

Ebola adds to bushmeat crisis
Apes scarce, pygmies are eaten (Page 20)

JUDGE IMPOSES SETTLEMENT OF FUNDRAISER EBERLE'S LIBEL SUIT
ANIMAL PEOPLE corrects error made by a source and two items never in the newspaper nor on our web site

FAIRFAX, Virginia—Imposing the "Correction & Statement of Regret" published directly below, Fairfax County Circuit Judge Stanley Paul Klein on May 29, 2003 ended a lawsuit brought against **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in July 2002 by direct mail fundraiser Bruce Eberle and his firm Fund Raising Strategies.

Obtaining several specific corrections and clarifications that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** had already made, to the extent that available information allowed, Eberle and FRS received no retractions of main coverage, no damages or costs, no admission of their allegations of libel and tortious interference in business relationships, and—in tacit recognition that Eberle and one of his major clients contributed to whatever errors were made through their own inaccurate remarks—no apology.

By way of future conditions, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** agreed only to obey the same laws of the state of Virginia that apply at all times to all news media.

None of the corrections involved material published in exposes focused on Eberle and Fund Raising Strategies, the longest of which were "Would you buy an appeal from fundraiser Bruce Eberle?" and "Mississippi sanctuarian tries to quit 'sharecropping' for fundraiser," published in September and October 2000, accessible at <www.animalpeoplenews.org>.

Each correction of published material involved an incidental mention in items focused on other topics. The corrections pertain to fewer than 160 words, of
(continued on page 18)

Correction & Statement of Regret

Via e-mails, telephone calls, articles and our web site the impression may have been created that Bruce Eberle and his company, Fund Raising Strategies (FRS) operate with less than integrity.

It was stated:

1) That Eberle was involved in the distribution of a fake photo of an American POW in Laos. We accept the sworn statement by Mr. Eberle that he had "Nothing whatsoever to do with the staging, printing, or distribution of the fake photo of an American POW." Our previous statements to the contrary are incorrect.

2) It was stated that FRS charges a "percentage" or "commission" for its services—although the FRS denial was published in **ANIMAL PEOPLE** [and the] *Watchdog Report*. As the actual contracts affirm, Fund Raising Strategies is paid a flat fee (not a "per-

centage" or a commission") for its services. Our previous statements to the contrary are incorrect.

3) It was stated that FRS retains the "lion's share" of funds raised for its clients. Eberle states that, according to a review by an independent Certified Public Accounting firm, he and his companies have collected fees averaging 12% of the total sum raised by FRS for all of its animal sanctuary clients. Accordingly, FRS does not receive the lion's share of funds raised for its clients. We accept the statement by Mr. Eberle. Our previous statements to the contrary are incorrect.

The editor, Merritt Clifton, the publisher Kim Bartlett, and **ANIMAL PEOPLE** regret the publication of these erroneous statements and any harm they may have caused to Mr. Eberle and Fund Raising Strategies.

SARS shuts live markets
--may change Chinese menus

HONG KONG—Animals sold in the live markets of Guangdong province, China, suffered first and worst from the conditions that afflicted the world with the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)

epidemic of the past nine months—but Asian animal defenders are hopeful that a legacy of the epidemic may be the end of live markets for animals sold as meat.

SARS by June 11, 2003 had killed at least 789 people,

sickened 8,435, scared tens of millions, and dealt cities from Beijing to Hanoi staggering economic setbacks.

As recognition developed that SARS is a zoonotic disease, passed from animals to humans, pets were initially blamed. In April police killed the pets of SARS victims in Beijing, mobs killed dogs and cats in other cities, and animal abandonments overwhelmed even the Hong Kong SPCA.

The killings and abandonments markedly slowed, however, after Beijing city publicity chief Cai Fuzhou spoke out on May 24. "According to the information I got from experts, there is not a single case of pets getting SARS, and there is no evidence of pets transmitting SARS to people," Cai said, in a statement amplified abroad by Agence France-Presse. "I would like to advise petkeepers to cherish your beloved ones, since you decided to raise them, and not to

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Tanuki, also known as raccoon dog. (Kim Bartlett)



ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

June 2003

Volume XII, #5

Finding the sentience of fish

Credit scientific discovery. Credit People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. Credit *Finding Nemo*, the latest pro-animal animated production in a 64-year string from Walt Disney Productions.

Whatever the reason, humans around the world are suddenly talking about the suffering of fish as never before.

The first paragraphs of previews of *Finding Nemo* tell the story:

- *New York Times* film critic Stephen Holden noted a mako shark named Bruce who chants to himself "Fish are friends, not food," trying to break the fish-eating habit.

- "You might care to swear off seafood after *Finding Nemo*, or go to the port and net a fisherman for dinner," wrote *San Diego Union-Tribune* critic David Elliott in a review picked up by MSNBC.

- *Finding Nemo* "has pet fish traders worried about rough seas ahead," said Associated Press.

Since the anti-hunting classic *Bambi* (1940) and the exposé of circus treatment of elephants included in *Dumbo* (1941), Disney animated features have time and again anticipated the crossover of humane concerns into public awareness. *Lady & The Tramp* (1955) included the first prominent screen depiction of what really goes on in dog pounds, and the first edition of *101 Dalmatians* (1959) more-or-less created the anti-fur movement.

Cruelty-to-fish cases are suddenly getting a level of attention rarely accorded to any animal cruelty cases until barely a dozen years ago.

In Copenhagen, Denmark, Trapholt modern art museum director Peter Meyer was

on May 18 acquitted of cruelty to goldfish—but only after a two-day trial, and the internationally reported outcome was no longer described in the joking tone used in February 2000, when Friends of Animals/Denmark (not affiliated with the U.S. group of similar name) brought charges against Meyer and Chilean-born artist Marco Evaristti for mounting an exhibition in which visitors were offered to opportunity to puree live goldfish in a blender. Two fish were killed despite a police injunction ordering Meyer to cut off the electricity to the blender.

In New Jersey the *Press of Atlantic City* reported seriously on a multi-agency humane investigation of the use of goldfish as live table ornaments at the mid-May Middle Township junior prom. Some attendees allegedly abused the fish, and server Susan Genova said the staff were told to trash the fish afterward. Instead, Genova and other servers rescued those they could.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Santa Cruz Sentinel* both reported in early June that two members of the Delta Omega Chi fraternity at the University of California in Santa Cruz were charged with theft and malicious mischief for allegedly killing a 15-year-old three-foot koi who had resided in a pond at Porter College since 1995.

A year ago awareness that fish feel pain and suffer when caught scarcely won a word of mass media attention. On April 30, however, the Roslin Institute and Edinburgh University affirmed after a two-year study that fish indeed feel pain.

Since 1997, when other Roslin
(continued on page 8)



Babette. (Kim Bartlett)

Where cats belong—and where they don't

KISSEEMEE, Florida—Depending on who you listen to, the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission either declared war on feral cats at a May 30 meeting in Kisseemee, or clarified their position that they have no intention of so doing.

Claiming the support of the American Bird Conservancy, National Audubon Society, and National Wildlife Federation, Florida Wildlife Division director Frank Montalbano talked like a man going to war in a March interview with *Orlando Sentinel* outdoors writer Don Wilson.

"We estimate there are 5.3 million feral and free-ranging domestic cats in the state," Montalbano said. "We're going to take an aggressive policy toward eliminating the feral cat impact on lands this agency manages. Cats roaming free in wildlife management areas will be taken into captive management or euthanized. We may have to get involved in euthanasia," Montalbano reiterated, "in situa-

tions where [nonprofit] corporations are maintaining colonies of feral cats near populations of native endangered species."

Montalbano, said Wilson, "was referring to a group of cats kept by condominium owners on Key Largo, home of the Key Largo wood rat."

Montalbano's remarks touched off a furor, especially in south Florida, where trap/neuter/return of feral cats, called TNR for short, has taken hold in a big way.

Data developed separately by the FFWCC and by University of Florida at Gainesville researcher Julie Levy agrees that Florida now has 2.7 million to 2.8 million feral cats, amounting to 44% of the total cat population—about twice as many cats per 1,000 human residents and twice as high a percentage of ferals as the current U.S. norms. The Florida climate enables cats to go through two and even three successful breeding cycles per

(continued on page 15)



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

POB 960, CLINTON, WA 98236-0960

I was 20 miles away when “Milo” begged for help!



June 2003

Dear Partner:

I’ve always said that I will help any animal who “crosses my path.” Over the last 24 years, I’ve relied on that concept, and I’ve helped every animal in need who has crossed my path . . . in the wilderness, in daily life, and even on the freeways.

But now, a new and frightening evolution of that energy might be taking over . . . frightening because it can happen any time, no matter where I am or what I’m doing . . .

Last week, after about 10 days of straight work, I had a couple of hours to myself. I could do anything I wanted before a late afternoon appointment. Being about 15 miles from home and half way to my appointment, I decided to stay where I was and to read in the car. This two hours was all mine!

But suddenly, my stomach tightened and I got a terrible feeling. And I had an image of one of our wilderness feeding stations. My feeling was that I had to go there . . . now . . . out of my way in the opposite direction . . . because a dog needed me.

Now logic set in and I told myself that I was just being superstitious. But that didn’t work because the feeling got worse. I had to go to the feeding station to meet the dog who was beckoning me!

I tried to tell myself that I would drive out to the woods after my late afternoon appointment. I tried. But the feeling got worse and I found myself on the road before I could think again.

I had to answer this psychic call, even if I missed my appointment . . . and even if it was just my imagination playing tricks on me.

As I got nearer to my freeway exit, I began to get excited. No matter what else goes on in this world, and that includes wars and even terrorism, I always feel like I BELONG in the wilderness, helping animals. I am more comfortable there than anywhere else.

In the woods, I headed for our hidden feeding station. That’s where I just KNEW I’d find the dog who was begging for help.

But when I turned the last corner, there he was . . . sniffing the ground looking for anything at all to eat. He hadn’t yet found our feeding station!

I called to him and tossed him some treats . . . which he devoured. But I couldn’t get near him. All I had to rescue him with was a new, untested trap that I didn’t really like the looks of . . . but because it’s smaller, it’s always in my car “just in case.”

And this new trap was . . . UGLY! I set the bait in the cage and tossed scraps around for “Milo” to lead him into it. Milo didn’t care if it was ugly. He went in and out a few times, before finally setting off the trap door.

I just KNEW this was too easy, and that Milo would back out and get away. But when he tripped the door and he tried to back out, the gravity door held better than the old spring doors, and I rescued Milo!

Milo was in trouble, he asked for help, I heard him miles away, and you & I answered his call . . . together. Now THAT is a miracle!

You can count on this: no matter what war we’re in, no matter what terrorists do to us, you and I will always be out there somewhere, saving these animals who nobody else cares about.

With all the tragedy in this world, tragedy you feel helpless to do anything about, here is something you CAN do to make a difference . . . for someone else . . . like Milo. Please send your life-saving gift today so we can save more suffering cats & dogs like Milo.

For the animals,

Le

Leo Grillo, founder

D.E.L.T.A. Rescue

PO Box 9, Dept AP, Glendale, CA 91209

Attention: Rescuers and Shelters

Build your own inexpensive straw bale dog house for your pets’ maximum protection, comfort and fun!

Here at D.E.L.T.A. Rescue, we invented a better housing system for our more than 859 dogs. Using 25 common bales of straw, and three sheets of plywood, two people can build a straw bale dog house in under 10 minutes! This is the same simple structure that withstood our terrible El Nino rains in 1998. The *simple* straw design can last 20 years, but because we are a permanent sanctuary, our houses must last longer.



Our dogs love to play on the straw ... before, during and after construction!



Simple straw house, 4x6 foot interior, 10 x10 foot rooftop play area, and steps!



Newly finished “deluxe” stucco version, which will last 100 years or more!



Our dogs climb their steps and play on top and inside their houses. They have a ball!



One village at D.E.L.T.A. Rescue. Two dogs per yard, and a deluxe house for both!

That’s why we now build the *deluxe* “stucco” version. Our materials cost for this stucco version is about \$400, while you can put up the simple building for under \$150. Good news! We put all the building instructions for both versions on video tape for anyone to use, or copy in its entirety. And it’s FREE! To help us help precious animals, besides our own 859 dogs and 552 cats, please get this video today and pass it around!

We spent a year making this video tape. Now, for the sake of cold, unsheltered dogs everywhere, we are offering it to anyone *for free*. To pay for duplication and postage, we are asking for a \$6 donation per tape, but only if you can afford it! And we can send the tape to anyone you want. Or you can get one, copy it yourself, then give it to friends.

Write today to get your free video, and then build a house your dog will truly love and enjoy. Send to: **D.E.L.T.A. Rescue, P.O. Box 9, Glendale, CA 91209.** Or call us at **661-269-4010** and get it faster!

Editorial

Help the Watchdog bark!

We are still alive and barking after a 10-month fight for our lives. As explained in the article beginning on page one, the fundraiser Bruce Eberle and his company Fund Raising Strategies sued **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in July 2002 for "libel" and "interfering with a business relationship."

Eberle's "libel" claims were so unclear that for months we could not even figure out what he claimed we got wrong. We have always promptly corrected errors, when informed what they are, and the corrections we have now published could have been made at any time, for the asking, if the evidence of error had been presented to us.

Indeed, of the three items enumerated in the page one correction statement, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** had already corrected the first, to the extent of our ability to do so at the time, upon learning through our own research that an error might have been made. We had also published Eberle's response to the second item, involving an error made in a statement by one of his own clients. The third item pertains to the possibility that three ambiguous sentences might have been read out of context, only one of which appeared in an **ANIMAL PEOPLE** regular edition.

But the case was not actually about correcting errors. It was an attempt to muzzle the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** Watchdog so that Eberle and FRS could go on filling animal charity donors' mailboxes with an endless stream of fundraising solicitations while using the lion's share of the receipts to pay for printing and mailing even more solicitations.

When animal charities get involved with direct mail mills, it is like taking the bite of the vampire: fundraising expense sucks the lifeblood of the charity, and turns it into a kind of zombie who from then on mainly exists to do more fundraising.

We have survived a legal battle we couldn't afford—but it was a battle we could not afford to lose: not for the suffering animals who go unaided because too much of the money sent to help them goes to fuel the fundraising machine, not for the generous people who think their donations are helping animals, and not for the struggling but responsible animal charities who use most of the money sent to them for their stated charitable purpose.

The fight took all we had, against a well-connected foe with the advantage of wealth. In the end, however, despite 10 months of legal fees and major stress, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** did not retreat in any way from exposing the truth.

We believe **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers have a right to know about the findings of the 1992 U.S. Senate Select Committee on MIA/POW about Eberle's role in mailing approximately 40 direct mail appeals on behalf of a "charity" that raised money around bogus sightings of U.S. prisoners of war.

We believe **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers have a right to know that Eberle raised funds for former U.S. Senator Jesse Helms in at least three election campaigns—the Senator whose amendment to the Animal Welfare Act excluded from protection more than 90% of the animals used in U.S. laboratories.

We believe **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers have a right to know of the financial patterns among the animal charities Eberle represents, whose fundraising and administrative expenses often run twice as high as the ceiling of 35% set by the Wise Giving Alliance.

What that means, in effect, is that if you send money to the charities represented by Eberle and FRS, your donations are likely to get less than half as much benefit for the animals and more than twice as many more fundraising appeals per penny spent on animals as when you donate to the overwhelming majority of other animal charities who do not use hired-gun professional fundraisers.

What the Eberle charge of "interfering with a business relationship" meant, we gather, is that since we began putting the background about Eberle and the animal charities he represents into print in September 2000, readers have become more cautious about where they send their money, and the more than 9,500 animal charities that get free subscriptions to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** have become more careful about who they allow to rent their mailing lists.

To animal protection donors—and **ANIMAL PEOPLE**—charity on behalf of animals is not just about having a "business relationship." We believe that if someone asks for money on behalf of a lion at the Kabul Zoo, for example, the lion should get the lion's share: most of the money, not just most of the money after fundraising expense. We believe that ethical animal charities do not ask for money on behalf of a lion who is in the care of other charities, with whom they have no partnership, and most certainly do not ask for money on behalf of a lion who is already dead.

ANIMAL PEOPLE published our enumerated and detailed standards for ethical animal charities and fundraisers as the editorial in our May 2003 edition. It amounts, as well, to a "Bill of Rights" for donors.

SEARCHABLE ARCHIVES: www.animalpeoplenews.org
Key articles now available en Español et en Français!

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The base rate for display advertising is \$8.50 per square inch of page space. Please inquire about our substantial multiple insertion discounts.

The editors prefer to receive queries in advance of article submissions; unsolicited manuscripts will be considered for use, but will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope of suitable size. We do not publish fiction or poetry.

Among the most important rights of donors that are implied in the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** standards:

- You have a right* to be truthfully, accurately, and currently informed about the charities you support.
- You have a right* to expect that the money you send will be used to help the animals you donate to assist.
- You have a right* to demand accountability.
- You have a right* to demand high-quality animal care—not just whatever meets the often minimal legal requirements.
- You have a right* to know the policies that the groups you support are advocating and representing.
- You have a right* to know if a charity is directed by people of questionable integrity or with conflicts of interest.

You have a right to expect that animal charities and any outside fundraisers they hire should operate with the same concern for animals that you have—that they should exemplify themselves the qualities of compassion and decency to which they appeal when they ask for your money.

Bills of rights are often won at a fearsome price—which is why so many humans and nonhuman animals have suffered without rights for so long—and why it was morally incumbent upon us to stand up and insist upon our rights and the rights of animals in a case that combined the issues.

To extend the necessary right of freedom from abuse and exploitation to animals, we had to defend our own constitutional right to freedom of speech and press, against an opponent whose chief legal strategy appeared to be attempting to raise the cost of exposing him as high as possible, seemingly regardless of the cost to himself.

We will probably never know how much Eberle spent, but at a guess it might have been three to five times the \$100,000 or more it will have cost us—in defense of our right to publish; your right to know; the many honest, hardworking, mostly volunteer and low-overhead animal charities that you prefer to support; and most important, in defense of neglected and abused animals everywhere, who depend upon your generosity.

The fortune that Eberle invested in attempting to silence **ANIMAL PEOPLE** is a hint at how lucrative fundraising on behalf of animals may be, if no one barks an alarm when the lions and other animals do not get the lion's share of each donated dollar.

Who is suffering because of this?

Let us explain very briefly what this case cost the animals.
Who is really suffering because Bruce Eberle wanted to shut us up?

To pay our attorneys, we had to suspend translating **ANIMAL PEOPLE** articles into French and Spanish for posting at our web site to assist Third World animal charities.

In April we were unable to mail some of the complimentary overseas subscriptions that we normally send to every animal charity, and we are facing greater cuts now.

How much does this hurt?

Fenua Animalia president Eric Loève stressed the value of our translations recently in this e-mail from Motu Uta, Tahiti, in French Polynesia:

"The French version of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on the Internet is a wonderful idea and I want to thank you. As a webmaster myself, I know the huge work of maintaining a multi-lingual site. Your French version is timely because French is widely spoken in many countries where the conditions for animals are awful. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** cannot be rewarded enough."

Eric Loève is using how-to information obtained from the French translations of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** to organize an island-by-island campaign to sterilize the estimated 100,000 homeless cats and dogs in French Polynesia.

How necessary was our battle?

Kalahari Raptor Centre director Chris Mercer has had much experience fighting comparably costly court cases against the pro-hunting wildlife management establishment in South Africa—one of the nations whose animal charities did not receive our April edition.

"I believe it would be a mistake to total up the costs and regard any of the money spent as 'wasted,'" Mercer recently volunteered. "Your mission as I understand it is to advance the cause of animal welfare, and if that means taking on exploitative fundraisers like Bruce Eberle, discrediting them and increasing the difficulty of carrying on their activities, then you are being true to your mission."

Angels stepped forward to help us. We were wondering how we would pay the legal bills for March, for example, when we received an unexpected bequest from Florida activist Andrea Konci, who felt very strongly about animal charity accountability and, unknown to us, amended her will in the last days of her life to help us fight the good fight.

But if angels alone could win and defend a Bill of Rights, there would have been no need for an American Revolution — and as Independence Day approaches, we are depending on you to help us rebuild and recover. Though still holding our banner high and banging the drums, we are limping. If we could have just one more angel, we would choose Paul Revere's dog, who drove back the redcoats when they tried to seize Revere, then raced ahead to awaken Lexington and Concord to hear the alarm.

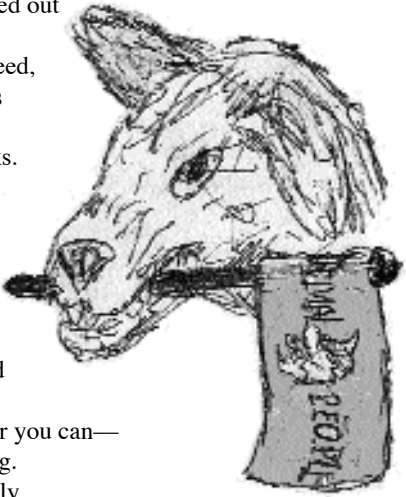
Eleven years ago, in 1992, we founded **ANIMAL PEOPLE** for the same reasons we fought Bruce Eberle: far too often, the lions do not get the lions' share of your generosity. When donated dollars go mostly into fundraising and administration, instead of into actual work on behalf of animals, animals go hungry, unvaccinated, unsterilized, exposed to poisoning, shooting, cooking, vivisection, and all the many other abuses that have continued while millions of dollars have been raised—and paid to fundraisers and overpaid executives—in the name of saving those animals.

We exposed that truth originally as employees at another publication, now defunct. Merritt was fired, Kim resigned. We maxed out our personal credit to start **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and worked for years with little or nopay to make it succeed, against the concerted opposition of big-group leaders (some of them no longer in the cause) who sought to suppress our disclosures about their salaries and perks.

ANIMAL PEOPLE survived because hundreds of cat-ladies, dog-rescuers, and protesters against every sort of cruelty realized the importance of effectively directing donations, and pitched in when the chips were down, to help us to continue our accountability reporting and extend our outreach to the animal rescuers and activists in the poorest and most miserable parts of the world.

We need you to contribute again—whatever you can—to keep the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** "Watchdog" barking.

Thank you in advance for helping generously.



How no-kill dog control came to Kolkata, India

Kolkata (Calcutta) is the largest truly no-kill city in the world. It grieves me beyond measure to think of the possibility of a resumption of slaughter of street dogs. I would like to share our experience with everyone involved in this work, because I believe that the method we use is largely contributory to our success.

The first and perhaps most important precaution we took, was to send letters to the municipal councillors, informing them that we have taken up this program, explaining the benefits of it, and seeking their cooperation in calling us when they see an injured or troublesome stray dog. This won for us their instant approval and smoothed the way considerably.

The next step was to impress upon all our people that the calls of the councillors, other government departments, hospitals and housing complexes, and other public places must get priority. This enabled us to convince decision-makers that our program works.

Then we made it a practice to remove sick and injured dogs from the roads, wherever our people saw them. A concentrated effort made the roads free of badly diseased dogs, and silenced many of our critics.

We also made it our practice to initially agree with dog haters when they called us to remove dogs. Our people were tutored to soothe people who had become indignant when dog lovers refused to understand their fear or dislike for dogs threatening their children or messing up the common areas in a residential complex. After the irate person was calm, and confident of our cooperation, our people gently began to ask with seeming casualness whether all the dogs in the locality threatened them or whether it was just one?

Most often, people grow adamant due to a personal grudge against a neighbour who refuses to admit that their grievance has some validity. With some understanding and pampering, they begin to agree that they have no wish to harm an animal, but it is just this one dog who is a habitual nuisance. Then our people offer to sterilize and return the rest, removing just this one villain, and they usually agree.

Such an agreement angers people who are attached to that one disputed dog. This is natural, but in the greater interest of all dogs, it is the only way out. Unless we convince dog haters that not all dogs are dangerous, they will join the killing brigade, poisoning dogs, beating

them or pouring boiling water or acid on even small puppies. Dog lovers cannot guard stray dogs around the clock, and it is the animals who become targets for the hatred of quarrelling humans.

We are extremely lucky that the management of the Kolkata dog pound was handed over to us in March 1996. We have won the full confidence and cooperation of the municipality with our quick responses. The pound is very near the city dump. It is a vast area, and we are able to release unwanted dogs there after sterilization and vaccination, although it is our practice to euthanise badly diseased dogs and accident victims who cannot be cured.

A major cause for confusion are the rules of the Animal Birth Control program made by the Government of India.

The Notice states that "All dogs picked up for the humane stray dog population control program are to be returned to their respective localities, as soon as they are fit."

Most dog lovers just read this part and blame us for not returning unwanted dogs. It is tragic that they fail to accept the fact that unwanted dogs will be brutally killed and ill treated, if returned against the wish of local people. People who dislike dogs are prejudiced against all dogs. The result of returning even one unwanted dog brings suffering to many more dogs.

Exceptions in the law include Point 9, stating that incurably ill and mortally wounded dogs shall be euthanised in a humane manner, and point 10[5], stating that dogs having other diseases (except rabies) are to be handed over to nonprofit humane societies, who will take the necessary action to cure and rehabilitate those dogs.

This exceptions need to be understood by dog lovers who become aggressive about returning unwanted dogs, or refuse to euthanise a dog who may suffer from an advanced case of mange. However unpleasant it is to put down a dog, it is counterproductive to avoid facing the facts. One mangy dog will infect many more, giving all dogs a bad name and adding to their suffering. This becomes a point of contention, but I plead for rationality to supercede sentiment, in the greater interest of the greater number of strays.

We have been recommending through talks at schools that their nature clubs should raise funds to sponsor ABC for the dogs in their locality.

We have succeeded in convincing the authorities of most complexes that an unending stream of new dogs will enter if dogs are removed *en masse*. When a letter explaining the matter rationally is carried by a pleasant person who offers full cooperation, most people see the rationale of the suggestion and accept it after a while. Of course, this takes some time and patience, and maybe two or three trips and letters back and forth. Yet, nothing comes cheap, and it is worth the effort to make a success of this program.

—Debasis Chakrabarti
Managing Trustee
People for Animals/Calcutta
6/1, Wood Street
Kolkata WB 700016, India
<debasischak@vsnl.net

—Wolf
Clifton

LETTERS

Pet Psychic

I'd like to make a comment about the review of *Sonya Fitzpatrick: The Pet Psychic* by Lucy David in your April 2003 edition.

It appears that Ms. David is not aware that animals are very intelligent creatures. Why is it so hard to believe that a dog can notice a landmark, or human speech? In the same edition, on page 23, a dog won the Lewyt Award for alerting people that his person was choking, thereby saving her life! I have 12 beautiful animals at home and they *all* understand what I say to them when I speak to them in very simple sentences.

I would also like to inform Ms. David that one of my cats was missing for five long weeks. When I became desperate I read Sonya Fitzpatrick's book. She taught me how to ask him to send me pictures of where he was. I dreamed that he was surrounded by palm trees. One morning I received a call from a lady who found him, and when I picked him up, I noticed her neighbor had a garden with at least 10 palm trees! Coincidence or not, it makes you wonder...

I think that instead of criticizing someone who does so much good for animals and their caretakers (psychic or not) we should focus on those who are a threat to them.

—Maria Huber
Leesburg, Georgia
<puppipuppi@webtv.net>

Birth of Jesus

Thanks for the incredible job you did on the Chronology of Humane Progress in your April and May 2003 editions—what an avalanche of information!

However, Part I of the Chronology says that 34 B.C. was the approximate date of the birth of Jesus. We're both a bit confused here. We thought B.C. was before the birth of Christ and A.D. was after the birth of Christ, which would make 00 B.C. / 00 A.D. the approximate birth of Jesus. Can you clear this up for us?

—Jackie & Tim Martin
Corona, California
<WMPR@earthlink.net>

Historians mostly believe Jesus was actually born in either 3 or 4 B.C., based on documented incidents mentioned in the nativity story. The dash separating "3-4 B.C." disappeared through a typographical error.

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360-579-2505**

A Louisiana biker for the animals

I called you a little over a year ago in desperation, trying to get a group of people together here in Jarreau, Louisiana, to get an animal shelter built.

You connected me with Jeff Dorson of the Humane Society of Louisiana in New Orleans—a modern-day miracle worker, who came to Jarreau after I publicized his visit through our local newspaper and TV station for a few weeks, and handed out a thousand fliers.

We are now doing fundraising at every opportunity and our county sheriff allows us to show our beautiful homeless pets on his weekly "Most Wanted" television show. Many have been adopted.

We already have a fine large location to build an animal shelter, donated by the county board. Since I am the founder of our one and only local motorcycle club, many of the bikers have joined our animal group.

Although I am 77, I still

ride a Yamaha Virago. I have traveled alone all across America on a motorcycle, am a good rider (a show-off), and still love to ride.

Thank you so much for the "Chronology of Humane Progress." It was in 1967 that I first began reading about cruelty to animals and started getting heavily involved, founding my own shelter for homeless pets back in Illinois. Your chronology explained why I never read any more about Henry Spira and Cleveland Amory, and the sad end result of the Silver Spring Monkey case. I had supported almost every group and campaign I read about.

—Ellen Mauck
Jarreau, Louisiana

In memory of John Kullberg

It was with great sadness that I learned of the death of John Kullberg from your May obituary.

During the 1980s when Dr. Kullberg was president of the American SPCA, he was very supportive of efforts to prevent or minimize the use of poison to exterminate rats in New York City parks. He was also supportive of attempts to prevent the random poisoning of pigeons, reminding the health department and others that pigeons are protected under Section 300 of the New York Agriculture and Markets Law.

Since his departure, no initiative or support has come

from the ASPCA regarding these two issues.

John Kullberg was a worthy disciple of ASPCA founder Henry Bergh, who fought cruelty to *all* animals, and faced ridicule from politicians, business people, and blood sports enthusiasts in his mission to create the first U.S. animal protection society. Like Henry Bergh, Dr. Kullberg was not afraid to challenge the status quo and promote the philosophy of animal rights. His ouster by the ASPCA board in 1991 was a tragedy.

—Shiela Dines
New York, N.Y.

Mrs. Rukmini Devi Arundale

I was honoured to see my name in your chronology. The Blue Cross was nurtured by the time, talents and treasure of my parents, Captain V. Sundaram and Mrs. Sundaram, and I was only one of the many volunteers.

I wish you had included Mrs. Rukmini Devi Arundale, who was born on Feb 29, 1904. She was first noted for making Bharatanatayam "respectable" and a major classical dance form in South India. In 1956 she introduced the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Bill in the Rajya Saba (upper house of Parliament) as a private member's bill. It passed in 1960 as a Government bill after an identical bill was introduced by Nehru's government and Rukmini Devi magnanimously agreed to withdraw hers. She served as First Chairper-

son of the Animal Welfare Board of India, created by the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, and remaied chair for most of the time from 1962 until her death in 1986, except for a brief period after the Emergency in 1975. She turned down the Presidency of India when offered it by Morarji Desai, the Prime Minister of India after the Congress Party was voted out of power in 1977 for the first time since independence. Mrs. Arundale was a strong supporter of the Blue Cross' early spay/neuter work for street dogs.

—Chinny Krishna
Blue Cross of India
1-A Eldams Rd., Chennai
Tamil Nadu 600018, India
Phone: 91-44-234-1399
Fax: 91-44-234-9801
<drkrishna@aspick.com>

His mother was killed.

His family destroyed.

Then came the long terrible journey trapped alone in a dark box... *and he was only a few weeks old.*

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Whose Coat?

Thanks for your review of *Whose Coat?*, by John Luksetich, illustrated by Patti Kern. I immediately ordered a copy.

I am presently attempting to compile a list of children's books with animal-positive messages, to be used in the local humane society's program of school visits. I understand that there are other people working on similar projects. It would be so useful if we could share our lists.

I'd be really pleased to hear from other people who are interested in this issue.

—Marg Buckholtz
10 Alamein Drive
Kingston, Ontario
Canada K7L 4R6
<margb@kingston.net>

The Whose Coat? review included a typographical error in the web site address for ordering. The correct web address is <www.imagination-press.com>.



Hardening hearts through slaughter

I was very impressed with your May 2003 review of the Humane Education Trust video *Saving Baby Ubuntu* and commentary entitled “A video that never mentions Heifer Project International shows why their premise is wrong.”

You wrote, about the effect that animal agriculture has on the emotional well-being of our society:

“...the process of hardening children toward the inevitable suffering of the animals raised for meat typically begins with encouraging children to bond with animals...whom the children are later forced to sell for slaughter. That tear-jerking ritual should be recognized by now as a form of psychological child abuse...”

As a retired pastor and longtime worker for animal liberation and cruelty-free living, I can well relate to this form of child abuse.

When I read this article, I recalled a May 1996 *National Geographic* article about Peru. There was a photograph of two young children with hands over their ears, eyes closed, and very disturbed looks on their faces as they tried to mute the screams and squeals of pigs who were being killed. Their mother had brought them to witness the slaughter while she collected the pig’s blood to make sausage.

Jim Mason, whom many **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers know as the author of *An Unnatural Order* and co-author of *Animal Factories*, was also traumatized by the slaughter of pigs.

When Jim was five years old he walked out into the back yard of his farm home in Missouri, and for the first time saw pigs being killed. He saw their bodies hanging from a tree. What he saw and smelled and heard so traumatized his God-given sensitivities that he became seriously ill and suffered nightmares for days, and had to be taken to his aunt’s home for a while. Jim says, “I was reluctant to return to the farm. I still have a memory blackout of that time. My last memory is the image of those pigs’ bodies hanging from the tree, the tub full of heads, and the blood.” For several years after this, his family sent young Jim to his aunt when they were slaughtering animals.

Hardening of the heart has permeated our religious communities to such an extent that it is causing distortions of the very principles of love, peace and compassion upon which these religions were founded. Every week we receive several letters from people who left the “church,” or who are considering leaving, because of the hardness of heart they have encountered.

To my wife and me, these are constant reminders of the Biblical passage from Matthew 18:6 where we are told: “but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.”

In 1998 I was communicating with a missionary in Chile, who was concerned about the changes taking place in his church and community since the agriculture in the area had begun changing from the traditional plant-based form to animal husbandry. He wrote of the increase of violence and the same hardening of hearts you wrote about. He also mentioned that there were increased health problems.

As long as a society condones violence of any kind, whether it be physical or mental, particularly when inflicted upon its children, they will never know true peace.

—Frank Hoffman
Athens, New York
<flh@all-creatures.org>
<www.all-creatures.org>

Dog-eating in the Philippines

Thank you very much for your May 2003 review of *Please Help Stop The Illegal Dog Meat Trade In The Philippines*.

To clarify a few points, Linis Gobyerno organized and is incorporated primarily as an anti-graft-and-corruption organization, hence the name Linis Gobyerno, which means “Clean Government.” However, last year the International Wildlife Coalition asked us to research the illegal dog meat trade. Our eyes were then opened to the extent of the problem. Since many of us in the group love dogs, we decided to pursue putting a stop to the illegal dog trade as a special project.

You mentioned cat eating in the Philippines. We have come across occasional information on cat eating. However we have not done any research and/or verification yet on the subject, hence cannot comment on it.

You mentioned also that dog eating can be ended except among the Igorot. I hope we can qualify this, as it may appear to be a bit sweeping. As we wrote, dog eating is not just among the Igorot, who are mostly from this highland region. Also part of the market are migrants like the Ilocanos, Pampangueños, Pangasinenses, etc., who have come from the low lands but now live in Baguio City and other parts of Benguet province.

Not all Igorots eat dogs. Many of our companions in Linis Gobyerno are Igorots, also known as Cordillerans (from the Cordillera Region, where Baguio City and Benguet Province are located). Most of them do not eat dog meat and even condemn and frown on dog meat consumption.

As we explained in our book, there

Bear sanctuary is 17-k from the Taj

Thank you for your April cover feature “Bear sanctuary at the Taj Mahal.” We are very happy and honoured that you are helping us to spread the word around and this will also help people contribute to this cause and help us help these bears.

Without meaning any offence we request you to please correct the spellings of our names to Kartick Satyanarayan and Geeta Seshamani. Also, the sanctuary is approximately 20 acres, not 30.

Thanks to Mrs Gandhi’s intervention and perhaps **ANIMAL PEOPLE** asking questions, the World Society for the Protection of Animals finally sent the required funds to help complete the facility. Since WSPA withdrew in December 2002, One Voice, Free The Bears and International Animal Rescue are helping us to run the facility.

The \$70,000 donated by Mary Hutton of Free the Bears Australia was in Australian dollars, not American, which would have almost twice the value. This sum was provided for rehabilitating the Kalandar gypsies and rescuing the bears they had.

is an Igorot rite, rarely practiced, that calls for butchering a dog who must be the pet of a family member, during times of tragedy and misfortune. This ancient practice persists only among some Igorot elders. It has nothing to do with the dog meat trade, as buying a dog for this purpose is not allowed according to the rules of the ritual.

—Freddie Farres
Linis Gobyerno
P.O. Box 1588
2600 Baguio City
The Philippines
<fjfarres@linisgobyerno.org>
<www.linisgobyerno.org>

You mention that the Wildlife SOS bear sanctuary challenges cultural belief in keeping meat eating animals. The sloth bears that we have in the sanctuary are omnivorous in nature, eating honey combs, termites, fruits, nuts, and sometimes scavenging carcasses. As dancing bears kept by Kalandar gypsies, our bears were fed nothing more than thick rotis (bread), milk and porridge. They have few teeth left to eat much else.

Currently we have them on a completely vegetarian diet of porridge, rotis, honey, fruits, some vegetables, and peanuts.

The sanctuary is called the Wildlife SOS Agra Bear Rescue Centre and is actually located about 17 kilometres from the Taj, inside the Sur Sarovar Sanctuary.

—Kartick Satyanarayan
Wildlife SOS
c/o D-210 Defence Colony
New Delhi 110024, India
Phone: 91-11-24621939
Fax: 91-11-24644231
<karticksatyanarayan@hotmail.com>

Sen. Robert Byrd

Thanks for the new **ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on Animal Protection Charities**. One minor correction: In the Humane Farming Association entry, you refer to Senator Robert Byrd (D-West Virginia) as a Republican. Would that Republicans were as interested in ameliorating animal suffering as in aiding agribusiness. As a Republican, I’m ashamed of their position in this area.

—Ben Landau
Palos Verdes Estates, California
<aumano1@cox.net>

HFA veal ad

Animal Advocates and Indigenous Peoples: The Survey Results

by Lee Wiles

In a survey conducted during the winter of 2002-2003, 1,000 randomly selected U.S. readers of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** were asked various questions about, among other things, their attitudes toward indigenous peoples in the United States and Canada, indigenous peoples' use of animals, and the animal advocacy movement's interactions with indigenous peoples. A total of 358 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers responded.

The survey discovered that approximately equal numbers of animal advocates are sympathetic and unsympathetic toward the indigenous rights movement. This split appears to be due to the ambivalence many animal advocates feel toward indigenous peoples after several disputes over hunting and trapping.

Respondents revealed in other parts of the questionnaire that they overwhelmingly oppose the use of animals by indigenous peoples for purposes other than survival. Even when asked if killing animals was acceptable for subsistence, only 15.5% of animal advocates replied in the affirmative. A much smaller percentage said animal usage was justifiable for money or "cultural survival."

Since subsistence hunting is often thought to be done for survival, we must ask why animal advocates oppose it. Although the questionnaire did not specifically ask if killing animals is acceptable for a human's survival, many write-in responses suggested that a substantial percentage of animal advocates do believe so.

However, a large number of respondents also said it is no longer necessary to use animal products anywhere because the global market has expanded to reach everyone, and non-animal products are readily available.

Thus, they believe hunting and trapping for subsistence has become a cultural preference, rather than a matter of legitimate need, and it is therefore not justified.

Consistent with these positions, 82.8% of respondents agreed that the animal advocacy movement should try to

prevent the "exploitation" of animals by indigenous peoples. However, almost 60% added that it is the responsibility of animal advocates to assess the impact of their actions on indigenous peoples, implying that attempts to protect animals should also be culturally sensitive.

A majority of animal advocates agreed that plant-based agriculture (77.8%), importation of goods (68.8%), the tourism industry (65%), college education (56.6%), and wage labor (51.3%) are acceptable alternatives to animal exploitation, and are presumably also seen as alternatives that can be introduced in a culturally sensitive manner.

Asking indigenous Americans to migrate from areas where the use of animals is necessary was favored by only 38.1% of respondents, and encouraging welfare dependency in lieu of killing animals was seen as acceptable by just 8.8%.

Despite their desire to stop indigenous peoples from killing animals, only 17% of respondents had ever participated in a protest directed at the use of animals by indigenous peoples. Nevertheless, 79.9% of respondents said they would, if given the opportunity, discourage indigenous peoples from using animals, and 53% consider themselves either "somewhat" or "very" informed about interactions between animal advocates and indigenous peoples, showing a higher than expected amount of knowledge about such campaigns.

Even though 55.3% said that western culture has had a "completely" or "mostly" negative impact on indigenous peoples, only 11.2% believe that animal advocacy has had the same type of effect. In other words, animal advocates for the most part do not see their own interactions with indigenous peoples as part of the larger impact that western society has had on Native Americans.

[Lee Wiles is a Post-Baccalaureate Fellow and honors student in the Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois. All funding for this survey was provided by a Richter Memorial Scholarship.]

ISAR sues IDA over "Don't breed or buy" slogan

SAN FRANCISCO—Alleging "trademark infringement, unfair competition, and related claims arising from the unauthorized use" of the phrase "Don't breed or buy while homeless animals die," the International Society for Animal Rights on April 29, 2003 sued In Defense of Animals in U.S. District Court.

ISAR trademarked the phrase in January 2001, the suit states, objecting that "IDA has incorporated the confusingly similar slogan 'Please don't breed or buy while millions of homeless animals die' into posters, flyers, and other products featuring gruesome images of dead and/or dying pets." ISAR contends that this confuses "prospective and actual donors and members about a perceived relationship between the organizations."

Fund for Animals president Mike Markarian confirmed on May 19 that the Fund also received "a letter from ISAR's attorney," Trenton H. Norris, "threatening to sue The Fund if we did not stop using the phrase 'Don't Breed Or Buy While Homeless Animals Die.' Our general counsel has spoken with ISAR's attorney," Markarian said, "and they are currently attempting to work out an agreement to avoid litigation."

IDA president Elliot Katz, who founded IDA in 1984, told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that he had shrugged off a warning letter as sounding absurd. Katz, a veterinarian by training, recalling hearing the phrase in question, or similar phrases, from his first involvement in animal advocacy.

ANIMAL PEOPLE publisher Kim Bartlett said she had heard something like it as a volunteer for three Houston shelters in the early 1970s. The similar phrase "Don't breed or buy while shelter pets die!" appears on the web site of Citizens for Animal Protection, founded in Houston in 1972.

Altogether, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** located 2,372 web sites using comparable phrases, only seven of them having any evident association with ISAR. Variants included "Please don't breed or buy while homeless animals die!", "Don't breed or buy while shelter animals die," "Don't breed or buy while millions of homeless companion animals die!," and "Why Breed or Buy While Shelter Pets Die?"

Since being sued, Katz said, he has debated with himself and others whether IDA

should follow The Fund in seeking a relatively inexpensive settlement, or should fight the ISAR trademark claim on behalf of the many smaller animal advocacy groups who might be sued next.

ISAR was founded as the National Catholic Animal Welfare Society in 1959 by Helen Jones, who five years earlier cofounded the Humane Society of the U.S. Jones renamed the group in 1981. Eclipsed during the 1980s by newer groups with similar missions, including IDA, ISAR lapsed into obscurity by the early 1990s. "Homeless Animals Day," begun by Jones in 1992, has been the most prominent ISAR project of the past decade. Jones was ousted from the leadership in early 1996 and died in August 1998.

The most recent ISAR filing of IRS form 990 showed income of \$275,220, a program budget of \$203,383, and assets of \$1.9 million.

The most recent IDA filing showed income of \$1.9 million, a program budget of \$1.5 million, and assets of \$732,824.

In a case with some parallels, Hong Kong Cat Salvation Army founder William Fan told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on June 8, his 300-member cat rescue network "is being sued by the Salvation Army" for alleged trademark infringement. "I shall defend that our name is clearly indicative of our activities," Fan pledged, "and that the Salvation Army," based in Switzerland, "has never associated itself with animal welfare, so that no confusion of the organizations could arise."

Similar disputes have broken out before. The International Committee of the Red Cross, founded in 1863, was not able to prevent animal charities in England and India from using the name and symbol Blue Cross, beginning in 1897, due to the longtime prominence of the cross as a charitable symbol. The American Humane Association, however, forced the National Humane Society to become the Humane Society of the U.S. during the mid-1950s. In 1985 the Delta Society, founded in 1977 to promote animal-assisted therapy, trademarked the use of "Delta" in an attempt to force a name change on the DELTA Rescue sanctuary, started in 1979 in memory of founder Leo Grillo's dog Delta. The case was settled in 1989 when the Delta Society allowed DELTA Rescue to continue using the word "Delta" to stand for "Dedication and Everlasting Love To Animals."

MORE LETTERS

Bulgaria

While mass media have given prominence to the abundance of homeless dogs in Sofia, and the efforts to either sterilize or destroy them, the uncontrolled reproduction of dogs and cats is a crisis throughout Bulgaria. Anyone can obtain an animal with no registration required, allow the animal to breed, and abandon, give away or sell the offspring to anyone. Very few people realize that most of the offspring are doomed to an uncertain existence and possible cruelty. Many think it is healthy for female animals to give birth.

There is a peculiar class of so-called "back yard dogs" constantly breeding in Sofia's industrial zones, who have

been methodically displaced (carried away and let loose) from residential areas.

Widespread spontaneous charity on behalf of the dogs is futile, but shows serious potential for future collaboration if purposeful measures can be introduced to limit reproduction and establish mandatory registration of pets.

I hope that the initial support for this can come from Bulgaria itself, but my efforts in writing to news media and Bulgarian institutions have been futile.

—Emil Kuzmanov
18-20 Áanko Sofiiski Voyvoda Str.
1164 Sofia, Bulgaria
Phone: 3592-655623
<animalprograms@abv.bg>

Canadian Greens endorsed seal hunt

Animal protectionists should be aware that the Green Party of Canada quietly passed the following resolution at its August 2002 convention:

WHEREAS in the past certain Canadian groups have relied upon a subsistence seal fishery and

WHEREAS the Terra Nova Greens recognize that this traditional subsistence seal fishery can continue as a moderate commercial seal fishery,

BE IT RESOLVED that the development of a multi-species management system include moderate harp and hood seal fisheries along with a ban on draggers; that such a harvest control industrial fishing trawlers while promoting sustainability; that a seal harvest should only be implemented when markets are available for the vast majority of the animal; and that a seal harvest should not be used in an attempt to enhance fisheries.

This resolution was passed by a vote of 26-0, with no abstentions.

This resolution, if implemented as a whole, might arguably represent an

improvement on the present situation (depending on what 'moderate' is taken to mean), but given that the majority of Canadians are against the commercial seal hunt, it is a big step backward, revealing a level of ecological awareness that is below that of the average Canadian.

Perhaps the Terra Nova (i.e. Newfoundland) Greens, who sponsored this resolution, got the other delegates to go along with it by telling them that if they did the Green Party would get more votes in Newfoundland, and the other delegates didn't stop to think about how many votes the Party would lose in the rest of Canada. If that's what happened, then if enough people complain, especially Green Party supporters, the party may rescind this resolution.

—Don Roebuck
Toronto, Ontario

Don Roebuck was a Green Party candidate in the Ontario provincial elections of 1995 and 1999, and the federal elections of 1997 and 2000.

Spay
USA

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DELTA Rescue founder Leo Grillo and friend

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The trainee must have shelter experience with basic skills in animal husbandry and knowledge of animal health care. (S)he must be of a total no-kill mind set with the fortitude to commit to "care for life" if necessary. The individual must demonstrate a staunch desire to make a career of working in the field of humane sheltering, ultimately contributing to the abolition of senseless killing, suffering, cruelty, starvation, and abandonment of helpless animals. Trainees must speak English.

We feel that just to be exposed to our way of medicine will take at least one month. You will be overwhelmed. To learn just the basics will take 3 - 6 months. The longer you stay, the more we will be able to teach you. And when you go back to your country we will consult with you from there. While you are here, we will put you in touch with suppliers and wholesalers. We will provide dormitory housing. Trainees will be working/learning 40+ hours per week. We will provide whatever documentation is needed to present with your visa application.

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Swathi Buddhiraju of the Visakha SPCA in Visakhapatnam, India, cleaning a dog's teeth during her training at D.E.L.T.A. Rescue.



Dog quarters at DELTA Rescue

Health Care Training includes (*but is not limited to*):

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- Behavior assessment: normal vs. abnormal emotional and physiological patterns
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Inside one of the DELTA Rescue cat facilities

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Disney, PETA, science tell the world about fish *(from page 1)*

Institute researchers produced Dolly, the first cloned sheep, Roslin Institute announcements have tended to make headlines.

First to break the news in the U.S. was the *Florida Sun Sentinel*, serving a state where commercial fishing is a \$217 million a year industry and sport fishing is worth \$4 billion a year, according to the Florida Wildlife Commission.

Within the next week many of the most influential news media worldwide featured the confirmation that fish feel pain, including *The New York Times*, the BBC, CNN, Agence France Presse, and all four leading London newspapers: the *Times*, *Independent*, *Observer*, and *Guardian*.

The Roslin Institute study was directed by Lynne Sneddon, Ph.D., head of animal biology at Liverpool University.

“What I set out to do was to find pain receptors in fish like those in higher mammals and humans,” Sneddon told Valerie Elliott and Helen Rumbelow of *The Times* of London.

While previous studies on cartilaginous fish such as sharks indicated that they do not feel pain in the same way as mammals, Sneddon found that bony fish “rocked from side to side when injected with bee venom, a rocking motion strikingly similar to that seen in animals and humans suffering stress,” Sneddon said. “When acetic acid was injected, the gill respiratory rates of the fish doubled and they were seen rubbing their lips against the tank walls. The fish injected with venom also did not eat until the effects of the experiments subsided. All in all, the results fulfil the criteria for animal pain.”

Applied science

Sneddon did not flinch from applying her findings to common sport fishing and scientific practice.

“At present there are no rules on killing fish, and I would like to see painkillers used if fish are tagged or have fins clipped to identify them,” Sneddon said. “I don’t have a problem with people getting fish out of the water quickly, killing them quickly, and taking them home to eat,” she said, “but people also catch fish and let them go for sport and hold them in keep-nets, and I don’t think these are welfare-friendly practices.”

The Sneddon study followed up a 1994 report to the Royal SPCA by Steve Kestin of Bristol University. Wrote Kestin, “It cannot be argued that fish experience pain in exactly the same manner as humans. Such an argument is untestable. But it can be argued that the pain fish feel as a result of injury is likely to be just as important to them in their own way as human pain is to humans.”

The attention given to the Sneddon study appeared to stimulate some British news media interest in a year-old Compassion In World Farming report on the suffering of ranched trout, salmon, halibut, and sea bass, called *In Too Deep*. In gist, CIWF found that the same kinds of animal welfare problems that occur among pigs and chickens raised in close confinement also afflict confinement-reared fish.

The Norwegian Federation for Animal Protection cited the Sneddon findings in a mid-May objection to “Fishing Pole Project 2003,” in which the Norwegian Hunting and Fishing Federation donated 40,000 fishing poles to grade school students, following up a similar promotion in 2002.

Animal advocates have occasionally objected to fishing almost from the beginning of the organized humane movement in the early 19th century. The early 20th century Austrian novelist Franz Kafka quit eating fish for humane reasons, but as with his books, his gesture was noted mainly posthumously.

Serious opposition to fishing by animal advocates has focused mostly on harm to marine mammals resulting from fishing—either when whales, seals, and sea lions starve due to lack of fish, or when they are slaughtered, as in the Atlantic Canada mas-

sacre of 350,000 harp and hooded seals this year, for allegedly depleting fisheries that have already been depleted by humans past foreseeable recovery.

PETA campaign

PETA is the only animal advocacy group to sustain a significant anti-fishing campaign for humanitarian reasons.

Coordinated by Dawn Carr, the PETA campaign seems to have begun with protests at several New Jersey and Louisiana fishing tournaments in 1996. Such protests have continued in strategic times and places ever since.

The PETA anti-fishing campaign gained momentum from public statements against fishing made by the late Linda McCartney in 1997, a year before her April 1998 death from breast cancer. In 1999 PETA produced a television ad featuring McCartney’s appeal for abstention from sport fishing—but the ad was banned in Britain by the Broadcast Advertising Clearance Centre for allegedly being “too political.”

In September 1999 PETA protested against the presence of fish on the menu at the Monterey Bay Aquarium restaurant, and had members write letters objecting to the depiction of a trophy fisher on Wheaties boxes.

The PETA campaign spread to Africa in June 2001 with an appeal to the South African Scout Association, asking that a merit badge for fishing achievement be withdrawn. Similar merit badges are presented by the National Scout Councils of many other nations, including the U.S., where PETA earlier made the same request.

In August 2001 PETA touched off a furor in Florida and New Jersey, following several shark attacks on humans, by pointing out that as anti-fishing campaign spokesperson Dan Shannon put it, “sharks killed 10 people worldwide last year. Humans kill over 50 million sharks each year.”

Also in 2001 PETA distributed a poster showing a dog with a fish hook stuck in his cheek, with a caption asking, “If you wouldn’t do this to a dog, why do it to a fish?”

Quiet in 2002, the PETA anti-fishing campaign revived one day after publication of the Sneddon findings with an alert e-mailed by activist liaison Megan Hartman. Hartman also mentioned the practice of boiling lobsters alive, another longtime target of sporadic protest, including dozens of lobster releases conducted by PETA during the 1980s and early 1990s.

The first pro-lobster action to gain widespread attention in 2003 came toward the end of May, when Joel Freedman of Animal Advocates of Upstate New York bought a pound of scallops and dumped them into a supermarket lobster tank in Canandaigua, New York, as an intended meal for the lobsters. Lobsters awaiting boiling are not fed.

“As far as I’m concerned, I obeyed the law by feeding the lobsters,” said Freedman, who was escorted from the store but was not charged with any offense.

“Like many others, I respond with a lesser gut reaction to the suffering of fish than to that of other animals,” online animal rights commentator Karen Dawn of DawnWatch acknowledged in 2001. “But I appreciate PETA’s reminder that uncute animals matter. Moreover, PETA is pushing the envelope. They are out there getting laughed at whilst fighting for fish. The rest of us, fighting mostly for mammals, look more and more mainstream.”

Young men & the sea

About 35 million Americans fish, between two and three times the number who hunt. Most of them are men. Fish and other marine species are the animals many men are most likely to see suffering, and cause to suffer through their own deliberate actions.

The suffering of crustaceans evident to recreational diver John Kroezen of Port Lincoln, Australia, was enough to cause him

to disobey a government directive to clip the ends of the tails off of rock lobsters, to prevent sport fishers from selling the lobsters commercially. Kroezen, who also kills lobsters by icing them before boiling, made enough noise about the tail-clipping regulation that the South Australia Research and Development Institute in mid-May 2003 began a study of how painful the procedure may be.

Giving up fishing after recognizing that marine species feel pain can become a man’s first decisive action in choosing a more humane lifestyle—as it was for Steve Hindi in 1990, two years before he founded SHARK.

Hindi at the time was not just a recreational fisher, but a shark fisher with a national reputation, who sometimes wrote for fishing magazines.

“I first fished at age five,” Hindi recalled in a May 1996 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** guest column. Like most children, we learned what we were taught, setting aside whatever qualms we may have felt. Our mother raised us to care for cats and dogs, and we regularly took in strays. However, we were told that fish had no feelings, and we killed them with abandon. Sometimes I would give a fleeting thought to whether these animals suffered as they lay gasping on the shore,” Hindi admitted. “Catfish and bullheads, and carp take a long time to suffocate. After a while, we would hit their heads with rocks to kill them quickly.”

As a teen, Hindi began pursuing “game fish,” so-called because they put up more of a fight. “Often we bought large sucker minnows as bait. Although we were told, and wanted to believe, that fish did not feel fear or pain,” Hindi wrote, “we almost always knew when a predator approached the sucker. The bobber would begin to bounce and move; panic was obvious. I decided that live bait fishing was cruel and pursued my prey thereafter with artificial lures or dead bait.”

Hindi was not alone in his qualms. By the 1980s the sport fishing industry began to address “matters of ethics and conservation, at least superficially,” Hindi remembered. “Spokespeople began talking of catch-and-release. We would hook our prey, allow them to suffer as they fought for their lives, and then release them, hoping they would survive to endure this torture again. At about the same time catch-and-release became popular, the ethical gurus decided that fishers should use lighter gear to fight our victims. A small fish could be fought not just for a couple minutes, but perhaps for a quarter of an hour.

“My conversion to shark fishing,” Hindi wrote, “seemed to quell a fairly quiet but nagging voice suggesting that killing animals, especially those much smaller than me, was not completely defensible as a hobby.

Soon, however, Hindi began to see evidence of the sentience and suffering of sharks, and of tuna, often caught from the same vessels.

Thrashing tuna on the deck of a boat can be dangerous.

“To keep them still, we simply put a cloth over their exposed eye to block the light, much as you would calm a horse,” Hindi explained. “This was a problem. Much like a horse? How much like a horse? I wouldn’t do this to a horse. Why was I doing this?”

By the time Hindi gave up fishing, along with hunting, his brother and two fishing buddies had already voiced discomfort about the killing, similar to his own.

Despite his ethical choice to stop fishing, Hindi admits he missed certain aspects of it for a few years—until he became active in trapping feral cats for neuter-and-return. Catching feral cats, he told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, is exactly like fishing except that some cats are even more challenging than the most evasive fish, and he enjoys releasing them in the knowledge that they have been helped through his intervention.

“Fishing is as popular as it is because fish do not have the ability to communicate suffering as readily as cats, dogs, cows,

or other mammals. While many people may at first be taken aback at the mere suggestion that fish can suffer,” Hindi concluded, “I believe society can grasp the concept. And if we can make people feel for those who cannot cry out their suffering, how much more will they feel for those who can?”

Dawning awareness

Globally, the commercial fishing industry landed 130.4 million metric tons of fish, crustaceans, and mollusks in 2000. Add to that the millions of farmed fish, fish caught for sport, and bycatch, caught and killed but dumped at sea for having no market value.

Still just beginning to acknowledge the catastrophic impact of fishing on conservation and biodiversity, the world may be a very long way from translating the dawning awareness of the sentience of fish into public policy.

Yet it is also possible that humanitarian concern for fish may succeed in taking fish off the menu for millions of people for whom the conservation issues are abstract and distant—much as awareness of the suffering of other animals has caused millions to give up beef, pork, and chicken, even though cattle, pigs, and chickens are at no risk of extinction.

Much as fish are sensitive to even the slightest ripples in the water surrounding them, fishers seemed unusually alert to criticism early in 2003.

In February pro-fishing organizations were quick to amplify a report by University of Wyoming professor of zoology and physiology James D. Rose, 60, that fish cannot feel pain because they do not possess the regions of the cerebral cortex that distinguish pain from “nociception,” meaning reflexive response to stimulus.

“Pain is predicated on awareness,” Rose said. “Anyone who has seen a chicken with its head cut off will know that while its body can respond to stimuli, it cannot be feeling pain.”

In Britain, National Federation of Anglers representative Rodney Coldron lauded Rose for “killing off that silly argument” that fish feel pain.

But it was not a “silly argument” later in February to 200 Thai fishers who confronted Total Access Communication representatives in Samut Prakan: it was a perceived threat. The fishers were irate about a TV ad for cell telephones that reportedly showed an activist using a cell phone to ring in complaints against fishers who were cutting the fins off live sharks and roasting sea turtles alive.

Total Access Communication said that ads were meant to promote awareness of marine conservation. The conservation message, however, was apparently not what disturbed Samut Prakan Fishing Society chief Prasan Silapipat. What upset him was that Thai fishers might be perceived as torturers of the marine life they kill.

Shark-finning reputedly occurs worldwide. Since June 2000 possessing shark fins without a shark carcass has been illegal in U.S. waters, as a measure intended to slow down the currently unsustainable rate of depletion of many shark species—but fins are lucrative, while demand for other shark parts is weak, tempting fishers to ignore the law. Trying to send a message, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on May 19, 2003 fined the fishing companies Tran & Yu Inc. of Honolulu and Tai Loong Hong Marine Products Ltd. of Hong Kong a record \$620,000. NOAA agents in August 2002 had discovered more than 32 tons of shark fins aboard one of their vessels, the Honolulu-based *King Diamond II*.

Live-roasting sea turtles in their shells is still done on some Southeast Asian and Pacific islands, and between 20,000 and 28,000 green sea turtles are butchered alive each year in Bali, according to recent reports.

The Thai fishers, however, were adamant that they neither fin sharks nor kill sea turtles—which would be illegal in Thailand as well as most other nations.


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FAILURE

Singapore ends TNR program amid SARS panic

SINGAPORE—"More than 70 cat lovers gathered at a five-star hotel yesterday to remember the 700 cats who were culled recently," the Singapore *Straits Times* reported on June 9. "The special 80-minute session, which included song and flower tributes, and a minute's silence for the dead animals, was organized by the animal welfare and rescue movement SOS Animals," founded by Sandy Lim.

SOS Animals claimed to have rescued 60 cats from the purported culling, and was raising funds to build a shelter for them.

Another Singapore group, the Animal Lovers League, founded by Cathy Strong, approached the Singapore Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority with a proposal to build a sanctuary capable of keeping 2,000 to 3,000 cats—which she believed could be done for \$173,000.

Earlier, Strong proposed evacuating as many as 2,000 cats to the Noah's Ark shelter in Johor, Malaysia. Noah's Ark founder Raymond Wee responded that his shelter was already filled to capacity with 320 cats and dogs, while the Johor Veterinary Services Department said that feral cats from Singapore would not be accepted in Malaysia anyway.

The four-acre Ericsson Pet Farm boarding kennel in Pasir Ris, Singapore, housed 300 cats on May 23, but had 500 just four days later, with another 100 on the way. Owner Eric Lim was charging panic-stricken cat rescuers \$5.00 per cat-day, a third of his usual fee.

Driving the frantic effort to find places for cats were reports that the Singapore Centre for Animal Welfare was exterminating TNR colonies in response to SARS.

"Almost 100 stray dogs and cats from the Pasir Panjang Wholesale Centre were killed when the center was closed for 15 days in April, after three cases of SARS were linked to it," wrote Ben Nadarajan of the *Straits Times* on May 21. But Centre for Animal Welfare chief Madhavan Kannan told Nadarajan that the Pasir Panjang cats were killed as part of a routine removal of cats from a food-selling location.

"Our stand is that there is no evidence that SARS can affect dogs and cats," Madhavan said.

Cat Welfare Society president Lynn Yeo was unconvinced. "This could escalate to the culling of thousands of cats," she told *NewsAsia* reporter Farah Abdul Rahim two days later. Yeo explained that the Cat Welfare Society had spent \$60,000 in recent years to sterilize about 5,000 cats whose lives might now be in jeopardy.

"We have been receiving numerous calls from volunteers about [sterilized] cats being removed from their habitat," confirmed Singapore SPCA executive officer Deirdre Moss. "These actions are sending out the wrong message."

Reports about dog-culling began circulating parallel to the anxiety about cats when Metta Cattery volunteer Sharon Siow told Tor Ching Li of *NewsAsia* on May 22 that "the Jurong Town Council was seen loading five vans with stray dogs to be put down a few days ago."

"Everything is as normal," Madhavan still insisted. "We are still putting down an average of 10 stray cats and dogs each per day."

But Minister of State for National Development Vivian Balakrishnan eroded Madhavan's credibility at a May 24 press conference, admitting that a cull was underway.

"It's a public health concern," Balakrishnan declared to Tracy Quek of the *Straits Times*, adding "There should be no strays, cats, dogs or vermin near or in food establishments, markets, or any other place where food is sold or handled."

Balakrishnan told Quek that the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority had suspended its five-year-old feral cat sterilization program, after fixing 10,000 of the estimated 80,000 feral cats in Singapore, "because it had not met its objective of reducing the overall problem of strays," while complaints about feral cats continued to come at the rate of about 5,000 per year.

However, to see any reduction at all in a population of 80,000 cats, it would be necessary to sterilize 70%: 56,000.

On May 27 Grace Chua and Sherwin Loh of *The Straits Times* reported that "The AVA has intensified its daily culling of stray cats, even sterilized cats, from 35 before last Friday to more than 45 now. While the link between domestic



Palm civet. Two palm civets, apparently ex-pets, were found abandoned in Singapore after they were identified as the probable native host species for SARS. (Kim Bartlett)

animals and SARS has not been shown," Chua and Loh explained, "the AVA said that for environmental and public health reasons town councils are helping to round up stray cats, especially around hawker centers and markets."

The Straits Times noted on May 30 that demoralized Cat Welfare Society TNR volunteers were no longer taking cats to private veterinarians to be sterilized, as they formerly had.

"What's the point now?" asked volunteer Corinne Goh, 35. "We're not getting any assurance that the strays we sterilize and care for will be spared."

Added the anonymous *Straits Times* reporter, "Stray dogs are not being spared either. About 16 are put down each day, but there has been no increase, unlike for cats."

Despite the many indications that cats and dogs might have been targeted due to the SARS panic, however, it was not clear from the available data that either cats or dogs were actually being killed in higher numbers than in past years. What was clear was that more people were noticing the killing.

Killing cats at the rate of 45 a day for an entire year would produce a toll of 16,425, compared to a typical annual toll of between 10,000 and 13,000, between the Singapore SPCA and the AVA. Killing dogs at the rate of 16 a day for a year would bring a toll of 5,840, about half again the average of the past six years—but it is routine for animal control agencies all over the world to handle up to 50% of their total volume

Events

June 27-July 1: Animal Rights 2003/East, McLean, Va. Info: c/o Farm Animal Reform Movement, <chair@animalrights2003.org>; <www.animalrights2002.org>.

June 28: Oregon Neutermobile 2-year anniversary plant sale, Hillsboro. Info: Pet Over-Population Prevention Advocates, <neutermobile@netzero.com>.

June 28: Emergency Animal Rescue Preparedness Workshop, Carolina, Puerto Rico. Info: <kbanyard@uan.org> or <leilani@prmail.net>.

July 2: Lobby Day, Washington D.C. Info: c/o Fund for Animals, 301-585-2591, x209 or <rfrye@fund.org>.

July 9-13: Lifesaving Programs Seminar, Salt Lake City. Info: Best Friends, 435-644-2001, x243; <karen@bestfriends.org>; <www.bestfriends.org>.

July 10: Adoption Options Kentucky seminar, Bowling Green. Info: <outreach@petfinder.com>.

July 11-13: 2nd Intl. Conf. on Transport of Horses, Gloucestershire, U.K., co-presented by Intl. League for the Protection of Horses, Fed. Equestre Intl., and Mass. SPCA. Info: <transcon@ilph.org>.

July 20-25: Chemical & physical wildlife capture course, South Africa. Info: <www.gamecapture.info>.

July 26: Waggin Tails fundraiser for the Pet Network of Lake Tahoe, Calif. Info: 775-832-4404.

July 26-27: 2003 Prairie Dog Summit, Denver. Info: <www.prairiedogcoalition.org/summit.shtm>.

Aug. 1-5: Animal Rights 2003/West, Los Angeles, Calif. Info: c/o FARM, <chair@animalrights2003.org> or <www.ani-



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Library and Resources In-depth reports such as *Canned Hunts: Unfair at Any Price* and *Crossing the Line: When Hunters Trespass on Private Property*. Fund Fact Sheets on everything ranging from entertainment to agriculture, state agencies to student activism, and solving common problems with urban wildlife.

Humane Education Free publications for teachers, as well as curriculum units on hunting, circus-es, companion animals, and much more. Kids can order free comic books and coloring books on animal protection issues, and can enter The Fund for Animals' annual essay contest.

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abandon your love in a casual manner.”

By then palm civets raised and sold for meat were identified as the apparent original hosts of SARS.

Even before that, Jasper Becker of *The Independent* reported from Beijing, “About 170,000 forestry officers raided 14,900 animal fairs and 67,800 hotels and restaurants. They found 838,500 endangered animals, including snakes, pangolins, anteaters, cranes, and turtles. More than 1,400 people were arrested. Beijing has closed the few restaurants it had that specialized in frogs, snakes, dogs, rare birds, and rare mammals.”

After the discovery of SARS in palm civets confirmed the link of the disease to live markets in Guangdong, whose residents reputedly “eat everything with legs but the table,” officials searched 991 markets, 6,617 hotels and restaurants, confiscated 30,334 animals, and canceled 2,197 permits to sell wildlife— all just in Guangdong.

Along with closing the wildlife markets, the city of Guangzhaou on June 3 banned sales of live poultry. Hong Kong was expected to soon do likewise.

Dog & cat markets

Although the Beijing live market closures were extended to the sale of dogs, in a city where cats are seldom eaten, the dog and cat meat markets of Guangdong are so far unaffected.

Animals Asia Foundation founder Jill Robinson made a game try on Earth Day to align all of the Hong Kong and mainland China animal advocacy organizations in joint opposition to the live marketing of any species except fish and traditional livestock.

Cheung Chi-Fai of the *South China Morning Post* even indicated the next day that Robinson had succeeded, writing that 45 “green” groups had “signed and issued a joint statement calling for a ban on eating wild animals,” but the report was upstaged almost immediately when researchers from the World Health Organization and the University of Hong Kong announced the discovery of the SARS virus in six masked palm civets, a ferret badger, and a tanuki, also called a raccoon dog, often raised for fur. No longer commonly imported into the U.S., tanuki coats sold in the \$2,000-\$5,000 range circa 1988.

By June 4, the Guangzhou Institute of Respiratory Diseases had also found the SARS virus in snakes, wild pigs, monkeys, and bats confiscated from live markets, where they may have been exposed either to palm civets or to infected humans.

The identification of the apparent animal hosts of the disease should have lent extra weight to the “green” groups’ joint statement, drafted by Animals Asia Foundation director Jill Robinson, in cooperation with Lister Cheung Lai-ping, executive director of the Hong Kong Conservancy Association, and David Chu Yu-lin, a Hong Kong deputy to the National People’s Congress.

However, the *South China Morning Post* report was also premature. Instead of being “signed and issued,” the joint statement was just coming together. By May 29, when it was released to news media, there were only 11 co-signers, and when it was sent to the National People’s Congress in Beijing two days later, three more had backed away.

Withdrawing because they “have dif-

ferent views on sustainable use of wildlife,” Robinson told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, were the World Wildlife Fund, the WWF trade-monitoring subsidiary TRAFFIC, and Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden, a wildlife rehabilitation and nature education center in the New Territories of Hong Kong, distinguished for saving the lives of literally thousands of turtles, monkeys, and many other animals seized from wildlife smugglers.

At issue may have been Robinson’s inclusion of dogs and cats in the joint statement, to make it a declaration of opposition to the live sale for human consumption of any animals other than fish, poultry, and domestic livestock. This would have contradicted the 1 WWF and Kadoorie Farm policies of promoting “sustainable use” of animals, while avoiding involvement in issues not primarily concerned with biodiversity and conservation.

Kadoorie Farm executive director Manab Chakraborty said nothing about dogs and cats in his own statement, published by the *South China Morning Post* on June 5, but humane education is part of the Kadoorie Farm mission, and Chakraborty made clear from his first sentence that animal suffering at live markets is among his concerns, even if he is not willing to challenge dog and cat eating.

“We urge the public in Hong Kong and the mainland to stop consuming wild animals, for the sake of public health, biodiversity conservation, and animal welfare,” Chakraborty began. “During the last four years we have conducted surveys in eight marketplaces in Guangzhou, Shenzhen, and Hong Kong where wild animals are traded for meat,

medicine, and as pets. In our count of species, we recorded 39 mammals, 495 birds, 54 amphibians, and 249 reptiles for sale. More than 200 of these species are under international and national protection.

“Transport and trading are always undertaken under very unsanitary conditions that stress the animals and abet cross-transmission of diseases with humans,” Chakraborty added. “Wild animals are always poorly treated. Most found in markets are dehydrated, injured, and sick. Some traders develop cruel ways of killing them as a gimmick to attract customers seeking the new and exciting. Act now in saying no to this trade,” he pleaded.

S.F. Chinatown too

There is at least one precedent for changing the meat-buying habits of entire nations almost overnight, involving another continent where modern technology and affluence were at the time just beginning to supplant tradition. That was in the U.S., where most of the meat consumed as recently as 1920 was bought at open-air live markets. Poultry usually came home alive; pork sometimes did. Only beef, horsemeat, and mutton most often came from commercial slaughterhouses.

The typhoid epidemics that swept many cities including New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago between 1910 and 1917 abruptly changed the public perspective on buying live “meat.” The turnaround in buying behavior began in 1917, when 31-year-old Clarence Birdseye discovered the technique of freezing food without precooking. Suddenly food products of every kind could be preserved without risk of typhoid contamination at a cost within the means of average citizens.

Before World War I, only the homes of the wealthy came with built-in iceboxes. Mechanical refrigeration, invented by John Gorrie in 1851 and almost immediately used by Jacob Fossel to make ice cream, remained mainly an industrial process used to cool whole sides of beef until the discovery of freon in 1930—but by 1950 few kitchens were without refrigerators, and traditional live markets, in the U.S. at least, served only a handful of ethnic neighborhoods.

Asian Week columnist

Emil Guillermo, of San Francisco, and Action for Animals founder Eric Mills, of Oakland, are hopeful that the SARS outbreak might even bring the demise of the notorious live markets in San Francisco’s Chinatown, which have long resisted humane reform.

“In the past, some Asian Pacific American advocates have been willing to play the race card on the live market issue,” Guillermo observed on May 1. “Any attempt at vigorous law enforcement was seen as anti-Chinese. Politicians backed off. Now, to ignore the public health interests of all Americans, particularly Chinese Americans, is far more racist.”

Said Mills, “I visited four markets in San Francisco’s Chinatown on May 8, and saw the same horrors: major overcrowding of birds and fish in very unsanitary conditions; frogs and turtles, sometimes mixed, stacked three and four deep, without water, many dead or dying; many fish slowly suffocating in cardboard boxes. I also found non-permitted turtles in three of the markets. Earlier I found frozen armadillos in an Oakland market.”

Dean E. Murphy of *The New York Times* reported on May 23 that Chinese-Americans themselves seemed to be avoiding Chinatown food purchases.

Since palm civets, ferret badgers, and tanukis are not often among the live fare offered in U.S. Chinatowns, the U.S. live markets may soon recover.

Epidemiologists warn, however, that as more exotic animals are offered for sale, especially as food, more exotic diseases can be expected to mutate into forms afflicting humans. The SARS epidemic was one warning. The monkeypox outbreak believed to have hit at least 33 people in Chicago and Milwaukee in early June 2003 was another. Apparently brought into the U.S. by accident with a Gambian giant pouched rat, considered a food animal in Central and West Africa, monkeypox is believed to have spread to prairie dogs at a Chicago pet store. It then hit pet prairie dog purchases.

Next time the disease could be worse than SARS, which actually killed remarkably few people, considering the high population density of the cities it attacked.

And next time the severely stressed, dehydrated, often injured and feverish cats and dogs on death row in Asian live markets could become the vector for transmitting whatever the disease, with potential to hit the consumers of as many as 10,000 cats and 30,000 to 50,000 dogs per day in Guangdong alone.



Chinese ferret badger. (Kim Bartlett)

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Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force fixing for “Phase 3”

VICTOR, Montana—Scarce funding may doom the Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force, founder Jean Atthowe told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in early June 2003—but, characteristic of the optimism that impelled Atthowe to form the Task Force in 1996, she added that lack of resources may expedite the transition of the work to community management.

This would fulfill her initial ambition for the project.

“From November 1996 through October 2002,” Atthowe said, “the Task Force has helped to create 46 pet care events with local hosts, and has provided spay/neuter surgeries for over 15,000 Montana dogs and cats. The Task Force has visited all seven Native American nations in Montana from one to four times each,” as well as many small towns in remote locations which often do not even have a local veterinarian.

“Recently the Task Force has been working with ever larger Montana communities, at the invitation of city councils and county commissions,” Atthowe added. “With participating veterinarians becoming more proficient at high-volume surgery and the Task Force refining procedures, the numbers of surgeries have increased.”

The major secret of mobile success, longtime Task Force participant Jeff Young, DVM, told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, was learning to avoid using the task force mobile unit as a mobile operating room. Young pioneered

mobile sterilization on Native American reservations during the early 1990s, repeatedly circling Colorado in an old school bus he converted into a rolling animal hospital, but eventually came to realize that using his vehicle mainly to haul supplies could enable him to fix more animals, faster.

“Finding space to work on the road is not a problem,” Young said. “All I need is electricity and running water. Anywhere I might set up has a community center or church or town hall or schoolroom where I can work for a weekend. Resupply is my problem. I can’t get surgical materials out in the boon-docks, so when I run out, I have to go back to some city. Using my vehicle to haul supplies instead of as a clinic, I can fix 1,000 animals before I have to visit a city. I can stay on the road for several months if I want to.”

Said Atthowe, “The Task Force carries in a small 1985 Chevrolet van, brightly painted and decorated, the supplies and equipment to set up a spay/neuter clinic in an existing building within a community. The goal is to place the entire clinic within the community expressly to encourage the participation and involvement of the entire community.”

That first visit is Phase 1 of the Task Force strategy: a demonstration of the value and process of sterilizing dogs and cats.

Phase 2 involves sending out Task Force teams whose expenses are covered by the community, at rates of \$300 for a vet for a

day, \$80 for a veterinary technician, and \$625 for the materials they will use.

In Phase 3, the host community contracts directly with the veterinary team who will provide the clinic, and as Atthowe put it, “The Task Force is out of the picture.”

A potential threat to the program, Atthowe added, would be replacement of the Task Force at Phase 3 with another program funded by outside grants. This, she explained, could erode the sense of local responsibility and self-empowerment that the Task Force tries to develop, and would in effect keep dog and cat sterilization among the Native American nations on a “welfare” footing.

“In larger urban areas,” said Jean Atthowe’s husband Jack Atthowe in a recent analytical report, “the immediate impact [of a Task Force visit] is about a 10% drop in animals impounded and a 15% drop in animals destroyed. In more compact areas such as the Native American nations, the impact is greater, varying from a 20% to a 50% decrease in the numbers of animals impounded and destroyed. In almost all instances there is a steady drop in animals impounded and animals destroyed for one to two years after the spay/neuter event. The impact of additional visits is to bring about a steady decrease in animals impounded and animals destroyed, to 70% to 75% below what occurred before the first Task Force visit. In some cases,” Jack Atthowe added, this steady decline over time



—Diana Nolen

might best be accounted for by a change of attitudes toward animals within the community...The larger or longer the spay/neuter event, or the smaller the community, the greater was the likelihood of change.”

The Task Force sterilized a record 4,000 animals in 2002, and hopes to do as many in 2003 if an adequate budget can be raised to hire vets, maintain equipment, and keep the old van on the road.

Foundation support and private donations have not kept pace with the recent rapid growth of the Task Force mission, which coincided with the economic slump afflicting the U.S. since the high-tech stock crash of 2000-2001. The crash hit the humane sector hard even before the post-9/11 stock market slide because many humane organizations were heavily invested in high tech as a non-animal-using branch of industry.

[Contact the Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force c/o P.O. Box 701, Victor, MT 59875; 406-777-2644.]

More events

malrights2002.org>.

August 2: Dogs Night Out Twilight Walk, Sylmar, Calif., to benefit Pet Orphans Fund. Info: <Peggi@petorphans-fund.org>.

(continued on page 11)
August 4: A Moment in Time, prayer day for animals in Greece. Info: <www.canadianvoice-foranimals.org/WorldPrayerDay.html>.

August 16-17: United Poultry Concerns Forum, Boulder, Colorado. Info: <www.upc-online.org>.

September 3-6: Asia for Animals Conf., Hong Kong; contact: <AsiaforAnimals@spca.org.hk>; 852-2232-5542; fax: 852-2519-7737.

Sept. 15-19: Arbitons les Chats en France conf., Echourgnac, France. Info: <http://foyerfelin.free.fr/Conference.html>.

Sept. 25-27: All-Africa Humane Education Summit, Cape Town. Info: Humane Education Trust, 27-21-852-8160, <avoice@yebo.co.za>, or <www.animalvoice.org>.

Sept. 29-Oct. 1: Conference on the Status of the Koala in 2003, Brisbane, Australia. Info: Australian Koala Fndtn., <www.w.w.s.a.v.e-thekoala.com/conf2003.html>.

Oct. 1-4: World Vegetarian Day. Local events will be held around the world. Info: Farmed Animal Action, c/o <info@farmed-animalaction.co.uk>; <www.farmedanimalaction.co.uk>.

Oct. 4: Animal Welfare Sunday. Info: Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals, c/o <sue@jimgrisham.com>.

October 10-11: Mammal rehabilitation & wildlife disease course, South Africa. Info: <www.gamecapture.info>.

October 24-26: No More

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Maddie’s Fund, 2223 Santa Clara Ave, Suite B, Alameda, CA 94501
510-337-8989, info@maddiesfund.org



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.

To certify the product or the farm producer—that is the question for HFAC, AWI

HERNDON, Virginia—For a few hours on May 22-23 Humane Farm Animal Care founder Adele Douglass was on top of the world, among the top three stories of the morning headlined by the Associated Press.

“Rectangular labels reading ‘Certified Humane Raised & Handled’ should start appearing in about a month on meat, poultry, dairy and egg products,” AP reporter David Dishneau explained.

“The program,” Dishneau continued, “backed by 10 animal welfare groups, certifies producers and processors who meet certain standards for animal treatment. Participants are charged modest royalty fees—50¢ a pig, for example—and pay for annual inspections at \$400 a day.”

As well as introducing HFAC, Dishneau introduced millions of readers to the realities of factory farming:

“The certification standards,” he wrote, “prohibit keeping pregnant pigs in metal gestation crates, confining egg-laying hens in cages, and tying dairy cows in stalls. They bar using growth hormones and turning animals too sick to walk into food.” He closed by offering a link to the HFAC web site.

Other media quoted endorsements from the American SPCA and Humane Society of the U.S., both of which are among the HFAC sponsors.

Some reports noted that a Gallup poll released one day earlier found that 62% of Americans support strict laws—which exist in several European nations but not the U.S.—to protect the well-being of farm animals.

HFAC had enjoyed a remarkably successful public launch, after Douglass spent two years in an abortive effort to start a similar certification program called Free Farmed under the auspices of the American Humane Association. Douglass was the AHA Washington D.C. office director from 1986 to 2001.

But any euphoria Douglass might

have felt lasted less than four days.

On May 27 Associated Press distributed a correction saying it had “reported erroneously that a similar program sponsored by the AHA had failed. That program, called Free Farmed, still exists, AHA said.”

Having seen no sign of Free Farmed activity since Douglass left the AHA in late 2002, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** checked the AHA claim. The Free Farmed web page had disappeared. A telephone message left at the Free Farmed number was not returned. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** learned later that the staff member assigned to check the messages was on maternity leave. An e-mail inquiry sent to AHA president Tim O’Brian drew no response.

The most recent Free Farmed press release archived at the AHA web site was issued on November 22, 2002, when Douglass was still directing the program.

Figuratively competing with her own ghost, pending the AHA appointment of a successor, was just one headache for Douglass. A May 30 letter from Animal Welfare Institute president Cathy Liss to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and possibly other organizations that have endorsed HFAC was another.

“As you know,” wrote Liss, “the HFAC program is intended to help consumers distinguish between products from humanely reared animals and those produced in cruel animal factories. The chief concerns that AWI has with the program are that it certifies companies involved in dual production, raising some animals under humane conditions while subjugating others to inhumane, factory-like conditions, and it identifies as ‘humane’ products from animals who have been mutilated” by tail-docking and debeaking.

“Would a human rights organization certify a company as humane if it caters to a special market by manufacturing some of its goods using adult labor in spacious, comfortable and healthy working conditions,” Liss

continued, “while at the same time selling to a generic market goods produced by child laborers working long hours in cramped dimly lit quarters that ruin their eyesight and health?”

“Of course not,” Liss declared. “Would a consumer searching to buy from a company that treats workers with dignity knowingly buy from that corporation? We don’t think so. We believe consumers want to buy products from companies that are 100% humane.”

Liss did not mention that AWI has since 1999 endorsed pork products marketed under the Niman Ranch label.

AWI consultant Diane Halverson explained when the Niman Ranch program was announced that, “AWI’s criteria require that the participants be independent family farmers, that is the farmer must own the animals, depend on the farm for a livelihood, and be involved in the day to day physical labor of managing the pigs. This requirement,” she said, “helps to ensure that pigs are raised in modest numbers, making it easier to know and manage the animals as individuals.”

Tail-docking is not permitted. The Niman Ranch standards are otherwise similar to those of HFAC.

The major differences between the HFAC and AWI standards, Douglass told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, are that HFAC is trying to persuade agribusiness to adopt more humane methods while AWI is trying to combat the dominant role of agribusiness, and that HFAC is certifying products rather than producers, in recognition that modern agricultural conglomerates may include a variety of different farms experimenting with different methods. The most profitable methods come to dominate. HFAC hopes to help humane methods beat out the status quo in marketplace competition, so as to encourage dual producers to eventually convert all of their facilities away from factory methods—which few producers with multi-million-dollar investments in infrastructure are likely to do without doing side-by-side comparison of economic results.

“Beak-trimming is contrary to the principles of our animal care standards,” Douglass acknowledged, “but we have found that no matter how good the management is of some of the current strains of laying hens, outbreaks of feather-pecking and cannibalism do occur, and can pose much more serious welfare threats. Therefore, we allow the practice. There is some evidence that some genetic strains of hen are less predisposed to feather-pecking,” Douglass said. “We will be reviewing this issue and will move away from this practice when more appropriate strains



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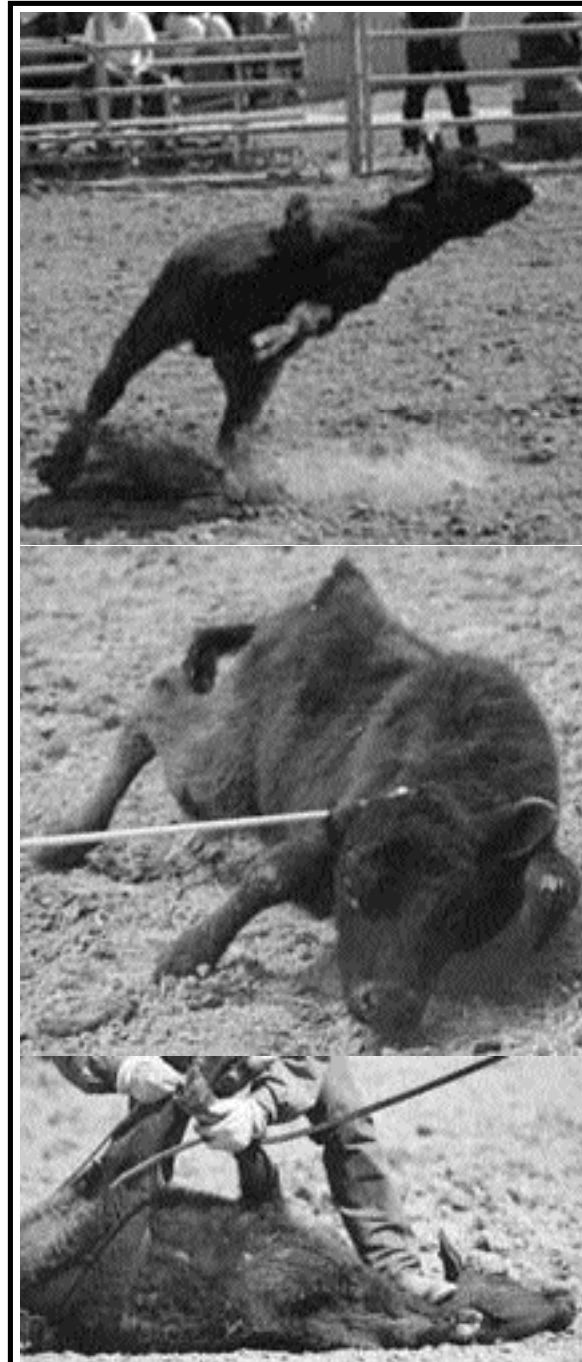
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WILL U.S. SUPREME COURT RULING MEAN MORE TROUBLE FOR WILDLIFE WAYSTATION?

WASHINGTON D.C., LOS ANGELES, SACRAMENTO—The U.S. Supreme Court on May 5 ruled unanimously that states may prosecute charities and hired fundraisers for fraud if they misrepresent how donations will be used.

The case, "Madigan v. Telemarketing Associates," concerned the effort of Illinois attorney general Lisa Madigan to prosecute a firm that solicited funds for VietNow, a charity formed to aid Vietnam veterans.

Summarized Associated Press, "The state claimed would-be donors were told their money would go for food baskets, job training and other services for needy veterans, even though Telemarketing Associates pocketed 85% of the take. One woman said she was told, '90% or more goes to the vets.' The ruling makes clear that while fundraisers may keep quiet about the high costs of running a charity drive, they may not lie about it."

The Supreme Court reaffirmed previous rulings that states may not restrict how much money charities spend on fundraising.

However, wrote Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, "Like other forms of public deception, fraudulent charitable solicitation is unprotected" by the First Amendment guarantee of freedom of speech and "Consistent with our precedent and the First Amendment," Ginsburg continued, "States may maintain fraud actions when fundraisers make false or misleading representations designed to deceive donors."

Less than 48 hours after the verdict a former longtime supporter of the Wildlife Waystation in Angeles National Forest, California, who had not previously criticized the Waystation to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, sent by e-mail a postal solicitation from the Waystation which may have stepped over the lines delineated by the Supreme Court. The solicitation was apparently sent in April 2003.

A pie chart beside the facsimile signature of Waystation founder Martine Colette, headlined "How your donations are utilized," showed expenditures of 83.2% for "Animal care services," against 16.8% for "general administrative," with no mention made of fundraising.

The most recent Wildlife Waystation filing of IRS Form 990 available from the IRS service contractor <www.Guidestar.org>, received by the IRS on October 15, 2002, declared expenditures of 69% for program services, including animal care; 24% for "Management and general"; and 7% for fundraising—but as on the filing from the previous year, Line 30, requiring disclosure of payments of "Professional fundraising fees," was left blank.

Virginia fundraiser Bruce Eberle (*page one*) has done direct mailings for the Waystation in recent years, but the Waystation also does mailings of its own. Waystation general manager Alfred "A.J." Durtschi told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the mailing in question was entirely pro-

duced by the Waystation staff, said the pie chart would be corrected in a future mailing, and sent a page of a new IRS Form 990 declaring that program service had increased to 76%, with "Management and general" expense down to 16% and fundraising costs at 8%.

However, the breakdown of expenses could not be verified as meeting the Wise Giving Alliance and **ANIMAL PEOPLE** guidelines for calculating program service vs. overhead expenditure because for the third year in a row Line 30 was left blank.

Not clear to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** was if complaints about the appeal had been sent to regulatory agencies or other news media. Vague hints that it might have been came on May 11 from an ex-volunteer who has long been hostile toward Martine Colette.

The Waystation has made recent progress on other regulatory fronts. *Los Angeles Daily News* staff writer Troy Anderson reported on June 9 that "Wildlife Waystation and Los Angeles County officials expect to sign a memorandum of understanding this week that would allow the facility to resume rescuing sick and homeless creatures."

Since April 2000, the Waystation has not been allowed to take in additional rap-

ports, reptiles, so-called game mammals, exot-

ic birds, or exotic mammals.

In November 2002 the Waystation settled a five-year backlog of 299 citations for alleged Animal Welfare Act violations by signing a consent decree which allows the animals on site to remain, but prohibits accepting more, and puts the facility—well-regarded by fellow sanctuarians but long at odds with officialdom—under a two-year probation.

In May 2003 the Waystation won a court order allowing it to build new quarters for 24 chimpanzees, ending a five-year impasse due to conflicting state, federal, and county regulations.

The Waystation was closed to public visits from April 2000 to January 2001 by order of the California Department of Fish and Game, and was closed again by the Los Angeles County Fire Department in September 2001 pending completion of fire and erosion control work now underway.

California crackdown

Following the May 5 Supreme Court decision, California attorney general Bill Lockyer joined charities regulators in 33 other states and the Federal Trade Commission in a joint effort called "Operation Phoney Philanthropy," which according to Stephen G.

Greene of *The Chronicle of Philanthropy* "is aimed at people who gull donors into contributing to charities supposedly set up to benefit police or firefighters and their families, veterans, terminal ill children, or other sympathetic causes, but who wind up keeping most of the money they raise."

Lockyer also released a report stating that "Only 38% of donations raised by commercial solicitors in California fundraising campaigns in 2001 went to charities," *The Chronicle of Philanthropy* said. This was a slight improvement over 2000, however, when California charities got 34% of the money raised by commercial solicitors.

Acting Wildlife Waystation chief executive officer Robert Lorsch is among the alleged victims listed in a lawsuit Lockyer filed on March 13 against Hollywood fundraiser Aaron Tonken. According to a press release from Lockyer's office, a Tonken-produced event "was supposed to benefit the Joan English Fund for Women's Cancer Research, the Robert H. Lorsch Foundation Trust, and charities designated by TV producer Loreen Arbus. Tonken took in at least \$550,000 in donations, loans, and expense payments for the event and has failed to account for any of the money. The event never was held."

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Australia commits to tail-docking ban

BRISBANE, Australia—Five of the seven Australian states are reportedly committed to introducing a national ban on docking dogs’ tails by June 30, 2003, to take effect on December 1.

“New South Wales and the Northern Territory requested more time to consider joining the ban,” reported Larizza Dubecki of the *Melbourne Age*. “The decision [to ban tail-docking] was made at the April 10 Primary

Hancock still fighting for animals

SACRAMENTO—Loni Hancock (D-Berk-eley) on May 1 withdrew a Farm Sanctuary bill to ban the use of gestation crates for pregnant sows. Opposed by the California Farm Bureau Federation, the bill was three votes short of clearing the California assembly Agriculture Committee.

The “Chronology of Humane Progress” published in the May edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** stated that in 1976 the San Francisco SPCA became the first U.S. animal control agency to halt killing animals by decompression. The precedent actually came in Berkeley, across San Francisco Bay, on a 1972 motion by then-city councillor Loni Hancock, backed by fellow councillor Ron Dellums, who has since had a staunchly pro-animal record in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The history of the Berkeley bill was recounted by Lara Diana Sukol in *The Politics of Dogs in Berkeley*, 1968-1972, an M.A. thesis presented to the history faculty at the University of Vermont in March 2000. Hancock moved to abolish the decompression chamber at urging of a group called The Dog Responsibility Committee, formed by Myrna Walton, Julie Stitt, and Sukol’s parents, George and Diana Sukol.

Industries Ministerial Council in Brisbane, supported by the Royal SPCA and the Australian Veterinary Association.

The AVA first called for a ban on tail-docking in 1998, six years after the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in Britain and five years after the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, but Australia is the first English-speaking nation to commit to a ban. Rare outside English-speaking nations, tail-docking is done primarily to comply with breed standards established in England by the Kennel Club during the 19th century, later adopted by the American Kennel Club and other kennel associations.

ANIMAL PEOPLE has no record of any U.S. legislative efforts to ban tail-docking, but there have been two recent court cases of relevance.

The New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division ruled 3-2 on February 26, 2003 that Manhattan attorney Jon H. Hammer lacked standing to sue the AKC under an anti-cruelty statute meant to be enforced by law enforcement agencies. Hammer sought to overturn the AKC tail-docking standard for Brittany spaniels, contending that it compels the mutilation of show dogs.

Earlier, U.S. District Judge James Ware of San Jose, California, ruled in October 2002 that the Jack Russell Terrier Club of America may enforce whatever breed standards it wants, and need not recognize Jack Russells bred by members of the Jack Russell Network of Northern California. At issue in the case, filed in 1998 by the Jack Russell Network, was that the Jack Russell Terrier Club of America does not recognize the AKC breed standard, while the Jack Russell Network is an AKC affiliate.

The import of Ware’s ruling as regards tail-docking is that there is no U.S. judicial or legislative precedent for overturning a breed standard.

Locke vetoes Washington trap ban repeal & other state legislative highlights

Three of the biggest wins for animals during spring 2003 legislative sessions were the defeat of anti-animal bills in Washington, Texas, and California.

Washington Governor Gary Locke on May 22 vetoed a repeal of Initiative 713, banning the use of body-gripping traps. The initiative was approved in November 2000 by 55% of the electorate. It was vulnerable in the legislature because support was concentrated along the heavily populated eastern shore of Puget Sound, which is proportionally under-represented in both the state house and senate relative to rural districts.

Despite vetoing the repeal bill, Locke asked the state Department of Fish and Wildlife to “place limited enforcement resources into higher-order priorities than against homeowners, businesses, and the timber industry, that trap for moles, gophers, and mountain beavers.”

Initiative 713 has proved unexpectedly effective in halting fur trapping in Washington, as reported kills of coyotes have fallen from 838 in 1999 to 63 in 2002; kills of muskrat are down from 3,572 to 33; kills of beaver are down from 4,819 to 782; kills of raccoons are down from 571 to six; and kills of river otter are down from 727 to 17.

In Texas, the state house and senate repeatedly rejected bills and amendments to legislation introduced by state representatives Betty Brown (R-Terrell) and Rick Hardcastle (R-Vernon) to allow Dallas Crown Packaging of Kaufman and Beltex Corporation of Fort Worth to continue slaughtering horses for

human consumption abroad.

The biggest horse slaughterhouses in the U.S., Beltex killed 27,000 horses in 2001, with sales of \$30 million, while Dallas Crown killed 13,000 horses, with sales of \$9 million. Their continued operation in Texas was jeopardized by an August 2002 opinion by Texas Attorney General John Coryn that a 1949 state law forbidding the killing and export of horses for human consumption is still in effect.

Tarrant and Kaufman counties promptly moved to close Beltex and Dallas Crown, whose odors and emissions are unpopular with neighbors.

The California state senate Natural Resources and wildlife Committee on May 27 rejected a bill by Dennis Hollingsworth which would have repealed state bans on the sale of kangaroo, crocodile, and alligator pelts and products, dating to the 1970s.

“Although the bill has been defeated this time around, Senator Hollingsworth has been granted reconsideration for the bill to be heard again,” Viva!USA campaigns director Lauren Ornelas warned.

Bills establishing felony cruelty penalties were signed into law during spring 2003 by the governors of Kentucky, Montana, Nebraska, West Virginia, and Wyoming. The last states without felony penalties for at least some forms of cruelty to animals are Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Hawai, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, North Dakota, and Utah.

Many state felony cruelty bills have been boosted to passage by public revulsion at especially egregious cruelty cases, but the

Nebraska bill was among a salvo of five pro-animal measures introduced by Omaha state senator Ernie Chambers in memory of his poodle Mollie Rae, who died in May at age 12.

Wyoming Governor Dave Freudenthal also signed into law a bill creating a state board of euthanasia technicians. Wrote Robert W. Black of Associated Press, “The bill is meant to help animal shelters avoid the cost of hiring veterinarians to destroy unwanted or badly injured animals and allow phasing out carbon monoxide chambers, which are hard to maintain and cannot be used on all animals.”

The Connecticut legislature for the second year in a row passed a bill to limit the length of time that a dog can be tethered. Introduced by state representative Kenneth Bernhard (R-Westport), the 2003 version requires only that dogs may not be tied for an “unreasonable” amount of time. The 2002 version, vetoed by Governor John Rowland, set specific time limits. Bernhard resigned his longtime post as board chair for Friends of Animals in June 2002 after FoA president Priscilla Feral urged the veto. Rowland at the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** deadline had not yet indicated whether he would sign the 2003 bill.

The anti-tethering bill was drafted by Animal Advocacy Connecticut founder Julie Lewin in memory of a Doberman/pit bull terrier mix she called Woggle, who lived his whole life chained to an old car axle behind a Hartford tenement. Lewin, a former neighbor, visited him daily for eight years.

Declawing bans

Nationwide, the state bill pertaining to animals that captured the most media attention was one which not only did not pass but did not even get out of committee. California AB 395, by Paul Koretz (D-West Hollywood), would have banned declawing cats. AB 395 on April 29 fell two votes short of clearing the Assembly Business and Professions Committee. Koretz’s chief of staff, Teresa Stark, indicated that Koretz might bring it back with amendments to try to get around some of the opposition.

Previously mayor of West Hollywood and city council member for 13 years, Koretz introduced AB 395 along with other bills to halt selling pound animals to laboratories and to ban hunting mammals with dogs.

Koretz pushed the anti-declawing bill after the West Hollywood council on April 6 voted unanimously to ban declawing, at urging of Santa Monica activist Jennifer Conrad, on a motion by councilor John Duran. Opponents of the ordinance objected that not declawing cats could put people with impaired immune systems in jeopardy from infected cat scratches. Duran responded that he himself is HIV-positive.

The West Hollywood ordinance applies only to the three veterinary clinics within city limits.

Conrad next asked the Malibu city council to ban declawing. On May 27 the Malibu council voted to consider a non-binding anti-declawing resolution.

Conrad told Bruce Haring of Associated Press that she also intends to seek declawing bans in Palm Springs, San Francisco, and Santa Monica.

Wildlife bills

North Carolina Governor Mike Easley on May 31 signed into law a bill to allow the state Wildlife Resources Commission to protect nonendangered species of reptiles and amphibians by restricting or halting any trapping or taking. The bill was introduced by state senator Charlie Albertson (D-Beulaville) after the *Raleigh News & Observer* revealed that the numbers of turtles trapped for commercial sale in North Carolina had jumped from 460 in 2000 to more than 23,000 in 2002. Most of the turtles were sold to Asian markets.

In a setback for animal advocates, Maryland Governor Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. on April 22—Earth Day—ended a 280-year ban on Sunday hunting by signing a bill authorizing one Sunday of deer hunting each for archers and shooters. Fund for Animals president Michael Markarian noted that Ehrlich told the Maryland Sportsmen’s Association during the 2002 gubernatorial election campaign that he opposed Sunday hunting.

A similar bill was vetoed in 2002 by former Governor Parris Glendening, believed to have been the only openly vegetarian state governor in U.S. history.

Saving babies

Two nonbinding pro-animal resolutions were adopted by state assemblies during the spring.

On May 13 the Pennsylvania house of representatives unanimously passed a resolution “encouraging the Pennsylvania Game Commission to use services provided by licensed wildlife rehabilitators in situations involving injured or orphaned wildlife,” Fund for Animals national director Heidi Prescott summarized. “Previously, PGC policy was to instruct the public to leave orphaned animals alone, or to have conservation officers remove and discreetly kill the animals.” The bill was introduced by Jim Lynch (R-District 65).

On April 21 the California assembly approved by a 65-11 vote a resolution by Joe Nation (D-San Rafael) calling upon the state education and health departments to offer vegetarian and vegan school lunch menu options, to be voluntarily phased in by 2007. Nation introduced the resolution, activist Mary Max told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, at request of “a fantastic mother and friend of mine, Barbara Gates, who started the campaign all by herself after becoming frustrated with her children’s school offering only peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to vegan students.”

Passage of the resolution on school lunches was solace to Nathan for his inability the previous week to move a proposed ban on dove hunting out of the California assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee.

The Minnesota state house Ways and Means Committee on the same day killed a bill to start a Minnesota dove hunting season.

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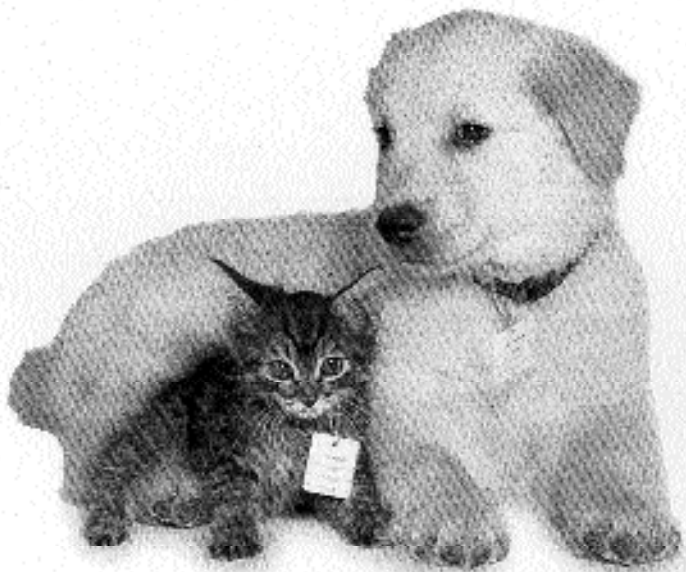
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Where cats belong—and where they don't (from page 1))

year, against the norm of one in the snowbelt states.

Yet Florida used to have even more feral cats.

Since local TNR programs began in south Florida during the early 1990s, animal control killing per 1,000 human residents has dropped by half, and reductions in the numbers of cats killed are believed to account for most of the improvement. In 2001, for instance, all shelters combined in the Fort Lauderdale/Miami corridor killed 14.1 cats and dogs per 1,000 humans, less than the national average of 15.7, and down from 33.0 per 1,000 as recently as 1997.

In Tampa, where TNR has not taken hold, shelters collectively killed 32.4 cats and dogs per 1,000 humans in 2001. St. Petersburg, right across Tampa Bay, with several active TNR groups, killed 13.7.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission field biologist Dwayne Carboneau and northeast regional director Dennis David followed Montalbano in spooking cat people when in mid-May they accidentally left a conversation between them on the answering machine of Alley Cat Allies in Washington D.C.

Neither realized that David's telephone was still connected to the answering machine, after David left a brief message about the May 30 FFWCC meeting.

"Should I wear my uniform when I'm shooting these neighborhood cats?" asked Carboneau.

"Only after we adopt this policy," David said.

Policy adopted

Softening their initial tone as cat defenders bared their claws, but perhaps using doublespeak, the FFWCC unanimously voted "To pursue staff recommendations and all of the strategies outlined and to oppose TNR only when it is a threat to native wildlife and then in the most socially acceptable way we can."

The approved strategies include:

- "A comprehensive education program to increase public awareness of the impacts that feral and free-ranging cats present to wildlife," which feral cat advocates read as mounting an anti-cat propaganda blitz.
- Identifying "ways for cat owners to minimize impacts," meaning keeping cats indoors.
- Informing "cat owners of laws prohibiting the release or abandonment of cats to the wild," read by many TNR practitioners as an attempt to legally define them as owners and arrest them. This tactic has failed when attempted in other states.
- Eliminating "the threat cats pose to the viability of local populations of wildlife, particularly species listed as endangered, threatened or of special concern," perhaps hinting at an escalation of catch-and-kill.
- Prohibiting "the release, feeding or protection of cats on lands managed by the

Florida Wildlife Commission and strongly opposing programs and policies that allow the release, feeding or protection of cats on public lands that support wildlife habitat." This much was already public policy and is also the policy of the National Park Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S. Navy, U.S. Postal Service, and other federal agencies.

- Providing "technical advice, policy support and partnerships to land management agencies in order to prevent the release, feeding or protection of cats on public lands that support wildlife habitat," read by TNR practitioners as a mandate for creating an inter-agency cat extermination force.

- Opposing creation and supporting "elimination of TNR colonies and similar managed cat colonies wherever they potentially and significantly impact local wildlife populations," which some TNR practitioners read as meaning anywhere, although the phrase "potentially and significantly" leaves room for tolerating low-level predation on rodents and common bird species in developed areas, where other predators such as coyotes and gulls are either few or unwelcome.

- Evaluating "the need for new rules to minimize the impacts of cats on native wildlife."

The FFWCC tried to mollify cat defenders by stating that it "is not making drastic plans to kill cats; rather it is looking to employ the least-restrictive methods possible to accomplish the agency's mission to protect wildlife.

The FFWCC also indicated that it would not take the active role that some cat advocates fear in conducting feral cat roundups: "Commissioners agreed that local governments have the primary responsibility for managing domestic animals, including cats, and the FFWCC will concentrate its efforts on coordinating with them and other affected parties."

In other words, catch-and-kill on land not under direct FWC management is still delegated to local animal control agencies, whose policies and activities are still under the direction of local elected officials.

Elaborated FFWCC spokesperson Joy Hill to Associated Press writer Mike Schneider, "We're not forming a cat Nazi-patrol. That's not what this is about. It's about protecting wildlife."

Skeptical, Alley Cat Allies challenged the new FFWCC policy with a June 10 lawsuit.

How great a difference the new FFWCC policy will actually make remains to be seen. Although it lends itself to extremes of interpretation, it really does little more than restate the longstanding perspectives and policies of wildlife agencies all over the U.S.

It also marks the first major state level escalation of a policy debate already underway in communities with both active TNR programs and active birders who blame cats for declines of ground-nesting birds and

songbirds. Friction over the alleged impact of feral cats on a small reintroduced population of California golden quail in Golden Gate Park has raged for more than a decade.

A similar confrontation in Akron, Ohio, brought the extermination of 969 cats trapped by cat-unfriendly residents during the latter half of 2002.

While the Florida debate was underway, comparable resolutions were under discussion in Oakland, Michigan, and Richmond, Indiana.

Maverick Cats

Few cities and counties and even fewer states have existing written feral cat policies because historically feral cats were not recognized as a presence, much less a problem. Feral cats were not covered in the model animal control ordinances circulated by national animal advocacy groups as recently as the early 1990s, there is no corpus of common law pertaining to them, and *felis catus*, their species, is not even mentioned in the Bible.

Recognition of the existence of feral cats in great numbers may be traced to the 1982 first publication of *Maverick Cats*, by Ellen Perry Berkeley.

Feral cats at the time were still generally seen—if seen at all—as a rural phenomena, haunting dairy barns where they hunted mice in haylofts and begged for milk.

Urban feral cats were presumed to be strays, and urban cats dumped in rural habitat were believed to have a very low survival rate. At Tilden Park in the hills above Berkeley, California, for example, the ranger lecture given to visiting schoolchildren during the 1960s and early 1970s included inspecting cat bones and hearing about how cruel it was to dump unwanted cats to "give them a chance" because a typical urban cat could not catch enough mice and birds to feed herself.

Discussion of the possible impact of feral cats on rare resident birds and reptiles was added after the passage of the federal Endangered Species Act in 1973.

The Walt Disney film *Lady & The Tramp* (1955) marked the apparent turning point in a battle begun with the passage of the first U.S. animal control ordinances to persuade Americans to confine dogs at home and have them wear identity collars. The popularity of the film apparently accomplished what more than 200 years of municipal dog-catching and 100 years of humane society lecturing had not. Within the next 25 years allowing dogs to run at large passed from being the American norm to being a socially unacceptable act in most parts of the country, but not even Ellen Perry Berkeley seems to have given thought to what the disappearance of free-roaming dogs might mean to feral cats.

What happened was that confining dogs opened habitat and diurnal hunting and travel opportunities to a self-sustaining cat population who until then had been confined to places where dogs could not go, hunting and

Cats Wanted

traveling mostly by night.

Coyotes, foxes, raccoons, deer, and opossums also took advantage of the absence of dogs to claim urban territory, but cats had the dual advantages of already being there, albeit mostly unseen, and of having by far the greatest fecundity, enabling them to rapidly breed up to approximately the same biomass as the dogs whose jobs as refuse raiders and rodent-catchers they took over.

Between 1960 and 1985, available records indicate, the numbers of "stray" cats killed by U.S. animal control agencies approximately tripled, even as dog intake leveled off and began to drop.

In gist, each free-roaming dog weighing 30 pounds on average was replaced by three 10-pound cats.

Feral cats became the most abundant and reproductively prolific mammalian predator/scavenger in the urban environment.

That in turn brought feral cats to the attention of animal advocates and wildlife researchers.

"Fewer than a dozen research papers [about feral cats] had been published by the mid-1970s," recalls Ellen Perry Berkeley in a the new final chapter of a 2001 reissue of *Maverick Cats*. "We now have more than 20 times that number."

Most of the new studies focus on the relatively obvious predatory role of outdoor cats, but a few researchers have also recognized the importance of cats as prey.

Coyotes and foxes often take urban habitat niches from feral cats by force. A 1998 study by the late Martha Grinder (killed in a 1999 car accident) and Paul Krausman, of the University of Arizona in Tucson, found that feral cats were among the main prey of urban coyotes. A1999 study by Kevin Crooks and Lee McClenaghan, of San Diego State University, affirmed the Grinder/Krausman work by discovering cat remains in 21% of the coyote scats they found in canyons near San Diego.

As hawks, owls, and eagles recovered from the reproductive depression of the 1950s through the 1970s caused by exposure to the pesticide DDT, many species—including

(continued on page 16)

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Where cats belong— & where they don’t (from 15)

ing bald eagles—surprised ornithologists by thriving as readily in some cities as out in the wild. Cats, it seems, have also become a big part of urban raptors’ prey base.

The common view of cats as a top predator in the wildlife food pyramid because they are wholly carnivorous is true of most wild species, but not of *felis catus*, who shares with coyotes the distinction of being among the few predators with the fecundity of a prey species.

During the peak years of the U.S. government Animal Damage Control coyote-killing campaigns of the 1950s through the 1970s, biologists found, the average coyote average litter size in Texas grew from four pups to seven. This occurred because the intense ADC hunting pressure on coyotes shifted the odds of pup survival from favoring the pups who got the most maternal care to favoring the offspring of the coyote mothers who could produce the greatest abundance of pups, among whom some might elude the killers.

In addition, with food competition artificially reduced, the coyotes wiley enough to survive were able to feed more pups.

The ancestors of *felis catus* were chiefly the African desert cat, with some apparent genetic input from the Pallas cat of Asia Minor and the closely related Scots wildcat and Norwegian skaukat. All are still capable of hybridizing with *felis catus*, but all normally bear just two kittens. That was also true of the *felis catus* specimens who were mummified by the ancient Egyptians circa 4,000 years ago, and was probably still true of *felis catus* as recently as the 14th century.

Between 1334 and 1354, however, bubonic plague killed up to 75% of the human population of Europe and Asia. Brought to Europe by flea-infested black rats who stowed away aboard the vessels of Crusaders returning from the Middle East, the so-called Black Death attacked most virulently after terrified cities blamed it on “witchcraft” and purged from their midst both the majority of people who had medicinal skill (mostly older women) and their “familiars,” mostly the cats who provided rat control.

Cat-eating was first reported in Guangzhau, China, in 1346, putting the Asian population of *felis catus* under similar pressure, continuing in much of China, Korea, and some other Asian nations to this day.

Human predation on cats waned in Europe for several centuries after the Black Death, but resurged during a British purge of “witches” in 1665, just before The Great Plague of London.

Intensive human predation on *felis catus* in the Americas peaked with the height of catch-and-kill animal control in the U.S. during the 1970s—much of it done, then and now, by humane workers who believe they are “euthanizing” helpless abandoned cats to save them from suffering.

Regardless of motive, the effect on the feral cat population replicates natural predation: the most frequent victims are the very

from viruses to advanced mammals are vaccinated, or sterilized, which amounts to vaccination against pregnancy, the remainder tend to lose the ability to reproduce at more than the replacement level. This is because the potentially reproductive population is not only diminished, but also isolated from each other, among specimens of the same species who hold habitat and whose sterility is not evident.

Each vaccination or sterilization above 70% further reduces the reproductive potential of the target species. The species can even be eradicated, as smallpox was during the 1970s (at least outside of laboratories), if there is not a favorable vacant habitat into which the fecund few can expand and resume high-volume reproduction.

If feral cats were to be eliminated from the U.S., hawks, owls, eagles, foxes, and coyotes would eventually capture their prey base—but feral cats reproduce at from two to six times the rate of any of these rival predators. Until the rival predators are numerous enough to eat any feral cats who try to reclaim a vacant habitat niche, the animals most likely to fill open niches are more cats.

Critical to understand is that this is *not* a matter of cats exercising territoriality. Few predators are more gregarious with each other than *felis catus*. Even dominant toms who drive away other toms during mating season may befriend the others outside of mating season. Feral cats hold habitat niches by consuming the available food supply and occupying the safe cover. They surrender habitat niches to other predators through attrition, as the other predators become able to take the niches away from them.

How many cats?

“Of the 73 million pet cats in the United States,” Heidi Ridgley declared in the April 2003 edition of the National Wildlife Federation membership magazine *National Wildlife*, “an estimated 40 million roam outside unsupervised. Throw in feral cats—the unsocialized offspring of discarded or lost pets—and as many as 100 million cats are on the loose. ‘These cats could easily be killing 100 million songbirds a year,’ says Al Manville, wildlife biologist at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Management Office.”

Ridgely succinctly presented the worst fears of birders and conservationists about feral cats, but much of her information was either outdated or contextually misplaced.

ANIMAL PEOPLE estimated in 1992 that there were about 26 million feral cats in the U.S. at the low end of the annual population cycle in the depth of winter, and about 40 million at the summer peak of kitten season.

These estimates were projected from information about the typical numbers of cats found in common habitat types, gleaned from a national survey of cat rescuers sponsored by Carter Luke of the Massachusetts SPCA, and were cross-compared with animal shelter intake data.

TNR was then just beginning to be practiced in the U.S., and was not even called TNR yet.

After a decade of intensive TNR in much of the country, 40 million is now very close to being the upper-end plausible estimate of all free-roaming cats in the U.S., including both pets and ferals, and then only at the height of “kitten season,” when about half of the total feral cat population are still too young to hunt, with approximately a 50% chance of living long enough to ever hunt successfully.

In 1996, based on a follow-up survey of the same cat rescuers who were polled in 1992,

ANIMAL PEOPLE estimated that the feral cat population had probably peaked in 1993 or 1994 before beginning a downward trend.

ANIMAL PEOPLE projected the annual rate of decrease in the feral cat population since peak at a maximum of 11% per year, if TNR was performed with uniform vigor throughout the U.S.

ANIMAL PEOPLE also projected the rate of assimilation of feral cats into homes, over and above the historical rate of about 25% found by many other researchers, as also being 11%.

Since 1994 the actual rates of decrease in the feral cat population and of assimilation of feral cats as pets appear to have been about half the maximum, because the maximum potential for using TNR effectively has only been half realized. Thus the winter feral cat population may now be as low as 13 million and the summer peak is probably no more than 24 million.

Zero growth

There is indirect confirmation of these numbers from other sources.

The American Animal Hospital Association estimated in 1997, based on veterinary client surveys, that there were about 59 million pet cats in the U.S. One year later the American Pet Product Manufacturers Association estimated that there were 63 million pet cats.

The parallel surveys have shown similar increases in the pet cat population ever since. Currently the AAHA projects that there are 78 million pet cats in the U.S., for a 32% rise in six years.

Yet even a decade ago separate studies by the Tufts University Center for Animals & Public Policy, the Massachusetts SPCA, and Karen Johnson of the National Pet Alliance found that the owned cat population, including cats deliberately bred by the pet industry, appeared to be reproducing at only 70% of their own replacement level.

Even then, up to 85% of all pet cats had already been sterilized, amounting to 60% of the estimated total U.S. cat population of about 100 million.

The pet cat population was maintaining itself and growing only through taming and adoption of ferals. Surveying 20,000 California households in the San Diego and San Jose areas during 1993-1994, Johnson learned that at least 28% of the cats kept as pets were apparently born feral—a slight rise from the findings of the Tufts and MSPCA studies, which were done in 1991, but consistent with the trend reported by other researchers since 1981.

Johnson also learned that about 10% of all the surveyed households fed feral cats, who also amounted to about 10% of the total cat population, and that about 9% of the feral cats had been sterilized.

Overall, 64% of the San Diego and San Jose cats could no longer reproduce, bringing the total cat population close to the 70% threshold for zero growth.

No comparable surveys have been done in the rest of the U.S. yet, but as of 1996, according to American Veterinary Medical Association data, the number of pet cats in the U.S. acquired from all sources and the number of cat steril-

tion, ferals included, is still no more than the 100 million who inhabited the U.S. in 1992, and is very likely less.

How many birds?

The estimate of feline predation on birds at about 100 million per year that Al Manville gave to *National Wildlife*, at approximately one per cat, is probably low. It is certainly a much more conservative projection than most.

In early 2000, in perhaps the most thorough study of cat predation on birds to date, albeit analytically flawed, Carol Fiore of the Wichita State University Department of Biological Sciences put the annual pet cat toll on birds in the U.S. at anywhere from 134 million, if half of all pet cats roam (about 34 million), to 269 million, if every pet cat roams.

Fiore did not try to estimate the numbers of birds killed by feral cats, but even her lower estimate markedly overprojected the number of owned cats who are allowed to roam. This happened because Fiore decided, based on a survey of Wichita residents, that about half of all cat-keepers allow their cats to roam, and presumed that could be extrapolated to mean that half of all pet cats roam.

ANIMAL PEOPLE has much more extensive data about cat-keeping norms on file, from various other studies, which indicates that cat-keepers whose cats do not roam have, on average, from two to three times more cats than those whose cats can roam.

In other words, more than two-thirds and perhaps 75% of all pet cats do not roam. The roaming pet cat population would therefore be no larger than 26 million.

There is a fairly obvious reason for the greater abundance of non-roaming cats, in that cats kept from running at large fences tend to live much longer, avoiding cars, wild predators, and capture by animal control officers.

Ferals kill fewer

Accordingly, even Fiore’s lowest estimate of pet cat predation on birds bmay be twice too high. If Fiore was correct that free-roaming pet cats kill an average of 4.2 birds per year, the toll by pet cats would be 109 million.

The feral cat toll on birds is unlikely to be more than half as high as the pet cat toll..

First, there may be twice as many free-roaming pet cats as ferals old enough to hunt for a living.

Second, ferals who hunt

Cats Wanted

for a living tend to hunt mice by night, not birds, who are mostly not out at night.

Third, feral cats appear to hunt no more, and perhaps less, than free-roaming pet cats. This is because, like other wild predators, they hunt not for sport but for food, and hunting more prey than they can eat is a pointless waste of energy. Conservation of energy is a critical concern of predators, who typically sleep about twice as much as primarily plant-eating prey species (except when prey species hibernate.)

Only the well-fed pet cat can afford the energy expenditure involved in hunting just for fun—especially when the prey is not to be eaten, like the lizards, shrews, and chipmunks commonly killed and abandoned by pet cats.

Finally, relatively few cats are even capable of successfully hunting birds.

Perhaps the best-known study of predation by individually monitored cats was published by the British-based Mammal Society in February 1998, based on their Mammal Action Cat Survey. Eight hundred British cat-keepers recorded their cats’ kills for six months: 144,000 cat-days of activity.

The most active feline killer was Missy, with 125 kills in 180 days, including 28 birds. Almost all the rest were mice, voles, and other small rodents.

The runner-up was Kipper, with 82 kills in 180 days, including six birds.

The two most predatory cats (by far) among the entire sample base killed only 34 birds between them in 360 cat-days of hunting. They managed to kill birds at a rate amounting to 16% of their total prey, and succeeded in killing a bird on only 9.4% of the days they hunted.

Only about one cat in 10 has the vertical visual acuity to catch a bird who takes flight—a hypothesis easily tested with a wad of paper on a string. Most cats will easily catch the paper when it moves horizontally, like a mouse, but nine of

(continued on page 17)

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Help for Arizona Cats

Where cats belong— & where they don’t (from 16)

10 will lose track of it if it is jerked up into the air like a startled bird .

Cats, in short, are rarely the primary cause of the death of the birds they catch. Bird-hunting cats obey the same rules of predation as all other animals who hunt for a living, dispatching primarily the sick, the injured, the elderly, and the very young, especially fledglings who try to fly too soon. Cats also finish birds who become drunk from eating fermented berries, poisoned by pesticide ingestion (typically with recently sprayed insects), or who collide with human-created obstacles.

The ecological role of cats in preventing the spread of bird disease by killing and eating those brought to the ground by infection has barely been studied, but it may be that feline predation is overall more beneficial to birds than harmful.

Examining the spleens of 500 birds who were either caught by cats, flew into windows, or were hit by cars, researchers Anders Moller and Johannes Erritzoe of the Universite Pierre et Marie Curie in Paris reported in June 2000 that the spleens in the cat-killed birds were a third smaller on average, in 16 of 18 species, than in the birds killed in accidents. In part this was because 70% of the cat-killed birds were juveniles; only half of the others were. But a more important factor, Moller and Erritzoe suggested, was that “Birds succumbing to lots of infections, or inundated with energy-sapping parasites, have smaller spleens than healthy birds.”

Who killed Cock Robin?

All considered, the Fiore data suggests that contrary to her own conclusions, pet and feral cats combined probably kill no more than 163 million birds per year in the U.S.

By comparison, human hunters shoot at least 74.4 million wild birds per year, including about 35 million mourning doves.

University of Pennsylvania researcher Daniel Klem estimates that about 100 million birds per year die in collisions with window glass, exclusive of birds who hit the glass first and then are caught by cats. Another four million birds per year die in collisions with cellular telephone transmission towers, also exclusive of birds scavenged by cats.

The Dr. Splatt and Strah Poll roadkill counts indicate that about 11 million to 18 million birds whose remains are big enough to be seen from a car and/or cause a road hazard are roadkilled by cars each year.

National Wildlife Federation vice chair and Virginia Wildlife Center director Edward Clark recalls that, “A study done by the U.S. Fish & wildlife Service of pesticide mortality shows that even with a grid search of a field in which dead birds had been planted 24 hours earlier, the discovery was only about 5%, which means that 95% were either removed by scavengers or went unnoticed.”

If the same ratio applies to roadkilled birds, the vehicular toll would be from 220 million per year.

Interrupted attacks

Clark, an outspoken critic TNR, told Heidi Ridgley of *National Wildlife* that the Virginia Wildlife Center treats about 600 cat-injured animals per year, of whom under 20% recover.

“We have no way of knowing if cats are to blame for the orphaned animals we get,” Clark added.

Wrote Heidi Ridgley, citing Clark, “The ‘fortunate’ few whom people pry out of their cat’s claws and turn loose fair no better. With 60 different kinds of bacteria in a cat’s saliva, even a tiny puncture packs a lethal punch.”

Claimed Clark, “People are woefully mistaken if they think they can turn an injured creature loose and it will survive.”

Clark also stressed in discussion with **ANIMAL PEOPLE** the fate of “those who die from the infections associated with the attack that fails to produce a direct kill. I won’t toss around any assumptions about the percentage success cats have in making direct kills,” Clark said, “but if we apply the generally accepted success rate of wild predators of one kill in 4 tries, the number of actual cat victims skyrockets. The true number is certainly much higher than is currently counted. We receive plenty of birds with missing tail feathers who have bite or claw marks consistent with a cat attack.”

But Clark missed the obvious: the 600 cat-wounded birds he sees are among the few who are rescued by humans, typically because the humans intervene to break off the cat attack. That changes the predator/prey dynamic. The cat has no opportunity to finish the kill because of the human intervention. Otherwise, the injuries he described would impair flight, and would lead to a cat meal. These are not failures of predation, but successes, interrupted, comparable to what happens when a hyena chases a cheetah off a half-dead gazelle and appropriates the meal for himself.

The true failures of predation rise into the air and get away unscathed. The Clark hypothesis that large numbers of birds are dying in the wild of cat-inflicted injuries and infections is simply not supported by evidence—whereas, roadkilled birds and the remains of birds who collide with windows, transmission towers, and power lines, as well as those who succumb to pesticides, have all been collected and studied by researchers in bucketloads.

The nonhuman mammal most responsible for killing birds in the U.S. during the past 20 years is not any predator, but rather the gentle-mannered Virginia whitetailed deer, whose main food is “browse,” the brushy hardwood forest understorey used as nesting habitat by most neotropical migratory songbirds.

From the 1950s through the 1980s most states introduced “buck laws” designed to boost the deer population for the pleasure of human hunters by exempting does from being hunted. Thus the overwintering herd came to have a gender ratio sometimes as high as 20 does to one buck.

Because shooting up to 85% of the buck population each fall made winter browse relatively abundant, more does were able to bear and raise twin fawns. By the early 1990s the Virginia whitetailed deer population was believed to have exceeded pre-Columbian levels, and it has continued to grow, despite the reintroduction of doe hunting, increased bag limits, and experiments with contraception.

Comparing the range maps of declining neotropical migratory songbird species with deer counts confirms the obvious: deer are eating the birds out of house and home. The only role cats have in the plight of the birds is that birds unable to find good nesting habitat sometimes resort to nesting in more vulnerable locations—where they are exposed to the full range of woodland predators.

Temple & barns

Many of the other common claims about cat predation are comparably weak. Summarized Ridgley of the findings most often cited by foes of ferals, “A University of Wisconsin study in the early 1990s found that the estimated 1.4 million to 2 million cats that range freely in rural areas of the state kill 31.4 million small mammals and 7.8 million birds a year—at a minimum. ‘We knew the study would be controversial so we went with the most conservative estimates,’ says biologist Stanley Temple, coauthor of the study.”

Actually Temple used grossly inflated estimates of cat numbers. The standard method of estimating the owned cat population, based on AVMA *U.S. Pet Ownership & Demographic Sourcebook* data, is human population divided by 2.65 (people/household), x .568 (ratio of cats to people).

That would put the owned cat population of Wisconsin in the early 1990s at just under 1.6 million. If feral cats were 40% of the total cat population, the maximum plausible estimate of the total number of cats in all of Wisconsin, not just the rural areas, would have been 1.9 million.

Between ferals and free-roaming pet cats, there were probably not more than 750,000 free-roaming cats in Wisconsin, barely more than half of Temple’s low-end estimate.

“In parts of rural Wisconsin,” Temple told Ridgley, “roaming cat densities can reach 114 cats per square mile.”

Yet if every barn in Wisconsin housed feral cats at the average density of the barn colonies whose populations **ANIMAL PEOPLE** surveyed in 1992, when barn colonies appeared to be at their peak size, the 68,000 barns in Wisconsin would have housed 816,000 cats, which would work out to 15 cats per square mile.

“The billboard effect”

There is support, however, for the view of San Francisco quail advocate Alan Hopkins that TNR encourages cat abandonment—shared by DELTA Rescue sanctuary founder Leo Grillo, who believes that any visible presence of feral cats or feeding stations creates a “billboard effect” which encourages people to drop cats off to “give them a chance,” rather than take them to a shelter where they may be killed.

Overall, pet abandonment was at an all-time high circa 1970, when U.S. shelters were killing 115 dogs and cats per 1,000 human residents, about half of them picked up at large. Cats were about 40% of the toll.

By 2002, shelter killing of dogs and cats was down to 15.7 per 1,000 human residents. Cats now account for about two-thirds of the toll, but the total number of cats killed has fallen from circa 10 million per year to three million per year.

Clearly, the advent of TNR and no-kill sheltering have reduced abandonment—but not at all sites. Complaints about TNR programs typically begin when the numbers of cats fail to visibly drop after several years, and perhaps even increase. Challenged, the TNR program administrators usually blame abandonment, but resist the suggestion that the site may too conspicuous for TNR to succeed.

A second valid claim of TNR critics is that the practice of feeding feral cats changes their hunting behavior from that of wild predators to that of pets. Birders are often correct in asserting that the cat toll on wildlife increases after a TNR program starts in a park or conservation area, partly because feeding the cats means they need no longer conserve energy, and partly because taking cats out of the breeding cycle reduces wandering that puts them at risk from other predators and vehicular traffic.

This means each cat can not only hunt more, but can also hunts longer—and is among the biggest reasons why **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has recommended since 1992 that TNR should not be practiced in sensitive wildlife habitat.

The Prime Directive

ANIMAL PEOPLE publisher Kim Bartlett was instrumental in introducing TNR to the U.S.. beginning in 1991 with a seven-month trial of the method in northern Fairfield County, Connecticut. Several cats who were removed from

Cats Wanted

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inappropriate habitat are still part of the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** household.

From the beginning, the goal was to reduce the feral cat population in the target locations to zero as rapidly as cats could be tamed enough to bring indoors and socialize.

There are two preconditions for zeroing out a feral cat colony through TNR, and both were stringently observed:

1) At least 70% of the cats and preferably 100% must be sterilized. Before 70% figure is reached, there will be no net reduction. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** made every effort to trap and sterilize 100% of the cats at each site as rapidly as they could be identified.

2) The colonies must be kept under surveillance to ensure that all newcomers are identified, caught, and fixed.

In addition, Bartlett stipulated as fundamental humane considerations that “All cats and kittens who can be socialized for adoption should be; no ill, elderly, or disabled cats should ever be released; all cats should be properly vaccinated; and, as the Prime Directive for practicing TNR successfully without rousing politically problematic opposition, “no cat should be released into hostile habitat,” such as places of high vehicular traffic, places where the cats will be obvious to the public and will therefore attract abandonments, places where the TNR practitioner does not have permission of the property owner to work, and places where the neighbors may shoot, poison, or otherwise harm the cats.

“The impact of feral cats on wildlife cannot be ignored,” Bartlett added in her post-project review, “and should be a major concern. Feral cats may fit as predators, especially in the urban environment, taking the place of those long gone, but the balance is delicate. I’m not at all sure how to compare a cat to a fox, but I suspect the cat will kill many more animals than the fox, mostly for sport. I’m certain that the predator/prey ratio is askew in virtually all feral cat colonies. A feral who lives alone would be a more natural fit.”

Between the Connecticut experiment, which handled 338 cats in all, and the findings from our 1992 survey of rescuers, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** projected that TNR might be suitable in only 12% of the locations where feral cats are found—but, largely because the 12% were hospitable to feral cats, they included nearly half the feral cat population.

The Florida conflict, and many like it, seem to have resulted from disregard of the Prime Directive. The outcome of trying to “save” cats in unsuitable locations may be that not only those cats but many more are caught and killed. —M.C.



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Info:
HONG KONG SPCA
Symposium coordinators
Connie K. Lau
Connie.Lau@spca.org.hk
Anneleise Smillie
asmillie@animalsasia.org

5 Wan Shing Street,
Wanchai, Hong Kong
Phone: 852-2232-5542
Fax: 852-2519-7737

Conference site:
Harbor View International House

JUDGE SETTLES
FUNDRAISER’S
LIBEL SUIT
(continued from page 1)

more than 17,000 words about Eberle appearing since 2000 in **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, *The Watchdog Report on Animal Protection Charities*, and miscellaneous appeals and promotional items.

In statistical terms, no fault was found in 99.2% of the total volume of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** coverage mentioning Eberle and FRS either directly or implicitly.

Nothing specifically described under points #1 and #3 in the “Correction & Statement of Regret” ever appeared in any regular edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, or was ever posted to <www.animalpeople-news.org>. Point #3 may, however, be interpreted as having implied reference to two sentences toward the end of the May 2003 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial.

“Our statements” cited in enumerated point #2 were statements quoted and paraphrased from Wildlife Waystation founder Martine Colette, to whom they were attributed. Although they were “our statements” in the legal sense that we published them in good faith, fully attributed to Colette, in no way were her remarks ever represented to be the position or perspective of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Bogus photos

Further to point #1, the 2001 and 2002 editions of the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** *Watchdog Report on 101 Animal Protection Charities* noted that John Ashcroft, now the U.S. Attorney General, ended a fundraising deal with Eberle in 1999, according to Deirdre Shesgreen of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, “after Associated Press inquired about accusations that Eberle used phony prisoner-of-war sightings to solicit money from veterans for another client. Eberle’s solicitations,” Shesgreen wrote, “came to light in 1992 during hearings held by the Senate Select Committee on POW-MIA Affairs.”

In condensing previously published material about that episode from a variety of sources, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** erroneously identified the “phony POW sightings” as “involving staged photos taken on the grounds of a notorious wildlife dealer in Thailand.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE independently identified this as a possible error and conditionally corrected it, pending receipt of further information, in December 2002.

Eberle stated under oath during deposition in May 2003 that he had nothing to do with these photos. They were used by his client, the late Colonel Jack Bailey, after Eberle no longer represented him.

Though Eberle refused to provide copies of the mailings he produced for Bailey so that we could see for ourselves if the staged photos were used or not, we have accepted Eberle’s sworn statement.

"I understand that his entire direct mail program shut down after we terminated our relationship," Eberle told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** by e-mail on August 7, 2000.

Eberle represented Bailey and his now defunct charity Operation Rescue from 1983 until 1989.

Some of Eberle’s 40 mailings over three years on behalf of Bailey were called “clear examples of misleading solicitations” in the 1992 final report of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on POW-MIA Affairs,” and were denounced in public statements by Senators John McCain (R-Arizona) and John Kerry (D-Pennsylvania).

Bailey accused Eberle “of milking the charity for profits,” *Los Angeles Times* staff writer Scott Harris reported in August 1991.

Stated the Senate Select Committee on POW-MIA Affairs final report, “Operation Rescue, Inc.

Eberle. This is the part of the total investment, exclusive of printing and postage, that went to the Eberle owned/controlled businesses. Paid on a flat-fee basis, the Eberle firms would have gotten this money no matter what.

5) Column five states the percentage of the gross receipts that the Eberle firms ended up with. These numbers were calculated by Kevin M. Doyle, CPA. Comparing column five to column four is a means of evaluating the success of the fundraising campaigns in persuading people to donate money.

6) Column six states the percentage of all receipts that were raised for the net benefit of the client charity.

7) Column seven states the net income from the fundraising campaigns, as presented by Kevin M. Doyle, CPA.

8) Column eight states the fees paid to the Eberle firms as a percentage of the net income. Since the Eberle firms were paid as part of the fundraising campaign cost, this is not a way to measure the Eberle income: columns 3, 4, and 5 do that. What column eight does is provide a way to measure the balance of benefit to the Eberle firms as compared to benefit to the client charities.

9) Column nine states the rate of benefit to the client charities in terms of cents netted per dollar of investment.

Returns on investment in fundraising by three animal charities represented by Bruce Eberle

This chart shows data from **Cedar Hill Animal Sanctuary**, year 2000, **Lifesavers Wild Horse Sanctuary**, years 2000-2002, and **Tiger Haven**, years 2000-2002. During these years the only professional fundraisers employed by these charities, according to their IRS Form 990 filings and other statements, were the firms owned/controlled by **Bruce Eberle: Fundraising Strategies (FRS), Eberle Communications Group (ECG), and Omega List Company (OLC)**. These are the only animal charities represented exclusively by Eberle firms during the years in question for which the available financial data is sufficient to do this type of analysis.

- 1) Column one states “Professional Fundraising Fees” as declared on IRS Form 990. These appear to be total campaign costs.
- 2) Column two states “Income from Eberle Campaign,” presented by Kevin M. Doyle, CPA, hired by Eberle, as "Total Income From Contributions & List Royalty Paid to Clients."
- 3) Column three states the total fees paid to Eberle firms, as presented by Kevin M. Doyle, CPA.
- 4) Column four states the percentage of the total Professional Fundraising Fees” (complete fundraising campaign costs) that were paid to firms owned/controlled by Bruce

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Professional Fundraising Fees (IRS Form 990)	Income from Eberle campaign (Kevin M. Doyle, CPA)	Total fees paid to Eberle firms (FRS, ECG, OLC)	Eberle percent of fundraising campaign cost	Eberle percent of all receipts	Percentage of all receipts to charity	Net income	Eberle percent of net income	Charity net return on investment
Cedarhill Animal Sanctuary (Not a client since 2000.)								
\$ 332,738	\$ 349,240	\$ 33,136	10%	10%	5%	\$ 16,502	200%	5¢/\$1.00
Lifesavers Wild Horse Sanctuary								
\$ 2,617,617	\$ 4,088,862	\$ 606,369	23%	15%	36%	\$ 1,471,245	41%	56¢/\$1.00
Tiger Haven								
\$ 3,059,881	\$ 6,178,958	\$ 662,876	22%	11%	50%	\$ 3,119,077	21%	\$1.02/\$1.00

The average rate of investment in fundraising among the animal charities listed above was 81% of total annual expenditure. Due to differences in the beginning and ending dates of fiscal years, the above data overlaps portions of calendar years 1999-2002. Evaluating 335 IRS Form 990 filings by animal charities for 1999-2002, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has determined that the average rate of investment in fundraising was 27.6% of total annual expenditure, just under a third of the rate of investment of the charities listed above, and that the average rate of net return on investment in fundraising was \$2.62/dollar.

IRS Form 990 data for three prominent animal charities represented by Bruce Eberle

(for which total fundraising expense, including allocations to “program service” and “management and general” can be determined)

All percentages are percentages of total expenditure.

Underlines indicate percentages which require adjustment because of fundraising costs declared as program service.

Year	Total expenses	Programs	Management & General	Fundraising	Professional Fundraising Fees declared as program	All fundraising	Total overhead
Cedarhill Animal Sanctuary (Not a client since 2000.)							
2000	\$ 447,870	\$ 103,019 2 3%	\$ 12,113 3%	\$ 332,738 7 4%	none	\$ 332,738 7 4%	\$ 344,851 7 7%
Lifesavers Wild Horse Sanctuary							
2000	\$ 925,142	\$ 567,441 6 1%	\$ 21,516 2%	\$ 336,185 3 6%	\$ 504,277 5 5%	\$ 840,462 9 1%	\$ 861,978 9 3%
2001	\$ 1,262,199	\$ 792,267 6 3%	\$ 56,554 5%	\$ 413,378 3 3%	\$ 614,155 4 9%	\$ 1,023,592 8 1%	\$ 1,084,087 8 6%
2002	\$ 1,125,220	\$ 747,367 6 6%	\$ 69,076 1 5%	\$ 308,877 4 1%	\$ 452,138 6 1%	\$ 753,563 6 7%	\$ 829,991 7 4%
Tiger Haven							
2000	\$ 1,178,367	\$ 197,966 1 7%	\$ 49,426 4%	\$ 930,976 7 9%	none	\$ 930,976 7 9%	\$ 980,402 8 3%
2001	\$ 1,558,670	\$ 364,790 2 3%	\$ 102,222 7%	\$ 1,071,658 6 9%	none	\$ 1,071,658 6 9%	\$ 1,173,879 7 5%
2002	\$ 1,934,205	\$ 502,043 2 6%	\$ 1,057,247 5 5%	\$ 374,114 1 9%	none	\$ 374,114 1 9%	\$ 1,560,090 8 1%

Note: The figures reported for “Management & General” and “Fundraising” on the Tiger Haven filing of IRS Form 990 for 2002 appear to be almost reversed from previous years. “Management & General” expenditures increased by 955%, without explanation. The largest increases were for “Postage and shipping,” rising to \$360,440, up \$353,555 from 2001; “Printing and publications,” rising to \$120,610, up \$120,536 ; and “Other professional fees,” rising to \$118,677, up \$111,688. These items, all of which may describe direct mail expense, totaled \$585,779, up 420% from \$13,949 in 2001.

Other animal charities represented in mailings by Bruce Eberle since 2000 include **Dream Catchers Farm Horse Sanctuary** (not a client since 2002), the **Elephants of Africa Rescue Society**, **Great Cats In Crisis**, **Noah’s Lost Ark**, **Peaceful Valley Donkey Sanctuary**, **Tiger Creek**, **Wild About Cats** [not a client since 2002], and **Wildlife Waystation**. There may be others.

reported on federal tax forms that during the period 1985 through 1990 ...fundraising expenses constituted 88.8 percent of contributions.”

As in the libel suit against **ANIMAL PEOPLE** concerning the cost of fundraising that Eberle does for animal charities, Eberle contended during the Senate Select Committee hearings that his critics took insufficient note of the costs of printing and postage.

Responded Senator John Kerry during the Select Committee hearing of December 2, 1992, “You sit here and say to us, gee, I only got \$100,000, but that is really disingenuous, because the total fee produced by this which benefits you or your family or partners is significantly more than that. So you sit here and say you only got this amount of money when in fact the charity, quote, winds up with \$200,000 against \$1.9 million raised. I find that unconscionable and extraordinary.”

Waystation

Further to point #2, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editions of March and April 2002 quoted and paraphrased Martine Colette as claiming that Eberle and his companies were paid by Wildlife Waystation on a percentage basis. Colette was attempting to explain why the Waystation filings of IRS Form 990 for the 2000 and 2001 fiscal years failed to identify fees paid to professional fundraisers, as Line 30 of IRS Form 990 requires.

ANIMAL PEOPLE made no judgement one way or the other as to the veracity of Colette’s claim, but made follow-up inquiries to try to find out whether any part of it stood up.

In April 2002 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** published a series of self-contradictory denials received from Eberle after the March 2002 edition went to press. His math repeatedly conflicted with his statements. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** noted that no matter how Eberle was paid, payments of professional fundraising fees are supposed to be acknowledged on Form 990.

Both Colette and Eberle claimed in March 2002 that their contracts were confidential. In early 2003 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** learned that the contracts are available from the California Office of the Attorney General. The contracts affirm that Eberle and his companies are paid by the Waystation on a flat fee basis.

The lion’s share

Point #3 refers with specificity only to the use of the phrase “the lion’s share” in an e-mail of January 23, 2002 from **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton to Dawn L. Simas of Wild About Cats.

“I don’t respond to anything,” Clifton wrote, referring to reader inquires about an Eberle test mailing for Wild About Cats, “until I can assure people who ask me about an organization that I know exactly where all the money will be going, and that the lion’s share of it

will be going into programs, not further fundraising.”

The e-mail to Simas is the only use of the term “the lion’s share” with reference to Bruce Eberle and FRS discovered in repeated electronic searches of the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** archives and e-mail files previous to the distribution of the June 2003 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** appeal letter and editorial. These also use the phrase “the lion’s share,” but in a more explicitly defined context, and were printed and mailed after the settlement agreement was reached.

Point #3 may also refer to:

a) An imprecise reference to high-volume direct mailing firms in a March 2001 promotional wrapper, which did not actually mention either Eberle or any of his companies, and did not go to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** subscribers; and

b) Two sentences in the May 2002 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial, which might have been misread in an ambiguous manner if removed from the context supplied by the preceding eight paragraphs. The possible ambiguity, avoided in all other coverage, has been corrected in the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** electronic archives

Eberle objected that the e-mail to Simas and the March 2001 and May 2002 references might have caused readers to believe that his profit margin consists of “the lion’s share” of direct mail returns, rather than that his modus operandi often results in charities spending far more money on direct mailing than on their stated charitable purposes.

In that regard, the percentage of funds raised that are retained as profit by professional fundraisers has never been an issue of primary concern to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, and indeed has been mentioned only once in any article. That reference was in a direct quote from Eberle about himself.

The issue of concern to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, as explained each year in the preface to our annual “Who gets the money?” feature and *Watchdog Report on Animal Protection Charities*, is the balance of program spending against “overhead” expenditure, defined as fundraising plus administrative expense.

The Wise Giving Alliance standard, used by **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, is that overhead should not exceed 35%. The average overhead amount among animal charities whose IRS Form 990 filings **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has evaluated during the past four years was 28%.

Recent IRS Form 990 filings are not available for several ani-
(continued on page 17)

If you know someone else who might like to read **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, please ask us to send a free sample.

JUDGE IMPOSES SETTLEMENT OF FUNDRAISER EBERLE’S LIBEL SUIT (from page 16)

mal charities represented by Eberle, and the filings from several others are incomplete. Wildlife Waystation and possibly some others also had fundraising operations other than those of Eberle.

Among nine recent IRS Form 990 filings by three animal charities whose filings are reasonably complete, however, whose only known professional fundraiser was Eberle, the average overhead expenditure came to 70%, and fundraising alone came to 64%, as detailed in Table #1, on page 16.

What this means, in effect, is that if you sent money to those groups in those years, you got less than half as much benefit for the animals and more than twice as many fundraising appeals per penny spent on animals as when you supported the overwhelming majority of other animal charities.

Ethics

The first sentence of the “Correction & Statement of Regret” may be the most important: “Via e-mails, telephone calls, articles and our web site the impression may have been created that Bruce Eberle and his company, Fund Raising Strategies (FRS) operate with less than integrity.”

“Integrity” and “less than integrity” are terms which, like beauty, exist in the eyes of the beholder, and are accordingly subject to interpretation.

Eberle and Fund Raising Strategies claim to adhere to various principles and standards.

Yet Eberle flunks most of the ethical standards considered reasonable and necessary by ANIMAL PEOPLE, outlined in many articles and editorials since October 1992, pulled together and enumerated in the May 2003 editorial “What is an ethical charity?”

After outlining ten standards for the ethical management of animal charities, ANIMAL PEOPLE explained that an ethical fundraiser for an animal protection charity is one who endeavors to help the client charity to meet all ten, and outlined another ten standards specifically applicable to hired fundraisers.

The majority of animal charities represented by Eberle whose IRS Form 990 filings are available flunk standard #1, that they should commit the overwhelming volume of resources raised to animal protection work other than fundraising, administration, and the maintenance of reserve funds.

Many flunk standard #2, calling for filling out IRS Form 990 fully and accurately, and filing it in a timely manner.

Most appear to flunk standard #5a, since high-volume, low-yield direct mailing tends to increase the fundraising costs as opposed to program expenditures of the animal protection sector as a whole; flunk standard #8, that animal charities

should strive to promptly rectify any failures to meet the standards; and flunk standard #10, that an ethical animal-related charity, if it employs an outside fundraiser, should hire only fundraisers with no conflicts of interest, such as simultaneously representing organizations or political candidates with goals opposed to those of the charity.

Eberle raised funds for former U.S. Senator Jesse Helms in at least three election campaigns—whose 2002 amendment to the Animal Welfare Act excluded from protection more than 90% of the animals used in U.S. labs. The Bruce W. Eberle & Associates web page includes an endorsement from the Mountain States Legal Foundation, noted for opposition to the Endangered Species Act. Helms and the Mountain States Legal Foundation appear to represent perspectives typical of political candidates and organizations whom Eberle promotes.

Several animal charities represented by Eberle have flunked various of the other enumerated standards, including standard #3, that animal care charities should not only meet but go beyond meeting the minimal animal care standards enforced by government agencies, and should endeavor to meet or exceed the “best practice” recommendations of the major supervisory and/or accreditation organizations.

Fundraising

ANIMAL PEOPLE believes it is inherently unethical for a fundraiser to undertake telemarketing, direct mailing, or any other kind of activity at a level or in a manner which results in combined fundraising and administrative cost exceeding 35% of the total expenditures of the charity during the fiscal or calendar year.

Of all the animal charities represented by Eberle for which adequate data is available to ascertain, only Wildlife Waystation appears to meet this standard.

ANIMAL PEOPLE believes it is inherently unethical for a fundraiser to make claims which are not factually substantiated, and that ignorance of misrepresentations by a client charity are no excuse.

For example, according to information ANIMAL PEOPLE obtained in discovery, Eberle prepared an appeal for Great Cats In Crisis on purported behalf of Marjan, the deceased Kabul Zoo lion, which was mailed 10 days after Marjan died, and a week after his death was extensively reported by news media.

Great Cats In Crisis was not a part of the official Kabul Zoo relief effort coordinated by North Carolina Zoo director Davy Jones, with the cooperation of the American Zoo Association, European Zoo Association, the World Society for the Protection of Animals, the Brooke Fund for Animals, and the

Mayhew Animal Home.

ANIMAL PEOPLE believes it is inherently unethical for a fundraiser to use lawsuits, or the threat of lawsuits, to try to silence criticism or to try to compel a charity to adhere to a fundraising contract which the charity has determined is disadvantageous. ANIMAL PEOPLE first encountered this issue in reference to Eberle two years before he sued us, when in August 2000 Cedarhill Animal Sanctuary founder Kay McElroy tried to end her contract with Fund Raising Strategies and was threatened, she said, with legal action.

ANIMAL PEOPLE believes that if a charity finds that it erred in signing a contract which is so disadvantageous that the activities undertaken in the name of the charity are not chiefly benefiting the charitable work, the charity should be allowed to break or amend that contract without further allocation or diversion of resources away from the charitable work that it was incorporated to do. An ethical fundraiser should accordingly discourage client charities from incurring debts to the fundraiser so large as to require additional fundraising activity after the initial contracted activity.

ANIMAL PEOPLE believes that fundraisers for charities should view themselves as operating as ex-officio officers of their client charities, under mandate to represent the best interests of the client charities, and under public scrutiny, for the public benefit, which makes them therefore public figures subject to the same kinds of observation, criticism, commentary, and satire as elected officials, candidates for public office, and celebrities.

Terms

Of note in the Settlement Agreement, which ANIMAL PEOPLE insisted be not confidential and which ANIMAL PEOPLE will distribute to interested persons on request, is that the terms to which ANIMAL PEOPLE has agreed are for settlement purposes only.

ANIMAL PEOPLE has agreed to to “cease and desist” from “tortuous interference with the existing and/or prospective business relationships with existing, future, and/or prospective clients of Bruce W. Eberle, Fund Raising Strategies, Inc., and Omega List Company,” and/or “other persons and/or organizations that may provide services, including list rentals, to prospective, future and/or existing clients.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE has also agreed to not “defame or cause others to defame” Eberle and his companies.

The agreement, however, does not constitute an admission that ANIMAL PEOPLE ever committed “tortuous interference” or “defamation” against Eberle and his companies. It merely affirms that ANIMAL PEOPLE will continue to observe the same laws governing

the conduct of news media that we have observed throughout our coverage of the activities and background of Eberle, his companies, and his clients, asking relevant questions of sources, and answering questions for readers and other animal charity donors who contact ANIMAL PEOPLE for information.

All of the ANIMAL PEOPLE articles pertaining to Eberle that were ever at <www.animalpeoplenews.org> are still there, as is the link provided to the Final Report of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on POW-MIA Affairs.

Exercising the financial advantage coming from distributing more than 40 million direct mail pieces per year, Eberle may have spent between a quarter and a half a million dollars to obtain publication of corrections and clarifications that could have been published just for the asking, if the points at issue had ever been clearly identified in routine correspondence.

John Kerry

Indeed, the errors concerning the basis of the Eberle contract with Wildlife Waystation and the bogus MIA/POW photograph would never have been made if Eberle and Colette had given clear and accurate explanations.

On July 24, 2000, for example, Eberle e-mailed to ANIMAL PEOPLE, “A few years back we raised funds for a POW group. However, after a number of years we began to doubt their ability to fulfill on their commitment to their donors. What did we do? We terminated our relationship, and that was several years before this same client engaged in activities that eventually came before a special committee of Congress.”

In deposing ANIMAL PEOPLE editor Merritt Clifton, the counsel for Eberle argued that this statement separated Eberle from the use of the bogus photo by his former client Jack Bailey.

On December 2, 1992, however, Senator John Kerry made plain directly to Eberle during the Select Committee on POW-MIA Affairs hearings that the activities under investigation included “a letter that goes out for six years saying, P.S., some of our captive Americans are in failing health. Now I guess they knew that in 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, same letter. P.S., they are in failing health.”

Eberle represented Bailey and Operation Rescue from 1983 to 1989. The Senate Select Committee on POW-MIA Affairs was concerned about the whole history of the organization—and that was not the first time a Congressional committee looked into it, summarized Scott Harris of the Los Angeles Times in August 1991.

“Bailey was cited frequently in a November 1987 report by Army General James W. Shufelt,

then head of the Defense Intelligence Agency, on dubious fundraising by activists involved in the POW-MIA issue,” Harris explained.

“The report was submitted to U.S. Rep. Stephen Solarz (D-N.Y.), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, during hearings on the POW-MIA issue. A recurring theme, Shufelt said in the report, was emotion-laden, unsubstantiated claims that searchers were ‘on the verge of rescuing (a POW) and if the recipient does not send money promptly, American servicemen will die.’ Provably false claims were rare. But one 1987 appeal from Bailey was an exception. In it, the charity claimed credit for recovering the remains of two American helicopter crewmen. ‘Now, at least, they’ve returned to their families,’ the letter claimed.

“It wasn’t true. Pentagon records show that a later forensic analysis of bones Bailey claimed to be the remains of two American helicopter crewmen were in fact the partial skeleton of one person, an Asian. There were no Asian-Americans aboard the helicopter in question and, as one authority put it, ‘no way’ the remains were those of a missing American.”

Dieter Dengler

“Bailey alienated fellow activists in other ways as well,” Harris continued. “One example was his 1988 encounter with Dieter Dengler, the only American POW to escape from Laos. Dengler met Bailey in summer 1988, after the POW hunter claimed that Dengler’s old cellmate, Eugene DeBruin, was alive. Dengler traveled to Thailand to join Bailey in a hunt for more clues. Before departing, Dengler agreed to write a fund-raising letter.

“But after a few days in Thailand and some harsh words with Bailey, Dengler headed home. He sent Bailey a letter by certified mail asking that the fund-raising appeal be scrapped...A few months later, the fund-raising letter went out anyway. It featured Dengler’s first-person narrative as well as a picture of him at his rescue—bearded, bony, weighing less than 90 pounds. ‘Yes, there have been and will be disappointments caused by dishonest people,’ the letter concluded, ‘but it is vital that we continue NOW.’

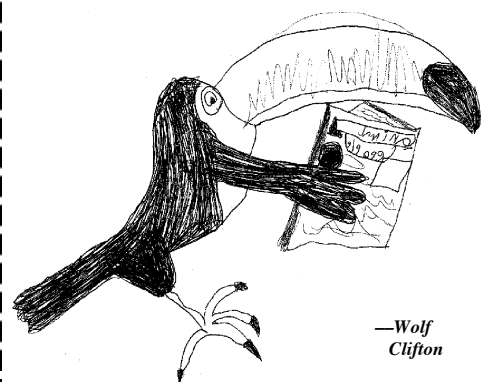
“There was one editing change,” Harris noted. “Instead of using Dengler’s name, the letter was signed ‘an ex-POW.’”

The bogus photos showing an alleged POW on the premises of the wildlife dealer in Thailand were taken in 1989, according to the Senate Select Committee Final Report. They were just one small part of Bailey’s “activities that eventually came before a special committee of Congress,” as Eberle put it,—and most of the rest came while Eberle was fundraising for Bailey.

—Merritt Clifton

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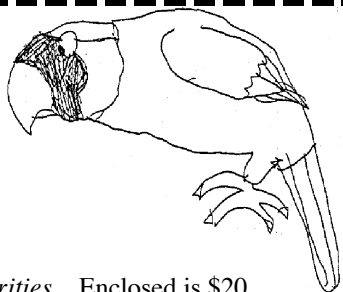


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Shadow Cats: <i>Tales from New York City's Animal Underground</i> by Janet Jensen Adams Media (57 Littlefield St., Avon, MA 02322), 2002. 224 pages, paperback. \$9.95.	Cat Culture: <i>The Social World of a Cat Culture</i> by Janet M. Alger & Steve F. Alger Temple Univ. Press (1601 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19122), 2003. 224 pages, paperback. \$19.95.	Too Many Dogs And Cats...?? by Dorothea Friz, DVM, Lega Pro Animale Fndtn. Mondo Animale Onlus (1 Trav. Via Pietro Pagliuca, 81030 Castel Voltuno (CE), Italy), 2003. 51 pages, paperback. Ordering info: <legaproanimale@tin.it>.
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Shadow Cats, *Cat Culture*, and *Too Many Dogs And Cats...??* could together form the reading list for a short course on humane feral cat control.

Shadow Cats, by Janet Jensen, could also be described as a companionpiece to *Maverick Cats*, the 1982 classic by Ellen Perry Berkeley. While Berkeley focused on the barn cats and roaming toms she has known and watched for decades around her home in Shaftsbury, Vermont, Jensen follows the lives and deaths of ferals in New York City.

As recently as October 1994 one long-departed American SPCA vice president assured **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that there were no feral cats in Manhattan because he never saw any. That left efforts to help feral cats to individual rescuers, like Jensen, and *ad hoc* coalitions, like Neighborhood Cats, an organization that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** publisher Kim Bartlett says “may be the best thing that has happened for feral cats in the past decade.” Eventually winning some ASPCA funding, Neighborhood Cats is now aiding cat rescuers around the world with an informative web site and a neuter/return

course offered through an online university.

Jensen briefly explores the culture of no-kill animal shelters, an essential adjunct to neuter/return programs to accommodate cats who for whatever reason cannot be released safely. In-depth discussion of sheltering, however, is left to Janet and Steve Alger, whose book *Cat Culture* is perhaps the first-ever sociological exploration of the kinds of personalities—and problems—that prevail in no-kill organizations.

The Algers researched *Cat Culture* as longtime volunteers at the Whiskers cat shelter in Albany, New York, briefly profiled by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in December 1992. Their descriptions could be applied with minor variation to hundreds of other small no-kill shelters around the U.S.

The Algers unfortunately overlooked the opportunity to compare and contrast the no-kill culture with that of conventional shelters. Andrew Rowan, then directing the Tufts University Center for Animals and Public Policy, observed in the mid-1980s that conventional shelter culture centered on the “euthanasia” room, with the highest status accorded to the peo-

ple who made the life-and-death decisions and did the killing.

At many shelters this has changed. Sterilization clinic management, adoptions, promotion, and fundraising all now seem to have higher rank, while “euthanasia technician” seems to have slipped in status.

Instead of working their way up to “euthanasia technician,” as a step toward becoming executive director, career-conscious shelter workers often now bypass killing—and, when they are appointed executive director, they are markedly more reluctant to accept killing animals as the only solution to problems that formerly doomed millions.

Too Many Dogs And Cats...?? by Dorothea Fritz, DVM, a humane legend in Italy, is an illustrated handbook promoting neuter/return of both feral cats and street dogs. Written for use mainly in Europe, it is packed with tables and graphics potentially useful anywhere, illustrating how neuter/return works and why it succeeds in achieving lasting dog and cat population reductions, when done at a sufficiently high volume. —M.C.

How PYGMIES CAME TO BE ON THE BUSHMEAT MENU and memories of a primate researcher who worked in both the bush and the lab

A Primate’s Memoir: A Neuroscientist’s Unconventional Life Among the Baboons

by Robert M. Sapolsky
Touchstone (c/o Simon & Schuster, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020), 2001. 304 pages, paperback. \$14.00.

Eating Apes
by Dale Peterson
with afterword & photos
by Karl Amman
University of California Press (2120 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94720), 2003. 333 pages, hardcover. \$24.95.

“I am fairly hardened when it comes to the suffering of animals,” Stanford University professor of biology and neurology Robert M. Sapolsky says of himself, two-thirds of the way through *A Primate’s Memoir*. But that does not seem to describe Bob Sapolsky, the enthusiastic friend of baboons and African adventurer whose 21 years of field research in Kenya and neighboring nations *A Primate’s Memoir* describes.

“Other more euphemistic terms might be used—I am pragmatic, or unsentimental, or internalizing,” Sapolsky continues. “But I am hardened. I do not feel as much as I once did. When I was a kid, up through college, all I wanted to do was live alone in the bush with wild animals and study their behavior. Intellectually, nothing was as satisfying, as pure, as the study of their behavior in and of itself, nothing seemed as sacred as to just be with animals for their own sake, and the notion of animals being pained was intolerable. But my interests shifted. Behavior for its own sake somehow began to seem insufficient. ‘Isn’t this behavior miraculous?’ became ‘Isn’t this miraculous, how does it work?’ and I became interested in behavior and the brain, and soon I was interested in the brain itself.”

Sapolsky’s interest in brain research was far from strictly academic. He was driven by his ultimately futile hope of recovering his father from Alzheimer’s disease. But he is bluntly self-condemning about the outcome.

“Nine months each year I would spend in my lab, doing my experiments,” Sapolsky confesses, “and the suffering that the animals would endure there was appalling. They’d undergo strokes, or repeated epileptic seizures, or other neurodegenerative disorders...all to find out how a brain cell dies, and what can be done to prevent it.

“I tried to compensate, but probably not enough. I remained a vegetarian when in America. I would work hard to cut every corner I could, to minimize the numbers of animals, the amount of pain. But there was still dripping, searing amounts of it for them...Thus, each year, I was having more of a need to return to the baboons. Among the dozens of other reasons to be there, it was good to be in a place where I was not cutting

up the animals, where I was not killing them. It was good to be in a place where they didn’t live in cages. In a perverse way, it was good to be in a place where they were more likely to kill me than the other way around.”

To that point, *A Primate’s Memoir* has unflinchingly described life and death among wild baboons in the bush and among human villagers caught up in seemingly ceaseless warfare involving bandits, militias, and hostile tribes of cattle raiders. Sapolsky has witnessed atrocities, feeling helpless to intervene, including in Somalia and Rwanda before most Americans knew their names, and in Uganda during the ouster of the cannibal dictator Idi Amin.

But Sapolsky has yet not addressed the conflict he finds most disturbing: the displacement and destruction of almost all other primates by the human species.

“I had my hands quite full enough already trying not very successfully to keep individual brain cells from dying,” Sapolsky explains. “It was too much to try just as unsuccessfully to save whole species and ecosystems. Every primatologist I know is losing that battle, whether their animals are being done in by habitat destruction or conflict with farmers or poaching or novel human disease or government officials bent on harassment and maliciousness.”

Sapolsky had before him the example of the late Dian Fossey, a slight acquaintance, whom he revered before gradually deciding that she was the “probable cause of more deaths of gorillas than if [she] had never set foot in Rwanda.” Her ruthless defense of gorillas against accidental snaring by subsistence hunters of smaller mammals led, Sapolsky believes, to deliberate retaliatory massacres of gorillas, and to the discovery that their remains could be sold. The previous incidental killings rapidly became an industry.

Nonetheless, Sapolsky in his own time and way commenced an equally vigorous battle against ingrained local values and practices on behalf of “his” primates, the baboons of the Masai Mara. The problem was that the refuse disposal practices of a major tourist lodge and the unhygienic slaughter and rendering practices of a well-connected local “big man” were combining to expose baboons to bovine tuberculosis. Corrupt officials would not do anything about it. The disease, besides directly jeopardizing the baboon population, gave the lodge staff a pretext to kill nuisance baboons instead of cleaning up their act.

Fortunately for most of the baboons, Sapolsky eventually discovered that bovine TB does not pass directly among them. Therefore the outbreak was self-contained.

As this is written, the olive baboons of Manyara National Park, Tanzania, are reportedly afflicted with an unidentified bacterial disease, resembling syphilis, which causes the testicles of males to swell and had killed more than 200 by the end of April. Tanzanian and Kenyan experts were hoping to bring the epidemic under control before it spreads to nearby Tsavo National Park in Kenya. There has been little recent news, however. The ongoing struggle between pro-hunting and anti-hunting factions over control of the Kenya Wildlife Service has pre-empted most other wildlife news from East Africa.

As Sapolsky came to realize, baboons are neither endangered nor a glamour

species. Saving them is an animal welfare issue, not a conservation issue. On balance, they receive no more global attention and sympathy than the human victims of local violence, AIDS, and hunger, who tend to suffer and die in complete obscurity.

Cutting deals

Sapolsky does not mention whether or not he ever met Mt. Kenya wildlife photographer and anti-bushmeat activist Karl Amman. Acquainted or not, their paths must have crossed. Primatologist Dale Peterson narrates in *Eating Apes* how Amman has for 13 years documented the destruction of gorillas, chimpanzees, and bonobos in Central Africa. The great apes are not the most frequent victims of the bushmeat trade—just the standard-bearers for the rest in the battle for world opinion and economic clout enough to save their habitat. Any wild animal may be killed for meat, as logging strips away their cover, destroys their food sources, and brings thousands of hungry workers and their families into previously impenetrable territory.

Initially Amman hoped that his photos would move the World Wildlife Fund or the Wildlife Conservation Society, among other international groups, to put real money into work on the ground to save the apes. That did not happen. Instead they signed unenforced political agreements and cut a deal with the biggest logger, Congolaise Industrielle des Bois, which may have protected some habitat—if corruption and warfare do not undo it—while more-or-less writing off the rest.

The outcome, Amman explains in an embittered afterword, is that “Some 7,000 inhabitants of Pokola were in 1995 granted ‘traditional rights’ to hunting and bushmeat—and within a few years that number had doubled. Nobody was designated to monitor or enforce anything. And from there it went straight downhill, to the point that only five years later conservationists had decided that it was their responsibility to keep certain loggers economically competitive and profitable.”

Amman tried unsuccessfully to rally donors and activists against the “feel-good conservationism,” as he calls it, including with **ANIMAL PEOPLE** guest columns in March 1996 and April 2000.

“By the year 2000,” he continues, “conservationists were asking the donor community to pay for cleaning up after the loggers. And what were the loggers willing to chip in? Well, perhaps the collaboration between the Wildlife Conservation Society and CIB gives us an idea. CIB agreed to contribute ‘in kind’ \$75,000 for a two-year period of wildlife management in a concession where the project cost for the first two years was \$640,000. A little old lady on a U.S. \$1,000 monthly pension, sending in a \$50 check, would contribute proportionally more than CIB was giving.”

Ironically, part of the deal was that “the Congolese government and WCS...have to try to settle conflicts, establish understanding of and collaboration also with the pygmies,” Amman recounts.

Cannibalism

The pygmy tribes have historically been among the most voracious hunters of bushmeat in the Congo region. But they also have bushmeat-eating enemies, including within some of the militia factions battling



Tsavo baboon. (Kim Bartlett)

over control of the Democratic Republic of the Congo during nearly five years of civil war.

Early in 2003, after *Eating Apes* was published, the northeastern DRC was hit by the second major outbreak of Ebola viral hemorrhagic fever to emerge since the war broke out. At least 128 humans were killed—and as many as 800 lowland gorillas.

With bushmeat scarce, hungry soldiers turned on the pygmies as the next most accessible meat source. Mbuti Pygmy representative Sinafasi Makelo complained on May 23 to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

“Army, rebel, and tribal fighters have been pursuing them in forests, killing and eating them,” wrote Priscilla Cheung of *The Independent*. “Some fighters believed that eating their flesh would give them magic power, the pygmies said, adding that there had been reports of markets for the flesh. Earlier this year,” Cheung continued, “human rights activists and U.N. investigators confirmed that tribal fighters and members of one rebel group killed, cooked, and ate at least a dozen pygmies and an undetermined number of other tribespeople.”

The Congolese Liberation Movement reportedly tried 27 of its own soldiers for those crimes, but there were apparently other offenders.

“In living memory we have seen cruelty, massacres, and genocide, but we have never seen human beings hunted and eaten literally as though they were game animals, as has recently happened,” Makelo said.

ANIMAL PEOPLE last heard of Amman in May 2002, after he reportedly coordinated a paramilitary strike led by a former Rhodesian and South African military officer against Congolese and Sudanese poachers in the Central African Republic. The mission was jointly funded by the Dutch-based Hans Wasmoeth Wildlife Foundation and the Africa Rainforest and River Conservation Organization, founded by Bruce Hayse, M.D. of Jackson, Wyoming. Hayse was a founder of the U.S. group Earth First!, wrote Joseph B. Verrengia of Associated Press. —M.C.

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www.animalpeoplenews.org

One Last Fight: Exposing the Shame

Directed & filmed by Erik Friedl. Written by John Caruso.

Produced by the Anti-Cruelty Society (157 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, IL 60610), 2002.
15-minute video. \$20.00.

The history of video exposes of dogfighting is less sordid than dogfighting itself—but nothing is more sordid than dogfighting.

Commonly associated with dogfighting, according to the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** case files, are pet theft; stealing dogs, drugs, and money from humane societies; child abuse and neglect; pimping and prostitution; drug trafficking; extortion; arson; rape; and criminal mayhem, legalese for “torture.”

Also documented in connection with dogfighting are cases of cross-burning, vanishing witnesses, murder, mass murder, and serial murder.

Among the major organizing forces involved in dogfighting are white supremacists, black and Hispanic street gangs, and what remains of the traditional Mafia.

But “sordid,” like Dante’s *Inferno*, “hath degrees.”

Emmy Award-winning reporter Wendy Bergen was fined \$20,000 in August 1991 for staging the two dogfights she depicted during a four-part expose called “Blood Sport” that aired in April and May 1990 on KCNC Channel 4 in Denver.

Reporter Tom Lyden of KMSP Channel 9 in Minneapolis was in September 2000 obliged to withdraw his expose of dogfighting from Emmy Award consideration, after it became a finalist, because in August 2000 he pleaded guilty to tampering with a motor vehicle for taking the dogfighting footage he used from the unlocked car of boxer William H. Grigsby following an April 2000 police raid. Grigsby was charged with staging dogfights and assaulting his girlfriend.

The 2001 film *Amores Perros*, nominated for an Oscar, was nearly banned in Britain for allegedly violating a

1937 law that forbids goading animals in connection with film making. Although the British Board of Film Classification was eventually satisfied that the dogs shown in a 21-second dogfighting scene were not actually fighting, Royal SPCA chief inspector Mike Butcher even afterward said the scene was “just too realistic for my liking, which raises the question of whether there was cruelty involved.”

One Last Fight is a marked departure from such sensationalism. A few moments of dogfighting are shown, and some longer clips of terribly injured and neglected dogs, but *One Last Fight* was not made to shock. It is a humane education video meant to speak to children and community groups in neighborhoods whose residents often already know too much about dogfighting and related crime and violence.

One Last Fight explains how the intrusion of dogfighting culture makes streets and parks unsafe, connecting the symptoms that many viewers already experience into a pattern they will recognize, and then helping them respond to it. It may be the first gentle screen treatment of dogfighting, starring a black third grade teacher who grew up with dogfighting but left it behind to make something of himself, and a white humane officer who sees that his main job is also education.

Suppressed for almost a century after Jack London led an anti-dogfighting crusade following publication of *White Fang* in 1905, dogfighting has rebounded in recent years to unprecedented proportions.

On June 6, for example, Orangeburg County Sheriff Larry Williams led a raid in Orangeburg, South Carolina, that seized 72 pit bull terriers and half a million dollars worth of dog



—Mary Bloom

training equipment “that would rival an Olympic facility,” wrote Richard Walker of the *Orangeburg Times & Democrat*.

The raid resulted from information discovered during a drug-related investigation.

There was increased legislative attention in spring 2003 to cracking down on dogfighting. West Virginia in April became the 47th state to make dogfighting a felony. As the June edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, Illinois lawmakers had sent to the governor bills to prohibit training dogs to be vicious and to enable police to seize the tangible assets of dogfighters and cockfighters. A Florida bill to allow police to conduct night raids on dogfights and a Colorado bill against training dogs to be vicious also had chances of passage.

No matter what the law says, however, the battle against dogfighting must be won by mobilizing public opinion. As *One Last Fight* demonstrates, this is a battle not only against the abuse of dogs but against all of the most violent and exploitative elements in society, and could even be viewed as a battle to uphold the values of civilization.

—M.C.

They Shall Not Hurt Or Destroy

Animal Rights & Vegetarianism in the Western Religious Traditions
by Vasu Murti

Vegetarian Advocates Press (P.O. Box 201791, Cleveland, OH 44120), 2003.
140 pages, paperback. \$15.00.

They Shall Not Hurt Or Destroy author Vasu Murti traces the struggle for animal rights and vegetarianism back to antiquity. The great prophets of Israel, Pythagoras, and Plato spoke out against slaughter.

The cause was then taken up by the early leaders of the Christian church and their Jewish counterparts, demonstrates Murti.

Separate chapters deal with Jewish, Catholic, and Protestant teachings, from medieval times to the present.

Says the Jewish Talmud, “Adam and many generations that followed him were strict flesh-abstainers; flesh-foods were rejected as repulsive for human consumption.”

Catholics may be surprised to find St. Thomas More and John of the Cross taking their place alongside Francis of Assisi as defenders of animals.

The Protestant tradition includes John Calvin’s statement that justice for animals is a human responsibility and the vegetarianism of John Wesley. Martin Luther

wrote that, “It is by the kind treatment of animals that [people] learn gentleness and kindness.”

Joseph Smith, founder of the Mormon Church, taught that “kindness to the whole animal creation and especially to all domestic animals is not only a virtue that should be developed but is the absolute duty of mankind.”

Many religious leaders taught that humans must reject the cruelty involved in killing and eating animals. Dr. Charles Fillmore, the founder of Unity, wrote “Somewhere along the way, as he develops spirituality, man must come to seriously question the rightness of meat as part of his diet... ‘Thou Shalt Not Kill’ includes the killing of animals.”

Ellen G. White, the most noted prophet of the early Seventh-day Adventists, also advocated vegetarianism, citing “the moral evils of a flesh diet.”

They Shall Not Hurt Or Destroy rebuts those who try to pass off concern for animals as some sort of New Age notion, ridiculous in premise and subversive in goals. And it is an inspiring resource for those who continue the struggle to end the cruelty and oppression of the other creatures with whom we share the earth.

[J.R. Hyland is director of Humane Religion, <www.HumaneReligion.org>, an educational and outreach organization, and is author of *God’s Covenant With Animals*, *Sexism Is A Sin* and *The Slaughter of Terrified Beasts*.]

On Older Cats

by Judith Lindley

1stBooks (1663 Liberty Drive, Suite 200, Bloomington, IN 47403), 2003.
302 pages. \$14.50, paperback.

Judith Lindley was given her first litter of kittens 30 years ago, at age 20. They won her heart. She had found her life’s work.

Lindley still devotedly nurses unwanted cats at the Animal Helpline no-kill sanctuary, where she and her family shelter older and handicapped cats, along with dogs, rabbits, geese and turkeys.

In *On older cats* Lindley shares her hands-on experience and gives practical advice on the care of older cats. Some cat guardians may be confused by the multi-faceted scientific explanations she gives of the physiological and psychological changes within older cats, but her practical tips will definitely be useful.

External changes in older cats include thickening claws, watering eyes, and a thinning coat. At the same time all the inward changes or diseases can also be traced on the outside as well. Symptoms of internal complications of age may include diarrhea, allergies, or watery nasal discharge.

If you notice anything abnormal, call your veterinarian first for a telephone consultation, Lindley advises, as unnecessary trips to the vet are stressful for cats, and for older cats more than young cats.

Lindley recommends examining your older cat at home on a regular basis. Check the cat’s eyes, ears, and teeth, clip long claws, clean the nose, check for any unusual odors, and give the cat a whole-body massage.

Lindley also insists on the importance of daily grooming, so that shed hair will be removed, not ingested.

Lindley gives feeding advice and tips on special diets suited to older cats; reviews the use of herbal, homeopathic and chiropractic remedies for ailments of older cats; discusses applications of acupuncture, massage and vitamin therapy; suggests that foods containing red and yellow dyes may produce allergies, and advises to avoid them; and notes that a little bit of butter given on a regular basis will help against hair ingestion,

which can become fatal.

If your older cat does not eat well, Lindley recommends, try heating the food to enhance the flavor. Also keep plenty of fresh water available at all times, as older cats are more sensitive to water containing any sort of contamination.

Older cats definitely welcome soft beds, cat posts, toys and special treats, Lindley says. But what the older cat needs most is a friend. Love and emotional reassurance are essential for an older cat, she believes. A feline friend might also be very welcome. It is important, however, that the two are on good terms. The stress of rivalry can be dangerous for an older cat.

Cats of any age may be stressed by relocation, extreme temperature changes, or even moving furniture. Older cats tend to become more stressed. However, since change cannot always be avoided, Lindley includes advice on travelling with older felines.

People who are grieving over the loss of a cat will be comforted by Lindley’s advice to replace feelings of guilt and anger with loving memories and gratitude. The decision to euthanize, Lindley explains, should not induce guilt. But Lindley urges that money should never enter into the decision to terminate an older cat’s life.

—Tanja Maroueva

For Bea:

The Story of the Beagle Who Changed My Life

by Kristin Von Kreisler

Jeremy P. Tarcher/Putnam
(375 Hudson street, New York 10014), 2003. 190 pages. \$19.95, paperback.

During an evening walk Kristin Von Kreisler encountered a sick and exhausted stray beagle, and could not just leave the dog there. She took the beagle home and named her Bea. She could not understand why Bea was so strongly afraid of humans, even those who were friendliest. What kind of past could have made her shake from fear at any human contact?

A tattoo in Bea’s ear explained it—she spent five years in a laboratory cage, and probably escaped or was released by someone. She may have been used in toxicology testing.

For a long time Von Kreisler tried her hardest to win Bea’s love and trust. Her patience was rewarded: despite all her suffering, Bea did learn to love and to trust people.

For many years she lit up Von Kreisler’s life with her unshakeable love.

When her adored guardian had an accident and was confined to her bed for long months, Bea sympathized, and day and night devotedly stayed at her bed.

The purity and sincerity of Bea’s devotion started Von Kreisler thinking about the millions of other laboratory animals, who languish in tiny cages and may dream of a warm, cozy home, with a true human friend.

Von Kreisler has given voice to their dreams. As a staff writer for *Reader’s Digest*, she had written strictly to assignment, but influenced by Bea she began writing on behalf of animals as well, producing *The Compassion of Animals* (1997) and *Beauty In The Beasts* (2001). After those successes, she was at last able to interest her publisher in Bea’s story.

For Bea describes how the ex-laboratory beagle taught Von Kreisler about the qualities of faith, love and patience.

Included are other examples of the committed love of animals keeping humans from loneliness, raising spirits, effecting psychological cures, and even saving lives. Von Kreisler tells the story of the dog Klutz, for instance, who was killed while protecting a child from a rattlesnake.

Also included in *For Bea* is a discussion of the origin of dogs, and in particular the origin of beagles.

—Tanja Maroueva



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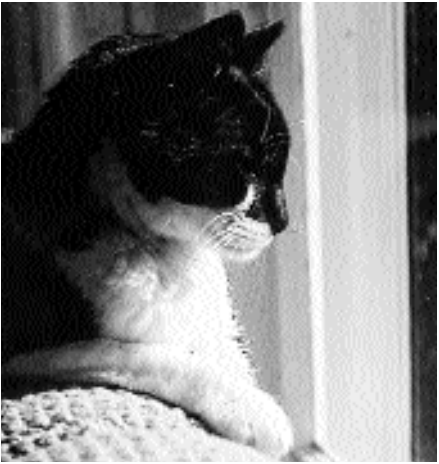
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In memory of Raymond cat.
—Robert & Nancy Schlosser

In memory of Prissy cat.



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To Ren, in memory of Mouse,
best friend and soulmate.
Love, Lindy & Marvin

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FREE TO HUMANE SOCIETIES AND ANIMAL CONTROL AGENCIES: "How to Build a Straw Bale Dog House" video. Tapes and shipping free. Animal charities and agencies may qualify for free tapes for community distribution. Call D.E.L.T.A. Rescue at 661-269-4010.

FREE SAMPLE COPY OF VEGNEWS North America's Monthly Vegetarian Newspaper! News, reviews, interviews, travel & recipes. 415-665-NEWS or [<subscriptions@vegnews.com>](mailto:subscriptions@vegnews.com)

SIGN PETITION TO END CRUEL DOG AND CAT SLAUGHTER IN KOREA: International Aid for Korean Animals/ Korea Animal Protection Society, POB 20600, Oakland, CA 94620; [<www.koreananimals.org>](http://www.koreananimals.org). Donations are desperately needed to buy supplies for KAPS shelter in Korea. Longterm support needed for humane education in Korea. We are Korean - please help us stop the terrible suffering of dogs and cats in our country!

BAJA ANIMAL SANCTUARY
www.Bajadogs.org

RAINFOREST REPTILE REFUGE
www.rainforestsearch.com/rrrs

www.veggiedate.org — vegetarian/almost vegetarian dating/meeting place.

Take time to smell the flowers and to visit:
<http://humanelink.org>

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT made effective as of [date?], 2003, by and between FUND RAISING STRATEGIES, INC. and BRUCE W. EBERLE (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Plaintiffs") and ANIMAL PEOPLE, INC., MERRITT CLIFTON and KIM BARTLETT CLIFTON, a/k/a KIM BARTLETT(hereinafter collectively referred to as "Defendants").

WITNESSETH
WHEREAS, Plaintiffs have filed suit in the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, Virginia, At Law No. 205867, against the Defendants seeking damages for defamation and interference with business relationship (the "Lawsuit"); and
WHEREAS, the Defendants have filed inter alia Motions to Dismiss, a Demurrer to the original Motion for Judgement, and their answers and Grounds of Defense; and
WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to the terms of a settlement to resolve all currently existing claims, it is
NOW, THEREFORE, for the purpose of settlement only, and in consideration of the premises and mutual covenants contained herein, agreed as follows:

1. Defendants agree to publish in Animal People the Correction and Statement of Regret attached to this Settlement Agreement as Attachment A. The Correction and Statement of Regret shall be printed in typeface of the same size or larger used in feature articles and shall appear prominently on the front page, above the fold, of the next issue of Animal People which shall be distributed to its subscriber list and normal circulation and on the Animal People website on the Internet for a period of six (6) months commencing no later than June 15, 2003.
2. In further consideration of this Settlement Agreement, the Defendants agree to cease and desist from any tortuous interference with the existing and/or prospective business relationships with existing, future, and/or prospective clients of Bruce W. Eberle, Fund Raising Strategies, Inc., and Omega List Company. Neither shall the Defendants tortiously interfere in any way with the Plaintiffs' relationships with other persons and/or organizations that may provide services, including list rentals, to prospective, future and/or existing clients. Tortious interference shall have the same meaning as defined by the law of Virginia.
The Defendants further agree not to defame or cause others to defame (including, but not limited to, abstaining from providing electronic links to defamatory statements or other defamatory matter) Fund Raising Strategies, Inc., Omega List Company and Bruce W. Eberle verbally, in print, electronically or in any other medium. "Defamatory" and defamatory statements shall have the same meaning as defined by the law of Virginia. Specifically, Defendants also agree never again to publish or disseminate statements that Bruce W. Eberle or Fund Raising Strategies, Inc. were involved in any way in creating or using a staged photograph of a "POW". Defendants further agree not to again publish or disseminate statements that Bruce W. Eberle and Fund Raising Strategies, Inc. previously have charged a commission or a percentage of the funds raised for clients, or that the fees they have

previous been paid constitute most of the funds raised by their clients.

3. (a) In the event that this Settlement Agreement is breached, then the Defendants agree to the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, Virginia, for any litigation regarding enforcement of this Settlement Agreement, agree to waive any argument or allegation of lack of subject matter jurisdiction or personal jurisdiction. If there is, following exhausting of appeals, a judgement against Animal People, Merritt Clifton and/or Kim Bartlett Clifton, a/k/a Kim Bartlett, or any one of them, based on a breach by any one of them, or all of them, or this Settlement Agreement, then the judgement debtor(s) shall reimburse the Plaintiffs their legal fees and costs which the court(s) shall determine to be reasonable and appropriate. The provisions of Virginia Code Section 8.01-271.1 shall apply to any cause of action based upon an alleged breach of this Settlement Agreement.

[The relevant portions of Virginia Code Section 8.01-271.1 state that, "The signature of an attorney or party constitutes a certificate by him that...it is well grounded in fact and is warranted by existing law or a good faith argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law, and...it is not interposed for any improper purpose, such as to harass or to cause unnecessary delay or needless increase in the cost of litigation...If a pleading, motion, or other paper is signed or made in violation of this rule, the court, upon motion or upon its own initiative, shall impose upon the person who signed the paper or made the motion, a represented party, or both, an appropriate sanction, which may include an order to pay to the other party or parties the amount of the reasonable expenses incurred because of the filing...including a reasonable attorney's fee."]

(b) Time is of the essence as to the terms of this Settlement Agreement.
(c) This Settlement Agreement and any amendments thereto shall be incorporated in and made a part of the Order of Settlement in At Law No. 205867 in the Circuit court of Fairfax County, Virginia. Plaintiffs shall non-suit the case.

(d) It is agreed that the terms of this Settlement Agreement resolve all currently existing claims the Plaintiffs have against the Defendants and are the final understanding of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and, other than the Order of Settlement which incorporates into terms of this Settlement Agreement, there are no other agreements or understandings among the parities with respect to its subject matter, nor have there been any representations, express or implied, other than those referenced herein. This Settlement Agreement may be amended or modified only by a written instrument duly executed by each of the parties hereto prior to the effective date of any such amendment or modification.

(e) This Settlement Agreement may be executed simultaneously in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the parties hereto has duly executed this Settlement Agreement to be effective as of the date first above written.

If you know someone else who might like to read
ANIMAL PEOPLE,
please ask us to send a free sample.

Homeless Pets conference, Philadelphia. Info: 435-644-2001 X129 or <nmhp@bestfriends.org>.
October 27: **Adoption Options Utah**, seminar, Provo. Info: <outreach@-petfinder.com>.
October 29: **Adoption Options Montana**, seminar, Missoula. Info: <outreach@petfinder.com>.

