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Betsy Swart, our USA
Executive Director asks...
Care to Donate Now?

Our Grand Warriors!



Paula Kahumbu & Katito Sayialel

On the occasion of Kenya's 50th Anniversary of Independence on December 12, his H.E. the President conferred National Honors on select individuals. ATE's own Catherine Katito Sayialel and our close conservation colleague Paula Kahumba of WildlifeDirect were awarded the Order of the Grand Warrior of Kenya (OGW), which is a highly prestigious honor.

We can't think of two people more deserving of this recognition.

Name a Baby Elephant

**** Special Holiday Offer ****

News from the Amboseli Trust for Elephants

November-December 2013



It's the end of another year and we have a new year to look forward to. Much has happened for the Amboseli Trust Elephants--some good, some bad--but when I think about it that's normal. There are no perfect years.

Yes, there have been difficulties but what matters are the elephants, and in Amboseli 2013 has been a good year. Watching the baby boom calves grow and thrive is an endless source of joy for all of us on the project and, of course, for each of the elephant families as well. What a change from the end of 2009 when so many elephants had died during the drought.

From October 2011 to the end of 2012, 245 calves were born. These are the baby boomers and they have done remarkably well. In 2013 another 45 calves were born and these too are fat, healthy and happy.

Right now we are getting excellent rain in Amboseli and the Park is green and lush. The elephants have gone off on their wet season treks, but when they come back they will gather into huge aggregations of 300-400 where they will socialize, play, learn and find mates.

Yes, there has been some poaching, but working with the Kenya Wildlife Service, the Maasai community is protecting the elephants and other wildlife with excellent community scouts. The Maasai are also putting aside more land for wildlife. The Amboseli elephants are very lucky indeed to share their range with this community.

What is happening Africa-wide to elephants is not good news, but we are fighting the battle with all the weapons we can muster. We, the elephant advocates and conservationists, fought and won that battle once before back in 1989. We can do it again; we have to do it again.

With hope for a peaceful New Year for elephants and a Happy New Year for all our supporters. Here's to you! And here's to them!

Cynthia Moss
Director
Amboseli Trust for Elephants



Like us on Facebook 

Here's to the matriarchs and their sisters...

... who lead elephant society in a peaceful and loving way, and apply years of accumulated experience and wisdom to shepherd their families successfully into the future!



Our special holiday offer to name an Amboseli calf lasts until the end of January. ATE's naming program is not like an adoption program where thousands of people might adopt the same whale or whatever. This calf becomes "your calf" and yours alone. The name remains in the Amboseli database for all time even after the individual may have died.

With your donation you receive photographs and a history of your calf and its family. You will get periodic updates and be able to follow this calf's life over many years.

Take advantage of this offer and write to us by clicking [here](#).

"Don't Buy Ivory" Bracelets



Our very popular bracelets are still available to help spread the word and advocate against the ivory trade and for a ban on domestic sales of ivory products. If your group wants to help elephants, please contact Betsy Swart [at this](#)



Photo: C. Moss

The AC family, with matriarch Abigail typically taking up the rear-guard and guiding position.

And here's to the big old bulls...

...who are chosen by the females to infuse genes of canniness and strength into the future population!



Photo: H. Croze

Tim, M234, in *musth* searching the Amboseli basin for females in oestrus. He is one of Amboseli's (and Kenya's) few remaining big bulls worthy of a discerning female's attention.

Visit our [Website](#)

And Here's to the Future!

How many of these Baby-Boomers will live till maturity? It's up to us...

[address.](#)

IGive

One of the ways you can support ATE is by making your online purchases through IGive. If you sign up the Amboseli Trust for Elephants as your recipient organization we will get a small percentage of the sale. Connect with iGive.com.

Give a Gift that Lasts Forever



Designate the Amboseli Trust for Elephants as a beneficiary of your will, individual retirement account, or life insurance policy. Your legacy gift will enable ATE to learn more about the fascinating and complex lives of elephants and to assure their future.

To learn more about planned giving opportunities, please contact Betsy Swart at: info@elephanttrust.org; tel +1-508-783-8308.

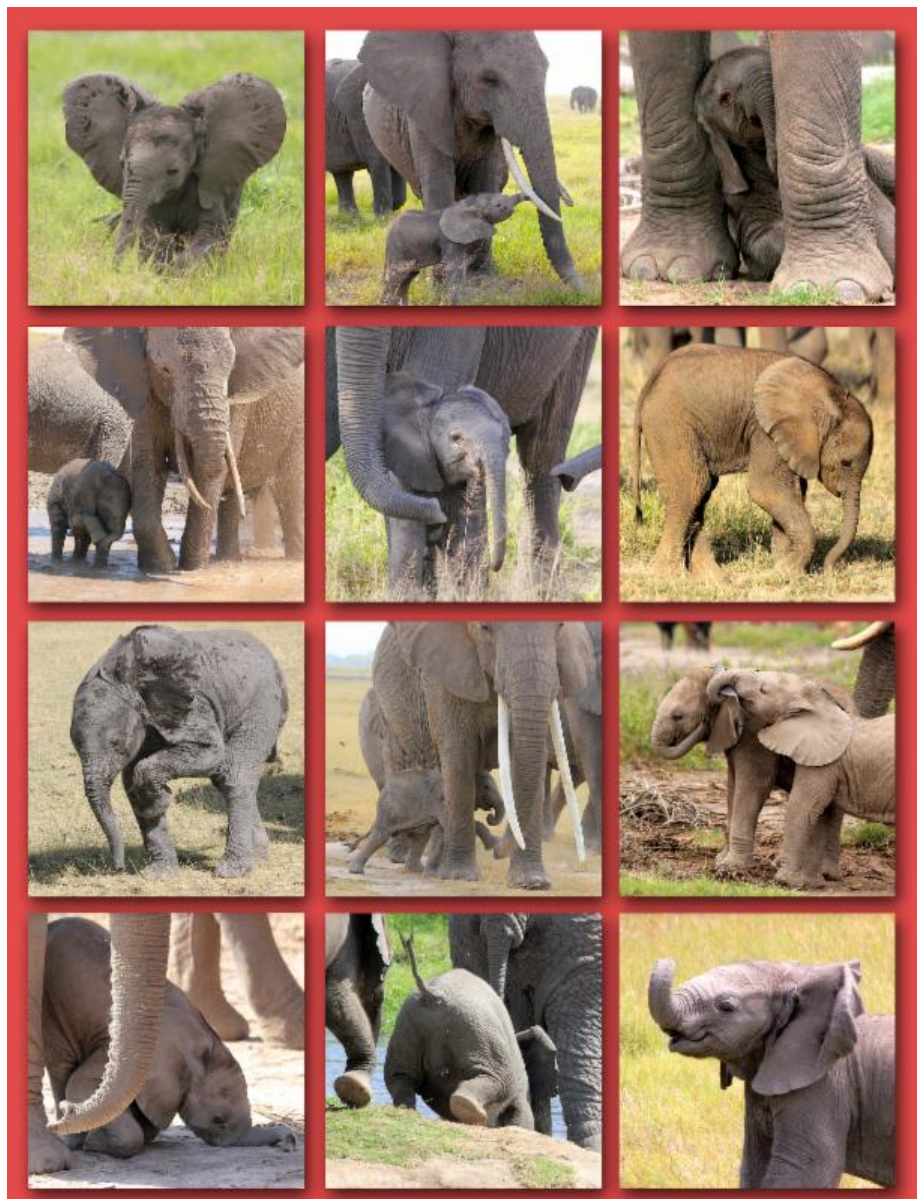
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Photos: Vicki Fishlock

In the wake of a devastating drought in 2009, in which 400 elephants succumbed including some 60 adult females, with the return of the rains there was a joyous 'baby boom'. ATE is now studying carefully how the 'boomers' will fare with the diminished 'grandmotherly' wisdom, with the inevitable variability of a semi-arid ecosystem, and with the accelerating threat of death from poaching due to the growing, greedy and cruel demand for ivory. We wish these and all the other 200+ calves born that season all the best for the future. Here's to them!

Watch our films on [YouTube](#)

Please consider giving a year-end donation to the Amboseli Trust for Elephants. We rely on individuals to keep the project going and therefore your support means so much to us.

Cynthia Moss
Amboseli Trust for Elephants



