

Elephant AMC Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2007

Those in attendance: [REDACTED]

Behavior/Aggression
Resolved:

In an attempt to reduce aggression: A minimum of one qualified elephant keeper (preferably two) should briefly visit the elephants at least once each hour for a visual check, interaction, provide enrichment, perhaps clean floor, provide additional hay, etc... The two-man rule and proper safety precautions are to be adhered to.

Keepers must always attend elephants to investigate the situation whenever an indication of stress or aggression is heard or reported, e.g. trumpeting, squealing, roaring, audible banging or any unusual disturbances.

Take care not to reward undesired behavior, such as aggression, but positive interaction, i.e. when Emily accepts contact with or from Ruth, should be immediately reinforced.

Since Emily seems to prefer to be in the stall at night, she can be housed in the stall every night rather than be rotated into the larger section of barn every other night.

When elephants are held inside for extended periods, on occasions when no keeper will be available to monitor their behavior, the elephants should be separated, i.e. one elephant should be locked in the stall.

To prevent Emily reaching out to visitors at the northeast corner of the exhibit (as well as visitors reaching out to Emily), the pool /moat should be cleaned and filled. The pool should thereafter be drained and cleaned on an as need basis.

Husbandry/Medical

[REDACTED] to contact state police to weigh elephants [REDACTED] will order more vinegar.

TB tests and annual physical exams are scheduled to occur on 1/16, 1/17, and 1/18.

It was observed and reported that Emily seemed to have a change in shape or some swelling at her tail head – to be examined.

Vet. Dept., along with keepers, will begin routine blood sample collection from each elephant.

Other

[REDACTED] reported on their experiences at the EMA Conference and varied issues involving and occurring within the EMA.

Appendix 4. Incident Report

Buttonwood Park Zoo
Elephant Incident Report



Date of Incident: 10-9-10
Time of Incident: 445

Keeper Filing Report: 

Elephant Involved: Emily


Ruth

Keepers Involved (or present during the incident)

Description of the Incident

What were you and/or the elephant doing at the time of the incident?

I was raking the yard,  was bath Emily, Ruth was playing in sand pile

In detail, describe what happened.

Ruth mock charged me while I was ~~Raking~~ raking

What action if any was taken to discipline the elephant?

struck front leg, exercised, put her in a time out (laying down) then bathed her & put her through pm routine

Were there any injuries sustained? Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Date Reported: 10-9-10

Appendix 4. Incident Report

Buttonwood Park Zoo
Elephant Incident Report

Date of Incident: 5/31/11
Time of Incident: 3:45 pm

Keeper Filing Report: [Redacted]

Elephant Involved: Emily Ruth

Keepers Involved (or present during the incident)
[Redacted] involved and [Redacted] present

Description of the Incident

What were you and/or the elephant doing at the time of the incident?
[Redacted] was cleaning the yard and Ruth was standing by the shade structure. [Redacted] hosing off Emily.

In detail, describe what happened.
[Redacted] was facing Ruth but looking down raking in the middle of yard. Ruth charged at [Redacted]. [Redacted] shouted Ruth's name and she stopped. There was about 25 ft between them when she stopped.

What action if any was taken to discipline the elephant?
[Redacted] went right up to her and started to work her firmly. [Redacted] did not strike her. [Redacted] firmly worked her by ~~using~~ using proper cues.

Were there any injuries sustained? Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Date Reported: 6/1/11

Appendix 4. Incident Report

**Buttonwood Park Zoo
Elephant Incident Report**

Date of Incident: 9/28/11
Time of Incident: 8:30 AM

Keeper Filing Report: [REDACTED]

Elephant Involved: Emily

Ruth

Keepers Involved (or present during the incident)

Description of the Incident

What were you and/or the elephant doing at the time of the incident?

Just finished doing AM routine for her breakfast + had released her to go eat + was petting her + she hit me w/ her trunk

In detail, describe what happened.

Was petting her trunk after doing morning routine + she lunged her trunk forward + slammed my chest w/ her upper trunk.

What action if any was taken to discipline the elephant?

yelled 'Ruth no' + hit her w/ blunt end of guide [REDACTED] also hit her. Then worked her by walking her around exhibit + having her do some behaviors then released her.

Were there any injuries sustained? Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

Date Reported: _____

Appendix 4. Incident Report

**Buttonwood Park Zoo
Elephant Incident Report**

Date of Incident: 8/9/12
Time of Incident: 8:30 AM

Keeper Filing Report: [REDACTED]

Elephant Involved: Emily Ruth

Keepers Involved (or present during the incident)

Me, [REDACTED] + [REDACTED] present

Description of the Incident

What were you and/or the elephant doing at the time of the incident?

Taking them out on lawn, she ^{Ruth} was very excited

In detail, describe what happened.

Ruth mock charged @ me, I stood there yelled "Ruth No"

What action if any was taken to discipline the elephant?

Yelled @ her + hit her w/ ankles then worked her + she was fine after that, all rumbling + talkative, vocal

Were there any injuries sustained? Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Date Reported: 8/9/12