Joseph Cullman 3rd, 1912 – 2004

It is with great sadness that we must inform you of the passing of our good friend Joseph Cullman 3rd on the 30th April 2004. Joe had a long happy, healthy and successful life, and will be remembered as a champion for conservation of wildlife worldwide.

Joe was the Cullman & Hurt Community Wildlife Project’s main benefactor and leader. His loss will leave a gap in the lives of so many people in Tanzania who had come to know and respect “Mzee Cullimani”, as he was affectionately known.

Joe was a unique individual. Successful in business, in that he was instrumental in building up the Philip Morris companies to what they are today; Kind in the most generous way – always helping needy causes and people; A hunter /conservationist who believed that hunters should help fund conservation ideals to ensure the well being of wildlife herds in Africa; A fisherman who was a main benefactor of the Atlantic Salmon Federation in Canada; A benefactor of the Akeley Hall of African Mammals in the American Museum of Natural History in New York. In addition he was generous in helping fund conservation projects through World Wildlife Fund, Conservation Force and the American Friends of the Game Conservancy. The list goes on, but they all go to show the generous spirit of this great conservationist.

The Cullman & Hurt Project was especially close to Joe’s heart and he recently sponsored a most successful Art Auction benefiting the project at the Akeley Hall in the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Most of all, to us in Tanzania he was our friend. Joe, we will all miss you.

Robin and Pauline Hurt
August 2004
Heartfelt Thanks
As we say goodbye to our founder and benefactor, we also say goodbye to our former Project Director, Sally Capper. Sally has been with Robin Hurt Safaris and the Cullman & Hurt project for close on 6 years and has now taken the position of Country Director of the Oikos Institute, an Italian research NGO.

Without a doubt, the Cullman & Hurt Project would not be where it is today without Sally’s hard work and dedication; we have a lot to thank her for! Her tireless efforts working with communities to enable them to be better managers of their natural heritage has defiantly paid off. Throughout Tanzania RHS and Cullman & Hurt maintain excellent relationships at all levels of government and reports from the field indicate that game is plentiful for the 2004 season – a true measure of success!

Sally and her husband have also started the Maajabu (“amazing” in Swahili) Film Project which shows environmental films to Villages and Schools in Tanzania. The success of their project has truly been “amazing” and it is further evidence of Sally’s personal commitment to preserving the special wonders of Tanzania.

It is difficult to say goodbye to her but we give her our utmost thanks for many years of service and wish her all the best with her new job as well as her new family! You can read more about Sally’s new endeavors here:
www.instituto-oikos.org
www.maajabu.org

Welcome!
With Sally’s departure we now offer a warm welcome to David Erickson as the new Project Director of the Cullman & Hurt Project. David has been living in Tanzania for the past 3 ½ years and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the job as well as his enthusiasm!

Originally from Seattle, Washington

David started his career with the US National Park Service as a Law Enforcement Ranger after attending the National Outdoor Leadership school Kenya Semester course in 1991. Moving from the Parks, David worked in the Information Technology sector for a number of years and ended up in London before moving to Tanzania. David was fortunate enough to land a job with another hunting safari company in Tanzania working in Maswa Game Reserve as the Anti-poaching and Community Development Officer. Later David worked for the same company as the coordinator for a mapping and monitoring project specifically designed to help hunting companies become better wildlife stewards.

After spending a year perusing other activities in Tanzania, David is back to doing what he loves best, working with Local Communities to help conserve Wildlife. We are happy to welcome David into the Robin Hurt family and we wish him all the best as he takes on his new duties as Project Director

What’s in a Name?
We have christened our newsletter with a new name! The Swahili verb “-eneleza” means “to support” but has great connotations relating to positive development. The word “hifadhi” has multiple meanings as well, ranging from “safeguarding” to “conservation of environment.” So what more perfect name than “Supporting the Conservation of the Environment”? 

Books for Africa
In September of 2003, Stan & Rosemary Long with good friends Fred & Jeannie Web were on safari with RHS Tanzania. Stan & Rosemary had been to Africa before and have been good friends and clients of Robin Hurt for many years. For Fred & Jeannie, this was their very first safari and it was to prove to be as amazing as could be imagined!

While hunting in Maswa-Makao, Fred & Jeannie had a chance to visit the Teachers & Students of Makao Primary School. Jeannie, being a Teacher herself, was naturally curious to see what a rural Tanzanian school was like and Tanzania schools absolutely love to host visitors!

Needless to say, Fred & Jeannie were totally blown away by the warmth and hospitality they were shown by the Teachers and also by the eager smiles and over-the-moon excitement of the kids. After returning home, Jeanie and Rosemary knew they needed to do something special for the kids of Makao. What better way than for the kids of Eastside Elementary School in Eugene Oregon, where Jeannie is a Teacher, to collect up some of their favorite books to share with their new friends in Makao?

Seven big boxes of children’s books were collected and sent by post to Arusha. They took a little while but eventually all arrived and on the 24th of July, 2004 David Erickson and Field Officer John Magembe delivered the books to an eager crowed of Teachers & Students!

Pictures of the book party can be found on the internet here: chcwp.fotopic.net
**Program Updates**

**Village Benefits**
Since its inception, the Cullman & Hurt Project has constantly striven to help Communities realize the benefits of conserving wildlife. Over the years we have developed many different methods and strategies to make sure that the benefits are delivered and used appropriately by the now 30 villages we work with. This year we have implemented an exciting new process which will allow the Communities to directly manage their benefits while at the same time ensuring that the funds are still used appropriately.

Each Village is required to hold an Assembly meeting where the use of the funds are decided upon. Minutes of the meeting are sent along with a cover letter with exact details of the plan to the District authorities where they are acknowledged and then sent to our office. The Cullman Project then deposits the village benefits directly to the official village bank account where the funds can be then draw and used.

This new plan gives us maximum accountability as the various levels of local and regional government are fully informed as to how the benefits will be used and it also gives the Villages more direct control and enables the Village Officials to do the jobs they have been elected for.

All in all a very exciting change in the history of our Project as not only are we helping Local Communities realize the direct benefit of conserving wildlife but we are enabling the people of Tanzania to take direct control over their livelihoods and development!

**Anti-poaching**
Our anti-poaching operations are continuing however, at a greatly reduced pace as we have been operating on a diminished budget this last year and a lot of our operational funds have gone to keeping our vehicles running as they are each all now over 10 years old! Regardless we soldiered on and worked very closely with RHS Camp Staff this year by helping to get hunting roads open on time for the start of the season.

In the **Miele** area the National Parks, Wildlife Division, and GTZ are still keeping up the pressure so there was not much for us to do other than check in on the areas and make sure things are progressing well.

In **Rungwa** we are still facing serious problems with timber poachers but the Ministry of Natural Resources & Tourism has just placed a National ban on all timber exports so hopefully we will see a dramatic reduction in the number of trees being cut.

**Makao** is still experiencing an alarming influx of people moving into the area. The area is slated to become a “Wildlife Management Area” which will cede control to the Villages in the area. Hopefully this will bolster efforts to protect this very special area. We will have more news about WMA’s and Makao in the next edition of the newsletter.

In **Burko** two Giraffe were shot by poachers but District Authorities, through the help of Cullman & Hurt, possibly know the identity of the poacher and are following up. Prior to the two Giraffe being shot, we were receiving numerous reports of a vehicle divining around in the morning and at night from concerned Villages in the area – a good sign that our education efforts are working! Unfortunately, no Game Scouts or Police Officers were available to assist with a Patrol and two Giraffe suffered the consequences. Immediately after the incident, Anti-poaching units from the National Parks and Ngorongoro Area responded to the area to help with Patrols and investigation. Truly an encouraging sign that Tanzania is taking serious the threat of Poaching but unfortunately it came at the cost of two Giraffe which are protected in Tanzania as the National Animal!

**Field Officers**
**John Ngalesoni** is spending this season as an Apprentice Hunter with RHS in Rungwa! While we miss his steady hand and good advice around the office, we know that John is bringing his many years of skill and experience to RHS Clients in Rungwa. Good Hunting John and we will see you after the season!

**Elly Mamuya** has just come off a difficult patrol covering both Miele & Rungwa and is spending this month on a much earned leave.

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**An Investigation**

**Livelihood Changes in Northern Masai-land**

In May of this year Ryan Tinggal, a Masters Thesis student at Imperial College London, volunteered with Cullman & Hurt for 2 months undertaking a study in Burko. He collected over 70 individual interviews with Masai who live in the area. Ryan spent 5 weeks actually living with the Masai as he collected his data, an experience we know he will never forget!

Ryan’s project was to investigate the relationship between wildlife and people and to research local perceptions of wildlife-human conflict and to examine whether sustainable trophy hunting can be a tool for resolving conflict. A full copy of his report will be available on our website as soon as it is finished.

Ryan worked cooperatively with a Tanzanian research student, which was arranged by the Terrawatu organization, an American/Tanzanian NGO based in Arusha. Terrawatu helped Ryan design culturally appropriate research methods and Lekoko Ole Sululu, the co-Director of Terrawatu and Masai Elder, spent time to introduce Ryan to the communities he would be working in. Without a doubt Ryan’s project was a big success and in no small measure to Terrawatu’s help!

As the Masai of Northern Tanzania change from pure pastoralism to agro-pastoralism, more and more land is being used for farming which means less land for wildlife and increased conflicts between people and animals. The data Ryan has collected will be a big help in building long-term strategies to promote conservation and enable the Communities in Burko to work with the Cullman & Hurt project to enhance livelihoods through the sustainable utilization of wildlife.

More information about Ryan’s project will be available at the CHCWP web site:
www.cullmanandhurt.org

Terrawatu can be found at:
www.terrawatu.org

www.terrawatu.org
Meeting Notice

As a result of the passing of Joe Cullman, there will be a meeting of the Executives & Trustees of the Cullman & Hurt Project on September 3rd, 2004 in Arusha, Tanzania.

Mamuya will be back at the beginning of September and will be heading out to Niensi/Luganzo to overlap with John Magembe.

John Magembe has been keeping a very busy schedule this year as well. In addition to conducting patrol in the Niensi area, John was called back to the office to help David with the new Village Benefits scheme as well as to attend some meetings in the Makao area and assist with the Book Donation in Makao. John has just headed out to Niensi again as there have been recent reports that people from the Refugee camps poaching around the Lake Sigara area. Mamuya and Magembe will overlap their patrols so as to double their effectiveness before John takes a well earned break in September.

Mapping & Data Monitoring

The Mapping and Monitoring project has been on a bit of a ‘hold’ as we wait for the topographic maps to get digitally processed. We expect to have a complete set of digital maps ready to integrate with the ‘on-the-ground’ data collected by Mary & Leela last year.

Speaking of Mary & Leela we want to express to them our most sincere gratitude and thanks for what turned out to be a very grueling but necessary job! The data they collected will help both RHS and Cullman & Hurt with hands on management of wildlife in our areas as well as building better strategies as we work with Local Communities throughout Tanzania.

Legal & Policy Issues

Things are definitely changing in Tanzania – all for the better we hope! This year we have seen two major shifts in law and policy. First, Wildlife Management Areas are moving ahead full steam ahead and Second, a new draft of the Wildlife Conservation Act, the principal legislation governing the use of wildlife in Tanzania, is under review. As mentioned earlier, the next edition of the Cullman Newsletter will cover more in-depth the topic of WMA’s.

As for the Wildlife Conservation Act, the Wildlife Division has formed a Task Force to help drive the process of collecting Stakeholder input prior to the draft legislation being read into Parliament later this year. As part of the exercise, the Ministry and the Wildlife Division invited Hunting & Tourism Operators as well as MP’s, representatives from the Scientific Community, and District and Regional authorities to an open meeting in Arusha where major portions of the draft legislation were opened for comment and discussion. This is truly an exciting opportunity for Tanzania since all major sectors are being asked to help craft this key piece of legislation.

A Note of Thanks

As with any organization, there are many people who work behind the scenes devoting their time and energy to making sure things run smoothly. The Cullman & Hurt Project would like to make a note of thanks to the following people:

- Pauline Hurt
- Derek Hurt
- David Markham
- Jay Blumer

We couldn’t do it without you!