last thing you need is to be bored by endless text, we want to make our publications something you look forward to receiving.

Plans are already beginning for our fund-raising event in 1994 which will take place at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center on February 20 so SAVE THE DATE!! It has been quite a while since we have attempted an event in Los Angeles and it is a real challenge which will need all your help and support if we are to be successful. As in the past at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center we will create a family oriented afternoon of western style Bar-B-Q and indoor polo match with lots of extra trimmings. We will be sending you more information this year on our plans in hopes you will join us on the day.

My latest trip to Kenya was two months ago just before we began filming a new two hour version of HART TO HART movies for NBC. The reputation of the Foundation is spreading throughout Kenya in the rural areas and I was asked to the Maasai Mara to meet with the principal chief of the Maasai. The chief had learned of our educational programs both at the center and out in the bush and he was most anxious to expose his people to some of our programs. Clearly it is best to walk before running and most probably we will begin slowly by bringing some Maasai to us to be exposed to our curriculum and adjust them as it applies to the ways of the Maasai. This is a new area for us which will be our first rural attempt far from our base and with a tribe of people who have not been exposed to our sort of information. We are extremely excited with the prospects of this new project.

Thank you again for your continuing support. Warmest regards,

  
Stefanie Powers



## News From Kenya

### Trout Sales:

Sales of trout from the Education Centre Trout Project have yielded \$19.39 USD (1,275 KSHS) in March, \$65.06 USD (4,500 KSHS) in April and \$265.88 USD (19,650 KSHS) in May.

### Construction:

The following improvements have been made over the last few months: construction of water drainage, a road from the small gate to the garage, a car park, and a pathway from the car park to the library. Construction of new staff houses was completed, and furnishings were purchased in Nanyuki, Nyeri and Nairobi after price comparisons were carried out.

### School Visits:

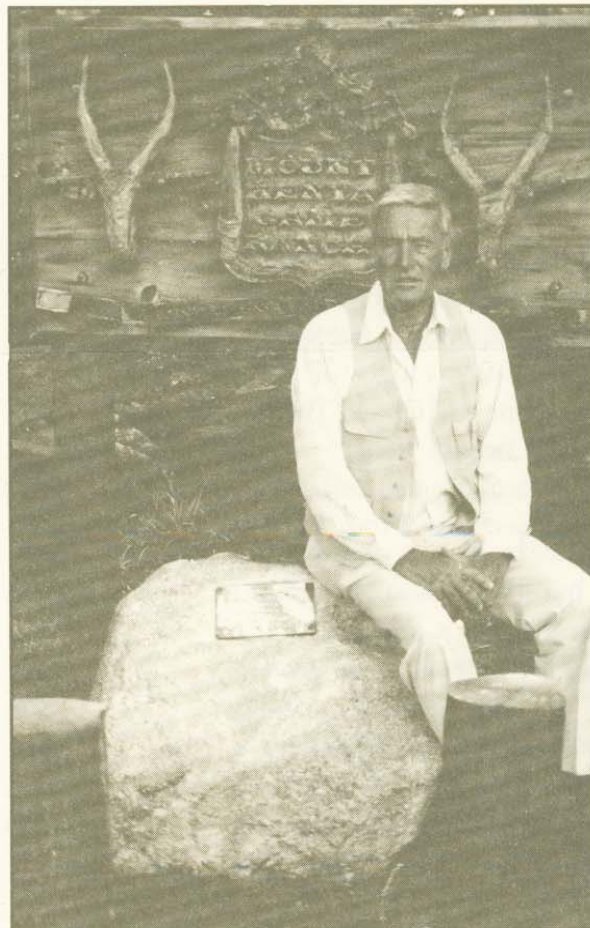
Students were welcomed from the following schools: Kenya High School, Imani School, Githuchi Women's Group, Kenya Utalii College, Hodari Boys, Endevale Girls Home, Peniel Academy, Kirimba Methodist Church Group and Nanyuki Garrison School. A typical day visit consists of the following activities: welcome lecture, video, project walk, visit to animal orphanage and game drive. In addition, students from the Hodari Boys School participated in activities about energy sources, and the Utalii College students attended a lecture on the social structure of the common and grevy zebras.

## WHWEC Visitors

American actor Richard Anderson spent a wonderful afternoon treated to a VIP tour of our Kenya facility by senior education officer James Vermey.

*The wildlife compound is a unique spot on earth. Without sounding mystic, one feels in awe of spiritual goodness in a fabled land - Africa. It was good to be there to pay tribute to an old friend.*

Richard Anderson





## LLAMAS

By Brenda Scott Royce

*"The llama is a woolly sort of fleecy hairy goat  
With an indolent expression and an undulating throat."*

*"More Beasts for Worse Children"  
By British Author Hilaire Belloc*

In scientific terms, the llama is a member of the camel family, Camelidae, which also includes the guanaco, alpaca and vicuna. The llama and the alpaca are both domesticated, while the guanaco and the vicuna are generally wild. The vicuna is the smaller of the two wild species and it is so sought after for its fine wool that it is in danger of extinction in its own habitat.

The llama is the largest of the four related species of the Andes. The average llama stands 4 ft. high at the shoulders, with a body length of more than 4 ft. Adults weigh up to 300 pounds and their bodies are covered with fine, smooth, fairly long wool. The density of the llama's hair makes the animals appear larger than they actually are.

Llamas can be white, brown, grey or black, but they are most commonly brown with white markings. Native to South America, llamas are found in the Andes mountain range of Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Argentina and Chile. The life span of the llama is about twenty years.

Archaeologist and anthropologists tell us that the llama was first domesticated four to five thousand years ago in Peru. It is primarily used as a beast of burden but its valuable bi-products of wool, milk and meat make it part of the life support mechanism of the Indians of the eastern coastal mountains. The people of the Andes mountains used to rely solely on the llama for transportation in that rough terrain. A llama can carry a load of up to 65 pounds for distances up to twenty five miles per day. They can traverse

<i>Class</i> <b><i>Mammalia</i></b>
<i>Order</i> <b><i>Artiodactyla</i></b>
<i>Family</i> <b><i>Camelidae</i></b>
<i>Genus</i> <b><i>Lama</i></b>
<i>Species</i> <b><i>Glama (llama)</i></b> <b><i>Pacos (alpaca)</i></b> <b><i>Guanacoe (guanaco)</i></b> <b><i>Vicugna (vicuna)</i></b>

treacherous paths at high altitudes. They are suited for life at these heights because their hemoglobin can take in more oxygen than that of any other animal.

In South America, little is wasted from the carcass of a llama, even its hide is used to make sandals, its fat is used to make candles, its wool braided into rope or used to make clothing, and its dried excrement is used for fuel.

The llama's dense wool is not as valuable



commercially as the extremely fine wool of the alpaca, therefore, the male llamas are generally not sheared, thus providing a cushion for the loads they carry.

As a rule, female llamas are not used for carrying, but for breeding and they are regularly sheared for their wool, used in clothing. Female llamas produce only one offspring each year, with the gestation period being ten to eleven months.

Native only to South America, llamas have been exported to other parts of the world. In the United States, llama breeding is a burgeoning business, presently, there are approximately 10,000 - 20,000 llamas in the U.S.. While llamas are used in the U.S. for carrying supplies through rocky terrain, some Americans have even employed the animals in more creative ways such as on the golf course — as caddies! Golfers be forewarned — llamas have a great tendency to bite and to spit.

In 1990 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hunt donated

four llamas to the William Holden Wildlife Foundation in Kenya - two males (Tomas and Cassanova) and two females (Misti and Evita). Misti has since given birth to two females, Ajabu and Doa. Evita's offspring have both been males, Macho Nne and Chelewa. Ajabu has had one offspring, Sikuku, a female.

The breeding herd located at the Education Centre are the only llamas on the African continent and serve as great ambassadors for the animal kingdom and as examples of the diversity of species. They are also used as pack animals for students' outings up Mount Kenya.

**WHWF President Stefanie Powers  
with Misti, Ajabu and Macho Nne.**

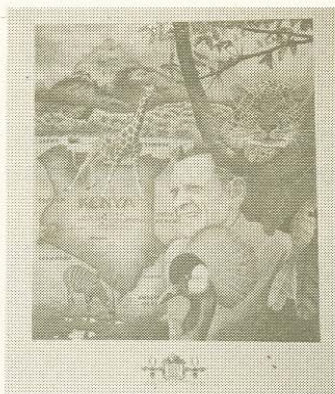






## CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

We would like to thank once again the CSD students for all their hard work conducting bake sales, collecting recycled cans and pennies for the purpose of assisting the WHWF in our efforts to help save elephants. The ten students raised over \$300.00.



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

WILLIAM HOLDEN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION  
P.O. Box 67981, Los Angeles, CA 90067

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

Enclosed is my check for \$15.00 for a copy of James Vermey's Paper of the "Future of Wildlife Management in East Africa."

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  
P.O. Box 67981, Los Angeles, CA 90067

Please indicate size/color & quantity below:

White or Powder Blue      Safari Green or Black

Small \_\_\_\_\_ Lrg. \_\_\_\_\_  
Extra Lrg. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone (      ) \_\_\_\_\_

