

## **SPONSOR A SHEPHER PROGRAM**

Long before the outside world was aware of the Palanca Negra Gigante, local people living in the same forest as these giant sables, appointed shepherds from their community to watch over the animals they held sacred. Today, Africa's last discovered large mammal and Angola's national symbol, the Palanca Negra Gigante, is threatened by poachers and woodcutters, forces too strong for the shepherds who even during the years of civil war, clung to their calling to protect the majestic sables.

In 2004, Pedro Vaz Pinto, Environmental Advisor to the Catholic University Centre for Scientific Studies and Research, identified that the Palanca Negra Gigante still exist and started giving assistance to the shepherds – radios, proper footwear and uniforms, and a small salary. But in January 2005, his funding (mainly from UNDP) for the Shepherd Program will run out.

Now on the endangered species list, the Palanca Negra Gigante needs help more than ever before. **YOU** can contribute to saving the sable by participating in the "Sponsor a Shepherd" program. Your donation will help pay the shepherd's salary of one hundred dollars per month. In return you will be given a sponsorship certificate that includes a recent photo of the palanca negra, plus a photo of the team of shepherds and a decal to stick on your car, and a monthly update.

### **There are various levels of sponsorship:**

\$300. - 3 months sponsorship,

\$600. - 6 months sponsorship, receive a full color poster of the Palanca Negra Gigante

\$1,200. – one year sponsorship, receive all the afore-mentioned plus your name and/or logo of company, will be prominently displayed in the next issue of the Palanca Negra Gigante booklet to be published in 2006.

\$2, 400 or more, sponsorship of two or more shepherds, you will receive all the afore-mentioned plus Pedro Vaz Pinto will volunteer his time and knowledge and guide you and your group through Cangandala Park with the shepherds.

All donations will be receipted and money can be transferred directly to the Shepherd Program bank account set up by the university's research centre.

Please let us know what name(s) should appear on the certificate and if it is to be a **Christmas gift or birthday gift or anniversary gift.**

For more information you can email Henriette at [angolafieldgroup@gmail.com](mailto:angolafieldgroup@gmail.com) or Pedro Vaz Pinto at [pedrovazpinto@hotmail.com](mailto:pedrovazpinto@hotmail.com) (*phone numbers supplied on request*).