ABOUT CAROL BUCKLEY, ELEPHANT REFUGE NORTH AMERICA AND ELEPHANT AID INTERNATIONAL

Carol Buckley Biography, long version:
Elephant Aid International Founder, President and CEO Carol Buckley is an internationally recognized authority in the rescue, retirement, rehabilitation and welfare of captive-held elephants. Carol creates innovative models that set new standards of care for elephants in captivity and are copied and adapted for various captive situations in the US and Asia.

With nearly 50 years experience working with captive-held elephants, Buckley is known for her extensive knowledge of elephant values, physiology and culture. She has developed revolutionary non-dominant management systems and holistic healthcare programs that support the recovery of elephants while ensuring their autonomy.

In 2009, concerned about the lives of many elephants in captivity, Buckley founded Elephant Aid International. A leading spokesperson and expert witness for elephant care and protection nationally and internationally, Buckley works with governmental agencies, private organizations and NGOs to strengthen regulations protecting the welfare of elephants in captivity.

Buckley co-founded America’s first and largest natural habitat elephant sanctuary, The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee, in 1995. In her 15 years at the Sanctuary, Buckley oversaw the rescue of 23 elephants. Under her leadership, the Sanctuary drew international acclaim for its integrative, holistic approach to medical care and trauma recovery.

Carol received a Genesis Award in recognition of her innovative work (2001) and has been named a Hero for The Planet by Time magazine and an Ambassador for Elephants by Asian Elephants Today. Carol has been the subject of numerous features in the New York Times Magazine, Parade, National Geographic, Chicago Tribune, People and Readers Digest. Her work has been featured on Oprah, ABC News 20/20, CBS News, CNN, the Canadian Broadcast Corp. and many others.

Carol Buckley Biography, short version:
Elephant Aid International Founder, President and CEO Carol Buckley is an internationally recognized authority in the rescue, retirement, rehabilitation and welfare of captive-held elephants. With nearly 50 years experience working with captive-held elephants, Buckley is known for her extensive knowledge of elephant values, physiology and culture. She has developed revolutionary non-dominant management systems and holistic healthcare programs that support the recovery of elephants while ensuring their autonomy. Buckley founded Elephant Aid International in 2009 to improve the welfare of captive elephants worldwide. She also co-founded America’s first and largest natural habitat elephant sanctuary, The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee, in 1995. In her 15 years at the Sanctuary, Buckley oversaw the rescue of 23 elephants and won international acclaim for its integrative, holistic approach to medical care and trauma recovery.
About Elephant Refuge North America (ERNA): Elephant Refuge North America is an 850-acre natural habitat refuge designed specifically to meet the needs of retired elephants who have spent their lives in captivity. The lush pastures, forests, creeks and spring-fed lakes and its temperate climate allow elephants to graze and forage on natural vegetation with the opportunity to explore outdoors 24/7, nearly 356 days a year.

Our motto at the Refuge is, “Elephants come first!” Free choice of where, when and with whom to eat, sleep, bathe and graze, along with unrestricted access to acres of natural habitat with a state-of-the art fully automated elephant house is a recipe for good health. The Refuge is a project of Elephant Aid International and will ultimately be home to as many as 10 elephants retired from zoos and circuses.

About Elephant Aid International (EAI): Carol Buckley founded EAI, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, in 2010 to support the lives of captive elephants worldwide. EAI enlists scientists, veterinarians, mahouts [elephant handlers] and owners in advancing elephant welfare. EAI also provides education and hands-on assistance for elephants’ care, training and handling. Learn more at http://elephantaidinternational.org.