

## CHRONOLOGY FOR JENNY DALLAS ZOO

1986: Jenny was donated to Dallas Zoo at approximately 10 years of age. She joined two elephants, Rafiki, who was transferred out about a month later, and Moja (8 yrs. old) who remained.

Dallas Zoo records state, "Social challenges developed between Jenny and Moja. Jenny would intimidate the younger elephant by chasing and pushing her into corners. Keepers would intervene to prevent **escalating aggression** and the risk of injury to Moja."

1991: Moja dies.

1993: Jenny is alone until March 1993, when she is joined by Vasha (approx. 7 yrs. old).

"Social problems developed between (them). Jenny started demonstrating aggression towards Vasha about four months after Vasha's arrival... **These episodes became intensely violent and more frequent... Jenny also demonstrated a self-trauma behavior that would result in minor injuries to her leg.**"

1995: Construction work is done on the elephant exhibit, during which **Jenny's self-mutilating behavior results in "substantial traumatic injury to right rear leg..."** Records note, "**The noise from the equipment seemed to have an adverse effect on Jenny. The self-trauma behavior intensified.**" Self-trauma and aggression toward Vasha continue after the construction is completed.

1996: Dallas Zoo introduces the "protected contact" elephant management system. Jenny initially is "quite confused and frustrated." **Self- injurious and aggressive behaviors continue, including further traumatic injury to right rear leg.** She is aggressive toward her keepers.

In December, the Dallas Zoo starts sedating Jenny with the powerful tranquilizer Acepromazine.

1997: In January, "Acepromazine is having a positive effect but she still does not consistently demonstrate positive behaviors with all staff members." By March, Jenny's dosage is raised. In May, 1997 a trial withdrawal of Acepromazine (over two days) is attempted. Jenny immediately resumes aggressive behavior toward Vasha and keeper staff. After one day without Acepromazine, Jenny is re-administered her highest previous dosage, which is raised yet again in October 1997.

2000: Dallas Zoo plans to transfer Vasha to Disney's Animal Kingdom for breeding in October, which will leave Jenny alone. Records state, "**Conversations with several members of the Elephant SSP management group indicate that [Jenny] would be a difficult elephant to place at another institution due to her behavioral challenges and non-reproductive status.** The Dallas Zoo will attempt to bring in a companion for

Jenny to replace Vasha. **It is felt that Jenny was able to easily intimidate her previous companions due to their age. The staff will seek a companion that has previously demonstrated confidence with other elephants and that is at least of the same age as Jenny.** The staff will take the opportunity to attempt Acepromazine withdrawal prior to the arrival of a new companion. Compatibility issues are a consideration for any animal acquisition. Incompatible behavioral issues that cannot be resolved will be addressed to the Elephant SSP. The Dallas Zoo will work with the Elephant SSP in determining the best situation for Jenny.” (Jenny will remain alone until 2003.)

In August, the USDA meets with Dallas Zoo concerning Jenny’s ongoing management with Acepromazine and other concerns: “Jeanne and USDA have some concerns about Jenny, although they are our concerns as well. They primarily focus on two aspects of Jenny’s life with us. **First, the rather ‘...highly unconventional...’ use of drugs for an extended period along with her operant conditioning, and second, the possibility of her being alone for a protracted periods (sic) after Vasha leaves** (ideal topic for PETA!)... Jeanne feels our husbandry is OK, it’s the extended use of drugs which is causing USDA some concern...as no one has apparently taken this course of action before (to their knowledge).”

In September, the Dallas Zoo plans to wean Jenny from long-term Acepromazine use over an eight to twelve week period. The records indicate concern that Jenny may regress after being taken off the drug: “Of note, in Spring 1997, an abrupt withdrawal of Acepromazine did produce a sudden return to ‘old’ behaviors.”

In November, Vasha is transferred to Disney. Jenny “became mildly to moderately depressed...when Vasha was shipped to Disney. **She rocked constantly and was not interested in enrichment. This lasted for about 2 months.**”

2001: After five years, Jenny is “successfully weaned off the ‘Ace’” in December. She continues to live alone.

2003: In anticipation of Keke’s arrival in September, **the Zoo again sedates Jenny with Acepromazine.**

2005: In April, there is a small fire outside of the large mammal barn. Firetrucks are brought in alongside the elephant exhibit, and Jenny is distressed by the commotion. Subsequently, Jenny is “**markedly depressed and poorly responsive to keepers. She is anorexic and is not defecating or urinating. She is restless, and is up and down often...**” Jenny refuses treats and other food items, is resistant to bathing, and refuses water. Not until April 20 do clinical notes note that “Jenny is much improved and essentially back to normal.”

2006: In August, Jenny and Keke are locked inside in the morning while welding is going on outside. Temperatures are over 100 degrees. Jenny is “found down in exhibit in left lateral recumbency. Would not respond to night keepers.” Gastrointestinal symptoms

(soft feces, distended flank, passing gas). **“Suspect this may be heat and stress related.”** Behavior is noted as “back to normal” on August 5.

An “Animal Profile” for Jenny gives the following assessment: **“She has a past history, up through year 2000, of being behaviorally volatile, with a low resistance to stress or change in environment. Past history also included some stereotypic and self-abusive behavior and occasionally aggressive-dominance behaviors toward a younger elephant, since departed.** However since then her behavior has settled considerably, and although there is a recognized concern that her temperament could regress, she appears much calmer with responding and adapting to change in her environment. **Aversive stimuli, such as increased noise and activity, can still affect her, but not to the degree they once did.”**

END OF AVAILABLE RECORDS FOR JENNY

Note: Even today, Jenny can be seen displaying abnormal, repetitive swaying behaviors.