

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



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Patricia Walsh Studies Llamas at the WHWF Education Center

DIRECTORS

Stefanie Powers
Deane Johnson
Don Hunt
Iris Breidenbend Hunt
Tom Mankiewicz



P.O. BOX 67981, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A. 90067
Telephone (310) 274-3169

Dear Friends,

I have returned from a most exciting and busy trip to Kenya which included the inauguration of a new rural library. Sorry, but that story will have to wait until our next newsletter since I have not had all the photographs developed in time to make this issue.

Many of you have read newspaper reports concerning political violence and unrest in Kenya. As with many countries, Kenya has its share of ups and downs. Massive over population and a non-industrialized economy contribute to the problems, all of which have an eventual impact on the environment which naturally effects the conditions of wildlife. We feel the pressure directly, as the demand for our programs becomes greater. The alternatives to destruction are not always an easy road for the general population, but I have never seen so many people so eager to learn about conservation as I have just witnessed on this latest visit. I am even more enthusiastic as a result when I see our programs applied to rural areas which have begun to use some of our methods in their daily lives, helping them to think of nature not just as something to exploit without regard, but, indeed, to think of it as something with value. This is the first step toward seeing our fellow creatures as being worthwhile.

In the midst of the changes occurring all over our planet, it is perhaps a small thing to shed light on an issue we take for granted; but, to see people begin to realize that their life support is inextricably linked to those wild animals they call "niama" (meat) is, I promise you, a marvelous experience. Indeed, it makes all our hard work extremely worthwhile, and I might add, it really shows that your money is doing the job.

For those who braved the foul weather last March 5th and attended our fund raising event at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center, I hope you will be happy to know that in 1996 we will not tempt the rain God nor the "Ides of March", our date is changed to October.

I hope you will enjoy the article by Patricia Walsh in this issue, we so enjoyed her stay with us and appreciate her hard work.

Warmest regards,

Stefanie Powers

News From Kenya

Our Education Center programs continue to attract both Kenyan and foreign students. This year we have hosted two groups of American students.

The School of International Training, led by Ms. Kelly O'Brien, visited our center from February 1st through the 4th, and again from September 6th through the 9th. Over their September visit, the students, the students who are from various colleges and universities, were briefed about the work of the Foundation by the Chairman, Ms. Stefanie Powers.

The second group was from different high schools in the U.S.A., led by Ms. Deborah Heglund, the students visited the center from August 10th through the 13th, and they kindly sponsored six Kenyan students for a safari to Samburu, Nakuru and Naivasha, where they were involved in outdoor environmental studies. The Kenyan students were chosen from neighboring schools that have been actively participating in our education programs, including Ngenia Secondary School where we have the J.L. Foundation Rural Library.

Nicholas Kahiga, who is pursuing a Bachelor of Education Degree in Botany and Zoology at Egerton University, joined our internship program in August. Nicholas has been in the WHWF scholarship program since 1989. His scholarship is provided by Mr. F. Langhammer.

Cats Are People Too! *Hosts* *Natural Health for Animals*

The non-profit organization, Cats Are People Too!, run by Gail Pope, former employee of the WHWF, is hosting a holistic veterinary seminar taught by internationally known homeopathic veterinarian, Christina Chambreau from Saturday Oct. 28th to Monday, Oct. 30th in Laguna Hills, CA. This seminar is being offered as a fundraiser to this all-natural cat sanctuary in Trabuco Canyon, a beautiful place filled with antiques and cozy places to sleep with enclosed landscaped gardens. It is home to 60 cats and a few well tolerated dogs. All animals are fed a natural diet, treated homeopathically and given lots of love. The topics to be covered at the seminar include optimal diets for health, what homeopathy is and what it can offer, using homeopathic medicines and flower essences, the value of Herbs, acupuncture and chiropractic, and understanding the vaccination controversy. Dr. Chambreau is a dynamic teacher on the faculties of the Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy and the National Center for homeopathy Summer School. She lectures to veterinarians and pet owners at conventions, schools, and clubs. She also writes the "Ask the Whole Vet" column in Tiger Tribe Magazine. She graduated from the University of Georgia Veterinary College in 1980 and has been using homeopathy in her veterinary practice since 1983. For more information please call Vicki Allinson at: 714-859-2127.



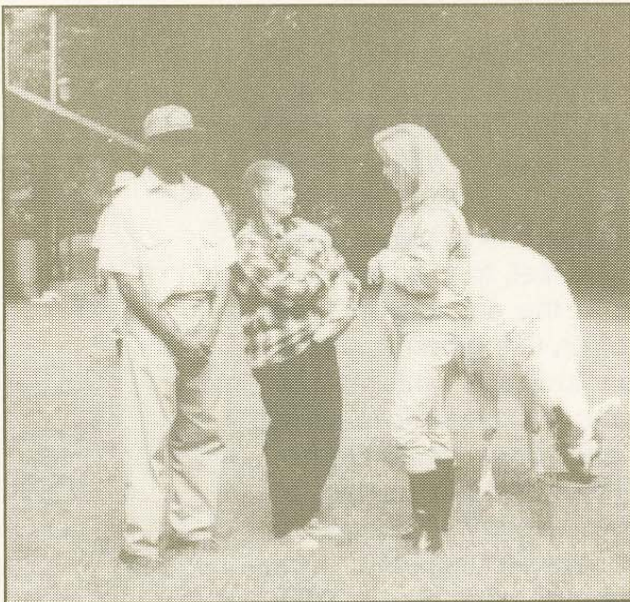
Patricia Walsh's Dream Trip to Kenya

Patricia Walsh first visited our Education Center with a group of overseas students who came for a brief stay. She was so enthusiastic about our work that she applied for a research position. Patricia was able to assemble all the data on our breeding programs of llamas as well as that of the Bongo herd on the adjoining Mount Kenya Game Ranch. In the course of her stay, Patricia produced a complete breeding 'family tree', with all the future mating possibilities. She also compiled copious records of physical characteristics, medical histories and daily care instructions - all presented in a wonderful volume complete with photos and illustrations.

Patricia also interacted with students at the center and visitors at the Animal Orphanage where tourists from the nearby Mount Kenya Safari Club come to see some rare sights.

We are delighted that Patricia enjoyed her time with us and we are grateful for her contribution.

Stefanie Powers



Patricia Walsh is welcomed to Kenya

During my first month's stay in Mount Kenya, my primary educational focus was to complete the llama breeding history assignment. A typical day consisted of researching the llamas' behavior and biology through literature at the Education Center's library, as well as deciphering current records and information obtained from workers into a parental history. Most days were spent working on the project and adjusting to the new surroundings, other days were used to learn the language. I would talk with the native Kenyans that visited the Center, and we would compare the Kenyan economy, government and education systems with those of the States. Sometimes I took trips into town for food, supplies and night life. Rather than a 9 to 5 schedule, daily activities were dependent upon visiting groups. Towards the second half of my stay I began to work at the Animal Orphanage on a daily basis. There I got an opportunity to work closely with the animals, begin my parental research on the bongo herd, continue my work on the manual, answer questions, and reminisce about the "States" with people from all the world, (including Long Island). I enjoyed the environment, the people and the place in which I worked very much. One downfall was that I was dependent upon people to take me where I needed to go due to lack of transportation and a 10 mile walk into town. The people I worked alongside and under were extremely helpful and respectful. From the first day I arrived at the Education Center, they made me feel at home and comfortable.

Some of my prearranged learning objectives included the study of parental care exhibited from exotic species, familiarity with various veterinary procedures, extended knowledge of the behavior and care of animals indigenous to Kenya, and an

if not all, of my objectives were met during my co-op experience in Kenya. Parental care exhibited from various species was observed as well as researched for my projects. During my stay, I had the opportunity to see a llama and bongo being born. Not only did I see parents who overprotected their offspring, I also saw a new mother rejecting her young after a stressful delivery. Medical histories were done on the llama and bongo herds that gave me an understanding of the medications used for basic treatments. While studying about the animals at the Orphanage, I learned the specifics on their care, behavior and personal history. With the knowledge I gained through research, and most of all through word of mouth, I believe it has made me more confident in my line of work. I believe I gained more knowledge from hands on experience and working alongside professionals, than most of my classes could offer me. Due to repeated involvement with these animals on the Ranch and in the Orphanage, identifications were made easier.

In the future, I feel I will have a better understanding of the care and needs of these animals than that which I may have found only within zoos.

As a result of this experience, I have set several new goals for myself. My career goals have changed slightly now that I have had some experience in the breeding of endangered species. I enjoyed working on the assignments I was given and would look into carrying out this line of work in the future. I have a strong desire to return to Kenya at a later time on either business or pleasure. Along with the professional goals I made, I also considered some personal goals. Before I left for Kenya I made a small list of accomplishments I hope to fulfill; for example, reading more books, watching less TV, washing more laundry by machine instead of by hand, going to bed early and doing more for my own personal needs. While in Africa, I gained educational knowledge as well as a personal realization. I discovered a need for and an appreciation for my own independence.

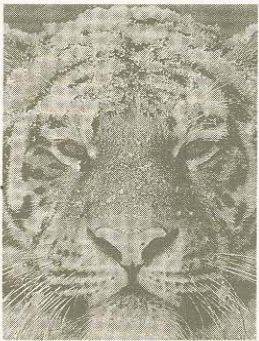
I went to Africa not knowing what to imagine, and expecting the worst. During my first few weeks of stay there, I realized that it was nothing as the newspapers and media portray it to be. I think the hardest thing for

me in the beginning was being a minority. With all the hatred and racism within the United States and the fear of other races, the situation was awkward at first. I only came across one hostile Kenyan woman who did not like the Americans (as a country, not as a color), but other than that, I was not treated differently. During my trip to Kenya, I did not encounter any racial animosities similar to that found in the "States". In most cases the 'Whites' are considered to be a portion of the upper-class which makes them a target for 'street boys', vendors and beggars. Due to their impression of my financial status, I had to learn how to bargain with shop owners. As in any city with poverty, tourists run a great risk of being taken advantage of, therefore, it would not have been safe for me to walk the unfamiliar streets of Nairobi alone.

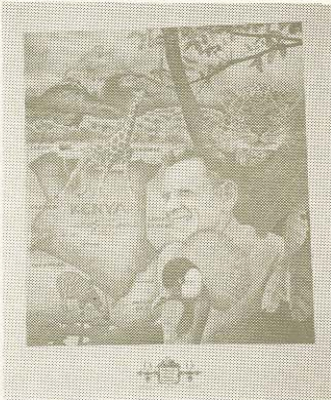
I think that the majority of Americans would never consider going to Africa on vacation because of the misconception that it is a dangerous, dirty and disease ridden country. On several occasions, I was told to bring a package of rubber gloves with me to prevent disease. When my fellow employees heard of this, they were surprised (if not insulted). Many of the Kenyans I spoke with were interested in coming to the "States", but were afraid of the muggers, murders and insane people which are more common within our country. While we worry about the illnesses that can be cured with a few doses of medication, they worry about the bigger problems that have no easy cure.

I can honestly say that my journey to Kenya was the best experience of my life, and I would like to thank Ms. Stefanie Powers, Mrs. Iris Hunt, Mr. Neil Lindsey, John Bridge, Pam Jackson at the Co-Operative Education Office, all of my co-workers at the Education Center and Animal Orphanage and all the wonderful people who contribute to the Foundation's existence. Without their help this unique learning experience would not have been possible or enjoyable. Most of all, I would like to thank Mr. William Holden and Mr. Don Hunt. Without their realization that the fate of our environment and wildlife lies in our hands, the Game Ranch would not be what it is today. Unfortunately, I cannot thank Mr. William Holden in person, but I find comfort in believing that through everyone's effort and support, he knows his dream lives on.

WHWF OFFERS MEMBERS SPECIAL PACKAGES OF HOLIDAY GREETING CARDS



The William Holden Wildlife Foundation is pleased to make available to our members a special set of holiday greeting cards. A set of 10 cards and 11 envelopes is available for \$12.00. The inside greeting reads "Have a Wildly Wonderful Holiday". To order any sets, please send in your check made payable to the William Holden Wildlife Foundation for \$12.00 per set to our LA office by Nov. 15, 1995.



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 () _____

