



2019 Annual Report



Dear friends and supporters,

It is hard to know where to begin. I started this letter/report several weeks ago before the Corona Virus had spread its ugly wings throughout the world. At that time, I was full of excitement about all that we have achieved with your help in the Mara and was thrilled to share it with each of you.

Now, Covid-19 has taken over all of our lives and everyone's focus is on surviving this virulent Virus. My thoughts are with all those who have been impacted and all those who are in isolation, which is not easy for anyone.

On March 10th, at my daughters' insistence — with me kicking and screaming as I

still had much to achieve — I left Kenya to rejoin my family in the States. My daughters told me that soon flights would cancel and borders would close — this did not seem possible at the time, but indeed that is what has happened just days later. I am grateful to them as it feels better to be close to family.

Now, Kenya's borders are closed. At that time Kenya had no confirmed cases and, to date, the government and people seem to be managing well to control the spread of the virus with only 25 confirmed cases, mostly from foreigners traveling from abroad. Long may that last so that the people of Kenya will remain safe. Most of them have no backup nor insurance should they get sick.

I am currently in Montana in self-isolation with beautiful views (particularly beautiful when the sun is shining — today it is snowing, thus no views!)

[DOWNLOAD THE 2019 ANNUAL REPORT HERE](#)



Left: Farley & I all ready for our night out in Rio during Carnival Right: A sampling of the incredible costumes.

I debated not sending out this newsletter due to these troubled times but perhaps a bit of good news unrelated to the Covid-19 might be a breath of fresh air. I figured you don't have to read it if you don't want to! Apart from our work in the Mara, made

possible with your support, I wanted to share news of a recent “safari” to Brazil. I returned to Salvador Bahia, where I travelled last year, to further explore the region, in particular the Afro-Brazilian religion of Candomble. Fascinating.

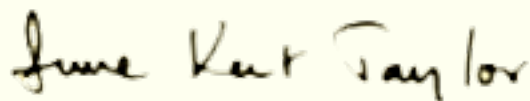
It has also been a lifelong ambition to experience the world famous (for good reason) Carnaval in Rio. What a show that was, and made all the more special with Farley to experience the rhythms and energy along with me. If anyone is interested for next year’s Carnaval, do let me know ... maybe we can go together. I loved it and would happily go back. I experienced sensory overload from the sheer joy of life, music, the celebration of so many who “live” all year for this incredible event Words cannot describe it ... and it has to be seen to be believed. [You can see more pictures and videos on my Instagram.](#)

Lastly, I am so sad to hear of the passing of my friend, Kenny Rogers. I was privileged to take Kenny, his wife, Wanda, and their families on safari. He was beloved in Kenya and around the world. Our thoughts are with his loving family.

I thank you sincerely for all the love, support and encouragement you have given the team and me this year. We are always incredibly grateful for your belief in us and will always make sure that your most generous donations are used to the maximum of their capacity. Thank you!

The AKTF team members are all currently at home so that they can self-isolate as well as possible and stay safe. We will continue to send updates via [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [on the blog](#).

With warm regards and gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Kent Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anne Kent Taylor

Founder/Director, Anne K. Taylor Fund

The Anne K. Taylor Fund

2019 Annual Report

A Note From Anne

Hello from Kenya to one and all!

I am sorry our final 2019 report has been delayed – I take full responsibility, but I hope you will enjoy reading all about what was achieved for the wildlife and the community with your help, without which it would not have been possible. It has been a very exciting year. We are particularly excited about the progress that the two women's groups are making. They have taken on the burden of responsibility and are enjoying the independence that being financially empowered gives them. I am very proud of them and I am also very proud of Carol who has been working with the two women's groups, helping them to become self-sufficient which should be everyone's goal rather than causing a society to become dependent.

I took a little break and had a wonderful two-week adventure to Brazil! Experiencing the Carnival in Rio has long been on my "to do" list. Well, this year I decided to do it! It was beyond amazing and something that I would recommend to anyone who might want an injection of joy, extravagance, and sheer high spirits. (We can help you plan it!) All year the Brazilians plan for the following year's February carnival – the floats and costumes were beyond incredible. Sensory overload was almost immediate – each time when I thought the floats and samba dancers could not get better, somehow they did... The colours, the vibrancy, the amazing imaginations were hard to absorb all in one "sitting" at the Sambadrome! I may want to go back next year, and if anyone is interested please let me know!

I combined the Carnival with a return visit to Salvador and a new destination of Trancosa in Bahia, Brazil, which is my favorite part of Brazil with its concentration of Afro-Brazilian culture. I feel right at home coming from Kenya! I developed a particular interest in Candomblé – an Afro-Brazilian religious tradition dating from the 19th Century and initiated by the original slaves. Their deities are known as Orixas, and my Orixá is – Iansã, or Goddess of the Wind. Funny thing that, as my father used to call me Hurricane Annie! I experienced a shell reading by a Candomblé oracle, and it was extraordinary how she saw my life, its challenges and its joys without knowing anything about me! These days, I find myself enjoying exploring different cultures and all that goes along with that. I am also trying to keep my brain cranked up by learning Portuguese! I can read it pretty well, but speaking is still challenging!

It was a truly fantastic break, and while I was gone my wonderful AKTF team kept everything going in the Mara – against difficult odds as we have been experiencing exceptionally heavy rains, making the Mara virtually impassable – bridges were washed away, as were camps and roads. This made it difficult to operate, but operate the AKTF team did!

I thank you sincerely for all the love, support and encouragement you have given the team and me this year. We are always incredibly grateful for your belief in us and will always make sure that your most generous donations are used to the maximum of their capacity. Thank you!

With love to you all,
Anne



AKTF Leadership

(clockwise from top left)

- Anne Kent Taylor, Director
- Elias Kamande, Patrol Team Leader
- Felix Masaku, Boma Team Leader
- Caroline Kiugo, Community Programs Leader



Anti-Poaching

We facilitate patrols with local authorities, such as the Mara Conservancy, to disrupt poaching activity, rescue animals wounded by poachers, and arrest poachers. We also search for and retrieve the deadly wire snares that poachers use to trap and kill animals.

2019 Achievements:

- 4 animals rescued from poachers
 - 2 lions
 - 1 elephant
 - 1 zebra
- 29 animals found dead in snares
- 140 snares retrieved (7,140 total since 2009)
- 14 poaching tools retrieved





Habitat Protection

In order to conserve the dwindling forests surrounding Maasai Mara, our team patrols with the Kenya Forestry Service, Kenya Wildlife Service, and Mara Conservancy, to locate and destroy illegal charcoal and logging operations.

2019 Achievements:

- 741 illegal charcoal kilns found & destroyed



Boma Fortification

Bomas protect Maasai livestock from predators. This in turn protects predators from retaliation by herders that have lost livestock.

Our bomas are built (or refurbished) using metal corners and chain-link fencing. These materials will survive the harsh climate of the Mara and last for many years.

2019 Achievements

- 15 bomas constructed & 9 refurbished (making 845 bomas fortified since 2008)
- 5,280 head of livestock protected



Supporting Schools

2019 Achievements:

- 34 students graduated to Grade 1 at Nailepu Junior Academy– this is the first class to have completed their entire education at Nailepu
- School lunch program continues at Oloolmongi Primary School for 500 students



Supporting Schools (continued)

- We also continued to facilitate a school lunch program at Oloomongi Primary school, providing daily nourishment to several hundred students.
- Sanitary latrines were built for both boys and girls at Oliashire Primary School, and these provide privacy, support hygiene, and promote dignity for the students.

Economic Development: Soap Making & Esidai

- AKTF sponsored the development of a soap-making endeavor for the Esidai Women's Group. Using locally available materials, they make laundry, body, and dish soap, selling it to local lodges. This project gives the women a degree of financial independence from their husbands and families.





Menstrual Health & Esidai

Because menstruation is a taboo subject in Maasai Mara, young women are not taught how to safely manage their periods each month. As a result, female students end up missing a lot of school out of shame or fear of bleeding in class, and they fall behind their male peers.

To address this, the Esidai Women's Group together with AKTF have been sewing washable, sanitary pads for girls and women to use to discreetly manage their bleeding. These allow girls to attend school all month long and keep up with the rest of their class, and for women to manage their periods in a healthier way.

2019 Achievements:

- 420 washable sanitary pads were distributed to young women

Community Health

- For two days, the Free Medical Camp organized by AKTF gave free consultations, diagnosis, treatment, an eye clinic, and referrals to 456 patients. Doctors and Medical Team volunteers graciously dedicated their time and efforts to caring for our community.





Collaboration with Others

AKTF works closely with the Mara Conservancy, Angama Mara, Eden Wildlife Trust, Mara North Conservancy, Kenya Wildlife Service, Kenya Forestry Service, Mara Elephant Project, David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, and more. We are extremely grateful for the support and partnership we enjoy with these organizations.

We were honored this year to again partner with Angama Foundation's "Greatest Maasai Mara Wildlife Photographer of the Year" competition, and to receive a generous donation from them.

- Adams Family Trust
- Adventure Travel Conservation Fund
- Aesha Lorenz Al-Saeed
- Alan and Susan Yoss Family Foundation
- Arash and Zach Afzalipour
- Angama Foundation
- Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation
- Aspen Business Center Foundation, Mr. J. McBride
- Ms. C. Bates
- Ms. S. Batmanghelidj & Mr. R. Klotz
- The Bender Ostberg Charitable Fund
- Mr. and Mrs. F. Blake
- Mrs. L. Bogush
- Bold Nomad LLC, Mrs. Christine Morin Koether
- Mr. D. Botterbusch
- The Brown Foundation, Inc.
- Mr. H. Buxton
- Mrs. P. Buxton
- Mr. N. Chickering
- Clementine
- Mr. W. Thomas Cooper
- Crosswols Foundation
- Ms. S. Dadelahi
- Mr. and Mrs. J. Dechman
- Mr. K. Dockery
- Mr. and Mrs. J. Duncan
- Mr. J. Eche copar
- The Ed and Yvonne Parish Foundation
- Eden Wildlife Trust
- Mr. and Mrs. F. Felke
- Mr. J. Ferguson
- Ms. S. Flosi
- Mr. S. Freeman & Ms. J. Waxman
- Mr. J. Gooch
- Mr. and Mrs. F. Goodyear, Jr.
- GreaterGood.org
- Harold M. & Adeline S. Morrison Family Foundation, Charlie & Margo Brinley
- Mr. and Mrs. R. Jackson
- Mr. and Mrs. Mac Roy Jackson, Jr. (In honor of Mr. and Mrs. R. Jackson)
- Mr. and Mrs. J. Janura
- Mrs. R. Kavo
- Mr. and Mrs. R. Lansing
- Mr. J. Levy
- Mr. S. Love
- Love Some Buddy, Inc.
- The Mary Lynn Richardson Fund
- Ms. J. McNally
- Ms. Debra Metz
- Mr. and Mrs. J. Montag
- Mt. Moro Foundation
- Ms. M. Bancroft Murray
- The Nancy-Carroll Draper Charitable Foundation
- National Geographic Big Cats Initiative
- Mr. and Mrs. J. Pappas
- Mr. and Mrs. L. Patrick
- Mr. and Mrs. T. Perini
- Ms. C. Kever Rosin
- Mr. R. Ross
- Skyemar Foundation, Mr. B. Macleod
- Ms. C. Reed
- Ms. D. Solomon
- Susanna Meyer Living Trust
- Annabelle & Taylor Lansing, Isabella Taylor McLaughlin – Lemonade Stand Donation
- Mr. J. Taylor
- Ms. R. Thomas
- Valerie Gordon-Johnson & Doug Johnson Charitable Fund
- West Towson Elementary School – Zippers for Zebras
- Ms. D. Fulenwider Wood
- Woodward Family Charitable Foundation, Ms. Margo Meg Bunn
- Woodward Family Charitable Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. W. Bunn, III
- Wyoming Community Foundation's Bobby Model Charitable Donor Advised Fund
- Mrs. F. Zilkha

2019 List of Donors

In 2019 the following donors contributed generously to the Anne K. Taylor Fund 501(c)3. We are so grateful for this generous support and we thank each and every one of you. Without your support nothing would be possible.