



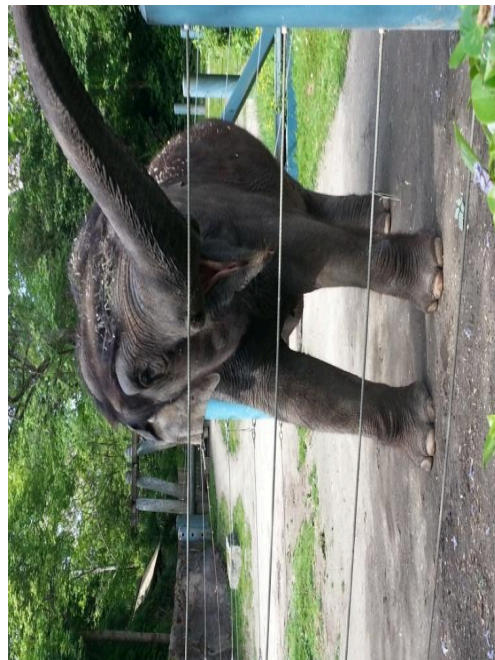
# ASIAN ELEPHANT S U P P O R T

**Greetings from Asian Elephant Support!**

## **Annual Meeting**

To maintain good communication and achieve Asian Elephant Support's goals, the members of the board of directors have monthly conference calls to discuss on-going projects and a wide variety of other foundation business. However, once a year we have our annual meeting where we get together in person. This year we chose Orcas Island, Washington, near the home of director Gretchen.

Linda arrived from St. Louis, Missouri, April from Norfolk, Virginia, and Sharon drove up from Portland, Oregon and we met at the Woodland Park Zoo Friday morning to get our elephant fix. The zoo staff spoiled us by allowing us to meet their elephants while picking their brains about their pachyderms. It was hard not to be charmed by Bamboo's, Chai's, and Watoto's unique and mischievous personalities. A special thanks to Pat, Pattie, and Bruce for taking time out of their busy days to allow us this special visit.



*Bamboo showing off her charm (and adorable  
unibrow)*



That afternoon, we caught the ferry from Anacortes to Orcas Island. While we were wishfully hoping for some Orca sightings, we were delighted at the porpoises accompanying the ferry. Upon arrival to the island, Linda treated us to a delicious dinner and then we made our way to Gretchen's family's cabin. We are extremely thankful for the use of Ann Jones and Caroline Kingsbury's gorgeous (and extremely comfortable) cabin!

We spent the whole day Saturday, with the exception of about an hour, at our computers, discussing our projects and future. We couldn't have asked for better weather. Sunny weekends are hard to come by in the Pacific Northwest, but that's indeed what we were granted (April took the credit for bringing the sun from Virginia). No matter the sun's source, we were grateful it graced us with its presence.



Sunday morning we were back on our computers to finish up some last minute business and then we trekked back to the ferry so that Linda could catch her flight the next day and so that April and Sharon could drive back down to Portland. April was also able to fit in a visit at the Oregon Zoo, where she was a former elephant keeper.

Together we accomplished a lot of foundation business, enjoyed our elephant experiences, and enjoyed the face-to-face interaction that we only get once a year. Each annual meeting affords us renewed enthusiasm and determination to do everything possible to save these magnificent animals.

## Hoof Knife Campaign Results

In October 2012, Asian Elephant Support (AES) and the Elephant Managers Association (EMA) joined forces to raise money to purchase local traditional knives (khukri) for mahouts (elephant keepers) in Assam, India. These knives are an integral part of the mahouts' daily lives as they use them to cut fodder for elephants and trim the elephants' nails or pads.

AES and the EMA would like to sincerely thank everyone for their generous donations to the **"Hoof Knives for Mahouts - India"** project. This program raised **\$1755.52** to purchase these local knives for mahouts to enable them to improve the care of their elephants. A special THANK YOU to the elephant staff and AAZK members at the Seneca Park Zoo in Rochester, NY, who raised \$720.52 for this project!

Regardless of what job you are doing, everyone can appreciate having the right tools to get it done. This program is a great way to demonstrate that every donation, big or small, can make a difference for elephants and the people that care for them, in Asian range countries.

With your help we are making a difference! Stay tuned for more updates from the field on this project.

Thank You!  
😊

## Weddings, Birthdays & Anniversaries--oh my!

Coming up with thoughtful and meaningful gift ideas for all the birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, Father's Day, Mother's Day, etc., in our lives can be quite the challenge. Lucky for you, Asian Elephant Support (AES) has just the solution. Make a donation in honor of your loved one and send an accompanying e-card.

There are many occasions for which you can donate and send an accompanying e-card:

*Weddings* – Having a wedding this summer? Already have all the household goods you need and don't want to register for traditional gifts? Want to help the planet? In lieu of registering for gifts, consider asking your guests to make a donation to AES. What better way to celebrate the union of two hearts by giving back to the earth and ensuring its ecological diversity?

*Birthdays* – We all have loved ones who already have everything they could possibly want or need. Why not get them a gift that has a lasting impact on the planet? It's certainly more thoughtful than another knickknack that uselessly collects dust on a shelf.

*Anniversaries, Mother's Day, Father's Day, etc.* – We all want to show our loved ones that we care and are thinking of them but we don't necessarily want to get them something that will just get discarded or sent to Goodwill.

Our consumer society dictates that we constantly buy, buy, buy, but it's increasingly apparent that this mentality does not suit our planet's needs. Donations to AES ensure that elephants receive better treatment and a brighter future. While your loved ones would not receive a tangible gift, they would be pleased to know that a donation made in their honor does something to help, rather than hinder, the planet.

Plus, making a donation and sending an e-card is fast and easy! To find out more, simply visit: <http://asianelephantsupport.org/send-an-ecard.asp>. AES (and the elephants) thank you for your generosity!

## **THANK YOU**

*We at AES wish to extend a very sincere thank you to each donor who has voted their support with a financial gift. We value that confidence and will always do our best for the animals we all care for so deeply.*

*Please visit our website ([www.asianelephantsupport.org](http://www.asianelephantsupport.org)) and follow us on [Facebook](#) (Asian Elephant Support). If you have questions, please [contact us](#). We appreciate your support. Please consider a [donation](#) to help Asian elephants and those who care for them.*

## **ASIAN ELEPHANT SUPPORT**

[www.asianelephantsupport.org](http://www.asianelephantsupport.org)

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*Asian Elephant Support is a U.S. 501(c)(3) organization; donations are tax-deductible.*