

# REALLY, RHINOS!



Volume 9, no. 2, 1995

## *I Have a Dream*

In the good ol' days, my want list would have been filled with material things like jewelry, electronics and other consumables. Now as I mature (notice I didn't say age), my want list is small and filled with more intangible desires. At the top of this short list is a lifelong and lifetime goal: I want to visit every rhino there is around the world before I die. That means zoos, game reserves, wildlife parks, private ranches, and if I am incredibly lucky, rhinos in the wild.

To this end, I need to find a recent list of where rhinos are in captivity. Who has a stud book or other source which can be shared?

Ultimately, I would like to put together a book about my adventures. Are you listening, National Geographic?

I feel very fortunate to have some many rhino contacts like you, dear rhino readers. I hope that when I make it to the rhino nearest you, I can meet you and share the joy of reaching my goal.

Does anyone have similar rhino wishes and dreams? I would love to hear yours and with your permission, share them with our subscribers.

## **STOP THE PRESSES!!!**

## **IT'S A BOY!**

The following news release was sent by The Rhino Trust...

The long-awaited day has arrived. A note from Anna (April 24th) informed me that on April 11, 1995 Samia - the rhino that she raised from three days old, gave birth to a baby boy. The 35-kilo wonder is named Samuel. Samia is a successful mom. As she was hand-raised and therefore imprinted on Anna as her mother, the fear was that she'd "bring her baby home" to her to raise. But according to Anna, "so far so good, she is nursing him and he looks strong and good."

The fear now, however, is the large number of elephants who have flooded Lewa, causing the most unbelievable damage, not to mention Samuel's father, who had a bad fight with another rhino and his son. The health and safety of every rhino calf born at the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and elsewhere is of great concern, but we all wish the best for the son of this completely hand-raised rhino mother. What Anna did in raising the abandoned Samia is remarkable, and obviously has led to the birth of another baby of this highly endangered species. She always is to be highly commended for her efforts, but the sight of this little one must fill her with great joy and personal satisfaction!

For those of you who have joined The Rhino Trust or who have donated to Anna and the reserve, a huge THANK YOU! Your dollars have all gone directly to Kenya to help not only protect rhinos and maintain a safe haven for them, but to assist in providing a future for their precious offspring.

For those of you who have not yet had the opportunity to donate, please consider doing so now. Financial support for Lewa is more important than ever before. Protection of Samuel and all babies born at the reserve will help to ensure the future of black rhinos in their native homes.

Send your donation to The Rhino Trust, 4045 N. Massachusetts, Portland, OR 97227.



To purchase a copy of Anna Merz's book, *Rhino At the Brink of Extinction*, send \$22.50 (check or money order) to Ngare Sergoi Support Group, PO Box 29503, Columbus, OH 43229.