

## Dear friends in hunting

The year 2015 has brought with it much controversies about hunting, with personal attacks on individual hunters, boycotting of hunting shows in Canada, misrepresentations and unnecessary hype in the media. At the same time, illegitimate poaching activities are ever increasing, with poaching of rhinos even in Namibia rising to record numbers this year. Concessions and private game farmers find themselves confronted with having to keep poachers at bay – a very costly responsibility – while ironically the immediate source for funding anti-poaching measures is being shunned by the public media. It seems the general public is failing to differentiate between controlled hunting and illegitimate poaching, much to the detriment of conservation efforts in Africa. It remains our responsibility to further educate about hunting, knowing it is the only economically viable means of protecting our natural world.

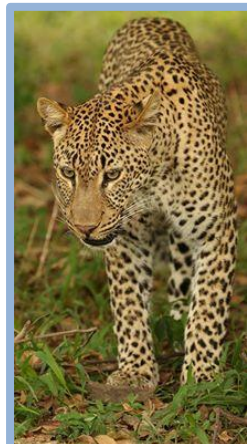
Sadly, the venue for the shows in Saskatoon and Toronto had to be moved due to attacks from anti-hunting groups on the hosting hotels. Please note the new dates and venues for the hunting shows that we will be attending:

DSC: booth #4506, 7-10 January 2016  
Calgary: 22-24 January 2016 @ Carriage House Inn  
Saskatoon: 29-31 January 2016 @ Travel Lodge Hotel  
SCI: booth #1742, 3-6 February 2016

This year, Steve will be joining Alex & Carola in Dallas while Annette & Rudie will be attending the shows in Canada. Annette, Rudie, Alex and Carola will all be meeting in Las Vegas. We look forward to seeing you there!!!

Best wishes for the upcoming new year!!!

# The Jan Oelofse Hunting Safaris TEAM



## Leopard

**Tags** Again for 2016 we have so far been able to only get 2 tags... and booked out for 2017 already! Leopard hunts must be booked in advance...



**Petrichor** (/ˈpɛtrɪkəər/) is the earthy scent produced when rain falls on dry soil. The word is constructed from Greek, *petra*, meaning "stone", + *ichor*, the fluid that flows in the veins of the gods in Greek mythology.

## NEWSLETTER December 2015

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## The First Rains

Most weather experts believe that the El Nino effect this year will be the strongest in 18 years, promising even drier conditions than during the previous year. Especially South Africa will suffer food shortages if this season's rainfalls should again be less than average. But we at Jan Oelofse Safaris have been lucky so far, recording up to around 70 mm of rains on some parts of the Okonjati game reserve. At least 400 mm of rain, spaced in regular time intervals, would be sufficient to see our animals through another season without having to depend on alfalfa. The first green shoots are piercing the fertile soil, and we are reducing the amount of alfalfa (currently at 6.5 tons per day) a little, as less and less animals come to the feeding spots, preferring the lush greens elsewhere. What a blessing! The next few weeks will decide much... we are hoping for the best, against the odds!



## Rhino Orphanage

Being well known for her efforts and previous successes in raising orphaned rhinos, Annette is often addressed by Namibian Nature Conservation to take in young rhinos. During October 2015, two small rhinos arrived at Okonjati game reserve. A male, now known as "Yandja" (meaning "present" in Herero), was aborted by his stressed mother during a capture operation on another game farm where capturing and translocating the rhinos was the last option remaining to counter heavy poaching activities there. "Little Miss Lua" was found in the Etosha park, having lost her mother for unknown reasons. While Yandja was drinking long-life non-fat milk within no time, the small, under-nourished female struggled first with constipation, followed by severe diarrhea. For a week,



the little girl was kept on a drip to counter dehydration, Annette, Rudie, Alex & Carola keeping an eye on her 24/7 day and night, but to no avail. The post mortem revealed that the tiny, half-starved, desperate baby rhino, probably deprived of her mother's milk for days

**To the LEFT** Capturing Yandja: employees of Namibian Nature Conservation captured little Yandja using a very potent tranquilizer, M99. The antidote was administered only when the rhinos new home at Okonjati game reserve was reached by car, a few hours later.

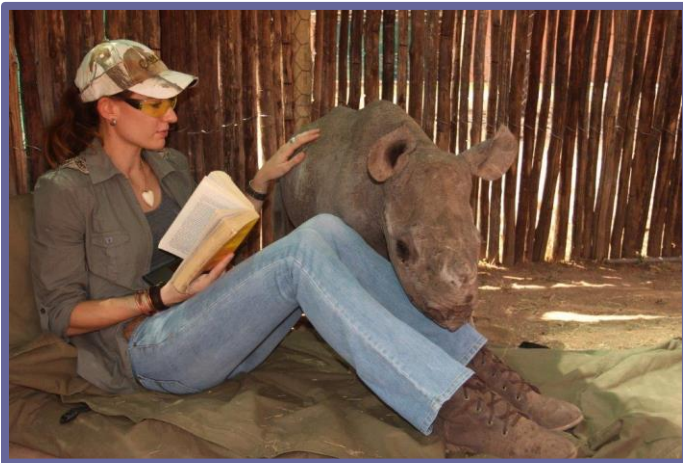
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consumed tremendous amounts of grass. Being a baby and a foraging black rhino, her stomach was simply unable to digest such amounts of roughage, and the rotting grass eventually completely damaged her stomach lining. The Oelofse family did what they could, but in the end survival is determined by matters out of our hands...



Yandja, on the other hand, has grown almost twice his size in a few months, enjoying around 20 L of milk every day, endless walks and mud baths! He will be bottle fed for at least another 3 months and will be released into the wild at approximately 2 years of age, when he is ready to rule the world and be part of his species!



## Lions at Okonjati Game Reserve

A total of 5 lion cubs were born this year, increasing the pride size to 21 lions! One mother lion gave birth to three cubs, which she feeds through rigorous hunting activities. The other lioness and her two



**Interesting**  
encounter: a black rhino meets a white rhino in friendly greeting – photo taken by Annette.

## Happy News

Carola is now 17 weeks pregnant with first child!!!  
Expected due date is end of May 2016. If it's a boy his name shall be Jan... after Alex' dad.  
And if it's a girl – we shall see  
😊😊😊😊😊😊😊😊



cubs were so far only seen a few times, the cubs still being very small and the mother very protective over them.

The big male lion recently had an infection on his foot. Alex quickly took matters seriously and darted the big guy with tranquilizers in order to clean the wound before it could fester. The big male is now happily back on his feet, dominating the pack again!

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## Annette & Rudie's Trip to Zambia

After almost 3 weeks of camping in Zambia, stalking animals from as early as 05h00 am in the morning in National parks South Luangwa and Kafue, Annette & Rudie have seen and photographed countless beautiful animals usually not seen in Namibia... Here is a collection of only a few of the thousands of photos they took:

### Rudie de Klerk Photography

Rudies photos can be viewed (and bought) at his website here: <http://www.rudiedeklerkphoto.com/>



### Zambia Trip

More about Annette and Rudie's trip can be found on Annettes facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/annette.oelofse.5>

Happy 2016!  
Dear Friends, we  
wish you all the  
best! The Jan  
Oelofse TEAM!