

The price of Willy

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NEWPORT, Oregon—Keiko, the orca star of the 1993 film *Free Willy!*, was already the costliest, most controversial whale in history long before he splashed into his new surroundings, a \$7 million state-of-the-art tank at the Oregon Coast Aquarium. Enjoying four times the space he had in his 11 years at the *El Reino Aventura* amusement park in Mexico City, Keiko increased his activity so much as to double his appetite within his first week of arrival, as the biggest package ever flown by United Parcel Service.

But the successful relocation only escalated the debate over whether and if Keiko can—or should—actually be freed. Moving him was the easy part. There were disagreements over who should move him, where, for what purpose, but even *El Reino Aventura* general manager Oscar Porter readily agreed in principle that he needed better quarters. Ahead remain the hardest questions—about his prospects for release; about finding him companions, including a mate, if as seems likely, he cannot be reunited with his unknown family pod somewhere off Iceland; the question as to whether he should be allowed to breed, inescapable if he gains a mate, since at age 15 he has reached sexual maturity; debate over the seriousness of his chronic skin condition, officially a papilloma virus but indelicately described by some experts as “genital warts”; a variety of scandals and rumors

(Photo by Kim Bartlett.)

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[ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED.]

of scandals besetting some of the Free Willy/Keiko campaign participants, notably the Humane Society of the U.S., a late-comer to the effort led by Earth Island Institute; and intense discussion of just where Keiko's future fits among the urgent priorities for marine mammals.

There is also the matter of whether or not Keiko *wants* to be released. Longtime Free Willy/Keiko campaign supporter Bill Russell of Bandon, Oregon, was among the first visitors to see Keiko at the Oregon Coast Aquarium.

“At the risk of anthropomorphizing,” he observed,
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ANIMAL

News For People Who

PEOPLE

Care About Animals

March 1996

Volume V, #2

Cutting euthanasias without conflict

SAN DIEGO—Can population control euthanasias be halted?
Do homeless cats breed in the woods?

New studies by the National Pet Alliance and ANIMAL PEOPLE say yes to both questions—and confirm that the keys to success are first, going where the homeless cats are to do neutering, and second, working to enable renters to adopt cats.

Political conflicts erupting in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Montgomery County, Maryland, demonstrate meanwhile that harassing ordinary pet keepers with regulations and extra fees may lower euthanasia numbers at cost of creating an eventually self-defeating backlash against enforcement of any animal control or animal protection laws. In both cities, animal advocates are digging in to protect nationally noted breeding control ordinances, acclaimed when passed, but easy targets for newly elected fiscal conservatives, who recently took over both civic administrations with a pledge to cut bureaucracy. The Fort Wayne city council is contemplating closing the public animal control agency and contracting services

out to the lowest bidder, while Montgomery County has been without an animal control director for more than a year, and is expected to move the animal control agency to be under the not particularly enthused supervision of the police department.

San Diego, equally politically conservative, cut dog and cat animal control intakes 26% between fiscal year 1991-1992 and fiscal year 1993-1994—and cut euthanasias by 36%. As in San Francisco, where the goal of zero population control euthanasias was reached in 1994 after 18 years of aggressive San Francisco SPCA support of low-cost neutering and renter adoption, the San Diego progress was achieved without the introduction of major new laws, without tax funding, without public rancor, and indeed with so little public attention that it was well underway almost before anyone realized anything was changing.

Moreover, while the SF/SPCA perfected a program from scratch by trial and error, in San Diego results are coming fast just from using already known techniques.

NPA founder Karen Johnson and colleague Laura Lewellen set out to discover just what is happening in San Diego, along with what else will be necessary to bring San Diego to zero population control euthanasias.

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Bush meat

**Canadian wildlife
traffic**

**SEA SHEPHERDS
HOPE TO RIDE
HERD ON HONDO**

**Whistleblowers
fight back**

*Truck bombed at
Arizona Humane*

—Robert Harrison

Last of the dinosaurs

NEW YORK—The world learned last year what leading-edge paleontologists began to whisper a decade ago—that the dinosaurs were not reptiles but close kin to birds, or more precisely, that birds are not merely descendents but survivors of *Dinosauria*, a living branch of the theropod dinosaur family. Among the theropods were *Ornithomimus*, actually named for resembling a bird; *Gallimimus*, essentially a giant ostrich; the hawk-like *Oviraptors* and *Velociraptors*; and the *Tyrannosaurids*, including *Tyrannosaurus Rex*.

“Yo, T-Rex!” chortled *Newsweek*. “Your mama’s a turkey!”

As maverick scientist Bob Bakker postulated in his 1986 book *The Dinosaur Heresies*, most if not all dinosaurs seem to have been warmblooded, to have hatched and reared their young in nests, had keenly developed auditory and communicative senses, may have had feathers, and might have had

intelligence at contemporary avian levels. A fast-growing body of evidence was seemingly capped on December 20, when Mark Norell of the American Museum of Natural History in New York City unveiled the fossilized skeleton of an *Oviraptor*, apparently killed by a sandstorm 80 million years ago, protecting her 15 eggs to the last in precisely the brooding position of a mother hen.

As 1996 opened, Chinese paleontologist Lian-hai Hou announced his discovery of a pair of 142-million-year-old fossils appearing to represent the earliest known birds capable of flight.

Ironically, birds have been recognized as living links to dinosauria just as unprecedented numbers of avian species are plunging toward extinction. The *Silent Spring* scenario the late Rachel Carson postulated in 1964 won't happen—not soon, anyway—because the chemicals most implicated

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Editorial

Trust

Building a humane world begins with building trust, the basic understanding that permits peaceful interaction among living beings. Whether sharing a watering hole, stroking a cat, or shaking hands on a deal, it starts with establishing mutual confidence that vulnerability will not bring attack. Even infants must be able to trust their mothers before they learn to reciprocate love; if infant trust is betrayed by neglect or violence, as the late vivisector Harry Harlow showed through some of the most appalling experiments ever executed, the capacity to engage in reciprocal relationships of any kind is lastingly impaired.

Trust in itself does not preclude violence, as even the most trustworthy humans and animals may sometimes bite when they shouldn't, but a climate of trust at least precludes cruelty, since to do intentional harm is to erode trust.

This should all be so obvious as to be tedious reading. Yet despite the importance of trust, we don't see much concern about it among humane leadership, and that in itself may explain the transfer of moral impetus over the past few years from organizations concerned with "animal rights" in the abstract to those more concerned with practical achievement.

Three of our leading advertisers exemplify the direction of growing influence:

Friends of Animals, unlike any other national advocacy group, was formed in 1957 not to seek legislation, compelling obedience, but rather to make low-cost neutering of cats and dogs universally available, trusting that the public, if educated in the need to neuter and given the chance to do so, would voluntarily choose to do it—and would donate to support the effort. Approximately half of the FoA annual budget still goes toward that eminently successful project.

The North Shore Animal League, begun in 1954, took the view that the public can and should be entrusted with pets, and maintained that view throughout the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s, against the prevailing attitude of organizations as diverse as the Humane Society of the U.S. and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, which teach essentially that pet adoptions should be refused to all but the most qualified applicants and that euthanasia is preferable to any risk of an animal finding an imperfect home. By now the evidence is overwhelming that the North Shore approach not only places far more animals, enabling more animals to teach people to love them, but also results in proportionately no more failed adoptions than are experienced by the figurative Grand Inquisitors.

The San Francisco SPCA, however, reached out most dramatically toward trust, when in 1984 SF/SPCA president Richard Avanzino realized one day that much of the public doesn't entrust animals they can't keep to humane societies because humane societies kill animals; that animals abandoned to "give them a chance" are the main source of unwanted breeding; and that the way to overcome such mistrust is to stop killing animals. Avanzino is still catching flak for his decision to unilaterally stop killing—but his choice to trust the public, perhaps the most courageous choice in the history of humane work, has paid off, as the public responded by donating the wherewithal to do the low-cost neutering that in 1994 ended population control euthanasia for the whole city of San Francisco.

As the SF/SPCA reinvented humane work, one of the most unique and valuable aspects of the organization has been the Department of Ethical Studies, under Pam Rockwell. Though it does law enforcement, it is not called the "Department of Humane Enforcement," in recognition that humane attitudes are more effectively taught than mandated. It works within the area generally perceived as promoting "animal rights," but does not use "rights" rhetoric. The Department of Ethical Studies is concerned not with "rights" *per se* but with ethics: with encouraging humans to be considerate. In using the term "studies," it emphasizes inquiry and thought. It does not pretend to be "the department that has all the answers." Rather, it is the department that asks the questions.

A news item in our January/February edition and a letter and response in this edition describe an accomplishment of ANIMAL PEOPLE, the Steinhart Aquarium, and Sea World, facilitated by the Department of Ethical Studies, which counterpoints the "Free Willy/Keiko" campaign as an example of what ethical trust-building can accomplish.

Orchestrated by Earth Island Institute, the effort to remove Keiko from a small tank in Mexico City to a big one in Oregon, which we are glad he finally has, involved at least half a dozen national advocacy groups, cost \$10 million plus, took a blockbuster feature film to launch, depended heavily upon selling the public the myth that Keiko has an iceberg's chance in *El Nino* of ever being released to the wild legally and successfully, and ended up with two newly wild-caught dolphins in the tank in Mexico City to replace the one

orca. Net achievement: three captive whales instead of one.

Years earlier, the same Earth Island staffers took on the case of Amphrite and Thetis, Pacific whitesided dolphins held since 1975 and 1978, respectively, in a tank only 25% of the minimum size prescribed for dolphins by federal law, just a few miles from the Earth Island offices. The Steinhart Aquarium, a branch of the California Academy of Science, received a special exemption to keep the dolphins, in part because they were used in scientific research. Held more than twice as long as Keiko was in Mexico, kept as living laboratory specimens, Amphrite and Thetis were obvious subjects for a high-profile protest campaign; but perhaps because Hollywood took no interest, the campaign fizzled, and was forgotten everywhere but at the Steinhart, where the directors seethed. They'd never been offered the chance to do anything with Amphrite and Thetis that was within the realm of realistic possibility. Nor had the campaign recognized that Amphrite and Thetis arrived in another era, when attitudes were different and only Ric O'Barry, a lone crusader on the opposite coast, even postulated the idea that dolphins should not be kept in captivity. What was done was done, and whatever else was wrong at the Steinhart, no one there had ever intended causing suffering.

In short, the Earth Island campaign did no more for Amphrite and Thetis than fracture any foundation for mutual trust—and a deal beneficial to the dolphins—that might have been laid.

Time passed. We learned of the dolphins from subscriber Janice Garnett. We asked Rockwell to investigate, which she promptly did, the ethically studious way, taking special care at every step to demonstrate that good faith would be reciprocated. We meanwhile investigated possible better homes for the dolphins and sought out expert response to technical obstacles. The Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums and Sea World helped, as they'd worked to help Keiko before the "Free Willy/Keiko" campaign smeared them as bad guys who purportedly only wanted to "enslave" Keiko in further captivity in a tank about the same size as the new one he now occupies, which was available to him two years earlier. Joe Girasi helped, the same marine mammal veterinarian depicted as an arch-foe by dolphin release advocates in Florida. Many others pitched in, too. There was never much publicity involved, no big fundraising effort, and so little crowing about the successful outcome that we didn't even learn the long-rehearsed move had been accomplished until a solid month afterward. At that, the whole transaction, from Garnett's letter to the transfer, took just 14 months: a third the length of the "Free Willy/Keiko" campaign. And the Steinhart has no intention of ever again keeping dolphins.

The outcome is as positive as it is because of Rockwell's trust-based approach. By expressing optimism and confidence that everyone wanted the best situation for the dolphins, first and foremost, she enabled many people to work together in a situation so polarized that many initially pronounced it impossible.

What if her trust had not been reciprocated?

She'd have studied the situation—ethically—and tried again.

Confusing cause with metaphor

Much of the humane movement, like much of the rest of our society, has been built around war imagery: we are a crusade, we must fight, we must convert foes at sword's point if necessary to the cause of kindness. Steeped in such ill-chosen metaphor, activists tend to misunderstand Henry Spira when he urges negotiation to make gains for animals—even though he demonstrates time and again that considerate, mutually beneficial negotiation need involve no sacrifice of principle. It was Spira who in 1984 persuaded Procter & Gamble to make a commitment to phasing animals out of laboratory use that has extended over a decade, at cost of over \$38 million to develop alternative testing methods. Though neither Spira nor Procter & Gamble get much credit for it, that was the single greatest gain for animals in the history of the antivivisection and animal rights movements.

But one must be trusted, at least as a forthright and stalwart opponent, to be in position to dicker. Leaders who have been able to build multi-million-dollar advocacy groups around campaigns based on eternal mistrust just don't see the point. While the money rolls in, they're successful, their self-defeating tactics seemingly rewarded.

That won't last forever. Keiko will probably spend the rest of his life in Oregon, alerting a generation of children who gave their allowances to "free" him that the promise of "Free Willy!" was more a wish than a promise.

Letters from other animal protection donors whose trust has been abused come daily, more all the time. Those leaders and organizations dealing in bad faith are at growing if unrecognized risk of losing donor trust. Scarcely a week goes by without our being informed of another high donor rewriting a will to exclude an organization because the donor finally realized that people who don't tell the truth in advocacy don't tend to tell the truth to supporters, either, and maybe someone else can make better use of the money.

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

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Letters

Thanks

I just received your little note of thanks for my donation and information about **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. I love all the characters and suggest you consider writing a novel about them.

More to the point, I really appreciate you folks. As painful as it sometimes is, I read **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and learn. I sent notes to all the participants in the Declaration of Panama. The World Wildlife Fund, Greenpeace, the Center for Marine Conservation, and the Environmental Defense Fund all used to get contributions from me. They certainly know why they don't now.

I'm using your tests to tell me who to donate to, and have started supporting my local organizations. The nationals get plenty. And I'm becoming more vegan, which after 58 years of meat-eating is quite a challenge.

—Marty Hornstein
Studio City, California

Not that rich

I read with interest your "Who gets the money?" feature in the December issue of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. I was surprised to see that the National Association for Biomedical Research's 1994 investments were listed at \$20,012,695—ten times their actual level. It looks as if an extra zero made its way into the figure. NABR's 1994 investments were actually \$2,061,409.

—Frankie Trull
Foundation for Biomedical Research
Washington, D.C.

A line of information pertaining to another organization was inadvertently entered twice, once in the wrong place. Apologies to all concerned.

Phil Gramm

Please alert your readers who are anti-hunting and vote that Senator Phil Gramm (R-Texas) is a member of the National Rifle Association, and in a recent television interview bragged that he is an avid hunter.

—Virginia Gillas
Hermitage, Missouri

In 1987, then-Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge manager Don Perkuchin arrested former Representative Stan Parris (R-Virginia) for violating game laws. Parris was convicted and fined. Phil Gramm called U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service head Frank Dunkle, now deceased, to protest; Dunkle ordered Perkuchin to enforce game laws only within the refuge itself, and soon afterward transferred him to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in central Florida. Said Gramm, "I simply raised concerns about the wildlife refuge not being managed well."

Research

ANIMAL PEOPLE editor Merritt Clifton's public letter to Jim Stallings of the Foundation for Biomedical Research is excellent and should constitute the national agenda on biomedical research.

—Sam Calaby
Columbia, Maryland

Copies of this 14-page letter are available for \$2.00 postage and photocopying cost, or on request to ANMLPEOPLE@aol.com by e-mail.

Conglomerates

Let's have a look at why people give \$25 dollars to their local group but \$250 to PETA? I'd really like to see something like this, maybe with a sidebar on the conglomeratization of PETA, the New England Anti-Vivisection Society, *Animals' Agenda*, and the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine; or the Animal Legal Defense Fund, Doris Day Animal League, et al. You know this stuff better than anyone!

—D'Arcy Kemnitz
St. Paul, Minnesota

Inherit the Earth

We are a small group who do much with nothing. Please see our yearly financial report [*Editor's note: abstracted on page 12.*] Local people who do not contribute one cent to help us send us Christmas cards from organizations with money to burn. I will show them the statistics you published on group finances in your December and January/February issues, and ask them to help us instead.

—Carolyn Stephens
Inherit the Earth
Crawfordsville, Indiana

Radio

On a recent radio talk show emanating from Los Angeles, a very capable representative from a well-known national animal rights organization was invited to discuss vivisection. So much time was spent on hypothetical questions that very little time was devoted to the subject of animals used in research. During the hour of the program I heard, the host and callers dwelled on such outlandish questions as, "If a dog and a child were drowning, which one would you save?" and "Would you kill a person for killing a chicken?" and "Can you justify the statement that the barbecuing of six million chickens is equivalent to the Holocaust?"

There must be a way to debate vivisection without getting trapped. How about refusing to answer hypotheticals, explaining that they are time-wasting, distracting, and do not deal with facts? Any suggestions?

—Peggy Moore
Corona del Mar, California

Web site

Have just finished partly checking out **ANIMAL PEOPLE** online (>>http://www.envirolink.org/arrs/ap<<). I am impressed! It looks great. I had some problems downloading the current issue, and some of the more recent issues: got the message they weren't "available through this server." But the others came up okay. Thank goodness, no distracting and time-consuming wallpaper.

Absolutely the biggest thrill for me is that my work is online! This is almost as exciting as getting published for the first time. Break open the champagne!

—P.J. Kemp
pjk@pacificcoast.net
Victoria, British Columbia

Thanks to Ferrell Wheeler, Don Graft, and the other volunteers of the Animal Rights Resource Site, ANIMAL PEOPLE is indeed on the World Wide Web now. Four of last summer's issues became available on February 1, with the complete set in preparation—possibly up by the time you read this. That's not all. We'll also soon be offering the whole set in a text-only online format for high-speed downloads, an even more accessible format for people (like us) who live on deadline or whose computers don't have the memory for extensive Web-cruising.

Give ANIMAL PEOPLE

to a friend!

Just send us the address
and we'll send a free sample
to the friend or friends of your choice.

A Friend in need is a Friend indeed!

In late November 1992 the world was shocked to learn the Alaska Board of Game had ordered a wolf massacre—so that trophy hunters could kill more moose and caribou. **Friends of Animals** was first to call the tourism boycott that made Alaska reconsider. When other groups went home, Alaska reneged.

Again **Friends of Animals** responded—almost alone. **Friends of Animals** financed aerial surveillance of the killing. **Friends of Animals** documented the cruelty of the snaring and shooting, and the futility of it—because wolves didn't cause the moose and caribou shortage.

In December 1994, **Friends of Animals** brought back the

dramatic video that—finally—stopped the state's wolf slaughter overnight, nearly two years ahead of the Board of Game plan.

First in. Last out. Getting results. That's how we do things. Take African elephants. In 1989 **Friends of Animals** helped lead the drive to ban ivory sales worldwide, to spare elephants from slaughter.

When the ban was imposed, others celebrated and sent out fundraising appeals. **Friends of Animals** stayed in the poorest nations of western Africa, sending trucks, aircraft, and other necessities to their ill-

equipped wildlife wardens, helping them battle poaching.

In November 1994, richer nations willing to kill elephants for cash nearly lifted the ivory ban. But **Friends of Animals** was there, with our African **Friends**. They called their **Friends**. The ivory ban held.

In 1996, **Friends of Animals'** new anti-poaching squadron takes off with the deployment of aircraft over African wildlife habitats to protect animals from commercial poaching gangs.

A **Friend** in need is a **Friend** indeed. Become a **Friend of Animals** today!

Letters

Do it right: do it yourself

The tragedy of fundraising is not the small number of gullible people who give millions to worthless causes. The tragedy is the many people who care deeply about animals but have been so alienated by animal groups that they don't trust anyone.

If you are one of them and want to help animals but don't know anyone to trust with your money, set up your own program. Focus on an issue that you are interested in, where you believe you can make a difference.

Let's take pet overpopulation as an example. Since you are an animal lover, you probably already know all the animals and their human companions living in your neighborhood. Speak to low-income people. Offer to pay to have their animals neutered. If you don't want to deal with the owners yourself, speak to your veterinarian. She will often have people call and say that they cannot afford to have their pets fixed. Give her donations to cover her fees in such cases. Request financial statements showing how the money was used. Make sure the vet's rates are competitive. If they aren't, find a different vet. If you have the ability to give large donations, deal with several vets and ask for reasonable discounts. Keep good records. Follow sound business procedures. Give participating vets literature encouraging their regular clients to neuter their pets, too. Fit the program to your community.

This is how I started. I'm now applying for tax-exempt status so that I can solicit donations. I truly believe that the vast majority of people love animals, and that if I can come up with an effective program that can substantially reduce the number of homeless dogs and cats in the rural, economically depressed area in which I live, the community will support it wholeheartedly. So many people desperately want to make a difference. They want to stop animal suffering, and only significant support from this majority will actually improve the situation of animals in our society.

If my program doesn't work, if it does not greatly reduce pet overpopulation in my community, I will at least know my money has not been squandered. I will know the individuals, human, feline, and canine, who have benefitted.

—Rosemary Jacobs
Derby Line, Vermont

Make Yossi Sarid put muscle where his mouth is

In your January/February edition, you wrote that Yossi Sarid, minister for environmental affairs in Israel, recently "barred traveling animal acts from entering the country." Unfortunately, Mr. Sarid's pronouncement has not been followed by the passage of any law, or anything else in writing. When Mr. Sarid leaves office, there is nothing to prevent circus acts from entering the country. Even while Mr. Sarid retains his post, a circus act could choose to challenge his pronouncement, since it is not backed by law.

Mr. Sarid has made pronouncements before that have been ignored. For instance, following a hunger strike by Ric O'Barry of The Dolphin Project, Mr. Sarid declared that he would never allow dolphins imported from Russia for a performing exhibit to be transferred to metal tanks. Mr. O'Barry was on his strike because he claimed that being put in a metal tank interferes with dolphins' echolocation, and that this could eventually kill them. Despite Mr. Sarid's statement, no sooner had Mr. O'Barry ended the hunger strike and left the country than the dolphins were transferred to metal tanks. Shortly thereafter, a spectator fed them lead weights, causing the death of a dolphin. Another died later. Russia demanded that the remaining dolphin be returned. She was. Mr. Sarid said that no dolphins would again be allowed into Israel. But again his pronouncement was not backed by anything in writing.

Similarly, Mr. Sarid recently issued a statement that all strychnine poisonings would be banned in Israel, a goal Concern for Helping Animals in Israel has sought for years. We were able to eliminate the poisonings in the municipal pounds, and encouraged the government to use the oral rabies vaccine as a substitute for poisoning in the fields and streets. Field tests of the vaccine are underway, but meanwhile the poisonings continue. Indeed, Dr. Amnon Shimshony, head of veterinary services within the Ministry of Agriculture, and the individual responsible for authorizing the poisonings, sent a notice to all municipalities reaffirming their right to continue poisoning. Mr. Sarid's words are being completely ignored. In a current case, 25 cats were found poisoned in North Tel Aviv. We called Mr. Sarid's office and asked about his declaration no more poisonings. His assistant said the only thing they can do is that if someone notifies him well in advance of a planned poisoning, someone can call the mayor and hope to persuade the mayor to cancel it.

People can help by writing to Mr. Sarid, asking him to begin the process of putting his many pronouncements on behalf of animals into law. His address is c/o POB 6324, Jerusalem 91061, Israel.

—Nina Natelson
Concern for Helping Animals in Israel
Alexandria, Virginia

Vancouver Aquarium staff draw blood from Bjossa, who swims away in a rage. (K.B.)

Finna & Bjossa

I just received your December issue. Unfortunately, you repeated an error in a wire service article that indicated we were looking for a home for Bjossa, our female orca. We were actually exploring the possibility of finding a new home for Finna, the male, and locating a companion for Bjossa, who will stay here. While we could find a home for Finna, there wasn't a companion available for Bjossa. Given this, our Board of Governors has directed staff to develop a number of alternative plans to improve our existing killer whale habitat. Finna and Bjossa will stay together at the Vancouver Aquarium.

—Marissa Nichini
Public Relations Director
The Vancouver Aquarium
Vancouver, British Columbia

The Vancouver Aquarium, a world leader in marine mammal conservation research and quality of educational presentation, has one noteworthy defect, acknowledged by executive director John Nightingale and senior marine mammologist John Ford, who would like nothing better than to fix it: an orca tank just 25% of the size of the Sea World standard. It could easily be expanded to par by using adjacent space formerly occupied by the defunct Stanley Park Zoo—but the same activist groups who forced the closure of the zoo, after funds were already appropriated to turn it into a badly needed facility for injured native wildlife who couldn't be returned to the wild, have kept the aquarium from getting permission to expand. The argument against expansion is apparently that keeping the orcas in substandard space may turn public opinion against the aquarium, forcing it to close, too, releasing all the marine mammals (also including belugas, sea lions, and sea otters, none of them good candidates for release—for which reason Earth Island Institute has reportedly inquired into the availability of the orcas as companions for Keiko at the Oregon Coast Aquarium.)

Doris Day Animal League

We agree with you wholeheartedly about not supporting organizations that do not use their funds to help the animals. From time to time, I have included information to this effect in our own literature. However, there is a question in our minds as to where the line should be drawn where educational purposes are concerned. For instance, the Doris Day Animal League, whom you have reported as using nearly all their funds for "educational" mailings that include fundraising appeals, have put out some excellent information about spay/neuter and neuter/release. While this information does include an appeal for a donation (we don't intend to send one), we wouldn't really consider it fundraising. In cases of this kind, is there any way of telling what portion of the funds are used in a manner that actually does good, and what portion are simply used to bring in more money?

There is no question about the organizations that use their funds to pay their executives unrealistic salaries and expense accounts, or build themselves expensive homes. I broke my affiliation with HSUS a long time ago for just this reason.

—Guila Manchester
Secretary
Humanitarians of Florida
Inverness, Florida

It's hard to be completely worthless. However, American pet owners are already overwhelmingly convinced of the need to neuter, and those who donate to animal protection groups and thereby get on mailing lists are even more convinced. Those who aren't neutering pets these days are mostly the poor, the illiterate, the obstinate, and immigrants who are perhaps fluent in other languages but not in English. Since they aren't already on animal protection mailing lists, few will ever see the Doris Day Animal League literature. Meanwhile, projecting from the National Pet Alliance findings in San Diego County, reported on page one, the 1994 DDAL direct mail budget, if spent on neutering instead of literature about neutering, could have prevented 41,000 animal control euthanasias.

Amphrite & Thetis

What a joy it was to my heart to read that Amphrite and Thetis, the former Steinhart Aquarium dolphins, were finally moved to a new home in San Antonio. How fortunate for them that my letter in September 1994 went to the right people. I am deeply grateful that you followed up on my observation of their pitiful existence.

If any of your associates could give an update as to how they are doing, it would be most appreciated.

Thanks to your articles on where the money goes, I am revising my list of donations so that the money will be going to the charities that do the most good for the animals and not into the pockets of the executives.

How about more in-depth articles on recruiting and teaching children to hunt with the blessings of the government? We need to make everyone aware of this subversive tactic to infiltrate our homes with guns.

I have four grown children and grandsons. They all have animals and not one of them could even think of picking up a rifle and killing an animal. Maybe this is because, as a young mother, I never allowed even a toy gun into my house.

Once again, my heartfelt thanks.

—Janice Garnett
Venice, Florida

Relocating the Pacific whitesided dolphins Amphrite and Thetis to more spacious quarters and the company of others of their species was accomplished through the efforts of many people, including negotiator Pam Rockwell, of the Ethical Studies Department at the San Francisco SPCA; Steinhart Aquarium executive director Bob Jenkins, who agreed days after his hiring that the dolphins needed better facilities; and Glenn Young, marine mammal curator at Sea World San Antonio, who tells us they're doing fine, having immediately been accepted by the younger dolphins there and having lost much of the stiffness they exhibited in San Francisco, now that they have much more room to swim.

Only 2nd-richest

In your December editorial, you alluded to Greenpeace International being the richest organization in your "Who gets the money?" charts this year. At a total budget of \$145,000,000, it's far under the \$306,679,337 of The Nature Conservancy.

—David A. Gill
Canton, Ohio

CHARC

Meet the Flying CHARCs!

For years animal abusers got away with canned hunts, deer slaughters, pigeon and turkey shoots, bison kills, etc., held out of sight and, they hoped, out of mind. That's over! On December 16, 1995, the Flying CHARCs took wing. **The killers can no longer hide.**

We accept the risks of flying and flak. But we need money, too, to keep our machines in the air. Help us with upkeep and gas, and we'll supply the guts and graphic video to teach hunters what it's like to be hunted.

We're all volunteers. Every cent of your gift goes to stopping the bad guys. **If you oppose cruelty, please write us a check for \$25, \$50, \$100 or more today!**

Chicago Animal Rights Coalition
POB 66, Yorkville, IL 60560
Phone 708-552-7872 • Fax 708-208-0562

More letters

Going to the dogs

Recently public critics including some legislators have been re-examining the legalization of lotteries and casino gambling, asking if the revenue they raise for states and cities is worth the tragic problems they create for gambling addicts and their families. Such reappraisals fail to note, however, that many states have for even longer sanctioned and profited from horse and dog racing. These forms of gambling too destroy families and ruin lives, both human and nonhuman. Each year thousands of broken-down race horses go to slaughter and as many as 40,000 worn-out racing greyhounds are killed at an early age. Because state governments accept and expect a percentage of the monies wagered, they must bear responsibility for this carnage. Legislators and others speak with forked tongues when they oppose some forms of gambling while condoning animal racing. We have an obligation to speak out against this hypocrisy whenever possible.

—Greta Marsh
Lanesboro, Massachusetts

Euthanasia

Throughout my time in humane work, I have tried to establish more humane conditions in animal shelters. I often get a little bitter when I read of \$7 million spent to relocate one whale when across the U.S. we euthanize unwanted or unclaimed pets by all too often hideously cruel methods. Why is it that we so adore our pets that the adorn calendars, cards, and advertisements, yet forsake them when they go behind the doors of animal control departments? The mighty Humane Society of the U.S., which has no shelters, sanctions as "humane" intracardial lethal injections to conscious animals, yet the American Veterinary Medical Association does not—so when I point out to a shelter that intracardial injection is cruel, they immediately cite the HSUS approval. I am currently working to obtain a bill to make humane procedures mandatory for all euthanasias performed in California.

—Beverly Frost
Sky Valley, California

Spanish edition?

In 1987 I set up the Cuban Society for the Protection of Animals and Plants. Currently I serve as president *ad honorem*. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** is in our view one of the finest publications devoted to animal issues anywhere. Throughout much of Latin America it is hard to publish anything like this. We lack the resources and the expertise, and most importantly, also the ability to get advertising to pay for the effort. In view of this, we respectfully suggest to you that you publish at least a couple of pages in Spanish every issue, and distribute same throughout the Spanish-speaking world.

—Rafael Oliver Diaz
Asociacion Cubana Para La
Proteccion de Animales
Habana, Cuba

We'd do it if we could do it. If we had the means, we'd have an office and an edition for every continent. And a Spanish edition would be top priority.

No enforcement

Since January 1, Butte County, California, has had no anti-cruelty enforcement, thanks to the passage of AB-1571. In California, anti-cruelty officers are appointed by nonprofit humane societies. In the past, appointees have had to take a two-unit college course in search, arrest and seizure, and if they are to carry guns, qualify in a recognized firearms training course. Now required are 20 hours of college classes, which focus on identification of disease, injury, and neglect in domestic animals and livestock, plus another 40 credit hours of courses relating to the powers and duties of a humane officer. For working or retired people, about six units per semester is considered a full course load. This means five years of study will be required to qualify for appointment as an anti-cruelty officer—usually a volunteer position. No such requirement exists for the appointment of animal control officers, who are usually required to have only a high school diploma or GED, plus the ability to lift 50 pounds.

This all seems to be of little public interest, and has received minimal media coverage. Yet with well over half the homes in the U.S. having pets, and with the association of cruelty to animals increasingly recognized as a harbinger of violence toward humans, one would think that the virtual elimination of anti-cruelty enforcement by humane societies should be a matter of broad concern. If such extensive training is essential for answering cruelty complaints, the same requirements should be extended to animal control officers.

Meanwhile, if you see cruelty in California, don't call a humane society: call the elected officials.

—Lewis R. Plumb
Paradise, California

Investing

I'd like to update you re Rocky Mountain Humane Investing vs. Working Assets, described in your January/February edition. Working Assets has made significant progress regarding their holdings in companies that do animal testing. They have eliminated some of the disputed companies, due to RMHI pressure, and have formed a positive shareholder activism department to press for positive change in the companies that do animal testing in which they continue to invest. It is their belief that you have more leverage as a shareholder than not.

—Brad Pappas
Rocky Mountain Humane Investing
Denver, Colorado

Prayed

I read your newspaper all the time, and I hate so much of what I read. I write, I talk, and it isn't enough. Last Saturday in church I prayed for guidance. That night, I dreamed that on a special day, say March 10, everyone prayed that all animals who are abused, mutilated, kept in pens, starved, experimented on, or subjected to any other kind of horror, would die. Only God would know where all these animals are. Wow! Is that wild faith! But I guess that is what we need. It might stop some animals from hurting more.

—Virginia Denton
Brooksville, Florida
(More letters are on page 12.)

HUMANE FARMING ASSOCIATION (paid through 1/97)

The Great Ape Project and the bush meat trade

by Karl Ammann

I have investigated aspects of the bush meat trade in Africa for the last six years. I no longer have any doubt that the increasing commercialisation of this trade is today the biggest threat to the survival of many species in West and Central Africa. The great apes are no exception. Many parts of their range are being logged. The construction of logging roads has allowed the bush meat trade to go commercial. In consequence, entire gorilla and chimp populations are eaten into extinction, at a rate of thousands of animals a year.

Why, at this stage, are the scientific and conservation communities concentrating on rather theoretical issues, while the very existence of the subjects under discussion is under serious threat?

I have interviewed some 200 commercial and subsistence hunters, and have documented an equal number of orphan ape scenarios. This, combined with the research data available on the quantities of bush meat consumed, constitutes overwhelming evidence that the bush meat trade is one of the biggest, if not the biggest, primate conservation issues facing Africa today.

Two years ago I joined up with the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA), with the view of publicizing the increasing commercialisation of the bush meat trade and its impact on chimpanzee, bonobo and gorilla populations.

As a professional photographer, I had assumed it would be easy to get the media interested and to get the conservation community to come on board to verify the facts. Far from it! The February 1996 issue of *American Outdoor Photographer* includes a feature outlining my frustrations in dealing with the print media.

The electronic media were more forthcoming. A television documentary I convinced a South African network to produce comes close to presenting the message I feel needs to be told. (Copies are available to readers who can bear footage of silverbacks being cut up into manageable pieces and chimpanzee mothers being smoked on the same rack as their offspring.)

What I hope we established with these productions is the fact that the killing of gorillas and chimpanzees for their meat is a daily occurrence and that we are no longer dealing with isolated cases. Some members of the conservation community termed the initial news reports we released as sensation-

alizing the issue. The evidence compiled since makes it absolutely clear that thousands of animals are involved every year. A point in case is Joseph, a commercial hunter we have interviewed on camera on three occasions. He states that he and his two pygmy assistants kill approximately 50 great apes annually. The first time we talked to him, his men were cutting up a silverback gorilla; the second time he was smoking two chimps; and this last time he was smoking a silverback and a baby gorilla. He told us that for the next two weeks he would stay in his forest camp to try to supply the Christmas demand for bush meat, which included orders for gorillas, just like some people order a turkey or goose for Christmas.

Some members of the conservation community also called our approach counterproductive because the African governments concerned prefer quiet diplomacy. Diplomacy has been tried—but has it succeeded? Not based on our evidence! Not even close! The slaughter of great apes and other primates is today higher than ever, and is no longer sustainable in many regions. Correspondingly, the flow of orphans is increasing, as well, except where population densities have dropped to the point that commercial hunting is no longer viable.

Elephant steaks

In the Congo Republique, where many of the international conservation organisations have their regional base and where three great ape sanctuaries have been established, the Prime Minister went on television last year and announced that all school children should spend their holidays hunting and fishing. This was said outside of hunting season. Elephant steaks were openly advertised and sold in the country's most upscale supermarket. According to the bush meat traders in the Cameroon, their parliament two years ago officially abandoned a six-month season closed to hunting. In this context, what hope is there in the quiet diplomatic approach?

One established conservation organisation with offices in the countries concerned rejected my feature for their magazine on the grounds that it might affect their representatives in the field. Scientific research often seems to take priority.

National Geographic relegated a bush meat piece to their Earth Almanac column, and then postponed it for several months after one picture they planned to use

This baby chimp was rescued through the intervention of Karl Amman and WSPA. supposedly clashed with a chimpanzee-linked story that ran in December 1995.

Individual cases of smuggling of great apes or other primates still seem to be the main concern of most animal welfare and conservation groups. The fact that we have evidence that for each great ape who might get smuggled, possibly a hundred die a miserable death, tied to a post in some village, gets little attention. None of the hunters I interviewed indicated that capturing baby apes was an issue. It is virtually impossible to shotgun a mother and not injure the baby as well. I have recorded several cases of mothers being "prepared" at the same time as their offspring. I photographed a frozen baby chimp in a bush meat freezer in Yaounde. There were no visible injuries and the trader assumed she had been strangled. Orphaned apes can be found everywhere, and generally their price alive is only slightly higher than their meat value.

Is it justifiable to turn the smuggling of any orphaned great ape into headline news, letting the world believe that the demand for babies is a major concern while the plight of the hundreds of unsmuggled orphans is ignored?

Of course there are no easy solutions. However, the ivory crises of the late 1980s proved that world opinion can make a difference. International outcry is needed. Many of the countries concerned—Cameroon, the Congo Republique, the Central African Republic and, to a lesser extent, Zaire, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea—badly need whatever international aid they can get. Aid is now closely linked to human rights issues—but what about the rights of the great apes and other primates?

I am still looking for a single documented case of a successful prosecution of an individual for infringing upon an African hunting law. Those laws that exist amount to lip service. I strongly suspect that the recent move to prosecute several Zairean mountain gorilla poachers, who allegedly massacred an Italian family that happened upon them, is

just an exercise in public relations. Often I have recorded gorilla and chimpanzee skulls worked into carved statues, offered for sale in Goma and Bukavu. It would appear that most chimpanzee orphans who arrived in the last few years in Tanzania, Burundi and Uganda came from Zaire and were mere byproducts of the bush meat trade. I have not heard of Zaire taking any measures except where the international community has applied pressure.

Good governance is supposedly a criteria for the granting of foreign aid. Looking after one's natural and national resources supposedly represents another such criteria. During our latest documentary shoot we interviewed one of Cameroon's top wildlife officials, who went on record stating that the army and police were heavily involved in the bush meat trade and could not be called on to help enforce the laws.

A French logging company executive went on record stating that the industry had gone into a free for all approach to logging and that nothing had been learned from what happened in the Ivory Coast, Liberia, etc. He predicted the total destruction of wildlife within the next 20 years in all the commercially logged areas.

Is there any time left for theoretical debates on great ape rights? Would the chimpanzees, bonobos and gorillas of Africa not benefit more if the combined talent, energy and influence of the scientific community now engaged in the Great Ape Project took some time to devise a strategy on how to best keep these animals out of the cooking pots?

I trust that this essay will be accepted in the spirit it is written. I accept that debate over cultural sensitivity might result from it; I am convinced that the controversy will help to get the facts out.

(Karl Ammann, of Nanyuki, Kenya, may be contacted by telephone at 254-176-22448; by fax at 254-176-32407; or by e-mail at kamman@ATTMail.com.)

Fires hit more than zoo

The December 24 electrical fire at the Philadelphia Zoo that killed 23 endangered primates [*January/February edition*] was followed by a series of other reminders of the vulnerability of animal care facilities of all kinds to fire: not regulated as closely as human dwellings, frequently filled with easily combustible hay, straw, and sawdust, and usually left unattended overnight.

Also within the Philadelphia area, a January 10 blaze at the Rocky Top Stable in North Union, Pennsylvania, killed 13 show horses, five dogs, and two cows. Nearby water sources were frozen, and because of heavy snow, pumper trucks had to stop 900 feet away. Among the victims was a Paso Fino horse rated as the top Puerto Rican show horse in the United States.

On January 14, an apparent electrical fire killed eight dogs and cats at the Cumberland Valley Veterinary clinic, near Hagerstown, Maryland. Another eight animals were rescued.

The same evening, yet another electrical fire gutted the portable classroom occupied by the La Quinta Middle School Pet Club in La Quinta, California, unnoticed by anyone until teacher Tim Forrester came to feed the animals on January 15, Martin Luther King Day, a day after it burned itself out. Killed were 45 small mammals, reptiles, and rare exotic birds, plus about 50 fish. Just three turtles

survived. The Pet Club, essentially a mini-zoo, grew out of Forrester's effort to work lessons about animal care and ecology into the regular curriculum. For his success, he was named the 1994 Desert Sands Unified School District Teacher of the Year.

A day later, a fire of unknown origin killed uncounted hundreds of birds, monkeys, reptiles, and fish at Lempicki's House of Pets in Garden City, Michigan. Owner Larry Lempicki vowed to rebuild.

There were some heroic pet rescue stories among the horrors. On December 30 in Jackson, Mississippi, Janet Berlin screamed that her parrot Poncho was inside a burning Roto-Rooter franchise. Firefighters fought their way in to retrieve Pancho, who suffered minor cuts in trying to claw his way out of his cage. On January 2 in New Orleans, an elderly woman identified only as "Miss Pat" was rescued from her blazing home by neighbors, but ran back inside, retrieving four dogs as her hair caught fire. An unknown number of cats escaped as well. And in Huntsville, Alabama, firefighter Bob Rouse on January 20 used mouth-to-snout resuscitation to save a seven-year-old Chihuahua belonging to Glenda Barnett. The dog had suffered smoke inhalation during a house fire.

"You just hold the mouth shut and breath through the animal's nose pretty much like you do on a baby," Rouse said.

Wholesome & Hearty Foods, through Jan/Feb 1997.

More Canadian wildlife traffic— with government support

WINNIPEG—"Vowing to upset Manitoba government plans to privatize the province's wild elk and transform it into antler farms to supply the international wildlife parts trade," People for Animal Liberation coordinator James Pearson announced February 6, "PFAL has sent a team of activists to the Swan River Valley to shield wild elk from capture."

Already, Pearson said, activists had vandalized a corral and squeeze chute used to hold the elk as their antlers are cut off. "Highly veined and innervated," he charged, "the antlers are sawn off at the most sensitive stage of their development. Elk ranchers involved with the plan," Pearson continued, "want to see the government begin trade in bear gall bladders, a logical next step."

Pearson's statement drew notice to yet another Canadian attempt to cash in on Asian demand for wildlife parts used in traditional medicines, rising as economic growth outpaces health education. In Atlantic Canada, out-of-work fishers prepared to kill seals for a federal bounty of about 15¢ U.S. per pound and sell the penises of adult males to Asian buyers—albeit under rules that oblige the penis collectors to buy whole seal carcasses, then figure out what to do with the unsaleable meat, bones, and pelts. In Ontario, the Animal Alliance of Canada rallied public outrage against purported plans by Mark Jackson, of Gorrie, Ontario, to export to China four black bears bought from the Okanagan Game Farm in Penticon, British Columbia. AAC suggested the bears "may be destined for a bear bile extraction operation." Jackson denied it, saying he intended to breed them and sell the cubs to game farms, apparently to be hunted.

Amid the media storm, Vancouver bear parts trafficker Sang Ho Kim was fined \$10,400, upsetting Crown Counsel Jim McAulay and David Baker of Bear Watch, who had asked for a fine four times

larger plus jail time. The Kim trial was seen as prelude to the scheduled September trials of eight people arrested last September in possession of 192 dried bear gall bladders. Bear Watch and AAC are among the leaders of a campaign endorsed by more than 90 organizations, including **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, to increase the minimum fine for bear poaching from \$5,000 to \$50,000, with a mandatory six-month jail term for first offenders.

High prices

Stiffer fines are essential, because according to Leonie Vejjaiva of the Wild Animal Rescue Foundation in Thailand, "The cost of a bear banquet is now about \$9,000 U.S.," and at that, diners flock in from South Korea, Taiwan, and China. "The bear is tortured to death in front of the diners," Vejjaiva recently told Mark Jordan of Associated Press. "They say it makes the meat taste better."

The Thai Forestry Department has seized 30 Asiatic black bears and sun bears in recent raids, keeping them in a Bangkok compound because they would be poached if returned to the wild.

Thai folk Buddhism, profaning the Buddha's pro-animal teachings, links bears with evil. "Wild cubs are sometimes given to Buddhist temples as gifts," Vejjaiva explained. "Many grow up in cramped cages and are cursed by worshippers, who believe the bears are paying for bad past lives."

Tigers, too

Thailand and other Asian nations are also struggling to protect tigers. So far, Thailand has kept a tiger-farmer with 35 of the beasts from selling any, or their parts, but Thai wildlife advisor Parntep Ratanakorn favors the farming approach. "If you want to relieve the pressure on wild tigers being hunted," he told a February 3 conference on tiger conservation, "you need to set up captive breeding."

Returned Valmik Thapar of the Wildlife Institute of India, "Tiger farming should be banned because it would accelerate the trade in tigers."

"I'm hoping that in 1998, the year of the tiger, the traditional Chinese medicine community will ask users to stop using tiger products until the tiger numbers recover," offered Elizabeth Kemf of the World Wildlife Fund.

Sea Shepherds want to herd Hondo

—K.B.

SEATTLE—Hondo, the California sea lion who ambushes salmon and steelhead at the base of the Ballard Locks near Seattle, was back for the start of this winter's spawning runs, with others, and when the National Marine Fisheries Service said it had no money to capture and hold him throughout the spawning season, as it did last year, at cost of \$120,000, shooting seemed imminent. But on January 25 the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society put the killing on hold by formally proposing to relocate Hondo and friends to San Francisco Bay.

"Sea Shepherd has offered to pay this year's costs of temporary housing and immediate translocation of sea lions to California," said Sea Shepherd Pacific Northwest coordinator Michael Kundu. "We have legal permission from the San Francisco Bay Commission to return these sea lions to California," their native waters.

The significance of the proposal is that the NMFS authorization allowing the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife to kill any sea lions who jeopardize endangered fish runs also stipulates that the sea lions—themselves a protected species—must not be killed if a viable alternative is available.

"The WDFW has already indicated that housing space is available at the Point Defiance Zoo in Tacoma, and NMFS has the proper truck, which was used in translocations in 1990 and 1994," explained Sea Shepherd director of international operations Lisa DiStefano. "Of course the sea lions will return," as in the past, "but we are prepared to bring them right back to California."

Added a Sea Shepherd press release, "We anticipate that the relocation will give the WDFW a very important lesson in predator replacement ecology. If Hondo and his band are removed, other sea lions will take their place."

"The real issue is implementing a permanent solution," Kundu finished. "Biologists have stated, and we agree, that this involves building a sea lion-proof steelhead barrier at the base of the fish ladder."

A similar conflict between sea lions and spawning fish may be developing at Willamette Falls, Oregon, where according to Friends of Animals regional representative Ben White, "The feds have authorized only a study. At this point, Oregon does not have permission to either harass or kill sea lions."

The Comox Chapter of the Steelhead Society of British Columbia meanwhile applied to the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans for a permit to kill 30 harbor seals they accuse of killing salmon on the Puntledge River.

"Killing seals and sea lions is an idea that will not likely go away," said White. "As the effects of years of habitat destruction and overfishing catch up with us, destroying wildlife that eat fish will become increasingly popular."

White and a Sea Shepherd representative, among others, testified on January 30 at a legislative hearing on a Washington state bill (HB 2528) that would allocate \$350,000 toward killing a "statistically significant" number of seals and sea lions to investigate their stomach contents.

"The real intent of it," charged White, "is to kill some animals now and find a reason to kill many more later. One representative was angry with me for suggesting that the legislature is irresponsible for not tackling real solutions, like removing dams from spawning streams."

While sea lions took the heat, federal budget cuts forced the closure of several Oregon and Washington salmon hatcheries. More than eight million chinook were released prematurely, with little or no chance of longterm survival.

Hatfield Consultants Inc., of British Columbia, meanwhile warned in mid-January that chinook, pinkeye salmon, and sockeye salmon are all at risk of being fished to extinction in the Georgia Strait, while fishers have been taking at least 65% of all the cojo left in the strait each year since 1976.

Seals vs. fish

Lynda Hurst of the Toronto Star documented misrepresentation of scientific data pertaining to fish and seals by former Canadian fisheries minister Brian Tobin in a January 20 expose filling two full pages. Tobin recently resigned, after tripling the Atlantic Canada sealing quota, to seek the leadership of Newfoundland. "Certainly no Department of Fisheries and Oceans scientist thinks the seal had anything to do with the fisheries' collapse," Dalhousie University fishery biologist Jeffrey Hutchings told Hurst. "All scientific efforts to find an effect of seal predation on Canadian groundfish stocks have failed to show any impact. Overfishing remains the only scientifically documented problem." In December, 97 scientists from 15 nations signed a similar statement at the 11th Biennial Conference of the Biology of Marine Mammals, held in Orlando, Florida.

McGill Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and the Concordia Animal Rights Association, both of Montreal, are planning a March 15 Parliament Hill protest against the Canadian seal hunt. Info: >>BSLP@musicb.mcgill.ca<<.

Other trafficking

Fifty-five years after the Republic of China sponsored the famed Flying Tigers, an American mercenary air squadron that kept the Burma Road open for three years against far larger Japanese forces at the outset of World War II, the Republic of China (Taiwan) and Friends of Animals are reactivating the Flying Tiger Squadron to protect African wildlife. Taiwan will furnish the aircraft, while FoA will provide pilots and maintenance.

Parrot smuggler Tony Silva, 34, of Chicago, pleaded guilty on February 2 to smuggling more than 185 hyacinth macaws and other rare birds from South America between 1985 and 1994, while posing as an outspoken advocate of captive breeding in lieu of the wild-caught bird traffic. Silva's mother, Gila Daoud, 63, pleaded guilty to assisting Silva with related tax fraud. Twenty-five other bird smugglers were convicted in connection with the case, cracked with the aid of convicted Florida drug dealer and exotic animal buff Mario Tabrue, now doing life for murder.

Chinese forest police on January 28 announced the arrest of 925 falcon poachers in a three-month crackdown that also recovered 400 birds. Forty ringleaders are being held pending further investigation; the other participants were released with a warning. Middle Eastern falconers will pay up to \$50,000 for a trained hunting bird.

American Humane Association #1 (through December 1996)

San Diego cats (from page one)

Modeling their study on an influential 1992 study of the cat population of the Santa Clara Valley, in northern California, they hired Nichols Research, of Sunnyvale, California, to do a telephone survey of 1,031 households, randomly selected within representative telephone prefixes.

"The number of survey calls made within each prefix was based on the number of households in each prefix, in relation to the number of households in the county," Johnson and Lewellen explain.

The findings amount to a resounding endorsement of the work of the nonprofit Feral Cat Coalition, which has neutered more than 4,000 homeless cats since 1992.

"Prior to this project," Johnson and Lewellen write, "the San Diego County Animal Management Information System reported an increase of roughly 10% per year in the number of cats handled by San Diego Animal Control shelters from 1988 to 1992. The increase peaked at 13% from fiscal year 1991 to fiscal year 1992, with 19,077 cats handled. After just two years, with no other explanation of the drop, only 12,446 cats were handled. Cat euthanasias plunged 40% from 1991-1992 to 1993-1994."

The Feral Cat Coalition found that 54% of the cats they captured for neutering were female and 46% male. Of the 1,639 females, 42% were in heat, 13% were pregnant (3.5 times the rate of pregnancies Johnson and Lewellen found in owned cats), 13% were lactating, and 4% had recently ceased lactating: a combined total of 72% in various reproductive phases. Just three percent had already been neutered.

Cost-effective

"For a cost of \$163,956 (3,153 cats at \$52 per cat), San Diego shelter numbers have dropped by at least 6,500 cats [per year]," say Johnson and Lewellen. "The average three-day stay for a cat in a California shelter is estimated at \$70. San Diego saved \$455,000 over two years. This success shows that in actuality no additional funds need be raised," for a city to move from high-volume euthanasia to high-volume neutering. "The program will pay for itself through less shelter costs. Additional funding for altering could be taken from the shelter budget."

Realizing the savings to be obtained through neutering instead of killing is only half of what policymakers must absorb to halt population control euthanasias, Johnson and Lewellen point out. The rest is the dimensions of the dog and cat population itself. In San Diego County, 54% of households keep no pets; 30% keep dogs; 25% keep cats; and an overlapping 9% keep both. These figures are below the national averages; nationally, 38% keep dogs, 32% keep cats, and 15% keep both. The difference probably reflects the tendency of San Diegoans to rent rather than own their housing: 71% of cat keepers and 85% of dog keepers are also homeowners.

However, 8.9% of all San Diego County households, renters included, feed homeless cats—an average of 2.6 apiece.

The owned dog population of San Diego County comes to 374,732; the owned cat population comes to 371,928; and the number of unowned cats who are known to be fed by someone is 205,345.

"Roaming cats make up at least 35.6% of the entire known cat population in the county," Johnson and Lewellen emphasize. "It is important to stress the word 'known' here. This percentage can be considered the minimum number of roaming cats, as many cats are not actively fed by humans. Many more live wild in the countryside or forage in alleys."

As in the Santa Clara Valley, and as Carter Luke of the Massachusetts SPCA and Andrew Rowan of the Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy found, within a few percentage points, in parallel 1991 studies of pet ownership in greater Boston, in San Diego 67% of owned dogs and 84% of owned cats are neutered. Most of the intact cats at any given time are too young to reproduce. The owned dog population is breeding at approximately replacement level, while the owned cat population is breeding at less than 75% of replacement level.

Neither pet reproduction nor stray animals account for much of the present San Diego dog and cat surplus, Johnson and Lewellen discovered. While pets do go astray, "The number of permanently missing dogs, with no hint at to their fate, accounts for only 0.2% of the dog population. Less than one percent either were, or could have been, handled by Animal Control. The number of permanently missing owned cats accounts for less than one percent (0.9%) of the entire owned cat population. Calculating from these figures, roughly 3,500 of the cats handled by San Diego County Animal Control and other shelters are owned, stray, or dead pet cats." This would be about one animal control cat intake in four.

In other words, 75% of the San Diego County surplus cat population comes from breeding by homeless cats, many of whom might be adopted by feeders—and neutered—if more landlords were willing to rent to people who keep pets.

Interestingly enough, people who adopt cats as strays are far less likely to let them have a litter before neutering than those who get cats from any other source, Johnson and Lewellen found. Of the 19% of San Diego owned female cats who had litters prior to neutering, just 5.6% were ex-strays, compared with 10.7% bought from pet stores, 11.8% bought from breeders, 14.3% adopted from humane societies and animal control shelters, 15.2% received as giveaways from previous owners, and 20.9% from litters born to other cats in the household. In all, Johnson and Lewellen learned, 58.3% of owned feline pregnancies in San Diego County are accidental.

[Copies of the complete San Diego County Survey and analysis of the pet population are available for \$10.00 from the National Pet Alliance, POB 53385, San Jose, CA 95153.]

Our study

Johnson and Lewellen didn't do a detailed survey and analysis of the interaction of cat feeders and rescuers with the homeless cat population—but, simultaneously, ANIMAL PEOPLE did, following up on previous work.

In July 1992, after incorporating Animal People Inc. to do humane research projects, and just prior to founding the ANIMAL PEOPLE newspaper, editor Merritt Clifton and publisher Kim Bartlett commenced an unprecedented national survey of the methods and sociology of cat rescuers, with financial support from Carter Luke of the Massachusetts SPCA. The survey questionnaire was published as a full-page paid advertisement in the July/August 1992 edi-

tion of *Animals' Agenda* magazine. Respondants were asked to return the completed form to freelance writer Cathy Young Czaplá, a founding member of the ANIMAL PEOPLE board of directors, who was not identified by any organizational affiliation. The authorship and sponsorship of the survey was not revealed until the data was tabulated by Czaplá, analyzed by Clifton and Bartlett, and published in the November 1992 edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE. The published data was based on 169 completed questionnaires; more questionnaires were received later, bringing the total number of respondents up to 190.

In July 1995, with financial support from the Summerlee Foundation, ANIMAL PEOPLE mailed similar questionnaires to all 190 of the 1992 respondents to find out how their experience with feral cats and cat rescue might have changed in the interim. In particular, we wanted to know whether the rescuers were handling either more or fewer cats, and to find out if their practices had changed in any manner that might account for differences.

Of the 190 questionnaires distributed, 44 were returned and matched with the 1992 responses of the same individuals, for an excellent verifiable response rate of 23%. The 44 questionnaires in each instance reflected the experience of 51 individuals: four males, 47 females. Thirty lived with a spouse or companion throughout 1992-1995, 16 lived alone, and one who lived alone in 1993 was married by 1995. Questions about living situations found only one important change: in 1992, just three respondents, barely 8%, had children under age 18 living at home. By 1995, eight had children under age 18 living at home. Births accounted for all of the difference.

Cat adoption

In 1992, 37 respondents kept a total of 263 companion cats, an average of seven apiece, with the median circa five. Three respondents kept more than 20. The same three respondents kept more than 20 in 1995. Overall, by 1995, 45 respondents kept 314 companion cats, an increase of 22% in the number of cat-keepers among the rescuers, and of 19% in the total number of cats kept, as the average number of cats per household remained steady at seven and the median at five.

The increase directly reflects the frequency of personally adopting homeless cats, by far the most popular rescue method. Both Carter Luke in a 1992 study of households in greater Boston and Karen Johnson of the National Pet Alliance in a 1992 study of pet ownership in the Santa Clara Valley of California, as well as Johnson and Lewellen in their San Diego County study, have established that just over a fourth of all

owned cats are adopted as uninvited strays. As of 1992, ANIMAL PEOPLE survey respondents had personally adopted 559 homeless cats, among whom 225, or 40%, were adult males; 190, or 34%, were kittens; and just 144, or 26%, were adult females. During the next three years, 30 of the 44 respondents (68%) adopted a combined total of 138 more homeless cats, including 37 adult males (27%); 56 kittens (41%); and 45 adult females (33%).

The 138 adoptions from the homeless population accounted for 87 replacements of companion cats already in homes, who presumably died during the survey period, and 51 cats added to the respondents' cumulative owned cat population, an average of one cat per respondent. Over the three-year period, the known attrition-and-replacement rate was 33%, or 11% per year. Although the question wasn't specifically asked, in written comments none of the respondents indicated adding cats to their household from any other source.

The rate of neutering among cats adopted from the homeless population accelerated from 76% among those adopted before 1992, to 96% of those cats old enough to be neutered who were adopted between 1992 and 1995. Both surveys found that about 2% of adopted homeless cats turned out to have already been neutered. Specific questions about reasons for neutering or not neutering were not asked, but written comments indicate that greater access to low-cost neutering is the most important reason for the increase.

The frequency with which adopted adult females turned out to be pregnant was consistent: 34% prior to 1992, 33% between 1992 and 1995.

Cat-feeding

Cat-feeding remained the second most popular rescue activity, a finding tending to validate the universality of Johnson and Lewellen's findings in the Santa Clara Valley and San Diego County that as many as nine to ten percent of all households include someone who feeds homeless cats. In 1992, 89% of ANIMAL PEOPLE survey respondents (39) had fed homeless cats at one time, at a total of 65 different sites, and 35 (80%) were actively feeding. In 1995, 28 (72%) of the onetime feeders were still actively feeding; those who indicated a reason for stopping mostly said there were no longer homeless cats at their feeding sites. One person had relocated away from a feeding site, for work-related rather than cat-related reasons. The number of feeding sites dipped 10% between the surveys, to 59.

At the time of the 1992 survey, active feeders reported feeding 393 homeless cats, including 43 kittens (11%), for an average of 11.2 homeless cats fed per person. At the time of the 1995 survey, active feeders

—M.C.

Bina Robinson through May

Cindy Kessler through March

—K.B.

Did homeless cats peak?

reported feeding 435 cats, including 51 kittens (12%), for an average of 15.5 cats fed per person. The 11% increase in the number of cats fed and the 38% increase in the number of cats fed per person seem to indicate that the homeless cat population may be growing by as much as 4% per year.

But the situation is more complicated than that. For instance, the numbers also indicate that "kitten season," among homeless cat colonies, comes later than is generally supposed. Three months prior to the 1992 survey, at the often presumed peak of "kitten season," the respondents remembered feeding only 361 homeless cats, including 23 kittens (5.8%), for an average of 13.9 cats fed per person. In 1995, they fed 357 at the same time of year, indicating virtually no change, but including 29 kittens, or half again as many (9%). The data from each year suggests that while kitten births peak in late spring, resulting in more litter turn-ins at animal shelters, homeless kittens stay hidden longer, and don't become part of a feeder's count until weaned and mobile, circa eight weeks of age. The increase from 1992 to 1995 in the number of kittens discovered during the traditional "kitten season" could either be a fluke, a reflection of the growing trust of homeless mothers in feeders who have shown themselves reliable over three years or more, an indication of increased skill at finding kittens on the part of rescuers, or a reflection of increased abandonments at feeding sites of kittens born in homes.

Both the 1992 and 1995 cat feeders' kitten counts are almost certainly low relative to births. A variety of veterinary studies summarized by Ellen Perry Berkeley in her groundbreaking 1980 book *Maverick Cats* indicate that 50% mortality among kittens before weaning is normal, even among owned cats. Kittens who die this young usually won't be found by rescuers.

Further data on homeless cats collected during a 1991-1992 neuter/release demonstration project that Bartlett and Clifton coordinated in northern Fairfield County, Connecticut, involving 320 cats in all, essentially confirmed the estimates of 50% pre-weaning mortality: 32% mortality in kittens rescued during their first 12 weeks of life, plus a strong likelihood that many kittens died before their litters were found.

At the midwinter low end of the homeless cat population cycle, in January 1992, 32 respondents fed 357 cats, an average of 15.7 apiece. By January 1995, 30 respondents fed 339 cats, an average of just 11.3 apiece, a drop that seems best explained by the adoption data.

As of August 1991, 29 people reported feeding 381 cats, or 13.1 apiece; by August 1994, the same people were feed-

ing 435 cats, the same as in August 1995, for an average of 15 cats apiece. This would suggest that the homeless cat population actually peaked in 1993 or 1994, and has subsequently leveled off, possibly due to the growing popularity of neuter/release.

Neuter-release

Neuter/release was the third most popular rescue activity in both surveys, following homeless cat adoption and cat-feeding. In 1992, 14 rescuers had neutered and released 120 homeless cats, for an average of 8.6 apiece. In the interim between the surveys, 17 rescuers neutered and released 77 cats, an average of 4.5 apiece—and one individual, who had neutered and released 50 cats prior to the 1992 survey, reported neutering and releasing 900 between the surveys, including about 400 males and 500 females, of whom 400 total were still alive. This level of activity was so intense that this individual's data had to be dropped from the tabulations to make sense of the rest.

As anticipated from study results showing that neutering adds from 20% to 50% to the life expectancy of owned cats, homeless cats seem to live far longer when neutered and therefore not obliged to take risks in search of mates or to get food for kittens. Among the cats neutered and released by the 12 normal-volume neuter/release practitioners during the interim between the 1992 and 1995 surveys, 28 of 39 males (71%) were still alive at the 1995 survey date, of whom 86% had lived at least two years after release; 48 of 56 females (86%) were still alive, of whom 83% had lived at least two years after release. Assuming that the average age of the cats who were neutered and released was one year, 71% of males and 86% of females had already lived longer than all but 17% of the 147 males and 22% of the 173 homeless females picked up during the 1991-1992 demonstration neuter/release demonstration project.

ANIMAL PEOPLE also asked respondents in 1995 about the fate of cats they neutered and released before July 1992. Of 120 such cats, the fates of 95 (79%) were known. Thirty-four of 42 males were still alive (81%), as were 42 of 53 females (79%).

In fact, cats involved in the 1995 survey respondents' neuter/release projects seem to be living longer than owned cats: of 287 living owned cats reported in a separate survey of *Animals' Agenda* readers that Clifton did in 1991, just 64% had lived three years or longer, and only 56% had lived four years or longer. Only time will tell whether the neutered and released cats will match the other longevity marks found in the 1991 survey: 19% had lived 10 years or longer, and 11% had lived 12 years or longer, while 3% had lived 17 years or longer.

Cats vs. wildlife

The dramatically increased longevity of homeless cats after neutering suggests that conflicts with conservationists over feline predation on songbirds and other wildlife will only increase, unless both neuter/release practitioners and conservationists get together to establish mutually acceptable criteria for where, when, and how neuter/release should be practiced. From 1992 survey data and personal observation during the 1991-1992 neuter/release demonstration project, Clifton and Bartlett determined that only about 12% of the locations where homeless cats are found are actually suitable sites for maintaining cat colonies. Our position throughout has also been that all homeless cats should be

removed from unsuitable habitat as expeditiously as possible, and that the ultimate goal should be no homeless cats, period.

This position is not inconsistent with the goals of such organizations as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the National Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, and the California Coastal Conservancy, among many others which oppose the presence of feral cats in wildlife habitat. ANIMAL PEOPLE parts company with these organizations, however, in that because some neuter/release practitioners persist in maintaining colonies at inappropriate sites, they tend to oppose all use of neuter/release. Our argument is that because catch-and-kill is manifestly unpopular with much of the public, as well as within the cat rescuing community, and because catch-and-kill policies demonstrably discourage cooperation between rescuers and people concerned with wildlife protection, it is wiser for all concerned to cooperate in alternatives including neuter/release which recognize and respect the importance of saving the lives of the cats to rescuers. In the long run, we contend, it is more beneficial to wildlife

to have the numbers of feral cats controlled and their locations regulated, than to have unknown numbers reproducing at an unknown rate in unknown locations, paying people to exterminate them while people who might be voluntarily capturing them, socializing the socializable for adoption, and neutering the lot are deterred by threats of fines and jail time.

On July 5, 1994, ANIMAL PEOPLE proposed to 16 organizations and individual researchers with a strong interest in homeless cats and the impact of cats on wildlife that resources could be combined to compare the population records of closely monitored cat colonies with Audubon Christmas Bird Count and Breeding Bird Survey data from nearby locations to definitively measure the effects of cats vs. birds. We pointed out that the limited data to date from other studies indicates a variety of possibilities, depending upon the type of habitat.

Beyond the obvious, that cats eat birds when they can, further issues must be considered. For instance, some of the data most strongly indicting cats for killing birds

(continued on page 10)

AHA #2 (March only)

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(from page 8)

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—K.B.

Homeless cats (from page 9)

also indicates that they kill primarily small ground-feeding species, and that their most frequent prey by an overwhelming margin is the English house sparrow, a non-native species in North America which competes with scarcer native species for food and habitat. Since most of the fast-declining neotropical migratory songbirds are not ground-feeders, it may be that homeless cats have much less to do with their decline than is often postulated, and may even be helping them by knocking off some of their competition.

Also worth a closer look is the relationship between homeless cats and raptors. Do cats outcompete hawks and owls for prey in suburban environments, or do they merely occupy niches that raptors have abandoned due to loss of nesting habitat? And are homeless cats perhaps important prey for some of the larger raptors when they reoccupy habitat?

Certainly homeless cats are believed to be an important food source for suburban coyotes. Would the elimination of homeless cats decrease conflicts between humans and coyotes, or would hungry coyotes become more aggressive about foraging in yards?

Researchers Andrew Rowan of the Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy and James Serpell, who holds the Marie Moore Chair for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania, were intensely interested. But, though the proposal has been twice recirculated, none of the groups contacted have bothered to reply, and no one has offered funding.

Until such a study is done, the complexity of the relationship between homeless cats and wildlife is likely to be left out of the increasingly rancorous debate between conservationists and neuter/release practitioners, to the detriment of all concerned.

Feeding sites

In 1992, 26 (74%) of the cat-feeding respondents reported feeding homeless cats on their doorstep; 12 (34%) fed homeless cats at a public building; six each fed homeless cats in an alley or in a wooded area; and four each fed homeless cats at a shopping center, in a barn, or at work.

In 1995, 21 (60%) of the cat-feeding respondents reported feeding homeless cats on their doorstep, and the average number of cats fed on a doorstep had declined from 4.5 to 2.5. Five each fed homeless cats in wooded areas and in barns; four each fed homeless cats at work or in an alley; only two people were still feeding cats at public buildings; only one was still feeding cats at a shopping center; and four were feeding homeless cats in parks or other public-access wildlife areas, up from zero in 1992 and a clear warning of further conflict ahead.

Except for the emergence of cat-feeding in wildlife areas, the trend seems to be toward markedly reducing the numbers of cats in the locations of the most contact with humans, such as doorsteps, public buildings, and workplaces, while the numbers found in rural locations, i.e. barns, wooded areas, and wildlife areas, are up 10%.

As of 1992, of the 393 cats fed in identified locations, 30% were fed on doorsteps; 22% were fed at public buildings;

20% were fed in barns; 10% were fed in wooded areas; 7% were fed at work; 5% were fed in alleys; 2% were fed at shopping centers; and 4% were fed at other sites.

By 1995, of the 435 cats fed in identified locations, 20% were fed on doorsteps; 18% were fed in wooded areas; 9% were fed in barns; 6% were fed in public-access wildlife areas; 5% were fed at shopping centers; 4% were fed at work; and 3% each were fed at public buildings, in alleys, or at other sites.

Placing cats

The 1995 survey of cat rescuers also asked about experience in adopting out formerly homeless cats. Seventeen respondents had adopted out 70 homeless cats among them, between 1992 and 1995, while another respondent adopted out 165.

Those who completed the portion of the form asking about the success of adoptions indicated that 11 males and seven females had remained in adoptive homes since 1992; nine males and six females had remained in adoptive homes since 1993; and 10 males and six females had remained in adoptive homes since 1994.

The data is insufficient to determine the percentage of rescuers' adoptions that succeed, but does indicate a consistent bias among adoptors toward male cats. The cost of neutering may be a factor, as could be the sex ratio of homeless cats. The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** neuter/release demonstration project data found that female kittens outnumbered males two-to-one, but the sex ratio was equal from puberty to age three, and among cats older than three, males outnumbered females by a three-to-two ratio. This is almost the opposite of the sex ratio Johnson and Lewellen found among owned cats older than five in San Diego County. If kitten births among the homeless cat populations with which the survey respondents work are being prevented at a significant rate, the homeless female population is perhaps no longer being replenished in those areas at a high enough rate to maintain the overall ratio of 46% male, 54% female among homeless cats that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** discovered (and that the Feral Cat Coalition data from San Diego confirms) as the normal ratio.

On the other hand, if kitten births are being prevented but females are still dying at a greater rate than males, some factor other than those associated with kitten-rearing must account for the greater female mortality. Since such a factor is not apparent, and since indications are that homeless kitten births overall are still occurring at about the 1992 level, the cost of neutering would appear to be the major and perhaps only reason for adoptors' preference of male cats.

The respondent adopting out formerly homeless cats in high volume could have skewed the results all by herself if her responses hadn't been tallied separately. She acknowledged making a deliberate effort to place female cats. Of 120 females she placed in homes between 1992 and 1995, she claimed 117 (98%) were still in their adoptive homes as of the survey date, along with 44 of

45 males (also 98%). Even if this respondent overestimates the success of placements by 15% to 20%, her placement success would compare well to the average among animal shelters that keep comparable records.

Steep drop

There is a noteworthy exception to the observation that homeless kitten births are holding steady: there seems to have been a steep drop in the number of kittens born in locations monitored by neuter/release practitioners. The peak year for neutering and releasing homeless cats was 1993. Of the 77 cats who were neutered and released between 1992 and 1995 by survey respondents, only 12 (16%) were neutered and released during 1994 and the first half of 1995. Another way to phrase this is that 84% of the cats neutered and released by the 1995 survey respondents during the preceding three years were actually neutered and released during the first 18 months of the survey period, covering just one spring "kitten season." Thereafter, either the neuter/release practitioners burned out on the technique—which was not apparent from the responses to any of the other questions, nor from written comments—or neuter/release was phenomenally effective in preventing colony growth in the neuter/release practitioners' areas of activity.

Shelters

The fourth most popular rescue option in both 1992 and 1995 was taking cats to animal shelters. Thirteen respondents (30%) were taking homeless cats to animal shelters in 1992; by 1995, 12 were (27%). Of the 12, one reported taking 60 cats to shelters during the previous three years. In 1992, no one rescuer reported taking exceptional numbers of cats to shelters, but the rescuers who did take some cats to shelters reported having taken an average of 7.5 cats apiece. From 1992 to 1995, rescuers—other than the individual who took 60 cats to shelters—took an average of 3.8 cats apiece—about three a year, a hint that the number of homeless cats at large may be

indeed be dropping.

Capturing homeless cats for euthanasia was not particularly popular in 1992, as only nine respondents reported ever doing it. Only one had captured more than 20 cats for euthanasia. Between 1992 and 1995, only five rescuers reported capturing homeless cats for euthanasia; none reported capturing more than four to be euthanized, and no one cited any reason for euthanasia other than terminal illness or injury.

The decline in capturing for euthanasia did not appear in mortality counts.

Mortality

Respondants were personally aware of the deaths of 228 homeless cats prior to the 1992 survey: 29% roadkills, 18% humanely euthanized, 16% victims of upper respiratory infections, 13% victims of other illnesses (10 of 29 from feline leukemia), 8% killed by nuisance trappers, 6% poisoned, 6% killed by sadists, 4% dead of unknown causes, 3% starved (apparently orphaned kittens), and 0.4% killed by fur trappers.

Between 1992 and 1995, respondents became personally aware of the deaths of another 133 homeless cats: 26% roadkills, 22% humanely euthanized, 11% dead of unknown causes, 9% dead of upper respiratory infections, 8% dead of other illnesses (four of seven from feline leukemia), 6% killed by nuisance trappers, 6% killed by dogs, 3% killed by wild predators, none starved, none poisoned, and none killed by fur trappers.

Allowing for the small size of the sample, there seems to be no significant change in the causes of mortality among homeless cats, even with the greater longevity of those in neuter/release programs. Somewhere between 25% and 33% of homeless cats are apparently killed by cars, about a third are killed to get rid of them, and about 33% to 40% die from other causes.

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BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

"We have raised 96% of the funds for the Buckshire 12! It looks like they will be here in March," Primarily Primates secretary Stephen Rene Tello told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** at deadline. The Buckshire Eight, a group of nonbreeding chimpanzees otherwise destined for terminal research, became the Buckshire 12 in January when the Buckshire Corporation, eager to be out of the chimp trade, offered to add four "prime breeder" females to the group. "This meant we could directly help prevent the breeding of chimps for research," explained Tello. It also meant Primarily Primates needed to raise the funds to build not just one more chimp enclosure, but two. "Thanks to the direct efforts of Nancy Abraham," Tello added, "the Jacob Bleibteu Foundation of New York agreed to fund a second enclosure in its entirety." That permits "the largest retirement effort of its kind to date," said Tello. Primarily Primates still needs support for the chimps' ongoing care, at POB 15306, San Antonio, TX 78212-8506.

The embattled University of Washington Primate Field Station came under fire again on January 3 when In Defense of Animals filed complaints alleging negligence in the November 19, 1995 dehydration death of a monkey, whose caretakers never saw that his water line was clogged. The death came between a November 14 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** inquiry to University of Washington Regional Primate Center director William Morton about previous deaths at the same site of baboons and monkeys due to dehydration, and the November 30 reply of University of Washington Health Sciences and Medical Affairs media relations coordinator Laurie McHale, who admitted that the university paid a penalty of \$20,000 in settlement of USDA charges re the earlier deaths, but said the problems were solved, and did not mention the November 19 death. As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, neither McHale nor Morton had answered a follow-up inquiry.

Confirming a rumor leaked to Shirley McGreal of the International Primate Protection League in October, published in the November edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, Dr. Francis J. Novembre of the Yerkes Regional Primate Research Center at Emory University in Atlanta on January 30 announced that two chimpanzees at the center have developed AIDS, 11 years after one of them received the first of three injections of the human HIV-1 virus. His first AIDS symptoms appeared in March 1995. The second chimp was given a blood transfusion from the infected chimp, and soon developed AIDS as well. The two are the first chimps known to have contracted the human form of AIDS, to which chimps previously seemed immune.

Responding to criticism of a policy "against animal testing," instead of a firm cruelty-free policy, The Body Shop on January 21 announced it has abandoned the so-called five-year rolling rule exposed and denounced by freelance Jon Entine in the September and November 1994 editions of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Under the rolling rule, The Body Shop bought no product containing ingredients that had been animal-tested within five years. But as Entine pointed out, the typical lag between product testing and product marketing is often five years or longer. "We have now frozen our ingredient purchasing rule date at December 31, 1990," said the Body Shop release. The Body Shop also pledged to "press the European Union to impose the 'in principle' ban" on animal testing of cosmetic products now scheduled to take effect on January 1, 1998, and henceforth disclose all testing protocols.

Ciba-Geigy, maker of the drug Ritalin, widely prescribed for children with alleged attention deficit disorder, on January 11 issued a bulletin advising 100,000 doctors that Ritalin has been found to be carcinogenic in mice, but arguing that the findings probably can't be extrapolated to humans.

Zoos

The Lincoln Park Zoo and Chicago Bulls sports surgeon Dr. John Hefferon teamed up January 24 to perform a first-ever arthroscopic repair of an arthritic silverback gorilla's knee, allowing him to resume his sex life. Frank, 32, caught in Cameroon in 1966, is esteemed not only for having sired 11 offspring in captivity, but also because since 1986 he has accepted and protected nine infants who were rejected by other gorilla troupes.

Two years after the death of the Lincoln Park Zoo's highly endangered 21-year-old Asiatic lion stud, the Chicago zoo has replaced him with a captive-born African lion, imported from the Kapama Game Reserve in South Africa (a drive-through zoo) to increase the genetic diversity of the U.S. captive lion population. African lions are plentiful in the U.S., both in zoos and in private ownership, but only 43 lions divided among 14 zoos are certifiably not inbred.

One of twin Indian lion cubs born January 1 at the Zurich Zoo was killed and eaten four days later by his parents, who were donated to the zoo by the government of India in 1991 and reared two cubs in 1993 without incident. Fewer than 200 Indian lions remain in the Gir Forest, their only wild habitat.

Two years after opposition rallied by Friends of Animals influenced the Mohegan Park advisory board and the city government in Norwich, Connecticut, to drop a plan to kill the 54 whitetailed deer at the 30-year-old park zoo, the plan is back. City manager William Tallman says the city can't afford the \$45,000 a year that keeping the deer costs, let alone the \$60,000 required to bring the fencing up to state specs.

The Turtle Back Zoo in West Orange, New Jersey, will be closed on April 1, says Essex County Executive James Treffinger, unless an alternative to public funding appears. The 434-animal zoo reportedly costs about \$1 million a year to operate.

A 17-year-old and a 19-year-old were arrested on January 6 for allegedly stomping, strangling, and shooting 36 rare exotic birds at the Plashet Park Zoo in East Ham, East London. Common farm animals in the petting section of the zoo were unhurt. The tiny, financially struggling zoo had just been saved from closure by public outcry.

Captive breeding at the San Diego Zoo may be the last hope for the northern white rhino. No more than 40 of the rhinos survive: 10 in captivity, and about 30, protected by 35 wardens, in the Garamba National Park in Zaire, which was recently overrun by about 130,000 Sudanese refugees including heavily armed rebels. There is hope, however: only 40 one-horned Asian rhinos survived in Chitwan National Park, Nepal, as of 1975. Today there are 450 in Chitwan, 50 more have been reintroduced to a second Nepalese national park, and two were donated on January 3 to the London Zoo, to stimulate growth of the captive population.

On January 7 the Philadelphia Zoo extracted and froze sperm from Billy, 43, the oldest captive breeding greater Asian one-horned rhinoceros on record, then put him down with a lethal injection, due to an apparently incurable digestive disorder. Captured from the wild in 1955, Billy sired five calves during the past 16 years.

Unable to afford arrow bamboo, after losing \$1.8 million in 1995, the Beijing Zoo is reportedly feeding 14 captive giant pandas meat and vegetables. The diet "has caused digestion disorders, abdominal distension, diarrhea, loss of weight, and a lowering of their resistance to disease," the Xinhua news agency said on February 6.

Several years after ceasing to chain elephants overnight, the Philadelphia Zoo chained two African elephants for about two weeks in early January because of a broken gate in their enclosure. Repairs were delayed by the January blizzard that paralyzed much of the east. Petal, at 40 the older of the pair, reportedly became chronically exhausted by fighting the chaining all night every night.

The Kiev Zoo's bull elephant arrived with just one tusk, lost the other in colliding with a fence last summer, and has been alone for seven years. He may soon receive restorative surgery courtesy of the Colchester Zoo in England, and a mate from the Muenster Zoo in Germany, if the Kiev Zoo can provide the elephants with better fencing and a heated floor. Fundraising is underway.

A Calcutta Zoo tiger on January 1 killed one inebriated youth and maimed another when they dared each other to place a garland around the tiger's neck.

Whistleblowers fight back

Jan Moor-Jankowski, M.D., founder and director for 30 years of the Laboratory for Experimental Medicine and Surgery in Primates at New York University, raised \$1.2 million to retire the 225 LEMSIP chimps, coincidental with his own retirement—but NYU last year froze the funds, closed LEMSIP, and ousted both Moor-Jankowski and his lieutenant, James Mahoney, after they resigned from the NYU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, and filed complaints of primate care negligence with the USDA that obliged the suspension of the NYU addiction research unit run by Ronald Wood. The USDA probe of the Wood case is reportedly now complete; whether charges will be filed or Wood will resume his work is yet to be seen. NYU president Jay Oliva and NYU Medical Center associate dean David Scotch meanwhile sold the LEMSIP chimps to the Coulston Foundation, a New Mexico-based research supplier, which is to take possession of the chimps on March 15. Moor-Jankowski in 1991 won a landmark Supreme Court verdict for press freedom against the Austrian pharmaceutical giant Immuno AG, which sued him for libel, as editor of the *International Journal of Primatology*, after he published a letter-to-the-editor by International Primate Protection League founder Shirley McGreal. Coulston filed a brief backing Immuno. Investigating whether Moor-Jankowski was illegally punished for whistleblowing, the USDA on December 22 subpoenaed Oliva, Scotch, and all related records.

General Counsel Robert Seldon of the Government Accountability Project Working Group on Animal Welfare and Whistleblower Rights, formed to assist Jan Moor-Jankowski, on January 18 advised the USDA that GAP has also taken on the case of USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service senior regulatory enforcement and animal care investigator Marshall Smith, who has been "stripped of all meaningful assignments" since May 15, 1995, and was denied a promotion after complaining about lax response by colleagues in Animal Welfare Act enforcement in the South Central Sector, including Arkansas and Missouri, during a national crackdown on pet theft that began with the 1993 implementation of the 1991 anti-pet theft amendments to the Animal Welfare Act.

The January 30 edition of the New England Journal of Medicine reported that a hormone which causes mice to lose weight apparently doesn't do the same in people. The finding dashed hope that the hormone might be synthesized in a weight control pill.

Researcher Mike Wilson of the Scottish Crop Research Institute in Dundee, Scotland, in early January announced a partnership with the British firm Axis Genetics to perfect a means of rapidly growing vaccines in plants. People and animals in theory could vaccinate themselves against disease by eating vaccine-producing fruits, vegetables, or leaves—a cheaper method than the present method of culturing vaccines in animal hosts.

The January 12 edition of Science reported that a panel representing 15 federal agencies will in May publish a proposal to form a permanent committee to oversee the approval of nonanimal testing criteria, hoping to win funding for the project in fiscal 1997.

Groundhog Day, February 2, brought the media revelation that Cornell University virologists are now using 300 groundhogs to investigate the treatment of hepatitis and liver cancer. Groundhogs are used because they tend to develop the diseases within four years of life, 10% of the time they usually take to appear in humans.

Virologist Jonathan S. Allan of the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research AIDS investigation team warned on the January 20 *New York Times* op-ed page that transplants from nonhuman primates to humankind not only show little promise of curing disease but, "could do more harm than good. Organ implantation," he wrote, "circumvents most of the body's barriers to infection. That means that baboon viruses typically though not to be infectious to humans, like blood-borne or sexually transmitted pathogens, would now be passed to the human body."

DELTA SOCIETY - March, April, September.

ADDENDA: WHO GETS THE MONEY?

This second addenda to our sixth annual report on the financial affairs of the major national animal and habitat protection groups and opposition groups includes those whose IRS Form 990 didn't reach us before either our December or January/February issue deadline. As a bonus this time, we're also including several small all-volunteer groups with noteworthy prominence relative to expenditures.

Groups are identified in the second column by apparent focus and philosophy: **A** is for advocacy, **C** for conservation of habitat via acquisition, **E** for education, **H** for support of hunting, **L** for litigation, **P** for publication, **R** for animal rights, **S** for shelters and sanctuaries, **V** for antivivisection, and **W** for ani-

mal welfare. The **R** and **W** designations are used only if an organization makes a point of being one or the other.

Except where otherwise stated, the financial data comes from current Internal Revenue Service Form 990 filings, covering either calendar year or fiscal year 1994.

To put these numbers in perspective, consider that the National Charities Information Bureau requires approved charities to spend at least 60% of their budgets on programs, not including direct mail associated with fundraising. This standard is stricter than the IRS rules, which allow charities to write off some direct mail costs as program service under the

heading of "public education." Thus the figures that organizations declare and the figures as amended in accordance with NCIB guidelines are often very different. The % column states each organization's overhead and fundraising costs as declared to the IRS. The **ADJ** column states those costs as they would be under NCIB guidelines. Differences appear in boldface.

The seventh through ninth columns provide data on assets. Note that shelters and sanctuaries tend to have more fixed assets (land, buildings, and equipment) because of the nature of their work.

For further information on interpretation of data, please refer to the preface to the tables published in December.

ORGANIZATION	TYPE	BUDGET	PROGRAMS	OVERHEAD	%	ADJ	ASSETS	FIXED	CASH/SECUR.
Concern for Helping Animals in Israel		\$ 103,558	\$ 99,977	\$ 10,996	11%	11%	\$ 8,357	\$ 6,975	1
In Defense of Animals	AER	\$ 1,019,796	\$ 846,797	\$ 172,999	17%	59%	\$ 450,541	\$ 7,521	\$ 61,747 2
Inherit the Earth	AER	\$ 626	\$ 581	\$ 45	7%	7%	\$ 205	none	\$ 205
New Yorkers for Companion Animals	S	\$ 24,038	\$ 22,351	\$ 1,687	7%	7%	(not stated in 1995 report to membership)		
Protect Our Earth's Treasures	AER	\$ 4,730	\$ 4,264	\$ 465	9%	9%	(not stated in 1995 report to membership)		

Selected opposition organizations

Animal Welfare Foundation (A front for the fur trade and other animal use industries, AWF apparently filed no Form 990 for 1994.)									
National Trappers Association	H	\$ 552,300	\$ 398,396	\$ 153,904	28%	30%	\$ 149,715	\$ 8,238	\$ 108,123 3
Putting People First	AE	\$ 2,756	(no breakdown provided)	\$ 19,321			\$ 19,321	\$	4

NOTES

1 - CHAI president **Nina Natelson** was paid \$19,987 in 1994.
 2 - **Elliot Katz**, president of IDA, was paid \$46,237 in 1994. IDA listed no other paid directors and no staff earning more than \$50,000.
 3 - **NTA** reported no fundraising costs, but also declared the expenditure of \$15,511 on items sold to raise funds. NTA listed no paid staff.
 4 - This Form 990 was filed under the name **A Lot of People Who Are Putting People First**. PPF may file other returns under other corporate headings.

More letters

Duramed does not use PMU

Duramed Pharmaceuticals would like to clarify a gross inaccuracy in the July/August edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Following are the facts about Duramed's Abbreviated New Drug Application, currently before the Food and Drug Administration for generic conjugated estrogens:

- Duramed's product is not derived in any way from horse urine. Instead, its estrogenic compounds are synthetically produced in one of the most high-tech environments in the pharmaceutical industry.
- Duramed is bioequivalent to Premarin because it contains the same estrogenic components and reacts the same in the human body.
- Because Duramed's product is not made from horse urine and does not hurt horses in any way, upon approval it may greatly decrease the amount of Premarin produced and eventually decrease the number of PMU farms.

—Melissa Fragnito Kinch
Public Relations
Duramed Pharmaceuticals
Cincinnati, Ohio

We were misled by early wire service reports describing the Duramed drug as a "generic" rather than "synthetic" alternative to Premarin—and are quite pleased that the Duramed drug includes no animal products or byproducts.

Good words for Gillette

In mid-January Reuters reported that PETA produced an advertisement in which a group of 60 actors pledged to boycott Gillette products. I remembered your June 1995 article regarding how many people smear Procter & Gamble and shouldn't. I think you are right about Procter & Gamble—yes they still test on 35,000+ animals per year, 90% of whom are used to test medical products, but while we would like to see that number be zero where legally possible, they do spend large amounts of money on alternatives and have been a leading player in alternatives development over the last decade and a half.

I also think the record deserves to be set straight about Gillette. In 1994, the latest year in which statistics are available, Gillette did not kill or injure even one solitary animal to test cosmetic products. They only used 53 animals for non-medical consumer products, and 2,311 for legally mandated drug product testing. Comparatively speaking, that's pretty good for a \$6 billion company. Further, Colgate-Palmolive, a \$7.6 billion company, only used a total of 1,457 animals in 1994 for all purposes.

Even Gillette and Colgate-Palmolive are very small compared to Procter & Gamble, but comparing animals killed to gross sales dollars, Gillette and Colgate are doing even better at reducing animal use.

I get tired of animal groups yelling and screaming and boycotting companies when they apparently have not done all their homework and are not "laying all the cards out on the table." I think our focus as animal protective organizations in this regard should be to 1) provide accurate data regarding animal use and money invested in alternatives; 2) encourage continued reductions in animal use and increases in alternatives funding, specifically *in vitro* alternatives, where possible, and 3) focus on acceptance of and implementation of a validation and regulatory process for alternative tests. Focusing on these issues would be a more productive use of the limited dollars that animal protective organizations have to work with, and most likely to prevent animals from being used and killed in product testing.

—Karen E. Purves, M.A.
Animal Advocate
The Animal Protection Institute
Sacramento, California

Avian epidemiology

The Florida Keys Wild Bird Center in January declared finished a five-year epidemic of "wasting syndrome" among cormorants. The victims were found anemic, dehydrated, and severely underweight, but without obvious disease or injury. About 90% died. The syndrome was to become subject of a major study—but in March 1995, cases quit coming. Overall, the Wild Bird Center treated 130 cormorants in 1994 and 133 in 1995. Half of those treated in 1994 had "wasting syndrome," but most in 1995 had been hurt by fishing gear—like most other birds the center receives. "We have pelicans, pelicans, fishhooks and pelicans," director Laura Quinn told Nancy Klingener of the *Miami Herald*, "because pelicans hang around fishers."

House finch conjunctivitis, a variant of the *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* bacteria that often hits poultry, has spread to the South and Midwest, after blinding and ultimately killing house finches throughout the northeast since the winter of 1993-1994. So far, house finches are afflicted in 20 states, including in 43 of the 88 counties in Ohio. Closely related birds and birds who feed with house finches seem unharmed—and the disease has apparently not spread into the original house finch habitat, in the western United States. House finches entered the rest of the U.S. after a 1940 probe of illegal sales by the pet trade caused several Long Island dealers to release their stocks. Breeding pairs were detected by 1943. The U.S. epidemic is unrelated to an outbreak of salmonella that hit three other finch species hard in Austria during early 1995.

The International Herald Tribune reported on February 6 that thousands of seagulls were dying of an unknown cause along the coast near La Touquet, France.

Animal health

University of Minnesota researcher Dr. Jesse Goodman and team announced January 24 that they have managed to isolate and grow the bacterium that causes human granulocytic ehrlichiosis, a newly identified and sometimes fatal disease borne by the same ticks as Lyme disease.

Having apparently gotten away with a wind-assisted premature release of the rabbit-killing calicivirus during field tests last September, without apparent harm to species other than rabbits, Australia is now hoping to halt the advance of South American cane toads through the use of the Irido virus, which apparently kills both toads and tadpoles in Venezuela. The cane toads were themselves introduced about 60 years ago, in hopes they would eat insects who plagued sugarcane growers.

PROMED-AHEAD, an online newsgroup on veterinary epidemiology, is accessible by e-mailing the message >>subscribe promed-ahead<< to >>majordomo@usa.healthnet.org<<.

R.D. Holder, DVM, of Independence, Missouri, drew national notice in December for replacing a neutered Rottweiler's testicles with FDA-approved "Neuticles," invented by Gregg Miller as a prosthetic substitute. The public laughed, but "Neuticles" could lessen male psychological resistance to having dogs fixed.

University of Minnesota researcher Craig Packer confirmed in the February 2 edition of *NATURE* that the virus responsible for killing more than 1,000 African lions in 1994 was a variant of canine distemper—probably carried from dogs to lions by spotted hyenas, jackals, or leopards.

Wild-caught foxes and coyotes brought from North Dakota to Tennessee for use in chase pens are bringing along a tapeworm potentially deadly to humans, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention division of parasitic disease chief of epidemiology Dr. Peter Schantz warned on January 20. About 60% of North Dakota coyotes carry the tapeworms; the percentage of infected foxes is unknown.

Hantavirus is reportedly at large in the vicinity of U.S. peacekeeping forces in Bosnia, hitting 350 Bosnians in 1995, but as of February 3, no U.S. troops were infected by the rodent-borne, sometimes fatal illness.

Data published by Clara Fenger, DVM, in the December 1995 edition of the *Journal of Parasitology* indicts opossums as the chief carriers of equine protozoal myelitis, or EPM. "As many as 10% of horses have been suggested to have EPM," Fenger recently posted to PROMED-AHEAD. "Since this disease is, at worst, fatal, and at best is performance-limiting, this is a serious impact. Many more horses die of EPM than rabies."

TUFTS AD

OBSCENE SALARIES

Recent articles in *Animal People* and *Vegetarian Times* revealed outrageous salaries and perks at HSUS and other groups collecting funds to help animals. Boards of Directors should be made accountable for this greed. Suggestions welcome. Send stamped, self-addressed envelope for networking and action. Pro bono attorney needed.

OBSCENE SALARY WATCH
POB 168, Gualala, CA 95445

Dog logo

The Watchdog

The Watchdog monitors fundraising, spending, and political activity in the name of animal and habitat protection—both pro and con. His empty bowl stands for all the bowls left empty when some take more than they need.

Charity begins at home

"The Elinor Patterson Baker Foundation makes grants for the general charitable purposes of organizations that fulfill the aims, principles, goals, and purposes of the Humane Society of the U.S.," proclaims the purpose statement filed with the foundation's 1994 IRS Form 990-PF.

Indeed it does: of 129 grants made in the fiscal year ending May 31, 1995, totaling \$1,390,000, the six largest were \$250,000 to HSUS itself; \$100,000 to the Humane Society International, the umbrella for HSUS and subsidiaries; \$50,000 to the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education, an HSUS subsidiary; \$50,000 to EarthKind USA, another HSUS subsidiary; \$35,000 to the World Society for the Protection of Animals, whose vice president is John Hoyt, HSUS/HSI chief executive officer since 1970, with HSUS board secretary Murdaugh Madden as treasurer; and \$25,000 to the Center for Respect of Life and Environment, an HSUS subsidiary. The Animal Rescue League of Fall River also got \$25,000. Other grantees with which HSUS had no representation got an average of \$7,008 each.

The Baker Foundation Form 990-PF did not state who made the grants, but other information indicates they may have included Putnam Trust Company vice president W.F. Mancuso, a member of the HSI board; Putnam Trust tax officer Dennis Lesko; HSUS vice president Randall Lockwood, also on the CRLE board; HSUS New England representative Arnold Baer; and Robert Cummings, treasurer of WSPA and secretary/treasurer of the Massachusetts SPCA, whose president, Gus Thornton, heads WSPA.

The Baker Foundation Form 990-P stated that the "officers, directors, trustees, etc." were paid \$274,995 among them, but omitted listing such personnel and their salaries. Lockwood was paid \$71,546 by HSUS in 1994, and Baer is believed to have been paid circa \$30,000-\$35,000. None of the others drew salaries from HSUS or subsidiaries.

Henry Spira (March only)

WOOFS & GROWLS

>>MARMAM@Uvvm.Bitnet<<, the online **Marine Mammals Research and Conservation Discussion** hosted by Robin Baird of the University of Victoria, in January appealed for \$5,000 toward operating costs. The Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society started the kitty; **ANIMAL PEOPLE** sent \$100 and challenged other institutional users to proportionally match it. As of February 2, MARMAM had raised just half the amount, including gifts from Japanese whaling industry flak Alan Macnow and Georg Blichtfeldt of the pro-sealing/whaling High North Alliance, who may be the two least popular users; William Burns of the GreenLife Society North American Chapter; the International Marine Mammal Association; Paul Nachtigall of Aquatic Mammals; Leslie Strom of Wide Angle Productions; Phoebe Wray of the Center for Action on Endangered Species; and private citizens Andrew Morse and Keith Ronald. Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society promised to donate as soon as he resolved a modem-link problem. Absent were major animal and/or habitat protection groups—including HSUS, the heaviest single user—and any marine mammal exhibition facilities.

The December 20 edition of the German magazine *Aif Einen Blick* claimed **Whale Rescue team leader Peter Wallerstein** was with Greenpeace in the 1970s, after which he "managed the group Sea Shepherd from 1983 to 1993," leaving both because, he alleged, they "spend much money on offices, salaries, and other things." Responded Sea Shepherd Conservation Society captain Paul Watson, providing documentation, "We are a volunteer organization with only one office and one paid employee, administrator Carla Robinson. As president and founder, I have never received a salary. Peter Wallerstein did not work with Greenpeace in the 1970s. I was a founding member of Greenpeace and I know for a fact that he was not involved. Wallerstein did not get involved with Sea

Shepherd until 1985. He was not a director until 1988. He was dismissed for illegally taking funds in 1991. He was never a manager of Sea Shepherd, nor did he hold any executive post other than director. Wallerstein did not found the Whale Rescue Team," Watson added. "It was originally a project of Sea Shepherd. We provided Mr. Wallerstein with his rescue boat and his equipment, on the understanding that he would continue his efforts to protect marine mammals."

Reports reaching ANIMAL PEOPLE in late January have it that International Society for Animal Rights president Helen Jones, who began the group as the National Catholic Animal Welfare Society in 1959, was ushered into retirement at an emergency board meeting called after the last staffer quit. Arizona attorney and board member Henry Holzer is believed to have settled lawsuits against ISAR by other former staff, and to have hired a new executive director, but did not answer repeated inquiries. The turnover apparently resulted from an October 1995 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** expose, detailing alleged animal collecting and other bizarre behavior by Jones as described—separately—by numerous former staff and volunteers. Holzer reportedly rejected similar complaints in 1992 when presented by former board member Mary Leah Weiss, of New York City, who then resigned.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, after announcing a move to Seattle last May, is reportedly now looking at relocating to either Atlanta or Hampton Roads, Virginia.

The **Alberta SPCA** is revising a year-old teacher's manual, after distributing just 100 copies, to satisfy complaints from the Alberta Foundation for Animal Care, a livestock lobby. The Alberta SPCA is known in Canada for an accommodating attitude toward rodeo, especially the Calgary Stampede, and failed to respond to **ANIMAL PEOPLE's** request for a detailed policy statement.

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Animal control & rescue

Taking over the New York City animal control contract from the American SPCA on January 1, 1995, the Center for Animal Care and Control provided pickup and rescue service to 5,448 dogs and 4,753 cats during the year, nearly double the ASPCA norms, according to CACC director Marty Kurtz. In consequence, dog intakes rose to 24,536, with a euthanasia rate of 73%, while cat intakes rose to 26,266, with a euthanasia rate of 78%. Returns-to-owner were achieved at about the same rate the ASPCA managed, but still at only half the rate managed by Chicago and less than a third the rate of San Diego, the apparent RTO leader among major U.S. cities. To boost RTO, the CACC in November began microchipping all animals placed. Overall, the CACC adopted out 4,975 cats, 222 more than were picked up in distress, along with 4,561 dogs. Combined adoptions, all species, came to 9,616—slightly less than the ASPCA norm, but the ASPCA is still doing adoptions, dividing the traffic.

Hot Springs Animal Services in Hot Springs, Arkansas, in 1995 achieved five-year lows in both dogs and cats received. Intakes of both dogs and cats peaked in 1993. Dog intakes are down 28%; cat intakes are down 20%.

The Cook County Department of Animal Control, serving Chicago, offered neutering rebates for the month of February only, of \$25/male cat, \$35/female cat or male dog, and \$50/female dog.

Horse notes

Nationally ranked equestrian and heir to millions George Lindemann Jr. drew 33 months in prison on January 18 for killing a horse to collect \$250,000 in insurance. His trainer, Marion Hulick, drew 21 months. The two were among the most noted defendants among 18 people convicted to date in connection with a horse-killing ring that also included the killers of 13 humans over 25 years. The last victim was heiress Grace Brach, who vanished in 1977 after becoming suspicious of horse transactions arranged by Richard Bailey, convicted in connection with her murder last year. His close associate, stable owner Jerry Farmer, on January 22 drew 10 years for his part in selling Brach and other wealthy women worthless horses at premium prices. Brach's estate formed the Brach Foundation, a major sponsor of animal-related projects. The crime ring was exposed by a federal reinvestigation of her disappearance.

The Bay Meadows Foundation, of San Mateo, California, in late December sued the Bay Meadows race track operators for allegedly shortchanging more than 100 charities which, under a 1959 state law, benefit from the gross on five charity race days per year as a condition of track licensing. The suit covers the years 1992-1994. A similar suit covering 1990 netted a \$700,000 settlement in 1991.

Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman on January 11 refused a European Commission request that the U.S. waive a ban on the import of horses infected by the tick-borne disease piroplasmosis, to allow 23 infected horses to compete in the Atlanta Olympiad. International Equestrian Federation veterinary officer Fritz Sluyter warned that in consequence the U.S. might be barred from hosting future international equestrian events.

Pressured by county fairs, Tennessee state representative Pete Phillips (D-Shelbyville) on January 31 withdrew a bill to ban animal high-diving acts, such as the notorious Tim Rivers Diving Mule Act.

At deadline Patsy Poore of Southern West Virginia Equine Education & Protection Inc. in Jeffrey, West Virginia, was hoping to overturn a December 28 judicial order that the blind pony Kenton Mosley of nearby Ovapa was riding when arrested for "drunk driving" in August be returned to Mosley's sister, who purportedly bought the animal prior to the nationally publicized incident. Earlier, after Mosley pleaded guilty to abusing the pony, the pony was awarded to SWEEP by the presiding magistrate. According to Poore, the pony was "at least 20 years old and 100 pounds underweight," partly due to bad teeth.

The ASPCA, having purportedly given up the New York City animal control contract because it wished to get out of high-volume euthanasia, took on the animal control contract for Suffolk County, Long Island, effective January 1—and hasn't answered questions about why. Reported Carole Paquette of *The New York Times*, "For two years the Suffolk County SPCA had a \$35,000-a-year contract financed by fees from dog licenses. The society was headed by its founder, Gary Rogers, son of Barey Rogers, a Republican fundraiser and \$1-a-year chief of staff for the President Officer of the County Legislature. In November, two months after Gary Rogers resigned from the 11-year-old society over what he says were 'philosophical' differences, the Legislature voted to give the contract to the ASPCA. Gary Rogers, now a volunteer agent for the ASPCA, is on the staff of full-time and volunteer agents who work from the ASPCA office. The senior vice president and chief of humane law enforcement for the ASPCA, Robert O'Neill, oversees the Suffolk office." The Suffolk County SPCA has reportedly sued the ASPCA over the deal—and insiders intimate that former ASPCA executive vice president John Foran may have abruptly left last November because he considered the arrangement unethical.

Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, reduced shelter intakes 10% in 1995, and cut euthanasias from 17,459 in 1994 to 15,628 last year (also 10%).

Maybe Yellowstone?

The 21-year-old Canadian Centre for Wolf Research in Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia, is reportedly near closure due to the loss of 75% of its funding in 1995 federal budget cuts and the loss of the rest because Dalhousie University will withdraw from sponsorship on April 1. CCWR manager Jenny Ryon is seeking another home for the 13 resident wolves, whose pack she hopes to keep together.

Livestock show ethics

The first National Youth Livestock Program Ethics Symposium was held December 1-2 in Las Vegas, to discuss what to do about "unethical and illegal activities in youth livestock programs." Participating were the American Farm Bureau Federation, American Veterinary Medical Association, Animal Industry Foundation, Future Farmers of America, and 4-H. The symposium proceedings, in book form, are available from the Livestock Conservation Institute, \$34.20 including postage, 1910 Lyda Drive, Bowling Green, KY 42104-5809.

Frank Zigrang ad--
not yet paid through 1996

The city council of Petaluma, California, on January 2 officially terminated the animal control contract awarded on August 14, 1995, to Thunder and Lightning's Cause. Animal control duties have been performed by the Humane Society of Sonoma County, the previous contract holder, since the TLC contract was suspended pending investigation of alleged management problems on November 8. Richard Day, one of at least two attorneys representing TLC head Janet Coppini in various situations, told local media that the organization would sue the city. On January 4, Coppini told the Petaluma *Argus-Courier* she would sue her public critics, and said she had sued ANIMAL PEOPLE over a one-paragraph notice of the Petaluma situation published in December. At press time on February 12, ANIMAL PEOPLE had not received service of such an action.

The Miami Beach Parks and Recreation Department is reportedly supervising one of the largest neuter/release projects yet undertaken, with 84 volunteers catching cats at feeding stations, and more than 400 cats fixed in the first three months of the effort.

Belgium introduced a law, effective January 1, that bans the sale of dogs and cats at flea markets—so dealers now display animals and distribute calling cards, but don't actually complete transactions until after hours. Global Action in the Interests of Animals president Michel Vandenbosch recently told Reuters.

Luv-A-Pet, a state-of-the-art neutering clinic, was to open on Valentine's Day in Dallas, sponsored by the City of Dallas and The Animal Foundation International, a project of PetsMart Charities. The clinic is modeled after the Luv-A-Pet clinic opened in Maricopa County, Arizona, in May 1995. Arrangements for the clinic were made by Cile Holloway, 43, widely known for her work with the Animal Connection of Texas and the Texas Humane Information Network. Her mother, Patt Davis, founded the Humane Society of Greater Dallas.

Humane Society of North Texas board president Art Brender and executive director James Bias both resigned in January, while assistant operations director Tammy Hawley gave notice of intent to change jobs. Brender, a board member for 18 years and board president for nine, recently became chair of the Tarrant County Democratic party, and was also elected president of the West Meadowbrook Neighborhood Association. Bias told the Fort Worth *Star-Telegram* he's leaving to be able to spend more time with his family. "It is a seven-day-a-week job, and my thoughts are in it 24 hours a day," Bias said. "With a family, it is now harder for me to keep my focus."

Moving to increase fundraising capacity, the Massachusetts SPCA—with current revenues of \$22 million a year—recently formed Friends of MSPCA Law Enforcement, to raise funds around cruelty prosecutions.

Blown cover

(Photo by Kim Bartlett)

PHOENIX—Handling 40,000 animals a year, the Arizona Humane Society is reputedly the seventh busiest shelter in the U.S., but staffers were still at a loss on January 24 to think who they might have annoyed enough to dynamite the newest of the three AHS animal ambulances. A humane officer parked the modified 1995 Chevrolet truck outside the AHS shelter shortly after midnight and walked indoors to fill out paperwork on a cat pickup. Within less than 30 minutes someone apparently placed a lit stick of dynamite on the driver's side front tire and ran away. "We are really unclear on why this happened," AHS executive director Ken White told ANIMAL PEOPLE. The only apparent lead was that 10 days earlier someone used a similar method to dynamite a 1979 Cadillac that was parked behind a restaurant a few blocks away. No threats were received, White said, nor had anyone claimed credit for either bombing. (Photo: AHS.)

Phil Arkow
(through May 1996)

Weisman (hasn't paid)

Most recent data shows shelter euthanasias down to 5.1 million a year

In October 1993, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** projected from about half of the data below that the annual U.S. shelter euthanasia toll could be as low as 5.1 million dogs and cats per year—approximately a third of the then-prevalent guesstimates by national organizations. Adding in additional shelter-by-shelter intake and euthanasia statistics, compiled over the past five years by a variety of different groups and individuals, confirms the estimate; of states for which multiple counts are available, only Indiana shows a rising euthanasia toll, and that trend may have been reversed since the most recent available data was collected. Because not all the surveyors asked the same questions, figures are missing from some of the columns. Dog and cat intake add up to a slightly different figure than total intake in some cases because some shelters report rounded numbers for some categories rather than exact figures, producing a minor cumulative distortion. The New York data represents all shelters serving 87% of the human population, projected to cover the whole population of the state. The Ohio data represents animal control shelters covering 34% of the state, projected to cover the whole population of the state.

State	%/U.S.	Dog intake	Cat intake	Total	%/pets	Dogs euth.	Cats euth.	Total euth.	% pets	Year / Data compiled by
CA	12%	533,000	504,000	1,037,000	8.0%	306,000	411,000	717,000	5.5%	1991, California Veterinary Public Health Unit.
CO	1%	84,365	58,867	143,232	8.1%	31,666	38,100	69,766	4.0%	1992, Humane Society of the Pike's Peak Region.
CT	1%	28,192	18,845	47,037		6,149	12,487	18,635		1992, New England Fed. of Humane Societies.
FL	5%					370,073				1993, Florida Animal Control Association.
IA	1%	43,573	32,237	77,810	6.5%	23,094	24,700	48,653	4.0%	1991, Iowa Federation of Humane Societies.
IN	2%		188,344				129,403			1991, Spay-Neuter Services of Indiana.
MA	2%	23,591	50,156	73,747		1,807	34,159	35,965		1992, New England Fed. of Humane Societies.
MD	2%		116,427		6.4%		85,602		4.9%	1992, Calvert Animal Rescue League.
ME	.5%	9,251	18,963	28,214		2,574	13,089	15,663		1992, New England Fed. of Humane Societies.
NH	.4%	8,916	14,265	23,181		2,177	9,332	11,509		1992, New England Fed. of Humane Societies.
NJ	3%		145,711		5.6%		75,263		2.9%	1991, New Jersey Department of Public Health.
NY	7%	108,821	107,582	217,590	4.2%	38,492	59,735	98,714	1.9%	1991, Elizabeth Forel, for Spay/USA.
OH	4%	196,683		134,764						1992, Diana Nolen
OR	1%		88,984		6.7%	19,908	25,337	45,245		1994, Oregon Animal Welfare Alliance.
TX	7%		759,340		8.9%		597,591		7.0%	1990, Texas Humane Information Network.
RI	.4%	6,087	8,644	14,731		1,257	5,370	6,627		1992, New England Fed. of Humane Societies.
WA	2%	72,330	75,283	147,613		48,086	66,404	77,668		1994, Progressive Animal Welfare Society.
VT	.2%	3,177	7,400	10,627		1,072	4,648	5,720		1992, New England Fed. of Humane Societies
U.S.:	51.5%	3,549,168	3,259,615	6,702,340		1,898,603	2,382,536	5,114,107		

Percentages of the national pet population are taken from *The Veterinary Service Market for Companion Animals 1991*, published by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

—Phil Arkow & Merritt Clifton

More animal control & rescue

The San Francisco Housing Authority has reportedly begun a drive to oust pit bulls and other dangerous dogs from its premises, after being ordered to pay Rasheedah Riles, 18, \$190,000 for injuries suffered when a pit bull attacked her on a housing project basketball court. Another SFHS resident, Vera Kennedy, recently sued over non-enforcement of the no-pets clause in the housing authority leases. In November, the SFHA insurance carrier warned the agency to get rid of dangerous dogs or else.

Minnesota state senator John Marty and state representative Matt Entenza have introduced companion bills to repeal the mandatory surrender of dogs and cats from public animal shelters to biomedical research institutions. The Minnesota law, adopted in 1948, was the first so-called "pound seizure" statute, and is now one of only three still on the books of any state.

The Progressive Animal Welfare Society has introduced Virtual Shelter, accessible to anyone who can access World Wide Web, which displays adoptable animals and animal control pickups around the clock.

Michigan Humane Society volunteers now call people who offer free-to-good-home puppies to inform them that they can "trade" the litter to the shelter for free sterilization and vaccination of the mother (and the father, if both animals are in the household). The program doesn't extend to cats because while MHS no longer has a puppy surplus, it still can't guarantee a home for every kitten.

The Neponset Valley Humane Society, of Canton, Massachusetts, on January 5 announced the formation of the Cat Action Team of Foxboro, following the formation of the Cat Action Teams of Norwood (1994) and Sharon (1995). Each team carries out supervised neuter/release to bring local feral cat populations under control, and to make cat-feeders part of the solution rather than part of the problem, as is often the case where catch-and-kill policies polarize community attitudes. The Cat Action Team of Foxboro is co-sponsored by Just Cats, a non-profit group based in nearby Mansfield.

Three and a half months after the October 21 death of Love & Care for God's Animalife founder Ann Fields and the public discovery that millions of dollars raised for the animals never went to them, relief efforts for the animals and legal action trying to recover some of the money continue. At recommendation of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, the Alabama Office of the Attorney General asked the North Shore Animal League to take charge of placing those animals who might be adopted into homes from among the 600-odd dogs and cats left at the Love & Care stockade near Florala, Alabama. The Montgomery Humane Society, of Montgomery, Alabama, recently moved into a new shelter, and made the old one available as a temporary adoption center. North Shore personnel spent about a month and \$50,000 in Alabama, said outreach coordinator Perry Fina, managing to place 45 animals directly into homes while parcelling out 104 dogs and 121 cats to other agencies. That still left 295 dogs and 80 cats slated for euthanasia due to health problems, including exposure to feline leukemia, amounting to lack of adoption prospects. As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, the American OnLine Pet Care Forum staff and a variety of other grassroots organizations were still trying to find homes for these, and the Alabama Office of the Attorney General was apparently willing to wait until all hope was exhausted before putting any of the animals down.

Pathway, the Pets and Housing Working Group of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Animal Welfare, representing 17 major British humane organizations, on January 23 published *Guidelines for Housing Providers*, a handbook intended to ease landlord/tenant relations—the leading reason why people give up or don't adopt pets. The handbook was introduced at a reception in the House of Commons.

Two years after the Louisiana SPCA in New Orleans began neutering all adoptions before letting them leave the shelter, the cat intake is down from 5,171 in 1994 to 4,337 last year, a 16% drop, while the dog intake fell 7%, from 6,997 to 6,519.

The SPCA de Mont Regie, one of the few functioning humane societies in Quebec, must relocate by April 30 after five years in a rented barn at Notre Dame de Bons Secour. The SPCA de Mont Regie holds the animal control contracts for the Montreal suburbs of St. Lambert, St. Bruno, and Ville Le Moyne, with an average of 300 animals in custody at any one time, according to founder and executive director Linda Robertson.

New York State Agriculture Commissioner Donald Davidsen, DVM, on January 15 proposed to revise a statewide dog census last undertaken in 1982. The purpose of the census would be to encourage compliance with licensing and vaccination requirements. Formerly a member of the State Assembly, Davidsen once introduced an unsuccessful bill to revive the dog census.

Arkansans for Animals recently introduced Spay/Neuter Arkansas, a program which according to founders Joyce Hillard and Marilyn Baker will arrange for any dog or cat to be neutered, subsidizing the operations as necessary. Spay/Neuter Arkansas is endorsed by the Arkansas Veterinary Medical Foundation, and about 20% of the practicing vets in the state are enrolled in the program.

Ketch-All
(paid through 10/96)

Network Resource for Arizona Animal Organizations, a binder reference of every name and address that anyone doing humane work in Arizona might need in a hurry, is \$12.00 from Jo Catalano, 5296 E. 26th Ave., Apache Junction, AZ 85219. The volume could also be used as a useful model for similar projects covering other states—and it's something one person with good secretarial skills can put together in spare time.

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Willy/Keiko (from pg. 1)

"it seems that Keiko is taking a very great interest in viewing humans, especially very small humans, through the window. He spends a lot of time right up close to the window, with his eye just a few feet from the smallest human visible to him."

Orca release advocate Paul Spong seized on the Keiko transfer as an opportunity to revive interest in the campaign to free Corky, an orca captured in Puget Sound in 1969, now at Sea World San Diego. Spong and In Defense of Animals hope "to assemble the world's largest Free Corky banner, to include panels from all over the world," according to Susanne Roy of IDA, "which will be assembled into one huge banner to be unveiled on Mother's Day."

But amid the celebrations of Free Willy/Keiko enthusiasts came a hint that at best the campaign brought Pyrric victory. The declared Free Willy/Keiko campaign goal is no more whales in captivity, but the short-term result is apparently more whales in captivity, as just 12 days after Keiko's removal, Ric O'Barry of the Dolphin Project issued an emergency warning that staff of *El Reino Aventura* were "en route to Cuba to take dolphins hostage" to replace him.

O'Barry was also en route to Cuba, hoping to "establish a dolphin sanctuary in Cuba where the dolphins can be prepared for release into the wild. The goal," O'Barry explained on January 10 to Manuel Cases, president of the Spanish-based *Asociacion para la Defensa de los Derechos del Animal*, "is to stop future captures in Cuba and show the Cuban government how it can be in their longterm interest to establish a dolphin-watching program that will attract European tourists. All of this would be a windfall of positive publicity for Fidel Castro."

O'Barry and Cases have been trying to negotiate the release of four dolphins caught off Cuba in 1993 and kept ever since at a failing dolphin swim attraction near Cala Calers, on the Spanish Riviera.

Hot topic

For weeks surrounding Keiko's transfer, discussion of Keiko occupied almost as much space on MARMAM, the online newsgroup for marine mammalogists, as every other topic combined.

Johann Sigurdsson, deputy director of the Marine Mammal Research Institute of Iceland, on January 9 reiterated previous statements that Keiko would not be welcomed back into his native waters.

"No doubt the groups involved will try to pressure the Icelandic government to change its mind," returned British dolphin trainer John Dineley, noting the 1995 success of Greenpeace International in persuading Shell Oil to tow an out-of-service drilling platform to shore, rather than scuttling it in the North Sea, as was originally planned.

But Dineley raised another point: "What if they find Keiko's family and learn they primarily hunt and eat marine mammals? What then? Throw the occasional seal into his pool so he can get a bit of practice?"

Said Thomas Jefferson of the Hong Kong-based Ocean Park Conservation Foundation, "If one were to examine the scientific and humanitarian reasons for releasing

The

Oregon Coast Aquarium maintains a World Wide Web page about Keiko, at >>http:

Orcas in Puget Sound.

(Photo by Bill Rossiter.)

a killer whale into the wild, and pick a candidate, Keiko would be at the bottom of the list. Personally, I think the preservation of an entire species ought to be a higher priority than enhancing the 'mental health' of a single individual of a species that probably numbers in the hundreds of thousands worldwide."

Added Steven Leatherwood, author of many definitive reference works on whales and dolphins, "I'm sure the entire budget of all marine mammal research and conservation work conducted to date in the entire East and Southeast Asia region, outside of Japan, is only a fraction of that spent so far on the Free Willy/Keiko feel-good campaign. The whale enthusiasts spending their money, and the public's, on this silly project should have to pay with their silence when the baiji, vaquita, and bhuman disappear from neglect."

The remarks of Jefferson and Leatherwood gained poignancy when professor Zhou Kaiya of Nanjing Normal University in southern Jiangsu province on February 6 revealed the death of an 8-foot, 352-pound female baiji—the largest on record—who was apparently killed by someone trying to electrocute fish. Leatherwood believes the total baiji population left in the world may be only a few dozen, one of whom has been in captivity for three years while scientists hoping to start captive breeding have searched unsuccessfully for a mate.

Serge Dedina of the Department of Geography and Regional Development at the University of Mexico observed that spending the cost of the Free Willy/Keiko campaign on whale conservation projects could not only do more for whales, but also, if undertaken in developing nations, bring more return per dollar. "For \$10.5 million," Dedina said, "you could fund the management of the Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve in Baja California Sur, Mexico, for a number of years. The seven-million-acre reserve is home to gray whales, black sea turtles, green sea turtles, pronghorn, bottlenose dolphins, on and on."

For Daniel P. Costa of the Earth & Marine Science faculty at the University of California in Santa Cruz, the most disturbing issue "is that the public is being led to believe that freeing Willy/Keiko is a conservation project. It just isn't. Killer whale populations are not threatened in the wild," he claimed. "There is likely to be minimal if any conservation value in learning how to rehabilitate and release a killer whale. We

need to learn how to breed and release smaller cetaceans such as the baiji and vaquita. However," Costa continued, "I would not put captive release programs at the top of my priorities. The important thing is to properly manage and protect the habitat of these endangered populations. There isn't much point to a captive release program if there is no habitat left, or it is so degraded as to be useless for maintenance of a population."

Ken LeVasseur, of Hawaii, who with Steve Sipman staged the unauthorized release of two dolphins belonging to linguist researcher Louis Herman in 1976, noted that, "The statements concerning a better use of the Free Willy/Keiko funds are virtually identical to arguments used by anti-captivity activists for 15 years. The common ground is that both factions agree most of the money spent holding cetaceans captive is better spent in more natural environments."

Offered Leslie Strom, of Wide Angle Productions, "Look at it in terms of marketing. Keiko is a symbol whose plight millions of people have responded to. Many are involved with a marine mammal issue for the first time. Perhaps the start of the Free Willy/Keiko movement was a fluke," Strom continued, "but the opportunistic bandwagon-jumping that came after it was not."

Suggested Stacy Braslau-Schneck, "Those involved in conservation might learn from the Free Willy/Keiko campaign how to promote their own mascots. Why not start a 'Save Billy the Baiji' or 'Save Bertha the boutu' campaign, using individual animals to gain support for the whole species?"

Fallacy

But stranding expert Phil Clapham was skeptical. "I believe the idea that Keiko will inspire people to be interested in cetacean conservation is a fallacy," he said. "We're just reinforcing to the public the notion that individual animal rescues are somehow important in the grand scheme of things. I don't know if anyone could significantly change the mindset that makes people give to feel-good events rather than the more complex, important stuff, but it wouldn't hurt to try. We owe critically endangered species such as the baiji at least that."

Clapham also noted that, "Like it or not, the closer one gets to actually physically 'saving' a whale, the more money will come in from the general public. We experience this with mass strandings of pilot whales. These events, while sad, are a natural occurrence, probably going on for as long as pilot whales have existed, and probably have little impact on the population, but people from Kansas and other remote places will send in, unsolicited, their ten bucks in response to news reports. Ask them to contribute to work that really matters, such as habitat conservation, and the response is at least an order of magnitude smaller.

"Same thing with the gray whales-in-the-ice fiasco in 1988," Clapham continued. "It would have been hard to design a more absurd situation: a Soviet icebreaker coming in from far away, while on the other side of the Bering Strait that year, the same Soviets killed around 190 gray whales in their native hunt. By some accounts, \$2 million was spent to free three individuals, one of whom died anyway, from what was essentially a natural event. But the money wouldn't have been spent on anything else.

just as the people who gave to Keiko would not, in most cases, give to baiji conservation or anything that really matters."

Doug Cartlidge of the European Cetacean Organization passed the buck back to the aquarium industry. "I sympathize with Steven Leatherwood's predicament, and applaud his efforts with the baiji," Cartlidge said. "However, would it not be more sensible for those earning millions from exploiting cetacea to have jumped in to help? Their annual profits far exceed those of the conservation and animal welfare organizations."

In fact, the New York Aquarium and the Vancouver Aquarium, among others, are heavily involved in wild marine mammal conservation; Sea World is a longtime leader in stranding rehabilitation. Sea World and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums also donated more than \$100,000 worth of time and equipment to *El Reino Aventura* to improve Keiko's circumstances, before Earth Island was involved.

More was in planning. "Three years ago," recounted Timothy Desmond, "Earth Island and Richard and Sheila Donner had the option to develop a home for Keiko on Cape Cod that would have doubled as a critical care facility for hundreds of marine mammals who strand themselves near the Cape every year. It would have served the whole region. It won the support of the local community. It was fundable, according to the professional fundraisers that Warner Brothers hired, at about the same cost, and could have been done in far less time.

"However," Desmond charged, "the activists couldn't stand not having complete control over the political agenda and the money. They conducted a coordinated attack on the proposed Cape Cod sanctuary and killed it. Their argument was that it was a display facility and Keiko would do shows. But there were no entertainment facilities in the design, only a unique combination of pools capable of taking care of large numbers of stranded cetaceans. I know this because I was hired to develop the plan for Warner Brothers and Richard and Sheila Donner. So now Keiko goes to guess what? A captive display facility, in an area with very few cetacean strandings. Many marine mammals will die because of the lack of that critical care facility, while Earth Island will float the illusion of releasing Keiko in fundraising. Now many marine mammal display institutions have stopped accepting stranded marine mammals, due to the threat of the morbillivirus. So effectively there are even less facilities available. What an opportunity lost! And why? Ask Dave Phillips," executive director of both Earth Island Institute and the Free Willy/Keiko Foundation.

Long critical of the Free Willy/Keiko campaign, for reasons he laid out in the June 1995 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, paralleling most of those above, Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society has also long endured attacks by Earth Island Institute, among others, for his acceptance of funding from casino magnate Steve Wynn, whose portfolio includes a Las Vegas dolphinarium.

Watson thus couldn't resist calling Phillips to congratulate him on becoming a major investor in the captive marine mammal industry—and a procurer of animals for exhibit.

—Merritt Clifton

Marine mammals

Nets and dolphins

EDINBOROUGH—The Royal SPCA and World Wide Fund for Nature head a nine-group coalition protesting a proposal by Scots Office Minister Raymond Robertson to make Scots fishers more competitive by lifting a ban on the use of monofilament gil nets which might drown harbor porpoises. Such nets are used in the waters of other European nations.

Eleven dolphins apparently drowned in fishing nets washed up in Cornwall between January 4 and January 11, prompting Cornwall Wildlife Trust chair Nick Tregenza to apply to the European Commission for funds with which to develop an alarm to warn dolphins away from nets. The EC is already funding a similar project called CETASEL, formed under the 1994 Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas, a.k.a. ASCOBANS. "The project started in the beginning of 1995, and the first sea trials were carried out in March 1995," said CETASEL coordinator Dick de Haan. "The first enclosure trial, on a

stranded harbor porpoise, showed the animals' sensitivity to 'chirp and sweep' sounds. In 1996 two sea trials are planned off the southwestern coast of Ireland."

The problem, also central to the "dolphin-safe" tuna controversy in the U.S., is worldwide. (See "Dolphin-safe tuna law erased by treaty," November 1995.) In another recent headline case, seining drowned 130 dolphins who washed up on the shores of Banc d'Arguin National Park in Mauritania during December. The United Nations has designated the 1.2-million-acre park a World Heritage site. The fishers were apparently trying to collect the eggs of yellow mullet, a delicacy in Italy and Israel.

Not to be overlooked is deliberate dolphin-killing. Taiwan police found the remains of 54 dolphins on January 12 at a freezer plant in the city of Yunlin. Plant operator Wu Wan-chiao reportedly led investigators to another dealer who was found in possession of the remains of at least six dolphins. Organized crime is reportedly involved in the case.

Whales

The February edition of *Alaska* magazine and tentatively the March edition of *National Geographic* are to report on the discovery of three stone point harpoon heads in the flesh of two bowhead whales recently killed under a subsistence quota near Wainwright and Barrow, Alaska. One point was set into a deteriorating whalebone harpoon head, the condition of which suggested it had been in the whale's body for an extremely long time. The stone point discoveries follow the 1993 find of an ivory harpoon head with a metal cutting edge in another bowhead killed near Wainwright. Such weapons are not known to have been used after 1885—and have not been found in dead whales in about 70 years. The import of the discoveries is that bowheads may live far longer than the 60-80 years previously thought to be their maximum lifespan. An ongoing study by archaeologist Allen McCartney of bowhead bones found on digs reportedly indicates that subsistence hunters historically killed juveniles, almost exclusively; those who escaped may have remained wary of humans thereafter.

A newly completed study of gray whale migration along the California coast has discovered that many gray whale mothers give birth en route south, not just in the Gulf of California lagoons that were thought to be their only birthing area.

Marine mammalogist Craig Matkin on January 18 testified to the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council, the federal/state panel administering funds paid by Exxon in settlement of lawsuits resulting from the 1989 oil spill, that whales and seals are still suffering on Prince William Sound as result of the disaster. The harbor seal population, in decline even before the spill, is now dropping at about 6% per year. Two orca pods who use the sound are also in decline, perhaps in part because harbor seals are among their prey. The A-B pod, the largest, has fallen from 36 members to just 22 since 1989, and the death of many females and juveniles, believes Matkin, has perhaps permanently impaired the pod structure, as many members now swim alone and therefore aren't available to assist one another in hunting or care of young.

Fish & other marine life

Scientists from New Zealand's National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research, trolling at a depth of 1,400 feet, on January 31 caught a 26-foot-long female squid, weighing almost a ton—just the 20th giant squid caught anywhere in the world in the past 10 years.

Genetic modification experiments at Memorial University in Newfoundland and by Otter Ferry Salmon on Loch Frye, Scotland, have reportedly produced modified salmon that grow at 10 times the normal rate. Malcolm Windsor of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation organization is concerned that the modified fish will escape from sea pens and "intro-

duce diseases and parasites. It's playing with fire to release transgenic farmed fish," Windsor said. "It will have unforeseen results, and by the time we find out, it will be too late."

Finn researchers are reportedly trying to use gene splicing to create a vegetarian trout, who would be cheaper to feed on fish farms and likely to excrete fewer toxic pollutants.

The Michigan Department of Health on February 1 advised that all salmon caught in Michigan's Great Lakes waters are safe to eat—for the first time since 1970, when it began monitoring fish absorption of toxins.

Sirenians

Despite the near-record death count of 201 Florida manatees in 1995 and the additional deaths of 47 manatees due to a January cold snap, an early February count showed 2,274 manatees alive and well, the most ever spotted. Manatee biologist Kipp Frohlich said, "The number seems to be growing gradually—and we were very fortunate to have ideal conditions for the aerial count."

A manatee found dead on February 1 in Lake Pontchartrain, near New Orleans, apparently died from cold. She may have been the manatee who eluded capture attempts by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in November and December—only the third manatee seen in the area in a decade.

—K.B.

A team of marine biologists headed by Daniel Costas of the University of California at Santa Cruz on January 17 reported no evident harm to wildlife from several weeks of testing the underwater broadcasting equipment to be used by the long delayed ATOC experiment in timing sound waves to detect changes in the temperature of the oceans. Costas' team monitored elephant seals tagged with tiny radio transmitters, and followed the movements of whales, otters, sea lions, harbor porpoises, and fur seals primarily from small craft and/or the air.

Clinton not expected to stand up to Japanese whalers

WASHINGTON D.C.—At the ANIMAL PEOPLE deadline, President Bill Clinton was imminently expected to send a message to Congress about Japanese whaling, responding to a December advisory from the Department of Commerce that Japan was vulnerable to trade sanctions because of its decision to kill minke whales within the Southern Oceans Whale Sanctuary. But Clinton was not expected to impose sanctions.

Argued Senator John Kerry (D-Mass.) in a February 7 letter to Clinton, "At this point, any efforts short of sanctions would signal a lack of commitment to whale conservation by the United States." Japan officially moved into compliance with the 1986 global moratorium on commercial whaling in 1988, but has continued to conduct gradually escalating hunts of minke whales for "scientific research."

Predicted Sam McClintock, an environmental scientist known for conservatism on such matters, "All in all, the signals point to the Japanese setting the stage for officially declaring a large harvest, perhaps 2,000 to 3,000, of southern minke, probably later in 1996 or early 1997."

McClintock noted that the Japanese, "already plan to double the size of the southern minke research catch; are declaring the minke to be a competitor for krill the blue whales feed on, claiming that minke may be hampering the blue whale recovery; will be conducting a study of the blue whale/minke interaction; and held a United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization meeting on 'sustainable resources' which spent a lot of time on whales and excluded the Humane Society of the U.S., a registered FAO observer, from attending." McClintock is director of En-Vision Inc., a North Carolina environmental consulting firm.

Aware that the U.S. and the world might not stand up to Japanese economic power, the Dominica Conservation Association on January 15 asked the government of Dominica to buck the influence of economic aid from Japan and send a message that it won't support revived commercial whaling by declaring the ocean between Antigua and Grenada a whale sanctuary.

Rescue, retirement

After handling 115 sea otters in distress since opening in 1984, the Monterey Bay Aquarium has turned sea otter rescue and rehabilitation duties over to the Marine Mammal Center, of Sausalito, under the aegis of the newly formed California Sea Otter Alliance. The Monterey Bay Aquarium sea otter program, which had cost \$500,000 a year, will now focus on research, with a staff of four, down from eight. The change came less than a month before the scheduled March 2 opening of Outer Bay, a \$57 million new wing.

Marine mammal rehabilitator Dan Pearson, a former staffer at the Naval Undersea Center on the grounds of the closed Point Mugu Naval Air Weapons Station in California, has returned to the site to coordinate about 200 Seabee and civilian volunteers in turning it into a marine mammal stranding center. Unused in 25 years, the Undersea Center at peak had four dolphin tanks, four tanks for seals and sea lions, and an orca tank.

Eight dolphins who were taken from Florida to the St. Anthony's Key dolphin swim resort in Honduras in September 1993, after Ocean World closed, escaped from their sea pen during a January 9 storm, and vanished without a trace. Six of the eight, born in captivity, had no experience with either feeding themselves or avoiding predators.

The Sugarloaf Dolphin Sanctuary board of directors on January 31 resolved to apply for a National Marine Fisheries service permit to release the three former Navy dolphins Buck, Jake, and Luther in Mississippi Sound.

Sandy, a one-year-old orphaned dolphin found with his dying mother off Connecticut last summer, died January 10, three days after a cold snap shocked his system and one day after the Okeanos Ocean Research Foundation flew him from their rescue center at Riverhead, Long Island, to warmer quarters at Marineland, near St. Augustine, Florida.

Four seven-foot-long melon-headed whales were saved, among six who were repeatedly beached January 10 by rough weather near Crescent Head, Australia, when National Parks and Wildlife officials hastily moved them to the saltwater swimming pool of the nearby Mediterranean Motel to wait out the storm—which became an impromptu swim-with-dolphins attraction, as guests dived in with them.

Monk seals imperiled by near-war in Aegean

ISTANBUL—As a game of capture-the-flag among youths on the rocky islands between Greece and Turkey escalated from taunts to trouble in late January, Turkish Mediterranean monk seal expert Bayram Ozturk of the Istanbul University faculty of fisheries apparently tried to pour oil on the troubled waters, but only stoked the conflagration, which was eventually stopped only through the personal intercession of U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Said Ozturk on January 31 via the MAM online bulletin board, "The Mediterranean monk seal population in Turkey is no longer stable," something of an understatement. "The most recent census, made last year, found 47 individuals. On the Bodram Peninsula, only six individuals including pups are living in the small islands called Cavus, Iremit, and Kardak. Since 1991, the Monk Seal Protection Project has been conducted in these islets on behalf of the Turkish Ministry of the Environment by Istanbul University. Unfortunately," Ozturk continued, "Kardak got occupied by Greek soldiers. Later, Greek and Turkish armies started to maneuver in this area. Aircraft, destroyers, and coast guards are all there. The monk seals are between two armies! If any seal dies during this military showing off, who will be responsible?"

Ozturk asked that protest be addressed to Greece, at which point Vrassidas Zavras of the Hellenic Society for the Study and Protection of the Monk Seal accused him of attempting "to involve the Mediterranean monk seal in the recent conflict between Greece and Turkey."

Ozturk then documented the presence of monk seals around Kardak—but *The New York Times*, apparently as oblivious to the seals as the near-combatants, still described the incident later as an "Aegean tantrum" over territory whose "only inhabitants are 12 goats."

Wildwear (renewed through March)

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Last of the dinosaurs (from page one)

in the threats to species she documented have been banned or restricted, and are gradually vanishing from the avian food chain. Raptors and waterfowl, the bird classes most at risk in Carson's time, are demonstrating resiliency, with some human help, including laws safeguarding critical habitat and providing at least seasonal protection from hunters. Other avian classes, including crows, starlings, sparrows, pigeons, and seagulls, have demonstrated themselves to be quite at home in human-created habitat—enough so to move into niches vacated by more sensitive species. Gulls, indeed, could be considered coyotes of the air, spreading into the interior of North America when hawks and owls were fewest, much as coyotes took advantage of heavy fox-trapping to take over habitat in the midwest and east a few decades earlier. And the sobriquet "rats with wings" often applied to pigeons is apt in the sense that like Norway rats, pigeons are extremely intelligent, quick to breed, and almost impossible to extirpate from attractive territory.

But the hardiness of some birds contrasts with the tenuousness of the continued existence of others, among them many of the most unique and charismatic.

Kakapos & kiwis

If birds are living dinosaurs, the big flightless birds are among the dinosaurs' closest living relatives—not species who lost the ability to fly, as theorists long held, but rather species who most probably never evolved flight. Among them, the dodo, the great auk, and the moa, among others, have perished within the past few centuries. Thanks perhaps to speculative commercial breeding, the ostrich, emu, and cassuary are at no risk of extinction, despite the threats of grazing, cultivation, and drought to their diminished wild habitat. Kiwis, however, native to New Zealand and without predators for 70 million years until humans arrived, are in serious trouble, their numbers dropping by an estimated 4.3% per year. The North Island brown kiwi is disappearing at the rate of 5.8% per year. New Zealand Department of Conservation kiwi recovery program coordinator Hugh Robertson considers predictions that kiwis will vanish from the mainland within 20 years pessimistic, but only those populations on predator-free offshore islands have managed any population increase in recent years.

The kakapo, a fat, flightless green parrot also native to New Zealand, is in such imminent peril that the British-based World Conservation Monitoring Center recently placed it on a list of the 20 species most likely to become extinct in 1996. Among the oldest known bird species, speculatively linked in descent to a parrot-like theropod called *Psittacosaurus*, kakapos are believed to have an individual lifespan of 60 to 80 years, but the estimated 50 kakapos left in the wild have raised only one offspring to adulthood since 1990, with just three others close to fledging. About 30 years ago kakapos seemed doomed because no females were among the known population, but then 200 kakapos including females were discovered on Stewart Island—and almost as quickly, were devastated by feral cats. Eventually they were removed to the relative safety of Codfish, Little Barrier, and Maud islands, where their main enemies are rats and stoats. Like the kiwi and the moa, who shared the same habitat, the kakapo evolved in the absence of predation, never developing either the ability to fly or other defenses. Nor do they reproduce quickly or easily: even when partners are available, they mate only once in four or five years.

—Robert Harrison.

Neotropical songbirds

Migratory neotropical songbirds too are in decline—and also have an ancient pedigree, as in March 1995 Walter Boles of the Australian Museum in Sydney announced positive identification of two bones from a 55-million-year-old songbird, 25 million years older than the oldest previously known songbird remains. The find, expected by evolutionary theorists, dates songbirds to within 10 million years of the abrupt Cretaceous/Tertiary extinction 65 million years ago of every known terrestrial species larger than a housecat and the majority of then-extant birds as well. A working hypothesis pursued by researchers is that a relatively rapid evolution of smaller birds followed, perhaps involving the micro-miniaturization of special abilities originating with larger dinosaurs. Whatever happened, songbirds were successful. The 4,000 neotropical migratory bird species living today represent about half of all the world's known avians.

But the 1995 Audubon Christmas Bird Count confirmed a 50% drop in migratory neotropical songbird numbers over the past two decades in the eastern U.S., part of a 30% drop noted by the 1989 North American Breeding Bird Survey, confirmed by delegates to last summer's Fifth Congress of Neotropical Ornithology.

The major cause of their decline is believed to be the loss of about 42 million acres of tropical forest per year in Latin America, the Caribbean, and southern Mexico.

But different species are affected in different ways. Blackpoll warbler numbers are down 60%; Kirtland's warbler, which ranges from the Bahamas to Michigan's Lower Peninsula, has increased from just 200 "singing males" in 1971 to 764 "singing males" in mid-1995, with 101 added to the population just last year. The increase is believed to be due to jackpine restoration in Michigan, as Kirtland's warblers nest only in jackpine.

Three other endangered neotropical migratory birds, the golden-cheeked warbler, the black-capped vireo, and the red-cockaded woodpecker, are identified by Republican members of Congress as species whose recovery is precluded

—K.B.

Bald eagles came off the Endangered Species List last year—one of the few species to recover from near-extinction.

(Photo by Robert Harrison.)

BIRD BRAINS

Biologist Gavin Hunt of Massey University in Palmerston, New Zealand, reported in the January 18 edition of *Nature* that the *Corvus moneduloides* crow of the New Caledonia islands 900 miles east of Australia have developed tool-making and use methods with "three features new to tool use in free-living nonhumans, that only appeared in early human tool-using cultures after the Lower Paleolithic: a high degree of standardization, distinctly discreet tool types with definite imposition of form in tool shaping, and the use of hooks." Hunt presented evidence amassed from 1992 into 1995 that the crows make both hooks and saw-like tools from plant matter with their beaks, for use in catching insects.

Letters published in recent editions of *New Scientist*, a leading British scholarly journal, document pigeons using the London subway system to travel, apparently purposefully, around the city. Writers noted that the pigeons often ignore handouts from human passengers as they go about their business, and hop rather than fly from the cars, as if unafraid and certain of their destination. Said an unappreciative London Underground spokesperson: "Pigeons are classified as vermin and if they are caught they should be destroyed."

An international team of four leading behavioral ecologists in November 1995 published evidence that great spotted cuckoos use extortion, not deception, to coerce magpies into hatching their young. Rather than laying their eggs in a magpie's nest and departing, the researchers found, cuckoos keep the nests under observation. If the magpies push the cuckoo eggs out, the cuckoos destroy the magpie eggs or hatchlings. "It's an offer that the birds cannot refuse," said lead author Andres Moller, of Copenhagen University. "It's just the same as in the human mafia: if you resist, it turns out very badly."

Ruby-throated hummingbird. (Robert Harrison.)

BIRD BODIES

Ruby-throated hummingbirds have a top power output of 133 watts per kilo of muscle, report University of Texas researchers Robert Dudley and Peng Chai. Human output peaks at 15 watts per kilo.

The hoatzin, an ancient vegetarian bird native to Venezuela, converts into nutrients and energy up to 70% of the plant fiber it ingests, reports Alejandro Grajal of the Wildlife Conservation Society, who in 1990 discovered that the hoatzin digestive tract more resembles that of cattle than that of other birds. The hoatzin level of digestive efficiency is comparable to that of cattle, Colobine monkeys, kangaroos, and tree sloths. The hoatzin is among the estimated 3% of bird species whose primary diet is green leaves and buds.

Bird counts confirm decline of neotropicals

by the present Endangered Species Act, which they hold gives landowners an incentive to destroy the birds' potential habitat before any—whereafter, development might be virtually forbidden.

Dutch and British studies recently identified still another possible threat to neotropical songbirds: traffic noise so confuses some birds that many wrens, blue tits, woodcocks, and pheasants can no longer be able to keep their songs in key—and can't make themselves heard above the din. Thus the reproductivity of songbirds dwelling within two to three miles of busy roads is much lower than among songbirds living farther away.

45,000 volunteers worldwide joined the 1995 Audubon Christmas bird count—the largest and longest-running index to bird populations, begun in 1900 as a protest against Christmas bird-killing contests. Since 1966 the Audubon counts have been augmented by the North American Breeding Bird Survey, which counts the "singing males" of 180 species heard along roadsides. Because the flight calls of about 50 of those species are almost inaudible from the ground, and because they migrate mostly at night, Bill Evans of the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, has maintained electronic listening posts at seven upstate New York locations, the prototypes for a proposed network of 40 stations that would monitor the major flyways from Cape May, New Jersey, to central Nebraska.

Less noticed, tropical birds are declining in other parts of the world as well—and the longterm effect could be catastrophic. Red-knobbed hornbills, for instance, carrying up to 265 figs at a time back to their nests, along with the fruits of more than 50 other tree species, are the chief means of reseeding the rainforest of Sulawesi (Celebes), Indonesia, Wildlife Conservation Society researcher Margaret Minnaid reported recently in *Natural History*. But agricultural clearing has claimed about 90% of Sulawesi, threatening both the hornbills and the rainforest itself with extinction.

Bird conservation

Among the efforts underway to save bird species, none are of higher profile or cost per specimen than the effort to save the California condor—another relic perhaps dating to dinosaur days. The Peregrine Fund hopes to release nine captive-bred California condors in the Vermillion Cliffs region of Arizona, north of the Grand Canyon, this April. Of 27 captive-bred California condors released into California habitat since 1992, 13 remain in the wild. Once soaring over the whole southwest, the California condor was extirpated from everywhere but a small part of southern California by 1987, when the last wild survivors were brought into a Species Survival Plan managed for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by Michael Wallace of the Los Angeles Zoo. The program is also breeding Andean condors, still common in Argentina and Chile but extirpated from the northern Andes, for reintroduction to Venezuela and Colombia.

Early releases of captive-bred condors had mixed success, as the birds electrocuted themselves on power lines or broke wings flying to the cables; sought out human company, unnerving pet owners and parents of small children who couldn't shake the feeling the huge birds wanted lunch; poisoned themselves by drinking antifreeze; and in at least one instance, drew gunfire. But bald eagle reintroduction ran into comparable problems at first. Now the eagles are among

the few once endangered species to come off the federal endangered species list due to population recovery.

In New York, where 198 Alaskan bald eagles have been released since 1978, 103 were recently counted in the Upper Delaware watershed area and 25 more were found near West Point, along the Hudson River. As many as five at a time have soared over the ANIMAL PEOPLE office, inspecting but not molesting the resident menagerie.

Reintroductions of eagles continue. A federal effort to restore bald eagles to central Louisiana enjoyed a hint of success last fall, as one pair nested in the Lake Ophelia National Wildlife Refuge, while the state had, altogether, 101 active nests in 22 parishes. The eagle reintroduction involved capturing fledglings in southern Louisiana, where the species is already fairly well established; raising them in a tower, a tactic called "hacking" that was perfected during the New York releases; and letting them go when they develop flight feathers. Thirty-two of 33 "hacked" Louisiana birds survived to release, while a raccoon killed one.

Meanwhile, in a rare international effort to save a bird species, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the San Diego Zoological Society, and the Environmental Ministry of Mexico have teamed up to establish a 750-acre breeding reserve in northeastern Mexico for the endangered maroon-fronted parrot, one of the few parrots with a preference for high elevations—nesting at up to 9,000 feet. About 3,500 of the parrots survive at 24 sites in the limestone cliffs within a 150-mile radius of El Taray, Mexico.

But a USFWS plan to protect endangered Mexican spotted owls in New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and Utah, published in January, seems no more popular than the many plans issued over the years in connection with the northern spotted owl native to old growth forests in the Pacific Northwest. Logging within 600 acres of active Mexican spotted owl nesting or roosting sites would be restricted to certain species; otherwise, logging could resume, after a two-year hiatus while the plan was drafted, within about 80% of the owls' known U.S. range. The Forest Service is also working on a spotted owl protection plan, and the two plans must be reconciled before any plan takes effect. The Mexican spotted owl was designated a threatened species in 1993.

—Robert Harrison.

Other counts

The annual winter eagle gathering at Brackendale, British Columbia, reportedly drew just half the 1984 record count of 3,766, the most ever seen at one site. Environmentalists blame the decline on septic discharges from the allegedly overburdened sewage treatment plant serving the nearby Whistler ski resort. A move is underway to have Brackendale declared a provincial eagle reserve.

A phalarope "wreck," a set of weather conditions driving phalaropes to shore, delighted northern California birdwatchers this winter. Usually feeding on water insects and plankton, far out to sea, creating small whirlpools with their feet to bring food to the surface, red phalaropes previously came to the California coast in 1934, 1959, 1969, and 1982. Unlike most birds, phalarope females are the brightly colored members of the species, who perform the courtship rituals and have multiple mates; drab phalarope males incubate the eggs and feed the young.

The whooping crane count at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge along the Texas Gulf coast hit 149 this winter, up from 132 in 1994-1995 and breaking the 1990-1991 record of 146. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has counted the endangered cranes annually for more than 60 years.

The clapper rail population in and around the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge is up to 600, says refuge biologist Jean Takekawa. The refuge is the sole habitat of the endangered rails, whose numbers fell from circa 1,000 in 1981 to just 240 by 1991. Their recovery began after the USFWS and California Department of Fish and Game trapped out egg-eating feral red foxes, whose ancestors escaped from defunct local fur farms, and feral cats, who prey upon adult rails. Humanitarians objected that the foxes and cats should have been removed by less cruel means.

EarthWatch offers bird-counting study trips to Alaska, Tanzania, Mexico, Hungary, Italy, and Wisconsin this summer, at about \$1,300 apiece. Details: 617-926-8200.

—K.B.

The privately funded Yunnan Animal Resource Development Centre in southwestern China on January 20 announced plans to breed a flock of 400 blue peacocks up to 20,000 within two years, to be marketed for meat. A related but much scarcer green peacock, found only in Yunnan, is an endangered species. (Photo by Robert Harrison.)

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More bird news

Air Force Colonel Tom Gresch on January 11 formally cited the ingestion of Canada geese into the engines as the cause of the first-ever crash of an AWACS radar plane last September at Elmendorf Air Force Base near Anchorage, Alaska—and blamed base officials for failing to respond to warnings that unusually dense waterfowl migrations last fall could become a flight hazard. Thirty-four dead geese and four wounded geese were found in the plane's wreckage. The crash killed all 24 crew members.

About 275 of the 800-odd North American bird species have been sighted in Central Park, New York, says Environmental Defense Fund official Roger Pasquier, who rates the 136-year-old park one of the top 14 birdwatching sites in the U.S., in a bracket with the Everglades and Yosemite. The variety of species present at any one time, currently about 100, is reportedly increasing.

Ethiopia recently honored the exterminators who used pesticides to kill an estimated 20 million birds in the Gode and Jijiga regions during 1995. The birds were accused of eating food grain.

EXPRESSING

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Sportsmen

Philadelphia Inquirer photographer Vicki Valiero's image of bowhunter Rex Perysian astride a dead pig just about told the story on February 2 of her visit to a canned hunt in Cheboygan, Michigan, on assignment with staff writer Alfred Lubrano—but if the picture wasn't graphic enough, there were Perysian's words: "I'll grab it like I grab my women," he told his pals. Then Perysian dropped the animal's head and bellowed into the woods, boasting that the kill had sexually aroused him." The article went on to detail, first-hand, the exercise in sadism that brought Perysian and pals to that climax.

Michael Nunn, manager of the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, in Oregon, on January 31 advised Friends of Animals that he would recommend that the refuge "back off" from a proposed aerial coyote shoot, and instead do two years of data collection before deciding on any course of action. Refuge staff blamed coyotes for a low rate of young pronghorn survival, but outside biological expertise identified other more likely causes, including overgrazing. FoA attacked the coyote-killing plan in newspaper ads that reportedly sparked more than 1,200 letters of protest.

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish must produce an environmental assessment, before proceeding with the planned cull-hunting of nine elderly bulls, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, federal judge Martha Vasquez ruled on January 26 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In effect, the killing is indefinitely postponed. The DGF had auctioned the privilege of shooting the bison for about \$21,000.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources on January 24 withdrew a proposal to start a bear hunting season. Alerted by the Fund for Animals, 176 Maryland residents testified against it at public hearings; hunting groups rallied only 128 speakers. There are only about 200 bears in Maryland, but Natural Resources secretary John Griffin said he might bring the proposal back next year.

California voters will decide on March 26 whether to repeal the state ban on mountain lion hunting—and the ballot language doesn't make the issue very clear: "The act authorizes the legislature to manage mountain lions to protect the people and resources of California. Repeals mountain lions' status as specially protected mammal. Fiscal impact: reallocates annually up to \$250,000 from habitat conservation fund from 1996-97 through 1998-99, \$100,000 thereafter for mountain lion management plan. Potential annual state costs of \$250,000 for mountain lion public safety, information programs."

To place an initiative banning bear-hunting and hunting with dogs on the November 1996 Washington state ballot, the Washington Wildlife Alliance must collect 225,000 signatures on supporting petitions before July. To help, call 206-633-3435; fax 206-633-3488.

The Pennsylvania senate on February 6 rejected a bill to ban pigeon shoots, 36-10. While one such bill actually won more votes than were cast against it a year ago in the Pennsylvania House, this was the first time an anti-pigeon shooting bill got into the senate calendar.

Among the bills before the Alaska legislature this spring are **SB-77**, to mandate predator control whenever a prey herd declines, regardless of the situation, without debate; **SB-262**, to require that for every acre closed to hunting or a particular hunting method, regardless of why, five times as much land must be opened to hunting; **SB-230**, which says "traditional" access to land cannot be restricted, even to control the damage done by snowmobiles, helicopters, and other equipment favored by poachers; **SB-247**, to require the state Department of Fish and Game to spend funds only on predator control, barring any spending on wildlife viewing or nongame species; **SB-81**, to place a \$200 bounty on wolves and strip them of any protected status; and **HB-313**, reducing the non-resident fee for a wolf tag from \$175 to \$10.

United Animal Nations and The Fund for Animals on January 24 posted a \$1,500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of whoever shot three snow monkeys on January 21 at the South Texas Primate Observatory. While local law enforcement were able to identify suspects, in absence of an eyewitness they were not able to establish which of them pulled triggers. The shootings came almost a year after Texas Parks and Wildlife officials had hinted that there could be an open season on any snow monkeys who strayed outside the sanctuary—and were reminded that even if the monkeys did stray, they were still private property, not wildlife. The sanctuary is now in the process of relocating to a larger site with more secure fencing, but the transition won't be complete for some months.

A 13-year-old friend killed Clint Morgan, 11, on December 28 in Braithwaite, Louisiana, as they and another 13-year-old practiced hunting skills under supervision of their fathers, a sheriff's deputy and a former deputy. One day later in Madison Parish, Louisiana, an 11-year-old, hunting with his father, fatally shot fellow hunter Houston Roberts. All of the children had passed hunting safety classes.

A 200-page investigation report on a Wisconsin prisoner's account of having been made to drive deer toward hunters in the woods at the Oakhill Correctional Institution on November 24 concluded that 14 inmates in all were coerced into driving deer for Oakhill guard Sergeant Perry Noyce and his supervisor, Don Martin.

Activism

The Louisiana-based Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade said on January 22 that it had received an Animal Liberation Front communique claiming credit for the release four days earlier of 200 to 400 mink from a fur farm owned by Robert Zimbal, of Sheboygan, Wisconsin. The release came three days after the release on their own recognizance of 17 of 22 anti-fur activists who had refused to pay bail and had gone on a three-day hunger strike, following their January 13 arrest for trespassing at a CAFT-led protest against the International Mink Show in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. Two juveniles were released immediately and three arrestees posted bail. Hitting fur farms in British Columbia, Washington, Minnesota, and Tennessee, the ALF claims to have released 6,800 mink, 30 foxes, and a coyote in six raids since October 1995, as well as spray-painting \$75,000 worth of furs at the Valley River Center Mall in Eugene, Oregon, on Fur Free Friday. Virtually all the released mink were quickly recovered. The other releases haven't been acknowledged in fur trade media. The mink releases prompted the Canada Mink Breeders Association and Fur Commission USA to post a \$70,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of anyone who vandalizes a fur farm.

A February 6 attempted arson at Jacklyn Furriers in Nashville, Tennessee, was the work of two boys circa age 14, say police. The blaze did only smoke damage.

The Justice Department, a more violent ALF-like group that mailed 134 known letterbombs in England in 1993-1994, mailed box-knife blades allegedly dipped in rat poison to the *Victoria Times Colonist*, *Vancouver Sun*, CHEK-TV, and 65 Alberta and British Columbia hunting guides in mid-January. Testing ordered by the *Times-Colonist* found no trace of poison on the blade it received. Hunting guide David Fyfe said on January 17 that the incident had scared him out of the business. He'd been a guide, considered an overcrowded occupation, for about one year.

The British Animal Liberation Front Support Group was briefly knocked off the Internet in late January when ALF press officer Robin Webb and several staffers with *Green Anarchist*, an alternative newspaper, were charged with conspiracy. Their computer equipment was held as evidence.

The American Civil Liberties Union has reportedly pledged to file briefs on behalf of Students Organized for Animal Rights members Jessie Miner, Renee Gardner, convicted of hunter harassment on January 26 in Shakopee, Minnesota, and fellow SOAR member Nick Atwood, convicted on January 30. "The Minnesota law is perhaps the worst of all the so-called hunter harassment laws I've seen," said Activist Civil Liberties Committee chief counsel Larry Weiss, of Greenbrae, California. "It will probably be tossed on appeal."

COURT CALENDAR

Crimes against humans

Preliminary hearings began January 30 in Chicago in the case of Marsha Norskog, of Palos Hills, vs. Roger and Gayle Pfiel, of Crete Township. In October 1995 the Pfiel's son Steven, 19, drew 100 years for the July 14, 1993 thrill-killing of Norskog's daughter Hillary, 13, and the March 1995 bludgeoning/slashing murder of his brother Roger, then 19. Norskog contends in a potential landmark case that Steven Pfiel's history of sadistic animal killing gave his parents ample warning that their son was a threat to commit murder, but

that instead of dealing with his violent tendencies, they encouraged him to hunt and gave him the car and hunting knife he used to kill Hillary. Roger Pfiel is a meatpacking executive.

Vicki Welch, a former tenant on the estate of murder suspect John du Pont, said she wasn't surprised by du Pont's alleged murder of Olympic wrestler David Schultz on January 26, because in early 1981 she and her young sons witnessed du Pont dynamiting a fox den full of kits.

Conservation rulings

Judge Thomas Aquilino of the U.S. Court of International Trade on January 5 ordered the Secretaries of State, Treasury, and Commerce "to prohibit not later than May 1, 1996 the importation of shrimp or products of shrimp wherever harvested in the wild with commercial fishing technology which may affect adversely" protected sea turtles. Said Earth Island Institute sea turtle project leader Todd Steiner, "This decision will save more than 100,000 sea turtles from needlessly drowning in shrimp nets every year, ending the largest killing of an endangered species occurring in the world right now." The decision was also hailed by some shrimpers, who have long

held that if they have to tow turtle exclusion devices in their nets, foreign competitors should be under the same obligation.

National Marine Fisheries Service biologist William T. Hogarth testified December 20 that Atlantic weakfish catches are down 85% since 1983, but U.S. district judge Robert Doumar nonetheless suspended enforcement of a federal ban on catching weakfish along the North Carolina coast, their primary habitat. The North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission has advanced an alternative proposal that would allow weakfishing—with nets having wide enough mesh to allow immature fish to escape.

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BOOKS

Rabbis and Vegetarianism: an evolving tradition, by Roberta Kalechovsky. Micah Publications (255 Humphrey St., Marblehead, MA 10945), 104 pages, \$10.00.

As founder and director of Jews for Animal Rights, and as director of Micah Publications, Inc., Roberta Kalechovsky has made major contributions to the animal rights/vegetarian causes, especially with regard to connections to Jews and Judaism.

Her most recent publication, *Rabbis and Vegetarianism: An Evolving Tradition*, effectively continues a series of titles which relate Judaism to such issues as health and nutrition, animal issues, animal experimentation, and Jewish holidays. Essays by and about 17 rabbis show inconsistencies between basic Jewish teachings and the realities of modern meat production and consumption. The rabbis are of otherwise widely diverse perspective: Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, and Reconstruction-ist, male and female, modern and from previous generations, recent converts to vegetarianism as well as longtime proponents. They also use a variety of arguments, all based on Jewish values: preserving health, showing compassion toward animals, protecting the environment, and sharing with hungry people. Rabbi Everett Gendler adds an additional cogent argument: humans are to exult in creation and to join a chorus of all living creatures in singing God's praises, but instead, people, deviating from this mission, have treated fellow choir members horribly, killing them and eating their corpses.

There is much of value in this book for all Jews, as well as non-Jews who are concerned about applications of Biblical values to modern life. The power of the book is indicated by a sampling of the rabbinic statements in it:

"We must clearly advocate dietary practices that are truly in consonance with the sublimest values of the Torah, and today more than ever before these are overwhelmingly incompatible with carnivorous indulgence."

—Rabbi David Rosen, former Chief Rabbi of Ireland

"The time has come for committed Jews to consider that both the moral thrust of kashrut (Jewish dietary laws) and its health significance point to a vegetarian diet, a culinary choice that responds both to the ideal and the real of Torah in our lives."

—Rabbi Harold M. Schulweis

"Life has become too precious in this era for us to be involved in the shedding of blood, even that of animals, when we can survive without it...A vegetarian Judaism would be more whole in its ability to embrace the presence of God in all of Creation."

—Rabbi Arthur Green, former President of the Reconstructionist College

This book deserves a wide readership. Its cogent arguments should help start a long overdue dialog on the moral issues related to typical western diets. In this way it can help lead to that time when, in the words of the motto of the International Jewish Vegetarian Society, "No one shall hurt nor destroy in all of God's holy mountain."

—Isaiah 11:9

—Richard Schwartz

[Schwartz is a professor of mathematics at the College of Staten Island, and author of *Judaism and Vegetarianism*, *Judaism and Global Survival*, and *Mathematics and Global Survival*.]

Becky-Louise (K.B.)

Cat Angels, edited by Jeff Rovin, illustrated by Ernie Colon. Harper Paperbacks (10 East 53rd St., New York, NY 10022-5299), 1995. 96 pages; \$6.99.

Cat Angels ties the revived interest in angels to the perennial popularity of cats. From the rust-and-white tabby on the front cover, complete with wings, halo, and demurely heavenward-looking eyes, to the back cover, bearing quotations admitting feline slips from grace, this book is a charmer. You will find quotations from Jules Verne, pet tombstones, Lowell Thomas, Mark Twain, Gertrude Jekyll, Henrich Heine, and Charlton Heston, among others, interlaced with editorial comments about cats in world religions. There are a few rather cloying Victorian verses, saved by sharing the page with funny little sketches by Ernest Colon, whose cats usually appear to be in free fall rather than angelic flight.

My favorite quotation is from Jean Cocteau: "I love cats because I love my home, and little by little they become its visible soul."

If you lack an angel to greet your homecomings, and cozy up on your lap while you read, you have only to visit the nearest animal shelter and choose among furry candidates well-suited for the role.

—Phyllis Clifton

Animologies: "A fine kettle of fish" & 150 other animal expressions, by Michael Macrone. Cader Books (151 E. 29th St., New York, NY 10016), 1995. 160 pp., \$14.95 hardback.

Michael Macrone takes a colorful crack at explaining the origins of animal-related phrases, but misses absurdly often—failing, for instance, to recognize that "dingbat" is a typographical term, not animal-related, originally applied to the ornamental battens that kept a hand-operated letterpress from "dinging" a sheet of paper by forcing it against an uneven surface. Macrone is equally bewildered by "bat out of hell," having apparently never seen bats boiling from a cavern at sunset. And he asserts that, "Dylan Thomas coined *ass---* in a 1935 letter." Many people still alive can testify otherwise.

Macrone cites credible evidence that "swing a cat" and "independent as a hog on ice," among others, originally had no reference to animals. But to me "independent as a hog on ice" will always describe the battle I saw one heroic hog wage as drovers tried to drag him to slaughter one snowy morning near Farnham, Quebec. A thousand pounds of sliding pig knocking cursing men and their prods galley-west is an awesome sight. I wish I could have helped him get away.

—Merritt Clifton

Titles to read aloud

The FURRY Alphabet Book
The EXTINCT Alphabet Book
The BUTTERFLY Alphabet Book
 All by Jerry Pallotta; butterfly book with Brian Cassie; illustrated, respectively, by Mark Astrella, Edgar Stewart, and Ralph Masiello. Charles Bridge Publishing (85 Main Street, Watertown, MA 02172), 1991, 1993, 1995. \$6.95 each, paperback.

Somewhere along the line someone sat on Jerry Pallotta's offbeat sense of humor. *The Furry Alphabet Book* is a hit with children because it lightheartedly but factually introduces 26 of the oddest creatures Pallotta could think of, including the hyrax, the quokka, and the naked mole rat.

The Extinct Alphabet Book is even wilder, eschewing the familiar extinct creatures, e.g. dinosaurs, to present succinctly accurate if also clownish lessons in ecology and evolutionary biology. Here are creatures from every major phylum, and every epoch of the history of life on earth, including Neanderthal humans, a reminder that we are by no means exempt from natural law and disorder. Wolf's favorite among them is the last, Zygorhiza, a long-necked extinct whale.

By contrast, the *Butterfly Alphabet* book is colorful, instructive—and quite, quite serious.

—Merritt Clifton

A Boy, A Chicken, and The Lion of Judah: How Ari Became A Vegetarian, by Roberta Kalechovsky. Micah Publications (255 Humphrey St., Marblehead, MA 10945), 1995. 50 pages, paperback, \$8.00.

Robert Kalechovsky's *A Boy, A Chicken, and The Lion of Judah* is the only book on vegetarianism that ever brought tears to my eyes. This occurred as often during my second reading as during my first.

Ari, a nine-year-old boy who lives in the Negev Highlands in Israel with his parents, has a "secret misery," and initially there is no one to answer his questions or to understand his wretchedness. Because of the strong bond he has developed with his pet hen, Tk Tk, Ari has decided that he wants to become a vegetarian, but he hesitates to tell his parents to avoid hurting their feelings. He wonders how his parents can be so actively involved in protest demonstrations to protect the environment, and yet be so oblivious to the daily cruelty in the nearby chicken coop and the treatment of geese, whose livers are fattened to make *pate de fois gras*. He doesn't understand how they can be so concerned about saving "the birds in the air" while serving the chickens who were raised in cages for dinner. He doesn't comprehend his "purification ritual" of washing meat in a saucer before eating it, an activity that his grandmother, who is convinced that Ari needs to eat meat in order to be "strong and healthy," considers a "disgusting habit." Ari suffers because he doesn't have what psychoanalyst Erich Fromm called a "socially patterned defect" that would have enabled him to be like almost everyone else, blind to the moral inconsistencies related to their diets.

How Ari discovers others who are vegetarians, overcomes his aloneness and alienation, comes to "own his own stomach," gains his parents' understanding, and much more, is told with sensitivity and compassion. While the book is aimed at children aged 7 to 10, based on my own experience and the responses of other adults I have shared it with, *How Ari Became A Vegetarian* provides adventurous, thought-provoking reading for people of all ages.

—Richard Schwartz

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MORE BOOKS

Beyond The Killing Tree: A Journal of Discovery

by Stephen Reynolds.

Epicenter Press (POB 82368, Kenmore, WA 98028), 1995. 192 pages. \$19.95, hc.

"...I have never been in sync with anti-hunters," Stephen Reynolds declares somewhat provocatively in *Beyond The Killing Tree*. "I haven't respected their opinions because the majority have never hunted. They don't understand the need or the craving for the chase."

While Reynolds himself has hunted, and enjoyed it, he has also undergone a change of heart. Witnessing too many death struggles of noble and innocent beasts for no better purpose than the "craving of the chase" or thrill of the kill has caused him to reconsider the longterm price of indulging the craving.

In bringing up such a thorny issue, Reynolds has taken the bull by the horns, so to speak, and has voiced one of the greatest challenges to the animal rights movement: the apparent fact that hunting and killing pro-

vides a high that will not respond to rhetoric or appeals to humanitarianism. Apparently it is like an addict with his substance of choice: though he knows it is destroying his life and harming those around him, the joy of the high outweighs any other consideration.

Added to this already powerful force is the fact that, "this sort of person [successful hunter] may have been looked upon with reverence in the old days. He would have been constantly hunting and killing and bringing in the meat for the entire village." Indulging one's favorite high and receiving respect and approbation for it is not a combination that lends itself easily to paradigm shifts.

Unfortunately, Reynolds does not pursue this potentially important and intriguing line of inquiry—at least not in a way that is readily accessible. He tries to draw the

(select deer - 2.25" square)

—Sue Clark

connection by illustration, citing examples from his own life, including experience as a professional hunting guide, and later, as a game warden, in various parts of the U.S.

We can follow Reynolds' adventures, but somehow the "discovery" he intended to share is not so evident as it might have been. *Beyond The Killing Tree* remains primarily a memoir, and the chasm between hunters and non-hunters remains as deep and as dark as ever.

—P.J. Kemp

Coming events

Ongoing: The library at the Long Island Campus of Polytechnic University in Farmingdale is hosting rotating exhibitions of photographic art by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** photographer **Robert Harrison** on a permanent basis.

Ongoing: More comprehensive listings of animal-related events are available on the World Wide Web from *Advance*, >>http://www.earth-base.org/advance<<, and on the Internet at >>BestFriends@nism.com<<.

March 1-3: *Animals In Research & Education*, conference hosted by the Animal Liberation Collective, University of Guelph, Ontario. Info: 519-823-9581 or >>mmcalpin@uoguelph.ca<<.

March 4-5: *Biodiversity Conference*, in Oklahoma City, hosted by the Oklahoma Biodiversity Project; info 405-521-4616.

March 7-10: *Contract With The Earth*, 14th annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference, hosted by Land Air Water, Univ. of Oregon, Eugene. Info: 541-346-3884.

March 16-20: *Great American Meatout*, coordinated by the Farm Animal Reform Movement. Info: 1-800-MEATOUT.

March 25-30: *International Whaling Commission Symposium and Workshop on the Effects of Climate Change on Cetaceans*, in Oahu, Hawaii, sponsored by the International Whaling Commission. Registration deadline is March 1. Info: 619-546-7064 or 7164.

March 27: *International Wildlife Law: Preserving Biodiversity in the 21st Century*, conference sponsored by the American Society of International Law Wildlife Special Interest Section, the Pacific Center for International Studies, and the Georgetown International Environmental Law Review, Washington D.C. Info: W.C. Burns, 608-256-6312.

March 31-April 3: *Animal Transportation Association annual conference*, Orlando, Florida. Info: 713-443-4595.

April 8-12: *International Meeting for the Study of Marine Mammals*, Chetumal, Quintana Roo, Mexico. Info: 52-983-216-66 or >>Bmorales@xaway.ciqro.conancyt.mx<<.

April 20-21: *Seminar for dog rescue groups and shelters* by C.W. Meisterfeld, of the Meisterfeld Psychological Dog Training Agency, in Dallas. Info: 800-323-2262.

May 4: *The Animal Fair*, Littleton, Colorado, hosted by The Cat House Foundation. Info: 303-979-6473.

May 16-18: *National Animal Control Association annual conference*, in Kansas City, Missouri. Info: 1-800-828-6474.

June 1: *Deadline for nominations for the 1996 American Humane Association Be Kind to Animals Kids Award*. Info: 303-792-9900.

June 1: *Deadline for nominations for the 1996 Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing award*. Info: c/o Alan Goldberg, >>CAAT@jhuhyg.sph.jhu.edu<<.

Bunny Huggers' Gazette ad
(free—can bump)

OBITUARIES

Nancy Sue Clark, 71, of South Bend, Indiana, a frequent contributor of photographs to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and president of the Coalition of Hoosiers Encouraging Ethical Treatment of Animals, died January 5 of an apparent aneurism as she drove to a medical appointment after mailing us her last packet of photos. Born in Ohio, raised in Detroit, Clark (then Nancy Sue Tarbell) began her career in activism in 1943, as a member of the Detroit Interracial Committee, working to peaceably resolve issues that had sparked race riots earlier in the year. Earning a degree in sociology from Wayne State University, Clark worked with welfare children in Detroit and Pittsburgh, served with the American Red Cross in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, and after marriage to Robert Thomas Clark in 1952, spent nearly 40 years as a child welfare caseworker in South Bend. Also active for animals throughout her life, Sue Clark volunteered at the Orphan Animal Care Shelter in South Bend until it closed, and was vice president of the Indiana Campaign for Animal Welfare, a forerunner to CHEETA. The *South Bend Tribune* recalled that she personally paid for anti-fur newspaper ads. The day before her death, she met with Indiana officials at the statehouse to urge the use of immunocontraception to stabilize deer populations in state parks. "Sue was in great spirits on our return home," remembered longtime friend Kaye Bauer, "talking about plans for letters she would write and activities to be organized. The day was cold and blustery, but we were thrilled by a line of about a dozen whitetails crossing a snowy meadow. Sue had a marvelous sense of humor, was compassionate always, but had a feisty sparkle in her eye. As a friend stated at her funeral, 'Sue was loved and respected by almost everyone, except by a few people who wrote nasty replies to her letters about deer.'"

Corinne Boyer, 58, International Fund for Animal Welfare liaison to Canada since 1990, died from cancer on September 12, 1995, in Toronto. Born in The Netherlands, she worked at various times for the governments of Spain, Colombia, and The Netherlands before moving to Canada in 1970, after marriage to Patrick Boyer. She held posts in the Ontario government until 1984, when Patrick was elected to the House of Commons.

Jesse R. White, DVM, 61, died of a heart attack on January 23 in Dunnellon, Florida. Serving as veterinarian and dolphin trainer for the television series *Flipper* in the early 1960s, White became staff veterinarian for the Miami Seaquarium in 1967; wrote the Florida state regulations for marine mammal capture and maintenance in 1969-1970, which were incorporated into the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act in 1972; and served as marine mammal veterinarian at the Homosassa Springs Wildlife Park from 1987 until his death. White was probably best known, however, for his longtime volunteer advocacy on behalf of manatees.

Betty S. Rosen, 66, founder of Greyhound Pets of America/Maryland Chapter, died December 31 of cancer at her home in Lutherville, Maryland. Originally a dog breeder, Rosen cofounded the Tibetan Spaniel Club of America in 1971, and as proprietor of Bet-R-Kennels, produced award-winning spaniels and miniature pinschers. Becoming aware of the destruction of tens of thousands of culled racing greyhounds, she turned from breeding dogs to placing former racing dogs in homes in 1984. At her death, Greyhound Pets of America/Maryland chapter had placed more than 1,800 dogs. Rosen in 1987 won the Gaines Medal, given by Greyhound Pets of America for distinguished work on behalf of retired greyhounds, at the nomination of the Baltimore County Kennel Club and WJZ-TV.

Yu Gong, a leading Chinese cryptozoologist, was killed in a traffic accident in northern China during mid-January, while organizing yet another of a decade-long series of expeditions to find the origins of the "Bigfoot" myth. His searches and all-night vigils in remote locations netted hairs, footprints, feces, and apparent nests, but not either a live specimen or a carcass from which a biological identity could be established.

John Parsons, 43, founder of the Nova Scotia Marine Mammal Stranding Network, died from cancer on October 1, 1995. Parsons was remembered by the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies for research into "birth control by vaccine and deworming of grey seals on Sable Island, and rescue and hands-on rehabilitation of marine mammals from the shores of Scotia-Fundy."

There's no better way to remember animals or animal people than with an **ANIMAL PEOPLE** memorial.

Send donations (any amount), along with an address for acknowledgement, if desired, to
POB 205
Shushan, NY 12873.

Your love for animals can go on forever.

The last thing we want is to lose our friends, but you can help continue our vital educational mission with a bequest to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Cindy, a one-year-old female mixed breed dog, adopted from the Animal Protective Association, who saved the lives of these children one night, when she alerted their parents to a chimney fire by insistent pacing and barking.

—Dorothy Reynolds

CLASSIFIEDS

SEEKING ILLUSTRATOR/COLLABORATOR for children's books with animal rights/environmental themes. If interested, please write: Steve McKay, POB 461, New Providence, NJ 07974.

TERRY JONES cattery: friends contact Walt via Anaheim directory.

WANTED: SPONSORS for second annual No-Kill Conference. Contact Lynda Foro, Doing Things For Animals, Inc., POB 2165, Sun City, AZ 85372-2165. Phone/Fax 602-977-5793.

RAINFOREST VACATION: An exciting and affordable alternative to the typical tourist bustle in sunny Puerto Rico. Enjoy the tranquility, rainforest, vegetarian meals, beautiful beaches, and our friendly animal companions. Free brochure: Grateful Bed & Breakfast, POB 568-AP, Luquillo, PR 00773; 809-889-4919.

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"**SPEAKING FOR THE WOLF**"—Video of address by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton to the National Ecology Apostolate Leadership Training Conference at Graymoor Christian Unity Center. \$9.00, c/o Claire Lynch, 84 Hadley Village Road, South Hadley, MA 01075-2187.

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Fellow lover of animals,

... and suddenly my prayer was answered. There in the distance I spotted Bruno... a hungry old shepherd... stumbling along the trail... hurrying to get a morsel of food... before it was all gone.

Watching him amble toward me, gray around the muzzle, I wondered who abandoned him in the forest... and why.

Every time I fed him... I felt his loneliness... his longing to be loved... just once in his life.

Bruno always watched me hug the other dogs when I rescued them... and he just looked up at me, sadly. My heart always ached for him... I desperately wanted to rescue him.

This morning, he was late... and I soon found out why.

Bruno had injured his leg.

In order to get him medical attention I had to immediately lure him into our cage trap...

... it was risky because if I failed, he might never come near me again... he wouldn't trust me.

He watched as I loaded the trap with his favorite can of food. Then I walked away while he went up to it and began eating.

Five times he entered the cage and backed away.

But finally... on the sixth try... he went all the way in and tripped the door. I was overjoyed!

Running up to it, I hugged the trap with the nervous Bruno in it. He calmed right down... I poked my fingers through the cage on the ride to our shelter, stroking his face... he pushed his head into me for more.

Bruno was probably a "junk yard" guard-dog. He never knew the love and tenderness of a real family... and when he was too old and stiff to work anymore he was taken "for a ride"...

... abandoned... in the wilderness... left to starve to death slowly... to die alone.

I've been feeding hungry, frightened dogs—abandoned in the forest—for years.

People who want to help me save them... donate \$30, \$50, \$90 or more to feed them in the forest, rescue them... and care for them.

Whenever I show up these abandoned dogs... expecting a feast... gather around the van. One at a time they eventually begin to trust me...

... when they do, I pick them up and take them to our no-kill sanctuary. But Bruno always stayed just out of reach.

I rescued many dogs at this spot... a campsite in the forest... but never Bruno... until this lucky morning.

Now at our 89-acre "No-Kill" sanctuary, for the first time in his life Bruno is loved and cared for. He doesn't have to "earn his keep"... and every day he trusts a little more.

And the other day he wagged his tail at me!

Bruno is living proof of the difference our love can make... and the difference you can make to an abandoned dog with no hope of survival.

For \$30 you can feed an abandoned dog like Bruno... for \$50 you can neuter him and treat his wounds... for \$90 you can give him warmth and love at our sanctuary.

Bruno always had plenty to eat in the forest... thanks to people who care... but it wasn't like that when I first started rescuing abandoned cats and dogs.

... back in 1979. I still remember that morning as if it were yesterday...

... sadly, I found 35 dogs in the forest that day... so hungry they knocked over garbage cans full of picnic trash... trying to find a morsel of food...

... they even ate paper sandwich wrappers.

I was so shaken by this, I drove to the city and bought four large fifty pound bags of dog food.

Back in the forest, I spread them over the ground.

Then I whistled for the dogs—they ran toward my car... all 35 of them! What a sight! I can still see their faces... all my old friends.

They dove into the food piles up to their elbows and started munching loudly... while they ate, they smiled at me... thanking me for helping them.

Moved to tears... I never left their side.

We were together in the cold winter rains—when they were sick with pneumonia...

... and I put medicine in their food to help get them through it.

I remember feeling so helpless that I couldn't do more for them... my best friends were homeless...

... living on the cold ground... trying to sleep through the pounding storms... in puddles of water—rain beating constantly on their heads.

It took a full year to get them all out of the forest, but I did... before the next winter's rains. I found loving homes for some, but many I kept myself...

... I was too much in love with them to say "goodbye."

I didn't start out to build the only dog and cat wilderness rescue organization in the country. It just happened...

... because of these 35 beautiful dogs...

... and as each one passed away over the years, my sadness became a renewed commitment to dedicate my life to saving their friends... whatever it takes.

I'm here for these animals... 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

With your gift of \$30, \$50, \$90 or more today, I can continue to feed them, rescue them...

... and shower them with love... at our spacious 89-acre sanctuary... home to over 750 abandoned cats and dogs.

They can stay as long as they like... because we run a "No-Kill" shelter. When it gets crowded, we build more.

And it gets crowded!

Because of the poor economy, people are dumping their pets at an alarming rate.

We must all do something about it.

What can you do?

Simply fill out the coupon below and support this mission with a gift of \$30 to rescue a starving animal—like Bruno—in the wilderness...

... or \$50 toward his neutering and medical care... or \$90 to care for him at our huge sanctuary... or even more.

Your gift will make the difference... for at least one animal like Bruno. For his sake... send right now.

For the animals,

Leo Grillo, Founder

YES, LEO! I want to help save an animal like Bruno, abandoned in the wilderness. Here's my gift to spend over the next month...

Q **\$30** to rescue a pet, like Bruno, in the wilderness.

Q **\$50** to spay or neuter and medicate this animal.

Q **\$90** to care for him at our No-Kill Shelter.

Q **\$250** to care for a mother and her litter.

Other \$ _____

Please send me your free book of animal rescue stories, *Is This The Place*.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Please make your check payable to: **D.E.L.T.A. Rescue**. Your gift is tax-deductible.

Thank you!

D.E.L.T.A. RESCUE P.O. Box 9, Dept. AP, Glendale, CA 91209

July 13-14: *Natural Pet Care Expo '96*, Annandale, Virginia, sponsored by Lend-A-Paw Relief Organization. Info: 703-827-0908.

September 1-4: *International Congress of Whale-watching*, Buenaventura, Colombia. Info: >>ropardo@biomarina.univalle.edu.co<<.

September 14-16: *Independent Pet & Animal Transportation Association International conference*, New Orleans. Info: 903-769-2267.

RAPTORS AND SONGBIRDS REHABILITATION at St. John's Retreat Center (U.S. & Texas scientific permit). Also, Teaching = natural/spiritual laws; Healing = people & animals; Spiritual Communion and Meditation. P.O. Box 930, Montgomery, Texas 77356.

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YOUR HELP IS NEEDED NOW

Wild Burro Rescue is organizing a nationwide protest and rescue alternative to the National Park Service's "direct reduction policy"—the shooting to death of wild burros as a routine management practice. Help save the wild burros. Join us—a \$20.00 annual membership includes newsletter and regular updates on our progress.

Wild Burro Rescue is an IRS tax-exempt organization which totally relies on community support. All donations go directly to the rescue, rehabilitation, and care of the wild burros.

