



September 26, 2012

Dear Supporter,

The monsoons are over. It's time for me to return to Asia.

There are more than one hundred elephants awaiting pedicures in India and Nepal.

Wow -- I can hardly catch my breath at the thought of it!

This is my passion these days -- foot trimming. The joy of being at the ground level, literally, of elephant welfare, is thrilling. I know we cannot fix all the problems facing captive elephants in Asia, but foot care is a very immediate and concrete way to improve their lives.

India: Care center plans

I will be in India through October, visiting with colleagues about prospective care center projects (and, of course, trimming elephant feet!). Our proposed care center project in Bannerghatta stalled out earlier this year due to property ownership issues and lack of government clearance. Disappointing as it is, we have decided to cancel the Bannerghatta care center project and concentrate on other more promising locations.

This will be my third visit to Guwahati, in India's north. It is stunningly beautiful elephant country. Unlike my last visit, which was a six-hour whirlwind blur, I will spend several days studying the area proposed for a new care center. I also plan to meet with the chief warden of Assam about a proposed care center in his state.

This will be my second meeting with the warden. My colleague from the Assam Elephant Foundation and I are encouraged by the interest he has shown in this project. In fact, it was the warden's idea and it is only with his endorsement that the project can move forward.

The last time we met, the warden committed an area of land to the proposed center and agreed to permit the residents of our center to have access to the surrounding forest. This is an exciting start. I will keep you posted as we proceed.

I will make a repeat visit to Wildlife SOS-India, outside New Delhi. This time I will have the opportunity to provide pedicures for all the elephants before heading off to see their new project, a four hundred-acre elephant rescue center under construction in Mathura. I have heard so much about this project--I can't wait to see it.

Nepal: Pedicures, chain-free yards, waste disposal and retirement center

When I arrive in Nepal in November, I will have my work cut out for me: pedicures for more than one hundred elephants; we hope the construction of several more chain-free yards; development of environmentally sound elephant waste disposal practices; and brainstorming on plans for an elephant retirement center in Sauraha. What a productive time this will be!



Our first candidates for a chain-free yard are Man Kali and her two-month-old baby Hem Gaj. Currently, Man Kali is chained but little Hem Gaj is chain-free, kept with his mom in a wooden corral built by the mahouts.

But the wooden corral won't hold him in for long!

After watching how Sweetie Kali blossomed in her chain-free yard, the mahouts want the same for her baby brother. They are determined that Hem Gaj will not be put on chains and have asked us to build a yard for him and his mother.

Help us build a yard for Man Kali and Hem Gaj!

Enclosing one acre of land with the power fence required to keep captive elephants in and wild elephants out, costs close to \$4,000US. Adding water storage tanks, plumbing and a drinking trough, adds another \$2,000US.

Help us remove the heavy chains from Man Kali's legs and ensure that baby Hem Gaj will

never feel the pain of cold steel around his ankles.

Just say yes! I want to contribute \$10 / \$25 / \$50 / \$75 / \$100 / or other \$ _____ to build a one-acre, chain-free yard for Man Kali and her two-month old baby, Hem Gai.

If you prefer to donate by check, please make your check payable to Elephant Aid International and send it to:

Elephant Aid International
P.O. Box 106
Hohenwald, TN 38462
931-796-1466

As you might expect, we won't stop there. As the funds are raised, we will build more yards for more elephants.

We are making great progress in Nepal. The mahouts welcome my return and are engaged in the changes we are making. They have embraced the chain-free yard concept, are excelling at pedicures and want to learn more humane ways of working with their elephants. The future of elephant welfare in Nepal is in their hands.

You make it possible

We have made it this far because we believe in the power of one. Each one of you makes it possible to help one elephant, then another and another.

As I head off to the Far East once again, I am eternally grateful for your continuing support and encouragement. Knowing that you are behind me one hundred percent gives me the determination to forge ahead, helping one elephant at a time, then another and another. It's working and it's all thanks to you!

Please follow the progress of our work on my [blog](#) and thank you, as always, for your support.

[P.S. EAI's 2011 Annual Report is now online!](#)

Namaste,



Carol Buckley
Founder and CEO



Please visit my [Elevisions blog](#) and [my Facebook page](#) so I can keep you updated on our progress as it happens!

Our mailing address is:
Elephant Aid International
PO Box 106
4128 Buffalo Road
Hohenwald, TN 38462

Copyright (C) 2012 Elephant Aid International All rights reserved.