The Elephant Sanctuary and Jenny

A group of caring people came together to discuss what they could do to help elephants in captivity. The elephants were in the circus or in zoos and many were abused or not properly cared for.

Sitting around a table in one of their homes, they prepared an appeal letter to start the ball rolling. In 1995 The Elephant Sanctuary was founded on 110 acres of land in Hohenwald, Tennessee by Carol Buckley and Scott Blais and their supporters. The first resident was Tarra, a former performing elephant. The first barn was completed.

In 1996, Barbara arrived. She also was a former circus elephant.



Later that year the Sanctuary welcomed Jenny from a Nevada animal shelter. Jenney was born in the wild in Sumatra in 1972 and captured at 5 months old. She spent 20 years as a circus performer. She kept escaping her trainers during performances. In July of 1996

Jenny's owners contacted the Elephant Sanctuary and she arrived on September 11, 1996. Jenny came to the sanctuary quite ill. She had scars and other traces of misuse and abuse from her past as a circus elephant. At the Sanctuary she would be treated by veterinarians and a knowledgeable staff. She would have a place in a barn for shelter and acres of fields to roam and plenty of good food.

In 2003 the Elephant Sanctuary expanded to over 2,700 acres.