PORT WASHINGTON, N.Y.—“A cat’s a better mother than you are!” Rhet Butler exploded at Scarlet O’Hara in one of the most memorable scenes of Gone With The Wind. Cats are actually devoted mothers. On March 29 a Brooklyn cat named Scarlet proved it, dashing five times into a burning building despite severe burns to rescue each of her four-week-old kittens. Firefighter David Giannelli, a 17-year-veteran of Ladder Company 175, saw Scarlet moving the kittens across the street after getting them out of the fire and called the North Shore Animal League. New recovering at North Shore, they drew 700 adoption offers within hours of their plight becoming known.

The script-writers of the Lassie and Rin-Tin-Tin serials would have had a hard time topping the heroic animal headline during the first quarter-plus of 1996. Sixteen times in 15 weeks, mass media reported dogs and cats performing during or unusual altruistic deeds, on behalf of either humans or on their own behalf.

The streak began on New Year’s Day, when a nameless cat in Minneapolis alerted a sleeping child to smoke in time to save her family from a house fire.

The first case that went national and the first of a trio involving Rottweilers came on January 24, a day after Blake Weaver, age 3, vanished in the Ocala National Forest, of Florida, wearing only shorts and a t-shirt. Samantha the Rottweiler followed. At dusk she pushed the exhausted boy under a bush and lay on top of him throughout a freezing night. At about 10:45 the next morning, Samantha led young Weaver to rescuers.

On February 10, as a result of the moment two weeks later in Hayward, California, racing out of nowhere to intercept David Bruce Jr., age 2, as he darted in front of a speeding car. Out of work, living in a no-pets apartment, David Bruce Sr. took Minnie to the Hayward Animal Shelter, then joined the shelter staff in calling media to make sure she was adopted rather than euthanized.

In Winnipeg, Manitoba, on March 27, a Rottweiler

CLAIMED

Cleo knows enough not to mess with turtles. Louisiana doesn’t. Story on page 20. (M.C.)

Overkill in overdrive
Canada halts, then resumes seal massacre

ST. JOHN’S, NEWFOUNDLAND—The good news was that on April 12, a month early, the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans halted the bloodiest seal massacre since 1983, claiming—though few believed it—that the quota of a quarter million harp seals had been filled. The bad news was that on April 16 the DFO told the sealers that it had over- counted, and to go kill another 60,000.

At that, Canadian Sealers Association executive director Tina Fagan said her members might ask for an additional quota of 37,000. Newfoundland fisheries minister John Efford said the additional quota ought to be 150,000.

NEWLY ELECTED

Newly elected Newfoundland premier Brian Tobin just enjoyed the spoils of having given Canada’s least educated, most welfare-dependent and most resentful province an animal to blame, instead of Tobin’s own policies in his former post as federal fisheries minister, for the likelihood that the cod stocks Newfoundlanders and others fished to the verge of extinction during the 1980s and early 1990s won’t be commercially fishable again in what remains of this century, or in the first decade of the next century. The seal slaughter was stimulated this year by ice conditions favoring sealers, for the first time in years, as well as by sig-

(continued on page 10)
One of our cover stories this month deals with the ongoing process of strategic disengagement, on both sides, from the 200-year-old battle over animal use in laboratory research. The likely outcome of either side abandoning goals, but as a matter of recognizing that common goals may be achieved more readily if the conflict is less intense.

ANIMAL PEOPLE: over the past year has advanced 10 suggestions for strategic disengagement—nine of which are in the current issue of this magazine—aiming to help achieve one of the most important, practical demands of the animal rights community and the major needs of biomedical research. They are based largely on inclinations already evident among both activists and researchers.

An early suggestion was that a mutual, voluntary agreement can resolve the inescapable conflict over the rights or wrongness of animal use per se. But they might form a mutually acceptable protocol for progress.

1) Reject fear tactics. This is requisite for building the mutual trust upon which all other goals can be achieved. Fecklessly and ironically, just as major progress through disengagement seems imminent, a small sociopathic element within the animal rights cause has markedly escalated the use of violence. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, there have been a spate of animals rights incidents between the U.S. and Canada over the past 20 years, two-thirds of them this year. The Animal Liberation Front has claimed most of the arsons, both over the years and recently, while the razer blade attacks seem to have reached a crescendo by calling itself “The Justice Department.”

2) Open all Institutional Animal Care and Research committee meetings and records to the public, with full disclosure of research protocols. In exchange for open access, animal rights activists would agree to desist from using old and often ridiculously inflated estimates. This, in the view of the biomedical research community, is the most crucial, the most symbolic, and the most likely to win the trust and the ability to discipline practitioners.

3) Educatethe public. While the primary goal of biomedical research organizations, funders, and the public jawbone. It’s not the responsible public that is being educated but a limited audience that can be trusted to not be horrorist individuals who are not to be harassed. It may be that Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees might have to adopt an observer accreditation procedure, to admit activists and media who behave appropriately, while excluding yahoos, who would be excluded on the basis of their prior demonstrations of attendance rules, not on expressions of disagreement with the approval of projects.

4) Hold well-publicized regular open house at all laboratories, as is already done at several international research institutions. The biomedical research community would have to agree that meetings that are to be shown to the public, and that the research ideas that have to be open to the public, it would have to be halted and redesigned, if done at all. ANIMAL PEOPLE hopes most biomedical researchers have the confidence in what they are doing. That we can beèd by demonstrating their work will contribute to the short-term losses of a relative handful.

Activists, meanwhile, could gain not only by having more access to information, but also by demystifying themselves. IACUC meetings and open houses could be opportunities to impress upon researchers that some of their critics are serious, well-informed, ethical, citizens, who deserve positive response to sincere concerns.

In exchange for open access to current information, activist groups must refrain from using old, out-of-date information. The current situation is that the outcome we’ve seen go back to the 1950s and early 1960s, and involve procedures never performed by either the institutions or the individuals targeted by protest.

5) Consider law enforcement the rule, not the exception. This would educate, and termination of cruel procedures or holding conditions up to the most militant activists. If a profession is to operate with a high degree of autonomy, it also must visibly demonstrate the will the ability to discipline practitioners.

And if and when the biomedical research community demonstrates real willingness to self-police in a meaningful public manner, the animal rights community owes the research community the respect and the confidence that they will come together in the interests of science in question first, before going to the media or to the public, and giving the institutions adequate opportunity to rectify bad situations before making a public stink.

6) Biomedical researchers must not form alliances with wise-sue wiseegulls. Having anti-sciencé “friends” who want to trash the National Biological Service, get the Endangered Species Act, and deplete natural resources cannot help researcher credibility.

Conversely, the animal rights movement must not align itself with anti-sciencé “friends” either. Those who would use dissection, or dissection, to the public of public utility, and to the public’s trust in biomedicine, is not to be confused with such projects as terminating all public funding of research.

7) Biomedical researchers must be aware of the need for those humane organizations which are willing to work with them to show gains. The animal rights community cannot have it all. They must understand that while must fight for strict adherence to the guidelines, yet that they gain stature, not lose it, when they respond even partially to animal rights concerns.

Each community must be aware of the intense competition for funding among the other. And must understand that the need to compete, to win an award, or tangible achievement which may be used in a direct mail appeal or a grant application. Empowering loyal opposition, whichever side of the fence one is on, is empowering ones as well, and improving the effectiveness of the other.

8) Halt classroom dissection at all levels below upper division university level courses for people majoring or minoring in biomedical subjects. Public revulsion at lab- oratory use of animals is the closest they have to the public memory of having been compelled to dissect a frog or whatever, is not so much a part of dissection fault, or as much as more than a rite of passage in a mandatory course somewhere, from which the average student remembe the use of live, as of not, comparable vivisection. Whatever scientists may say or do to express concern and for the animal lives they take is offset by the memory of lab instructors and fellow students trying to offset their misgivings with dark witisms.

If the research and teaching communities can bring themselves to give up classroom dissection required of all courses, it could be for non-necessity. The gain a long-sought victory and lose the most effective means it has for recruiting support for antivivisection work. The school should teach both teams—and save the lives of up to 15 mil lions of frogs, 50,000 rats and rabbits, 1.5 million fish per year—about as many mammals as animals are used in actual research and professional training.

9) Quit buying animals from random source vendors. Vendors of randomsource deadly and catching only the most important, practical demands of the animal community is to be complaint, to unethical procurement, including out right theft, and inhumane holding conditions. Every cent that biomedical researchers save in obtaining new random animals and in improving the quality of their work, it will go to a species.

10) Conceive using random source animals, and the animal rights movement will be able to object to claiming that biomedical researchers are responsible for families losing pets. AGREE TO DISAGREE.

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Letters

Working in China
I was interested in the letter from David Fusher about animal fighting for entertainment at Wonderland of Southwest China, published in the April edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE. As the Far East Representative of the Born Free Foundation (which includes ZooCheck) this kind of problem is very much in my remit. It is a vast problem quite beyond our tiny resources, but we do what we can.

We have several threats to our policy.
1. We collect information, which is stored at the BFF headquarters in the United Kingdom. I do a lot of travelling in China and Southeast Asia, and have personally visited many of the zoos, circuses, safari parks, theme parks, etc. In addition, many kind people write to us with examples of problems they come across.
2. We try to forge relationships with the Chinese authorities. In this we have found our cooperation with the International Fund for Animal Welfare invaluable.

I see a lot of criticism of IFAW in your paper but certain as far as China is concerned they are doing a magnificent job. For Earth Day, on April 20th, IFAW, BFF and EarthCare are giving a joint presentation in Beijing.
3. We believe the real answer is basic education and we are encouraging local Chinese groups to set up Humane Education Centres. EarthCare is a Hong Kong registered charity set up with this purpose. If anyone is interested in any of this, please contact me.

I should be very grateful if you would publish this. I am a regular and avid reader of ANIMAL PEOPLE.

—John Wedderburn
8 Vivian Court
20 Mount Kellet Road
The Peak, Hong Kong

Freedom of Information Act
I notice that you are a frequent user of the Freedom of Information Act. Our Cincinnati activist group got its start 15 years ago when a member, John Rockwell, discovered through the Freedom of Information Act that a veterinarian was experimenting on beagles for Procter & Gamble in a lab behind his animal hospital. For several months our small group picketed and generated publicity.

July 4, 1996 marks the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Freedom of Information Act. I recommend that the law and its author be honored with public appreciation.

—Elizabeth Lendlk
Bellevue, Kentucky

Hiring help
Working with animal shelters for over 30 years, I have determined one very important thing: the most dedicated help you will ever find are people who would be doing the work anyway. Large humane organizations should keep this in mind when they are deciding who shall be hired.

—Carolyn Stevens
Inher The Earth
Crawfordsville, Indiana

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CORRECTIONS

Otters
Because of incorrect information received from the Chicago Tribune, ANIMAL PEOPLE reported in April that Illinois is “without an otter restoration program.” Responded Elaine Hopkins of the Pecos Journal-Star, “That just proves the Tribune doesn’t cover all news. We’ve done a couple of stories on it. The next otter releases will be done on April 20. I’ll cover it, at Bloomington’s Lake Evergreen.”

In fact, Illinois has released 131 otters at six locations since 1994.

Marching Orders
Because the information was received from In Defense of Animals, ANIMAL PEOPLE in April misattributed to IDA the Freedom Ride for the Animals bus convoy, actually organized by Last Chance for Animals, which will be protesting its way across the U.S. to the June 23 March for the Animals in Washington D.C. For details, call LCA at 310-271-6096.

Wrong Cindy
Reporting on recent staff changes at the American SPCA, we confused Cindy Adams in publications with Cindy Francielli in humane education. Cindy Adams is still there; Cindy Francielli departed to become a nurse.

ANIMAL PEOPLE
thanks you for your generous support:
Honoring the parable of the widow’s mite, we do not list our donors by how much they give—but we do appreciate generous gifts that help us do more.

Peter Berg Memorial Fund, Art Boland, John & Vennie Carpenter, Brenda Cosgrove, Mark Eisner Jr., Joel Freedman, Friends of Animals, Mr. & Mrs. B.A. Fusaro, Dorothy Gawle, Andrea Hemscoot, Martin & Sharon Horstine, Chuck Innes, Marie Lindberg, Annette Pickett, Dorothy Reynolds, Lyn Ruby, Ann Sadkowski, Kathleen Spain, Lori Sylvan, Olive Walker, D.W. Wiegand, and Laura Williams.

You have a friend who wants to read ANIMAL PEOPLE!
Just send us the address and we’ll send a free sample to the friend or friends of your choice.

ANIMAL PEOPLE
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Burnout

In response to Nancy Draper’s letter about burnout, relationships, and coping with animal suffering, I am the author of a book that has undoubtedly done something of value. Hey Nancy, put yourself on the back and feel good about all the good you do! As long as there are ignorant, careless, and heartless people in the world, senseless animal suffering will continue. You can’t save all the animals right this minute, but you can make a difference just by doing whatever you can and not giving up.

As for stressing out personal relationships with people who are not as involved with animals, when I started picking up strays off the street years ago, my husband would flip out. Now he helps out. I think we all inspire and encourage others by the examples we set.

I don’t preach or judge anyone too harshly for not agreeing with me. Words may come back to that person years later, when he or she is ready to change, and if you come across as a kind, generous, open, compassionate person, chances are your message may be remembered as valuable.

I’ve met lots of people in the animal rights movement who are more comfortable in the company of animals than in the company of people, because they cannot express themselves fully or cope with their rage at the world. Some of them care deeply about animals because when they were growing up, the only spirit that cared about them was animal rather than human. Some of them have such low self-esteem that they don’t think any person would find them worthy, whereas an animal responds to love offered.

I know that bringing joy into this world by saving animal lives is worth the effort. I feel great about myself every time I do. I don’t worry about the people who burn out. I hope others will come forward to take their place. We expect a lifetime commitment of anyone who adopts a rescued cat or dog from us. I have had to turn some animals down, reach out and change people’s consciousness about animals.

Of course I have to pace myself and take a break from it at times, but no athlete can run a marathon every day.

—Anne Singer
President
The Hudson County Animal League
Jersey City, New Jersey

Goals

Great issue for March on cats. Here are some further thoughts:

Population Control Euthanasia (PCE) at shelters is a polite but not very accurate way of describing the killing of pets by humane means because homes cannot be found for them.

I am not sure that “going where the homeless cats are to do neutering” is either necessary or sufficient to end PCE. For example, we just ran a “double subsidy month” for our low-cost spay program in Butte County. We did 95 cat spays in February. We added these to the cat spays we did in 1995 and assume we will keep neutering at the same rate, we predict we will do 341 cat spay this year.

These cats belong to low income people who would not otherwise have these cats spayed, whose cats are at high risk of breeding. We estimate saving two litters of 4.5 kittens each for every spay done. That would mean 3,069 less births of feral cats, since the cats we are dealing with were not trapped. Indeed, most of the 5,500 cats brought to our local shelters last year were not trapped. Animal control picked up about half the cat input; the other half were brought in by owners. We will do enough spaying this year to eliminate killing those cats who do not need to be trapped, i.e. tame cats, many of them kittens.

Should we now make a distinction between homeless tame and homeless feral cats? Does it make sense to save the homeless tame, but not the homeless feral? Are not homeless feral cats by definition overpopulation—the ideal population being zero? Is the goal zero population of homeless feral cats? Are not all feral cats homeless? Do we get to zero populations by ending births as a better option to killing? Better in what way? Your data shows some 28% of homeless cats die humanely while the other 72% die by euthanasia. After release, do the altered have more gentle endings?

And how do you define a goal for your humane program that has accountability as a bottom line? Here accountability means a numerical measure of how close to the goal is actually reached. Are we trying to minimize spaying of the feral species? Or the tame part of the feral species? How do you factor longevity, presumably a plus, against the suffering at the end, definitely a minus? How much money spent on neuter/release so spent at cost of supplying veterinary care and rehabilitation, that could bring overall improvement in feral cats? Obviously it is easier to raise questions than to find satisfactory answers. Sorry about that.

—Elizabeth Kantenan
Chicago, Illinois
Kantenan arranged low-cost neutering for Chicago residents for years before it was offered by major shelters serving the area.

Push neutering

Does your favorite animal shelter deserve your donation? Ask before sending in your money if every animal is altered before release to the new owner. If not, your shelter is perpetuating and adding to the number of unwanted animals in excess of available homes.

A contract and a small discount coupon are no guarantee that altering will be done. The grim reality is that a high proportion of these adopted animals will not be altered before they have at least one litter. Many shelters realize this and are changing their policies so that every animal they adopt is altered before release, even six-to-eight-week-old puppies and kittens, in a procedure which the American Veterinary Medical Association has endorsed and which has been very successful. These shelters are recording fewer animals being turned in and lower euthanasia rates.

If the goal of a shelter is to end overpopulation, this is the most important step to take. Make your shelter implement mandatory neutering prior to release of any animal. They need your support; let them prove they are doing a good job by their actions.

—Dr. Robert Blum
President
Promotion of Animal Welfare Society
Paradise, California

Not my problem

After nearly 20 years of dealing with feral cats, it has really been hitting home lately that this is not my problem. For years I have thought that I or my organization must raise more money for the cats, that I or my organization must rescue more animals, that I or my organization must foster, adopt, and so forth, more and more feral cats. Without giving it much thought, I internalized society’s problem and made it my own, simply because I cared. Obviously many others have shared my perspective. But of late, I keep thinking that the feral cat problem is certainly not of my doing, wondering how I can throw it back at society and demand societal participation in curing this ill.

Applying general fund money to subsidize low-cost neutering, as many communities have begun to do in hopes of realizing greater savings in animal control, is a marvelous thought. It can be very difficult, as you well know, to get people responsible for thoughtless breeding or abandonment to recognize and rectify their mistakes. However, the application of even small amounts of general fund money toward preventing homeless animal births constitutes a form of recognition that these animals are a public problem and that society does have an obligation to humanely address it.

—Petra Murray
N.J. Pet Overpopulation Solutions
Howell, New Jersey

Feral Press, April/May/June

More Letters

Vets barred from helping

I would like to call your attention to a situation that has developed since Florida Statute 474:215 was passed last year, sponsored by the Florida Veterinary Medical Association. The statute basically says that any veterinarian who volunteers or is paid for his service at any location other than his place of business must have a $250 minimum annual permit, plus an annual $25 per pruning, and a one-time registration in order to have any type of non-surgical clinic, such as a low-cost vaccination clinic or other health check clinic.

When FVMA wrote the statute, they promised to exempt all animal welfare agencies, but did not put the exemption in the bill.

Animal welfare groups have been stopped or have announced they will not conduct vaccination clinics for financial and regulatory reasons. One example of this injustice is the Humane Society of Gilchrist County. There is no animal shelter and no veterinarian in the county. They rely on veterinarians to come in from surrounding counties, but this will not happen now because of the fees.

Meanwhile there were 251 confirmed cases of rabies in Florida last year, and public health officials say we are well on our way to an epidemic.

The Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation’s Board of Veterinary Medicine has the authority to grant the exemption, but has twiced failed to do so.

With the Florida Animal Control Association and the All Breed Rescue Coordinating Council, the Networked Animal Organizations of Florida is gathering support from the several hundred Florida animal welfare organizations to demand the exemptions. Two national humane organizations, so far, have expressed their concern with this type of legislation and have agreed to work with us.

For the state to require veterinarians to pay a fee and meet strict regulations to volunteer their services to animal welfare groups help pet owners is unacceptable.

—Paul Kershen
President
Network of Humane Organizations of Florida
Beverly Hills, Florida

20526 4 - ANIMAL PEOPLE, May 1996
Stay tuned for Tweetie and Sylvester!

Cats kill untold numbers

I read with great interest your coverage of homeless cats. Trying to reduce stray cat numbers and euthanize is an admirable quest. Neutering stray cats is a fantastic idea; releasing them is not. I work in a wildlife rehabilitation center. Every year we receive hundreds of injured birds and small mammals. Some of their injuries are caused by cats and other factors, but the majority, particularly to birds, are caused by roaming cats. Most of the injured animals die from their injuries, or from the stress of their experience. Most of the deaths could be prevented.

Many of the cat attacks are by owned cats; the owners bring in the victims. The owners should recognize their responsibility to keep their cats indoors. Cats kill untold numbers of songbirds, snakes, and small mammals, including bunnies and baby squirrels, every day. These deaths dent the populations of whole species, particularly songbirds. If a cat is being fed by an owner and kills animals, imagine what a homeless, hungry cat kills just to survive.

I believe releasing a cat is never a viable alternative. Euthanasia must be placed on taking cats to shelters and promoting adoptions. Cats who are not adopted will have to be euthanized. As depressing as this is, it is preferable to endangering more wildlife; Wildlife have enough stress already, without introducing another predator into their midst.

I am a big cat lover. I have a pet cat at home, whom I rescued from a dumpster. I would like to see all cats happy and healthy, but I also want to keep wildlife healthy, without unnecessary maimings and deaths.

—Kathy White
Virginia Living Museum Rehabilitation Center
Newport News, Virginia

The editor replies:

Behavioral studies indicate that the typical free-roaming cat kills an average of one smaller animal per day, enough to meet the cat’s metabolic needs. Feral cats and roving owned cats kill about the same number of animals apiece, but while feral cats behave like other predators, killing food, conserving energy by rarely killing what they won’t eat, roving owned cats kill for sport, kill everything that moves, and are correspondingly much more deadly relative to time spent at large.

Of the 95 million owned cats in the U.S., about a third wander, according to Karen Johnson’s studies for the National Pet Alliance. Add about 35 million homeless cats, on year-round average, fluctuating between roughly 20 million in winter, 40 million in summer. Thus 50 million cats like to kill 20.5 billion wild animals per year.

While the carnage is clearly astronomical, it is much less clear that cats “dent the populations of whole species, particularly songbirds.” This is often alleged, but the bird/cat relationship, like most predator/prey relationships, is much more complex than the evidence of killed and maimed carcasses tends to suggest, and warrants more careful study than it has yet received. Undoubtedly, cats damage the populations of some endangered songbirds—and compete with hawks and owls for rodents. Yet the usual response of a prey population to heavy predation is to breed more young. Thus it is possible that feline predation stimulates the reproduction of some birds, as well as mice, rabbits, and squirrels. It is also likely that the fecundity of cats, among other factors, reflects their own role as prey for larger predators, for example coyotes (and perhaps, their history as frequent victims of human-nerved extermination efforts.)

Further, the presence of cats does keep some poten-

tially more dangerous predators away. For example, we brought all the cats in our personal neuter/release project indoors after two years, to halt the killing of chipmunks. One year later, we had abundant chipmunks. But perhaps because the cats were gone, ermine moved into the stone wall where the chipmunks lived. Ermine go right down into dens—and now we seem to have a spring without any chipmunks.

Neuter/release is not a perfect solution, but does paradoxically seem to be the fastest way to eliminate homeless cats—and not only because of the rapid attrition of most released colonies. Homeless cat population dynamics are closely related to the activity of cat-feeders, who differ from rescuers in their emphasis on feeding rather than capture, and are typically middle-aged to elderly, socially isolated (often by bereavement), and are frequently not allowed to keep pets wherever they live. If catch-and-kill is the order of the day, feeders typically form an underground to protect “their” cats from extermination. Organizing them to do neuter/release, on the other hand, gives them much-needed human contact, brings their work under supervision; and wins their trust.

When cat-feeders treat human workers, they are far more likely to help remove adoptable cats, as well as sick or injured cats, and to share the eventual goal of zero homeless cats.

Response to Bennett County

The letters from the Bennett County High School students in your April issue were deplorable. Obviously they were using the arguments of their parents in defense of rodeo, eating meat, and hunting.

These young people should learn some facts. A calf roped and bunted suffers medical trauma. Two of the Bennett County students admit that the animals get hurt, but not “that much.” I should like to know these young people’s idea of “much.” Rodeo animals often get their necks, backs, and legs broken, and have to be destroyed. As for eating meat, the taste is not the point. Informed people know that meat can be the cause of death from various diseases, not to mention heart attacks.

Two other Bennett County students must have had a personal message from God, to claim that beef cattle were put on the earth for our use. In early Biblical times, humans were vegetarians. Eliminating meat and using the grain to feed people in Third World countries would save millions of lives.

Anchorage Bennett County student argues that hunting is safe. If hunting is so safe, why are we always reading about hunters and others being accidentally shot by hunters? And it certainly isn’t safe for the animals.

Finally, these young people should read more carefully. ANIMAL PEOPLE obviously does not support trapping and dam-dynasty!

P.S.—In response to the “Prenarmin problem” letter, from registered nurse David Knowles, one alternative to Prenarmin, Estrace, is cheaper here than Prenarmin, so cost does not have to be a problem. Also, my doctor recommends a vaginal cream that he researched and found to be a synthetic. Ortho-Dienestrol. Other synthetics and non-Prenarmin generics should be available before long, allowing him to satisfy the interests of his patients and his conscience as well.

—Landra Shane
St. Petersburg, Florida

HUMANE FARMING ASSOCIATION (paid through 1979)
One fish at age five, with my brother Greg, who is one year younger. Each of us caught a perch out of a lake in St. Paul, MN. We called it ‘shagging’ because we tossed the perch swim around in a small bucket until first one and then the other died. I don’t remember what happened after that. Eventually, Spokespeople for fishing began talking about ‘catch-and-release’. This, they assured us, would secure the future of wild fish by reducing the number of human killings and harming killing them. In catch-and-release, we would hook our prey, record our efforts, then we would release them, and then hope they would survive to endure this torture again.

For the next few years I went to the ocean at least twice a year, for two or three weeks at a time. I bought a new boat, made for ocean fishing, and named it the Reel Salvation, because of my determination to hunt and kill a rare thousand-plus-pound great white shark. I stole the lives of unsung victims of many stunt. But what should have been a killer’s dream come true was somehow losing its lust over time and death. On occasion we would go night fishing for tuna offshore. Tuna are large, very strong fish, with rigid bodies. Once I pulled onto the deck of the boat. They beat their tails incredibly fast and furiously. They can break a fisherman’s foot. The bite was on the deck and literally be full of tunes struggling for life. In order to keep them still, we simply put a cloth over their eyes to block out light, had we been fishing in the dark as much as you would call a horse. This was a problem. Much like a horse? How much like a horse would you to do this to a horse. Why was I doing this?

For years, I managed not to answer that question.

Chumming

There was also the time that sea birds were chumming our lines in the chum slick. A chum slick is a gooey mixture of blood, fish, dead fish, double-fried french fries, and theattracks sharks. It also attracts birds, who swoop down to pick at bits and pieces of fish. I was in the chum slick, not the chum fish, and I was not the only one. One bird was particularly bold, and refused to react to yells, waves or anything else I did to dissuade him. So I shouted.

At that close range, he was dead immediately. His body spreadened, and his legs flailed. While my logical mind knew he was gone, my conscience told me that I had done something rotten, and to finish it. But the shotgun jammed. The third thirty seconds seemed like thirty minutes as the birds kicked and “ran,” and slowly came to a halt. It was almost half an hour before his body floated out of sight. I watched almost the entire time, knowing I was the world’s biggest asshole, trying desperately and unsuccessfully to convince myself that I had a good reason to do it.

Then my brother and I encountered a baby mako shark next to the boat, in our chum slick. Mako sharks are fearsome-look- ing, with large gawky teeth and coal-black eyes that make them look as if always enraged. But this miniature version, of about twenty pounds, was such a pretty gx20. It seemed like a fantastic thing to put his stuff with baby grows and tiny hops, feigning attack.

My brother and I, we could catch the baby, and have him mounted. This was a common practice, but one that I abhorred. This was, after all, a baby. From a fisher’s view, however, he was also a lot cheaper to mount, and did not require the

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6 - ANIMAL PEOPLE, May 1996
“God knows how I fought to continue to kill.”

I don’t know how long I might have been able to ignore my observance that I was doing something indefensible. It might have gone on for years. Fortunately, Hegins, Pennsylvania lay close to the route I took from Chicago to Montauk. On the way to my boat in 1989, I chose to stop and see the infamous Hegins Labor Day pigeon shoot.

After witnessing my first pigeon shoot, my perception of my animal trophies was never the same. But I did not quit killing easily. Initially, it never crossed my mind that I would actually stop doing what I had done for three decades. My intention was to stop these vile pigeon shoots, and then go on with the vile things I was doing. I approached many of my hunting and fishing friends for help in fighting pigeon shoots, which as I explained, were not only unethical, but cast all of us “legitimate sportsmen” in a bad light. With the exception of my brother, none of the great hunting “conservationists” were willing to take any time away from killing to actually try to help animals.

It was about a year before I gave up blood sports. God knows how I fought to continue to kill. Leaving blood sports meant accepting a whole new set of values, and eventually coming to terms with owning a debt I could never repay. But after Hegins, it became clear that I would have to try.

Greg and I buried our “trophy” victims, including my first shark and the baby mako, in a grave on our family property, next to the graves of beloved nonhuman family members. We donated the New Resolve to the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. As I tearfully bade her good-bye, I renamed her the New Resolve, for she would now be used to save lives instead of taking them, to rescue marine animals in trouble, and to patrol for poachers. A few years later, we would even be briefly reunited on the coast of California, while trying to stop Chicago’s Shedd Aquarium from capturing dolphins.

When I first talked to activists about fish- ing, at Hegins in 1989, one person asked me, “Would you still fish if they had vocal cords?”

I believe the answer in most cases would be no. Fishing is as popular as it is precisely because fish do not have the ability to communicate suffering as readily as cats, dogs, cows, or other mammals. But I know they suffer tremendously, just as we would if subjected to such horrendous treatment.

While many people may at first take such critique as mere suggestion that fish cannot suffer, 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?

The Chicago Animal Rights Coalition has a plan to fight fishing. But our workload, lack of budget, and limited numbers will not allow us to do it right for probably a couple of years. So call us, at 708-552-7872, and we will happily tell you our ideas, which you can add to and improve. But in any case, please begin the long process of winning consideration for these silent, long-forgotten victims.

In the process you might bring some relief and peace of mind to a repulsive poisoner.

(Steve Hindi founded CHARC in August 1992.)

Remember what you did on your honeymoon?

Raymond and Lisa spent their honeymoon blasting prairie dogs!!!

Prairie dog hunts are a booming business, says The Wall Street Journal. And though The Wall Street Journal doesn’t even have a society page, Raymond and Lisa’s honeymoon got a page one write-up on August 1, 1995:

Jerry Geidt, proprietor of South Dakota’s Western Agri-Processing, gives people to chisel down in his mud-splattered Cheyenne Suburban, then sets up a table and lets clients sit there for hours, blasting away. Miller Hutton, who operates guide service in Turner, Montana, called Dogbusters, charges shooters $160 a day, which is about average.

Raymond and Lisa V. went out with Mr. Hutton on their honeymoon in May 1993. We got married on a Saturday and on Tuesday we were out shooting, recalls Mr. V. The rule, rather than the exception, is that the guys want to see the dogs blown to smithereens, says Mr. Hutton. The terminology among shooters reflects that. A chamois shot is when the shooter sees a hide flying through the air, while red meat is self-explanatory.

Ned Kolblish, executive editor of the magazine Varmint Hunter, concedes that part of the appeal of prairie dog shooting is the sheer number of animals that can be killed in a day. But, he says, the social aspects of the sport are another big draw. People can talk to each other and sit in lawn chairs under an umbrella, he says. And for a lot of guys, this is the only type of shooting they do.

We’re sorry Raymond and Lisa had such hostility to vent, just three days into their union. We’re sorry “a lot of these guys” have such dysfunctional relationships with women.

But most of all, we’re sorry that prairie dogs are sadistically killed—by the thousand— to give animal serial killers their warped kicks.

Long persecuted by ranchers who didn’t know any better, prairie dogs are belatedly recognized by science as the keystone species of the Great Plains—the animals whose activity literally makes the most nutritious plants grow, enabling the range to support bison, elk, antelope, even cattle. Prairie dogs today survive at just 2% of their former numbers, on only 5% of their former range. Yet they’ve never been killed faster!

Please give generously to help CHARC use our wings and video equipment to stop this pointless, needless, thoroughly sick and senseless killing!

YES! I’ll help the Flying CHARCS save prairie dogs!

Enclosed, please find my donation of:

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Bill Clinton kisses up to hunters

WASHINGTON D.C. —
Fending off “vicious rumors that the president is anti-hunting,” as one White House official put it, Bill Clinton on March 25 issued an execu- tive order recognizing hunters and fishermen as “first partners” in managing the U.S. National Wildlife Refuge System.

“Compatible hunting, fish- ing, wildlife observation and photog- raphy, and environmental education and interpretation are especially recog- nized in this Executive Order,” Clinton said.

The order means hunting and fishing may continue in the 274 of the 508 National Wildlife Refuges that now permit them, until and unless a refuge manager rules that they are incompatible with public safety and wildlife management. In effect, Clinton implemented much of the language of the 1978 Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act, pending before the House of Representatives, without ever voting for it.

Commented Paul Bedard of The Washington Times, “Mr. Clinton’s election-year move stokes cold efforts by some in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to ban hunting and fishing in the federal refuges.”

Objected National Rifle Association spokesman Jim Manown, “He’s pandering to America’s hunters in an election year.” A longtime NRA goal is to open all National Wildlife Refuges to hunting.

“Prairie dog killers can’t hide from the Flying CHARC!”
Dogs and cats to the rescue
(from page one)

puppy named Thunder bit and rousted a would-be kidnapper who tried to take Cody Matthews, age 6, momentarily left alone while his mother used a bathroom.

On April 12, near Pilar, New Mexico, state police found Elizabeth Atencio, age 3, missing for 14 hours through a freezing night, safe and well among her three dogs—a Rottweiler, a Corgi, and an Australian shepherd.

That incident came a month and a day after a dachshund mix and a “heeler” mix, both strays, found Downs syndrome victim Josh Carlson wandering in the woods near Cassville, Missouri. He kept him warm through a three-day ordeal; and finally attracted rescuers by barking.

Only one of the many early-historic animals was trained for the deed. Lyric, an Irish setter, who on March 13 pushed a specially 911 button on the telephone, saved her owners from their scissors and ophidiaphobic asthma sufferer Judy Bayly, 44, of Nashua, New Hampshire.

Not all the animal heroes seem to have been deliberately heroic. On April 8, police chased a dog running at large in Lake in the Hills, Illinois. Dashing home, the dog led them to Michael T. Day, on probation and wanted in four counties for alleged offenses including drunk driving, speeding, assault, and illegal possession of fireworks.

German shepherds
But who’s to say that the dog didn’t have a plan? One of the least mourned assassinations in years was on June 1, 1942, when a Vichy police chief Rene Bousquet, 84, shot in his apartment on June 8, 1993, while answering a knock for dogs that rushed Jews to Nazi death camps during World War II. Killer Christian Didier, 49, told police that when Bousquet’s German shepherd saw the gun, he hid.

German shepherds tend to be brave, loyal, territorial, even unafraid of guns: on January 7, 1986, a German shepard named King took four bulliers for Thomas Perkins, 77, of Boston, who was similarly attacked in his own apartment—but King never quit charging the attacker, finally did rout him, and survived to pose ethnographically for photographs.

However, German shepherds also tend to be excellent judges of character. Evidently, Bousquet inspired neither the bravery nor the loyalty that Perkins did.

Thirteen German shepherds were among the 78 dogs involved in 75 recent heroic dog and cat cases recently charted by ANIMAL PEOPLE in search of any common denominators. Most active of the German shepherds was another King, who made headlines in October 1989 by charging down a Toronto alley to chase away two men who were robbing and attempting to rape a 20-year-old woman. This King then licked and comforted the bruised and half-naked victim. Within the preceding year, the King of Toronto had rescued another woman from attempted rape, stopped a teenager from stealing a child’s bicycle, and bit a burglar. Owner Doug McCullough, a former police officer, rescued that King from the city pound, where he was to be euthanized after having being taken from a drug dealer.

Marrollly German shepherds achieved memorable child rescues in January 1990 at Riudoso, New Mexico, and February 19, 1992, near Maland, Ontario.

In the New Mexico case, single mother Milay Denise Brady died suddenly while carrying groceries in from her car, leaving her one-year-old son Michael alone in an isolated house at high elevation, in subfreezing weather, with no heat and the front door open. The family German shepherd took charge, keeping Michael warm until help arrived two days later.

In the Ontario case, Brian Holmes let his dog Samantha out early one morning—and she came back with a half-baked, nearly frozen three-year-old. The child’s mother was in the hospital, after giving birth to a second child the previous evening. The father, up half the night, fell asleep on a couch. The child woke up, got out of bed, and decided to go see his/her mother, not realizing that the hospital was 27 miles away.

Other breeds
Also on the ANIMAL PEOPLE case list were seven collies, collie mix, and border collies, counted together because the reporting didn’t always make the breed plain. Virtually every common breed was represented, including a 12-pound Yorkshire terrier named Oliver, who on November 1, 1991 fought off an 80-pound Akita to save the life of neighbor Lillian Woodside, 79.

Pit bull terriers, Rottweilers, and wolf hybrids are notoriously dangerous, together accounting for 212 of the 257 life-threatening attacks by pet dogs recorded by the editor of ANIMAL PEOPLE since 1982, and 44 of the 56 actual fatalities. But among the canine heroes were also six Rottweilers, including the four who distinguished themselves this year; four pit bull terriers; and one roving Malamute/wolf hybrid, who was hurt in knocking a Samoyed, with whom he wanted to mate, away from a speeding car.

A seven-year-old pit bull named Weela, the 1994 Dog Hero of the Year, actually holds the recent record for heroic rescues. During the three months of the 1994 southern California flooding, Weela, trained by Lori and Daniel Watkins, rescued 30 people, 29 dogs, 13 horses, and a cat. In some cases Weela found and led human rescuers to the victims; in others, they brought him to safety herself. The cat was among a group of 18 animals who were stranded on an island. Weela swam to them repeatedly, hauling 30 to 50 pounds of food at a time.

Historic deeds
Though the reporting may be more intense than ever before, the evidence is that some canines and felines have comparably distinguished themselves for as long as humans and their species have been companions—or even close neighbors. Rome, for instance, was founded on the mythic rescue of the twins Romulus and Remus by wolves.

Paul Revere in his memoirs wrote that when the need arose for him to make his famous ride to alert Lexington and Concord, at the outset of the American Revolution on April 18, 1775, he was caught without his spurs, on the wrong side of the British troops. He sent his dog home through the soldiers with a note to his wife, and back the dog came, the spurs tied to her collar.

Mark Twain also remarked on heroic
dogs. Two of his favorites were Bummer and Lazarus, a pair of San Francisco strays. In 1861, Bummer rescued Lazarus from the jaws of a much bigger dog. Moved, the city council in 1862 exempted both Bummer and Lazarus from San Francisco’s first running-at-large ordinance. Eight days later, Bummer stopped a runaway horse-and-carriage, saving several human lives.

Unfortunately, Lazarus was poisoned by a man who said the dog bit his son, while in 1865 Bummer was kicked to death by a drunk. The pair were recalled by the historical fraternity E Clampus Vitus on March 29, 1892, with a commemorative plaque affixed to the Transamerica Pyramid, San Francisco’s tallest building, which stands roughly where Bummer and Lazarus lived.

The Canadian heroic dog tradition dates at least to 1832, when a Newfoundland known only as “George Harvey’s dog” accompanied rescuers in their skiff to the scene of a shipwreck, swam to the sinking vessel, retrieved a rope, and dragged it through the heavy seas back to the skiff. The skiff crew anchored the rope to the shore and pulled 163 people to safety across it.

Recognition
The Dog Hero of the Year program, sponsored by various dog food compa
nies over the years, annually receives 200 to 250 nominations from around the U.S., while Ralph Rutzn Purina Canada’s Animal Hall of Fame has saluted circa 70 dogs, 20 cats, and a horse over the past 28 years.

Thirty-one messenger pigeons, 18 dogs, three horses, and a cat won the Dickin Medal, a British military honor discontinued in 1949. Among the most distinguished win
ners were Antis, a German shepherd who flew seven combat missions with Czech bomber pilot Jan Buzdeck during 1941. Buzdeck joined the Royal Air Force after escaping from Nazi occupation. He and his pigeons

It wasn’t just Linus—collies really are frequent heroes. (K.B.)

Antis first distinguished themselves, shortly after arriving in Liverpool, by digging four air raid survivors from the rubble of a bombed house.

Simon the cat won one of the last Dickin Medals. Simon, a black-and-white tom, though singed and wounded by hostile fire, continued to must roust from the supplies the HMS Anemously was taking up the Yangtze River on April 20, 1945, to relieve the besieged British embassy in Nanking. Dying in quarantine upon entry into Britain, he received the medal posthumously.

ANIMAL PEOPLE discovered only one clear trend among the 75 cases we charted: one reported incident is almost always followed soon by another, and another, until the public becomes jaded and heroic animal stories fade from print.

Animals, meanwhile, go on doing what they’ve always done. While most of the animal heroes are dogs and cats, this appears to be simply because most humans are in closest proximity to dogs and cats.

ANIMAL PEOPLE charted 11 cases of dogs alerting humans to fires, fumes, or other imminent life-threatening disasters, and five cases of dogs doing like
wise. But sleep apnea sufferer Duane

On January 17, 1994, an earth-quake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale hit San Francisco, collapsing buildings and killing 61 people. Myrna Huffman was nearly among them—but as an oak wall unit toppled on her, as she lay asleep in bed, a Samoyed named Stella leaped to take the block. Four legs spread the impact; both were

On October 4, 1992, when Donald Drumm, 76, of Philadelphia, fell down a steep embankment into the Schuylkill River. Jill, above, is companion to John and Susan Harrison, both of the North Shore Animal League and the Pet Savers Foundation. (Photo by Kim Bartlett.)

On January 17, 1994, an earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale hit San Francisco, collapsing buildings and killing 61 people. Myrna Huffman was nearby among them—but as an oak wall unit toppled on her, as she lay asleep in bed, a Samoyed named Stella leaped to take the block. Four legs spread the impact; both were saved. Another Samoyed, named Stormy, was rescued and brought help on October 4, 1992, when Donald Drumm, 76, of Philadelphia, fell down a steep embankment into the Schuylkill River. Jill, above, is companion to John and Susan Harrison, both of the North Shore Animal League and the Pet Savers Foundation. (Photo by Kim Bartlett.)

ALLEY CAT ALLIES through May

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True Nature Network
April-May

Rottweilers figured in four early 1996 rescues. (K.B.)

Rottweilers figured in four early 1996 rescues. (K.B.)
IT WORKS IN SAN FRANCISCO—
WHAT ABOUT MILWAUKEE?

MILWAUKEE—WISCONSIN

Humanane Society executive director Victoria Wellsen isn't worried about the flak she's catching for giving up 19 animal control contracts over the next year and a half. She's been shot at since she was hired in 1994. Formerly executive director of the Chisopet Memorial YMCA in Waukeha, Wellsen inherited a dilapidated shelter, a building fund that wasn't growing fast enough to build much more, and an adoption rate, plunging donations, a demoralized staff, and perhaps the most militant cadre of animal rights activists in New York—San Francisco—despite overall intake, adoption, and euthanasia statistics that couldn't have been closer to the U.S. norms.

Like San Francisco SPCA executive director Richard Avanzino, who was hired in 1976, Wellsen came with no background in humane work. Like Avanzino, she therefore came without preconceptions—and age. A veteran of 17 years as the nation's first director of animal control, Wellsen took the heat—and researched other directions.

No-kill

Schultz announced with fanfare that the SPCA would phase out January 1 of this year the open killing of homeless animals. That didn't happen, but Schultz was in the headlines when two Gordon setters allegedly left outdoors in unlit weather vanished from Whitefish Bay residents Rebecca and Gregory Smith's yard on January 17. Schultz and others had complained about the dogs' situation to police and WHS, and Schultz apparently suspected by the Smith's of knowing what became of them.

"If somebody tells them, good," Schultz responded to the Milwaukee Journal.

"But we didn't take their dogs."

Wellsen meanwhile in October informed Milwaukee and other communities contracting with WHS for animal control service that the contracts expiring between 1997 and 1998 will be the last WHS intends to take.

WHS is now funded by two distinct sources, "Wellsen told ANIMAL PEOPLE. " Municipalities pay us to provide government-managed animal control services, and service fees and philanthropic contributions fund our animal welfare programs. Over the years, WHS has saved Milwaukee County taxpayers millions of dollars, but our animal control contracts have consistently underfunded the animal control service we provide. As a result, we have been forced to use private contributions to underwrite publicly mandated services, leading to an inadequate reserve fund for building a much-needed new facility. The time has come to separate the government-managed and funded animal control services from the privately supported animal welfare, adoption, outreach, and education service of WSH.

New agencies

The split won't come overnight. Contracting cities were given a 24-month timeline for forming their own agencies, assisted by WHS. Wellsen anticipates an ongoing partnership with the new agencies, through which WHS would—much like the SF/SPCA—focus on low-cost neutering and other programs to lower animal control intake and euthanasia, as well as working to increase adoptions.

By giving up animal control, Welsen hopes WHS can follow the SF/SPCA in euthanizing only animals who suffer from irrecoverable medical conditions. Eventually Welsen hopes to emulate the Adoption Pact introduced by the SF/SPCA in April 1994, which guarantees placement of any healthy animal picked up by a San Francisco animal control. If the animal control holding period expires without placement, the animal is transferred to the SF/SPCA.

Already, Welsen says, WHS doesn't euthanize animals simply for being "surplus," and has tripled veterinary services to avoid euthanizing animals who may suffer from curable problems. But Wellsen is careful of using words which might be misunderstood. "Adoptable' definitions are highly politically and emotionally charged," she notes, adding, "We're trying to depoliticize 'no-kill'; because it shouldn't mean that one kind of shelter is good and another is bad. Realistically, some animals have to be euthanized. Right now we're just saying we're optimistic that in the future humane societies can place much less emphasis on euthanasia. We should be looking in that direction."

So far, there are few clues as to how the 19 Milwaukee County municipalities plan to organize animal control. "The key players," speculated Milwaukee Journal staffer Alan Boruik in March, "are likely to be local officials who will be strongly concerned about cost and competing priorities, who will probably try to fund the new services by raising licensing compliance, now estimated at 8%.

Intergovernmental pound committee chair Jim Ryan told Boruik that from his perspective, "The animal rights groups believe this is an opportunity to further their agenda. The level of care they want animals to receive is not universally accepted by our constituents." —M.C.

Wholesome & Hearty Foods, through Jan/Feb 1997.

ANIMAL PEOPLE, May 1996 - 9

Weight, 47, of Tucson, Arizona, was saved under unusual circumstances in May 1994 by his pet iguana. When Weight quit breathing circa 1:30 a.m., the iguana woke him up with her clawed tail.

The 75 cases examined also included 12 rescues of lost or abandoned children, along with five kidnappings, and seven rescues of children from other dangerous animals and/or speeding vehicles.

Strays

The strangest of the 75 cases may be the one that occurred at the foot of Mount Aconcagua, Argentina, the highest mountain in the world outside the Himalayas. On April 12, 1992 a dog followed a team led by Austrian guide Amin Liedl as they started to climb, then disappeared. The next morning outside Liedl’s tent. Liedl adopted the dog and named him Summit. At 21,000 feet, two climbers lost and suffered altitude sickness. Summit found them, then barked to bring help. Eventually Summit joined Liedl at the summit.

The child rescues tend to be the most moving. There are cases on record of both cats and dogs finding abandoned newborns—and frequently the altruistic animals are themselves abandoned strays. No one ever got to thank a Guideline citizen who saved an abandoned newborn in Detroit on a cold night in November 1986: warming and licking the child for hours, she even police picked the child up. A nameless mutt who found and saved an abandoned child near Oakdale, California, on July 13, 1995, did get thanks—and was run over by a TV crew's truck, suffering a broken leg.

In Bhadrak, Orissa state, India, on November 18, 1994, two stray dogs found and revived a baby girl whose “remains” had been exposed to scavengers, as is Purane custom, after she was pronounced stillborn and dead by a government hospital.

Why?

Such cases are commonly explained by animal behaviorists as examples of the animals extending their parental instincts to humans. The same explanation is offered for marine mammals, especially dolphins, who several times a year reported to be swimming humans to shore. Supposedly the animals respond to the struggling people as they would to newborns of their own species, shoving him or her to the surface to breathe. That doesn’t explain the dolphin off Bangladesh reportedly took a baby in her mouth, who had been swept to sea by a tidal wave, and delivered the child back to his home village. That account might have been garbled in translation, but if any semblance of the deed actually happened, it is worth noting that wild dolphins don’t normally carry their own babies in their teeth, or anything else that can’t be dunked underwater. Meanwhile, the act might well be involved, but not without thought.

A different individual distinctly explains Priscilla the Pig, who on July 29, 1984, at age three months, pulled a drowning mentally handicapped boy from Lake Somerville, near Houston. According to newspaper accounts, the pig just happened to be swimming nearby. Carol Burk, a friend of Priscilla’s owner, yelled for the boy to grab the pig’s leash. He did. Panicked, Priscilla made for shore, without apparent heroic intent.

Self-interest is the sort of explanation also offered most often for cases of cats alerting owners to fires, floods, earthquakes, and, so forth. Cats, it is said, have no altruism directed beyond their own young. Toto the tabby was purportedly just that and the other common domestic fowl when in March 1944 he went berserk, driving his family outdoors just before Mount Vesuvius erupted, crashing the village and killing 30 of their neighbors.

Likewise, the cat Ugly Sister was purportedly just saving herself on July 4, 1996, in Beijing, China, when she woke her family by meowing and scratching their legs, then pushed open a window and flew. But that Golden retrievers are also frequent heroes. (Photo by Sylvia Forsmith.)
Seeking the psychological well-being of primates (from page 1)

There was no declared victory. There was perhaps a declaration to the animal rights movement. For that reason, many leading advocacy groups have never quite been satisfied. Demanding a concession as a show of force, PETA, the Humane Society of the U.S., and In Defense of Animals have boycotted P&G ever since 1994. Faced with a $5 million and a $545 million lawsuit from a group of 34,000, almost entirely in connection with testing pharmaceuticals (90%) and validating non-animal tests to the satisfaction of regulators (5%); and despite the heatedly publicized boycott, has tripled sales.

Biomedical Research formed to fight the interest of his staunchest friends and allies by declaring disengagement. He was satisfied, he explained to those who asked, that the biomedical research field would follow their own leaders. With the biggest maker of both personal care products and pharmaceuticals in the world sold on The Three R’s of Reduction of animal use, Refinement of procedures to use fewer animals, and eventual Replacement of animal testing entirely, Spira felt that momentum would accomplish the rest: nothing but the media.

All further confrontation would accomplish, Spira argued, would be to make researchers more secretive. secret they would ultimately take anyway, and all the effort put into confrontation would thus be not only in vain but counterproductive. Silverbacks don’t waste much of their immense strength in either fighting or digging. A silverback can be cracked away through the brush toward factorv family. Much of the animal rights move- ment and most research is done on one animal, figuratively flinging fleas.

But ANIMAL PEOPLE publisher Kim Bouret-Felchman of The Animal’s Agenda, never really felt good about scrupling and fees-flinging. In her May 1995 issue, Animals’ Agenda had established formal with biomedical researchers had done it all could do for a while, and recommended moving on to getting through the details of people’s biological systems at the research stage. But in a later editorial from the same period, she suggested a new take on research. Others, on both sides of the debate, followed her as the followed Spira.

Can we talk?

More than 10 years later, a new direction in relations between the animal pro-
tection and biomedical research communities seems to be established. The Foundation for Biomedical Research was formed to fight the animal rights movement, within the last three years invited Spira. Animal Welfare Institute representative Kathy Liis, and the editor of ANIMAL PEOPLE, among oth-
ers, to address the FBR membership in a variety of public forums. Spira and ANI-
MAL PEOPLE have also, by invitation, addressed the Issue Management Council, a consortium including the public relations managers of forty-five Fortune 500 compa-

ies. The Animal Protection Institute and the Humane Society of the U.S. claimed to have recognized the strikent of Gillette, target of a PETA-led boycott since 1996, which has reduced animal use in cutting blade development over a recent five-year average of circa 2,500 a year. Several of the most aggressive anti-
animal rights spokesmen in the biomedical research camp have retired or been re-
tired.

Even Americans for Medical Progress, the nonprofit animal rights group best sponsored by U.S. Surgical, is taking a less confrontational approach.

Going ape

As Pulitzer Prize-winning inves-
tigative reporter Deborah Blum of the Sacramento Bee recognized in her 1994 opus The Monkey Wars, primate research has for-
ished most of the high-profile issues of the antivivisection and animal rights movements since primate experimentation came into vogue in the 1950s—in part because the pub-
lic was already having a negative reaction to the use of dogs. Almost every activist knows or soon learns about Harry Harlow and his maternal deprivation experiments on thomch monkeys; Robert White and monkey head transplant; Ronald Wood and drug addiction studies on monkeys; Thomas Starzl and baboon heart transplants; and on the other side of the research controversy, about Peter Singer and the Great Ape Project; Jan-Moor Ijankowski and the recently disbanded Laboratory for Experimental Medicine in Primates; the even more recent retirement of the chimps dubbed the Buckingham 12 to Primarily Primates; the chimp work of Jane Goodall; and the intelligence studies of Roger Fouts and Duane and Sue Savage Rumbaugh, among others, who have estab-
lished that chimps, bonobos, and even squar-
el monkeys of average intelligence can easily beat humans at video games.

As Blum pointed out, the paradoxi-
cal crux of the research issue is that researchers claim other primates are valuable subjects because they are so much like us, yet are sufficiently unlike us that they may be used in experiments. Antivivisectionists argue that primates are so much like us that they have, intrinsically, the right to refuse consent to invasive procedures.

As PETA cofounder Ingrid Newkirk says of all species, “Animals are not ours to eat, wear, or experiment on.” Yet, this perspective also argues, in the words of antivivisectionist author Rehnau, “Reviviscence is scientific fraud,” because primates and indeed all nonhuman animals are supposedly so much unlike us that information derived from animal research is inapplicable. The poles of “like” and “unlike” are opposite. But virtually all participants in the struggle, on either side, agree within a few percentage points that we are about 92% genetically identical to gibbons, 95% identi-
cal to orangutans, 96% identical to gorillas, 97% identical to chimpanzees, and 98% identical to bonobos, the so-called pygmy chimps whose matrificial society makes love, not war, and are the closest of the higher primates to extinction, through the habitat loss and poaching that currently threatens those who encrouch upon their native habitat in central Africa.

The right over the morality of ani-
mal use in research is not over the fact of our primate-ness, not the fact of our animal nature, but rather, what this means in terms of our rights and obligations.

Follow the monkeys

There is a saying in journalism that if you want to understand any complicated issue, just follow the money. The reason why could be illustrated by tussling dollar bills into a crowd—or bananas into a troop of chimps or bonobos. But the actual operating principle may not be “Follow the money,” but “Follow the monkeys,” because the key to what has to be suffered is that not all creatures pursue self-grati-
fication. Rather, it is even in the scrap-
ble and immediate aftermath, humans and other primates obey principles of social conduct. Must not actually kill or maim each other to get the loot, and most in some manner share it with others.

Ethologist Frans de Waal, of the Yerkes Regional Primate Center at Emory University, explains in his newly published study Good Natured: The Origins of Right and Wrong in Humans and Other Animals that even though chimpanzees scuffle quite aggressively for a pile of food, all the chimps tend to get enough, if there is enough to go around. This occurs not only through making right, sexual politics, and other

Why no photographs?

That this feature appears without illustrations in itself illustrates one of the most difficult aspects of the research debate: in the absence of openness and honesty about just what is going on, it is difficult to fairly and accurately interpret much of the evidence. ANIMAL PEOPLE. Mention that there are two photographs, shocking at a glance, and definitely depicting situations unacceptable to people who care about animals, which nonetheless may not have shown the atroci-
ties they seemed to show, a possibility Clifton postulated after blowing them up to four times their original size for study on a computer screen.

ANIMAL PEOPLE publisher Kim Bartlett vetoed inclusion of the photographs in keeping with our policy against using photos which may be too painful for people who care about animals. Painfully depicting suffering, too intense feet. The photographs in question depicted rhacenes macaques, and were apparently taken in the Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center in Madison, or predecessor facilities. With, a sponsor was an anonymous group. Anonymous accounts were mailed to us anonymously, among a group of eight related photos, without expla-
nation, in response to our first publication announcement.

The history of WRPRC site of the lab to which Harlow’s notorious isolation experiments, 1930-1970, is enough to color perception of the black-and-white prints—but other University of Wisconsin faculty members dismantled the isolation chambers in 1970, when Harlow left to end his career at the University of Arizona. April 1979 involving neglect of primates used by dixon researcher James Allen. WRPRC in 1982 adopted a precedent-setting policy statement that acknowl-
edges, “Maintenance and care standards alone do not constitute adequate protection of the well-being and rights of nonhuman animals.”

WRPRC still does much controversial research, but also hosts the Primate Talk online network, heavily used by animal defenders as well as researchers. The sponsor, WRPRC chief librarian Larry Jacobsen, in 1991 put his career on the line, antagonizing five of us on the occasion of responding to a chimpanzee photograph Shirley McGeary of the International Primate Protection League in the International Directory of Primatology, which Jacobsen edits. Thus WRPRC is now reputed in this issue amongst some of the leading primatologists for improving the well-beings of nonhuman primate research subjects.

As a group, the photos show two macaques in restraint chairs— a macaque either being removed from a tiny steel cage or being put into it; two clenched-mawed macaques isolated in a cage and several scenes of basic abuse and animal associa-
tion. The holding conditions appear to be severely substandard—a hint that the photos might date to Harlow’s time, or to Allen’s. One restrained macaque clearly is unhappy. A common long-term expression—what do they mean? a friend? or pleasure?—and a human head, at first glance doing something invasive to his head, on closer inspection may be scratching his ears: the hand could hold a small squalish object (to pick up the object by a pleasurable instrument through a hang-
ing band, and the square shape could be a shadow. The caged macaques seem terri-

died. Yet apparent frost on the window behind them indicates they may instead be cold, and it is interesting, if perhaps coincidental, that they have been given a window.

Seeming to convey WRPRC of cruelty, the photos might show someone’s efforts to make a bad situation for the macaques a bit better. They might have been taken as part of an internal effort to improve conditions. But we just don’t know. And we can’t be sure of getting straight answers, even if anyone still alive could give them.

Orphan Pet Oasis - Humane Society of the Desert (through May 1996)
The influence of the man who inspired the “monkey trial”

obvious strategies, but also through the apparent influence of science.

one expects altruism among bonobo, who emphasize conflict resolution and mutual cooperation. Yet, they are, seemingly to exercise a sense of charity, and a sense of collectively enforced ethics to restrain unacceptable behaviors by the domin- ant animals. The application of ethics and charity may be limited to the members of their own group, but this isn’t different in principle from the human concept of patri- otsm, which enables humans to recite the Ten Commandments, then rob, rape, and kill neighbors with absolutism.

What de Waal has done, simply put, is scientifically explain animal behavior in moral terms without anthropomorphizing —taking us not full circle, but full spiral. The Age of Science came when European civilisation still shared the common pre-mod- ern perception that animals are moral beings, subject to human moral restraints and there- fore as culpable as humans for such crimes and sins as theft, forgication, and murder. Respected courts tried, convicted, and sen- tenced animals for all of those offenses.

Erased moral barrier

Rene Descartes (1596-1650), reputedly the first hashish-smoking philoso- pher within the European tradition, erased the notion of animals as moral beings, albeit not within his own time. Descartes argued that animals are automata guided wholly by instinct. He could not have thought and feel. These he held unique to humans, as alleged proof of our Godliness. Descartes, a dualistic anti-anthro- viscistionist, held that Descartes had spent too much time smoking dope in his oven, which concentrated the fumes.

The Cartesian argument provided the ethical basis for vivisection, which in Descartes’ own time was literally the dissec- tion of unanesthetized living animals. More recently, Cartesian arguments have pre- valued, largely for economic reasons, in agriculture, permitting the institution of close confinement husbandry, or factory farming.

But the Cartesian argument self- destructed just as close confinement hus- bandry began, when B.F. Skinner set out to discover how the supposedly mechanical ani- mal mind is programmed. Skinner condi- tioned pigeons to peck for rewards—and thereby discovered that wild horses woo- gamblers. Either slot machines being about a human reversion to animality that results in the looting of Las Vegas strip, or some religious fundamentalists have long contended, or animal behavior and human behavior are actually one and the same.

Charles Darwin (1809-1882) found the missing link between Cartesian philoso- phy and Las Vegas when he outlined the theory of evolution—still as controversial as it was in 1925, when a Tennessee jury acqut- ted schoolteacher John T. Scopes of allegedly committing a crime in teaching it.

Fundamentalists of many traditions, not just Bible Believers, have long been uncomfortable with the teaching of evolution. In one common view, evolution suggests that if animals are not moral beings, we have no inherent obligation to be moral, either. We have every reason to rob, rape, murder, for- ticate, gamble, blaspheme, and filth just as much as may suit us, to the detriment of the so-called civilized virtues.

Schooled as a clergyman, Darwin himself agonized over this possibility—and led a completely moral, orderly, and kindly life. Darwin founded modern biological science by establishing our relationship to animals. As philosopher Jacques Riall’s pointed out in his 1990 study Conceived From Animals: The Moral Implications of Darwinism, Darwin also in a sense founded the animal rights movement. The theory of evolution for the first time gave antivivisection- ists a means of arguing for the extension of moral consideration to animals, as kin, without having to argue the seemingly impos- sible case for animals as moral equals. Darwin did not take an absolute stance against vivisection, much to the disappoint- ment of his close friends in the early British human movement. But Darwin didn’t please his friends in science, either, with his statement favoring research on animals if it fulfilled essential purpose, yet opposing such research if performed “merely to satisfy danable and detestable curiosity. This may be the single most quoted phrase in the history of antivivisectionism.

Juxtaposing applied research against so- called basic research, it underscores not only the arguments pro and con animal research, but also the arguments within Congress and the research community about who should be paid to do what.

The resulting moral conflict one of the paradoxes of the animal rights movement, which is generally perceived as a liberal cause, but has always been, in the core of the movement, a conservative cause. Antivivisectionists have historically always had a strong conservative constituency. Opinion polls tell us that Christian fundament- alists are more likely than Americans of any other religious background to endorse the view that vivisection is scientific fraud, even as they quote the Biblical phrase about humankind being given dominion over ani- mals in rejecting the notion that animals are not ours to eat, wear, or experiment on. Republicans have historically favored gov- ernmental funding of applied research, which has obvious economic purpose, but not basic research, which usually does not.

Colorado State University ethical philosophy professor Bernard Rollin often asks his classes of veterinary and agriculture students to divide into two groups: those who believe science should be constrained by respect for animal rights, and those who do not. He asks those who oppose vivisection which strains if they agree that Na i vivisection of human beings was justified in the pursuit of scientific knowledge. Those who say yes, he identifies as ethically consistent monsters. He points out to the rest that they do in fact accept ethical constraints on science; they have a disagreement with animal testing as to which constraints apply. Before the animal rights contingent can draw a breath of satis- faction, Rollin hits them with the familiar hypothetical choice of saving their child or their dog. Those who would choose the dog or flip a coin are also termed ethically consis- tent monsters. The rest are reminded that they have just agreed that they will sacrifice morality to self-interest if necessary. The only issue in doubt is the degree of necessity. Out of a typical group of 50 students who start out believing they hold diametrically opposing views, 48 actually hold essentially the same views when those views are not defined in terms of ethics.

The dynamics of the research con- flict exist apart from the substance of it, which all takes place within the shades of grey permitted by the various interpretations of the initial phrase of the Hippocratic oath: “First, do no harm.”

Gender roles

Demographic studies have repeat- edly discovered that the animal rights and biomedical research communities are compa- rable in level of education (85%-92% college education), about 30% having advanced degrees (40% in economics), level of income (80% plus median), white/Asian relative to nonwhite/ black, by political affiliation and a host of political sympathies on non-animal issues (slightly to the liberal side of the median). The results are not surprising, given the passage of the Animal Enterprise Facilities Protection Act of 1992, which was directed at the already ille- gal activities of the Animal Liberation Front and other vandals, and was not actively opposed by most animal protection groups, the hunting, fur, and other animal use indus- tries have conspicuously failed in trying to form alliances with biomedical research, because as it happens the animal rights and biomedical research communities are even close in outlook on some extremely contro- versial animal issues. Few biomedical researchers hunt, wear fur, or go to rodeos. Many donate to save whales. The single biggest occupational category among animal rights activists is health care, principally nursing. After animal rights activists and endurance athletes, medical professionals, including nurses, are the subpopulation most likely to be vegetarians.

The above demographic differ- ence lies in gender ratio. Three out of four animal rights activists are female, with an even distribution of sexual balance only in the youngest population group, where three out of five are female. This is just about exactly opposite the gender ratio, in each age group, among biomedical researchers.

Reviewing recent biomedical research findings, American Humane Association Board member Judy Lang point- ed out the implications of gender balance at the 1993 AHA annual conference. For starters, Lang explained, “it is not just a cul- ture that women more rapidly and clearly recognize emotions, including both their own feelings and those of other. Women are much faster to detect the bio- chemical indicators of emotion, especially in the absence of verbal clues, having on aver- age much keener senses of taste and smell. Women also have a much thicker neuron bundle linking their brain hemispheres, which results in greater capacity for connect- ing thought with feeling. Thus women are simultaneously less likely to blindly react and less able to distance themselves emotionally from their work. Such traits are operating when female activists tell male scientists that experiments they consider brilliant are unac- ceptably cruel, and the scientists, going bal- listic, retort that the activists are sexist.

Chimps & bonobos

Lang stressed that the physiological differences are matters of degree, not of absolutes, and should not be considered an excuse for men to be violent or inhuman. Also, men are often less willing to learn modes of response that for women may be instinctive. When activists confront researchers, Lang says, they are likely to be talking different languages, not because activists are sentient and he’s a man—or because the activists are men who have learned to think like women, in the researcher’s terms. When he’s a man, because the researchers are working in a predominantly male environment, has learned to think like a more man. The researcher is likely to become obsolete and defensive when accused of attrition, not because he or she condemns attrition so much as because he or she doesn’t recognize it.

Men, as Lang noted, tend to be better at types of abstract reasoning where intuition interferes. Men more go into the sciences, this theory suggests, essentially the same reason that men seem to pick up math and map-reading more easily. This may con- tribute as well to the apparent greater ability of men to limit conflict within ritualized roles. Lang showed through a quick class- room exercise that men tend to be more acutely aware of their status at all times; women are more acutely aware of whether everyone is getting along.

Male consciousness, in short, has evolved in response to the context for position within a primate mating hierarchy, while female consciousness is more concerned with keeping a safe atmosphere for the rearing of young. Men are more like chimps; women

PIGS - April, May, June

(continued on next page)
New trends emerge in pet theft

The third biennial update of the ANIMAL PEOPLE pet theft log shows dra-
matic changes in patterns of both pet theft itself and prosecutions since the 1990 Pet

Since January 1992, 56 perpetr-
ators have stolen 218 pets in cases where the fate of the stolen animals is known. Taken
were 189 dogs (87%) and 29 cats.

Theft by dogfights accounted for 48 missing animals (22%); other sadism
accounted for 47 more (22%). Sadism accounted for 44% of the thefts overall.

Two perpetrators stole 35 animals (16%), all by fraud, for sale to research.
This is a preliminary total only, as pending USDA prosecutions of several Class B ani-
mal dealers may bring further identifications.

Would-be rescuers stole 51 animals
(24%), including 47 of 159 dogs seized in 1993 from Wisconsin ‘B’ dealer Ervin
Stebane, 143 of whom were ordered returned after Stebane was acquitted of cruelty
charges brought as result of a sting by Last Chance for Animals. The dogs vanished from
various holding facilities during the next few days. Stebane was permanently put
out of business by the USDA as part of a February 1994 plea bargain pertaining to
multiple alleged AWA violations, including failing to identify the sources of dogs.

By contrast, before the Pet Theft Act
amendments took effect, thefts for
research accounted for 456 of 534 stolen ani-
mals (85%) whose fate was known, includ-
ing animals stolen in cases prosecuted since January 1992 that actually occurred earlier.

ANIMAL PEOPLE archives indi-
cate that 50 stolen animals were identified in cases occurring prior to 1988, of whom
48 (96%) were stolen in six cases pertaining to
laboratory supply. However, no pet thieves
were successfully prosecuted until after
the amendments of the 1988 Pet Protection
Act, drafted by Adele Douglass of the American Humane Association and Martha Armstrong,
then of the Massachusetts SPCA, now direc-
tor of companion animals for the Humane Society of the U.S. The act failed, but
publicity about it apparently stimulated successful
USDA action against 14 laboratory ani-
mal suppliers during the next four years.

Reintroduced as the Pet Theft Act
in 1990, the Pet Protection Act was adopted as part of the 1990 Farm Bill.

Class ‘B’ dealers

The Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas, unanimously voted on March 18 to keep selling pound animals to Texas A&M, the University of Texas Health Science Center, and Baylor College of
Medicine. Fiscal 1984 figures show Harris County was paid $76,000 for 1,900 animals.

Dog warren Art Evans, of Greene
County, Ohio, announced March 1 that
“Greene County Animal Shelter will cease relea
sing animals to individuals or agencies, for research, medical study, or teaching labs.” Greene County formerly sold about 200 animals a year to Wright State University
in Dayton, chiefly for use in practice surgery.

Montclair County (Michigan)
Citizens for Animal Welfare was to hold a
candlelight vigil on April 22 to protest the
January 13-0 vote of the county commisioner
ers to continue kill and cut for laboratory costs, and to continue selling impounded animals to research via R&R Research orders of Howard Co.
The USDAs is reportedly probing
allegations that intermediaries have “adopted” dogs from Oregon animal control shelters and
sold them to California labs via Betty Gayle
Davis, 47, of Arleta, Oregon, a Class B ani-
mal dealer since December 1994. “We did get a
search warrant, we took a lot of records, and
we’re pursuing those records now,” USDA veterinarian Robert Williams said. Davis’s
license was suspended for three weeks early in
the probe, but was reinstated when charges were not filed within that time. Willard at
last report was still seeking the previous own-
ers of 29 dogs found on Davis’s premises.

Gender Roles (continued)

She is asked to approve of projects, if they
meet animal welfare standards, that are still
abhorrent to her, and in any voting situation
is likely to find herself voting alone. ANI-
MAL PEOPLE gets telephone calls now and
then from women in just that position, who
seem to need an organization as much as the
scrap of information they request.

The scientists surrounding such an activist may meanwhile feel that she is
unfathomable and unreasonable, and that
they have already conceded everything they
could possibly concede: they have given her
the status of a place among them, even
though she may lack the formal scientific cre-
dentials that are otherwise required of mem-
bers in their club. Without admitting it, they
may actually be vying for her approval, since
it is very difficult for most men not to live in
the favorable attentions of a female, as either
a symbolic mother or symbolic mate.

The unrecognized subliminal issue for
the male leaders is quite likely to be per-
sonal status rather than animal suffering.
They may not be capable of understanding
that to an activist, the knowledge of suffer-
ing is a torment like that a mother feels upon
hearing a baby cry—a sound to which most
females of any age have an immediate physi-
ological response. Typically, men may respond:
women must respond.

Disengagement

Bernard Rollin points out that a
hidden theme in any conflict is how to
change their behavior without losing status
among peers. We see this on Institutional
Animal Care and Use Committees and else-
where throughout the research debate.

Denial, Rollin suggests, may indicate not
that men are blind to the suffering they caus-
es, but rather that they don’t know what to
do about it. They not only need an alterna-
tive that won’t cost them their livelihood, but
need a way to embrace it that won’t seem-
ingly cost them their manhood, which may be
perceptually linked to the size of their
research grants and their ability to perform
research that gains professional recognition.

As Rollin puts it, “When a gay
begins practicing denial, and you know that
he knows what you do, then you have to start
showing him an easy way out, because he
doesn’t want to fight you any more. He
knows he’s wrong. What you have to do is
find a way to let him out.”

The key to progress becomes strate-
gic disengagement, which is distinctly dif-
ferent from relinquishing an essential point.
Successful married couples learn how and
when to do it. Both animal advocates and research advocates may now manu-
vering toward strategic disengagement that can enable progress—perhaps including
marginalization of the other—just as the still
hotly disputed standards for assuring the
“psychological well-being” of nonhuman pri-
mates should be.
### Fund for Animals president Cleveland Amory

made the cover of the April 18 *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, which explored the ethics of keeping large reserves. The National Charities Information Bureau holds that reserves normally should not be greater than twice a charity’s annual budget. The Fund has reserves of about $10 million, built mainly through receipt of recent bequests, against a budget of $3.6 million—the most assets relative to budget of any group whose IRS Form 990 filings ANIMAL PEOPLE reviews. “A huge endowment is out of place in certain instances,” Amory said. “But with as many animals as we have in our care, it comes close to being a necessity.” Amory said he hopes to build an endowment able to maintain the Black Beauty Ranch and other Fund animal care facilities on interest. Campaigns would still run on direct donations. DELTA Rescue founder Leo Grillo, battling the Humane Society of the U.S. for years over HSUS attacks on no-kill shelters, has opened a new front with newspaper ads and a press release attacking the HSUS record on puppy mills—coinciding with an HSUS mailing proclaiming an anti-puppy mill campaign. The release cited a press conference last August at which HSUS legislative director Wayne Pacelle and Senator Rick Santorum (R-Pennsylvania) publicized a letter they’d written purportedly asking the USDA for stricter law enforcement against puppy mills. In fact, the letter was a gelded edition of a letter signed earlier by three Senators and 110 Representatives, edited by Pacelle and Santorum in collaboration with lobbyist Jim Holt of the American Kennel Club and Pamela Albury of the American Veterinary Medical Association, to delete specific requests for new regulations that the USDA sought to close loopholes currently hindering prosecutions of puppy mills. Details appeared in ANIMAL PEOPLE for September 1995.

### The Watchdog

**Wise-use wiseguys**

Putting People First was reportedly set to link Unabomber suspect Theodore Kaczynski, Earth First!, and animal rights activism at an early-April press conference in Montana—but the Unabomber’s manifesto, published last year by *The New York Times*, described animal rights activists as delusional: the San Jose Mercury-News on April 8 published an interview with Jo Ann DeYoung, a former high school classmate of Kaczynski, who remembered that he once slipped the pelt of a dismembered cat into her locker; and on April 10 *The New York Times* published letters Kaczynski wrote to a friend, describing how he hunted rabbits. Kaczynski’s brother David, who turned the suspect in to the FBI, was meanwhile described by *The New York Times* as a vegetarian “bunny-hugger.” PPF cancelled the press conference, allegedly because it received anonymous threats but couldn’t get police protection. The purported Earth First! link was made, however, on April 9 by ABC World News Tonight. Kaczynski had no known association with Earth First! itself, but of the three people killed and 23 hurt in the 17-year string of Unabomber attacks, two victims worked for firms named on a “hit list” issued in 1992 by *Lise Wild On Die*, newsletter of a splinter group led by Mike Jakubal, which broke away in 1989, after Earth First! renounced tree-spiking. The list was in fact the list of co-sponsors of a 1989 wise-use conference.

Michael Twain, a pet industry representative on the board of the National Animal Interest Alliance, was embar-
rassed on April 10 when the Portland *Oregonian* disclosed that his Scamps Pet Store, of Portland, has received repeated USDA warnings for failing to maintain sanitary conditions. Store employee Benjamin Thomas Coffey, 24, was charged with first-degree animal neglect on April 8, after seven parakeets and a rabbit died over the Easter weekend from what Multnomah County Animal Control officers told the Oregonian was proba-
bly “a lack of water and food.” The store disposed of the remains before the precise cause of death could be determined.

**WOOFs & GROWLS (NATIONAL LEVEL)**

Frederick’s of Hollywood “will receive no spon-
sorship award, no ad space in the March for the Animals Journal, no ad space in the World Congress for Animals pro-
gram, no exhibit space, and will in short have no involve-
ment in these events,” the National Alliance for Animals said in a March 26 statement. “We do not support or condone the selling of leather products or products which serve to demean or exploit either women or men.” The National Alliance had come under fire from the Association of Feminists for Animal Rights and Gary Francione of the Rutgers Animal Rights Law Center for accepting $10,000 from Frederick’s, listed as a top-line sponsor in a February mass mailing. The turnaround drew comparable flak, mainly from female participants in the AR-Views online forum, who pointed out that some Frederick’s franchises distribute animal rights literature, that few if any major corporations are entire-
ly vegetarian, and that erotic self-expression can have a cen-
tral place in liberation philosophy. Even some AR-Views participants opposed to the initial acceptance of Frederick’s argued that the turnaround sent the message that animal rights leadership can’t be trusted to keep a bargain.

Wilderness Society president Jon Rosh said abruptly resigned on March 7, almost a year after Jeff St. Clair and Alexander Cockburn of The Nation disclosed that Rosh had sold lodging rights to his own Montana land for $140,000, while opposing logging on public lands in the same area. “Rosh nearly brought ruin on the Wilderness Society, which had to close field offices in New Mexico, Florida, and Oregon to pay the enormous balloon lease payment due on the Society’s premises in Washington D.C., which will top $6 million next year.” wrote Cockburn of the departure. Said Rosh, “I have accomplished the goals I set for myself.”

*(Woofs & Growls, local level, on next page.)*
Port in a storm

ELLICOTT, Colorado—A nine-month battle with Elbert County officials over health and zoning code violations ended in February when, under 30-day notice to either move, get rid of her animals, or else, Mary Port, 71, moved the grandly named but essentially makeshift Colorado Animal Refuge from an allegedly overcrowded 80-acre site near Simla, where she founded the facility in 1983, to a 44-acre former dairy farm in El Paso County, a few miles southeast.

El Paso County has no zoning, but Port is still in violation of the state Pet Animal Facilities Act, Colorado state veterinarian Keith Roehr recently told D’Arcy Fallon of the Colorado Springs Gazette-Telegraph.

“Basically, nothing has changed,” Roehr said. “We’ll handle her, whether she’s in Elbert or El Paso County.” Earlier, Roehr threatened to charge Port with cruelty for allegedly letting dogs run loose, potentially menacing cattle and putting the dogs at risk of being shot. By December 20, 1993, record Don Hendricks told county commissioner Bob Morrison that he and a fellow rancher were shooting some of Port’s dogs for chasing cows. Despite that, following a Gazette-Telegraph report on April 7, 1995, that ranchers shot about 80 of Port’s dogs per year, sheriff Jack Knows told Roehr that former director Mark Hestand said they found no remnants. Port denied ever having had animals escape.

The Colorado Animal Refuge, called the North American Wildlife Center until 1991, first drew extensive public notice on April 3, 1998, when Port appeared before the state fire—alleged by some observers to be arson—which killed about 50 animals, including cats, dogs, and seven monkeys, according to most accounts.

However, Elbert County planning director Mary Adami told the Pike’s Peak Ranchland News that after the fire, she visited CAR and saw the remains of “about 150 cats, dogs, and monkeys who had been burned. There were rats throughout the facility.” Adami said, “We saw a lot of half-eaten rats.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE was among the many newspapers that published Port’s address, for anyone who wished to send a contribution.

Denver veterinarian Jeff Young, of Planned Petfood Plus, called ANIMAL PEOPLE’s Young and colleagues “a very responsible group of young, caring animal lovers.” Mike Chamberlain and Erin Russell neutered 102 animals for Port at their own expense several years ago—and while at CAR, observed dogs cannibalizing each other, badly housed wildlife, and “hundreds of sick cats in old tractors.” The farm was eventually burned by the fire. Further, Young alleged, Port had for a time sheltered Vicki Kittles, an animal collector with legal history in Florida, Mississippi, Oregon, and Washington, also suspected in the 1988 disappearance of her mother.

Two other ANIMAL PEOPLE readers, including former CAR volunteer Annie Adam later sent letters of supporting testimony. After the fire, Port has estimated 300 dogs left, plus other animals—and after failing to meet repeatedly extended deadlines to get the animal population down to 100, still had 65 dogs, 20 wolf hybrids, several burros, a bear, an Arctic fox, and a raccoon, when Elbert County ordered her to move regardless. That was after the Denver Dumb Friends League took 20 adoptable dogs and another party took 16, whom she claimed to have boarded with Port.

Port said she spent $30,000 on improvements after the fire, and had adopted out 300 animals, trying to meet the Elbert County requirements. Colorado Springs feed store owner Bob Friedman confirmed that Port had distributed dogs and cats to his customers one Saturday per month. Roehr, just a day before the February 21 alleged dog shootings, asked Elbert County to grant Port an extension of a deadline she had been given to add perimeter fencing, arguing that it was 90% completed.

Alleged associates

Others argued, however, that Port failed to report to Effort D. Dressel, continuing to the estimated $40,000 in donations she received after the fire. She was also sued for alleged nonpayment of a $10,000 loan purportedly received in 1990 from former Colorado Senate president Ted Strickland and his wife LuAnne, who has a comparable history.

Editorialized the Denver Post on July 19, 1991, “Under Strickland’s care, more than 130 confined cats died in a fire in 1986. Under her supervision, more than 200 cats were discovered in a small, filthy, disease-ridden house in 1987.” During 16 months in 1990-1991, the Post added, Strickland “was given custody of 2,012 additional animals” from the Adams County Animal Shelter, “many of whom apparently died of lack of decent sanitation and medical care.” About 600 of those animals were still alive when discovered at the Strickland farm that week—along with the graves of many others. Strickland was eventually convicted of a single count of cruelty in that case, while the cost of caring for the rescued animals forced the closure of the Colorado Humane Society’s Thornton Animal Shelter.

While Port’s problems were often in local newspaper headlines over the past year, the child advocacy group Justice for Children in May 1995 asked public officials to investigate Grant Bremer, 28, said to be a CAR board member, for alleged sexual assault of two non- related 9- and 7-year-old girls, an unsubstantiated charge. Bremer was sub- ject to a “unfair home improvement” complaint filed by police who escorted humane officer Julie Young as she served notice that Bremer allegedly had more animals on his premises than were legally allowed. The police report described a brief altercation, said eight dogs and five cats were seen alive, and reported that four children including a baby were allowed to remain in Bremer’s custody by Colorado Department of Social Services workers Jeanette Varze and Marty Plassmeyer, identified as legal guardians of the children.

Weisman (paidthrough July/August)

Port (through May 1996)

Ketch-All

(through paid 10/96)

Frank Zigzang ad—
paid through 1996

Melinda Arkow (through May 1996)

Don’t let the photo fool you:
Lucky isn’t doing time, but Navy petty officers Scott Wilkinson, 21, and Dennis Stowers, 22, February sentenced to serve 24 days each for dragging him behind a car last June. They actually served only two days each, Tuolumne County ani-

cmal control officer Waynette Townsend reports, as overcrowding of the jail forced the early release of prisoners sentenced for misdemeanors, but they are still to pay fines of almost $3,000, do 400 hours of community service, spend two years on probation, and are likely to be booted out of the Tuolumne, who rescued Lucky, has added him to her staff as Office Cat.

Former Michigan Humane Society board president and National Society for Animal Protection board member Bob Sorrook, elected to the board of the Humane Society of Tucson in 1995, is reportedly lobbying to replace executive director Carol Munroe, hired in 1995, with longtime friend David Wilk. Munroe’s situation is apparently shaky due to board resignations. Nominall consisting of a two-to-one ratio, the HST board is said to have just eight active members at pre-

sent. Wilks headed the Nashua Humane Society, 1972-1978; MHS, 1979-1989; NSAP, 1989-1991; and was vice president for investigations at the Humane Society of the U.S., 1991-1995. Wilks’s departure from each job coincided with missing money. Wilks, 48, was not charged in either Nashua or Michigan, but was said successfully for failure to repay loans he solicited from NSA board member Sandra LeBost, and has been sued for allegedly taking $93,000 from HUSCS, where he was also accused of sexually harassing three staffers. In a counter suit, Wilks claims the allegations were trumped up to deny him a promotion to succeed his longtime mentor John Hoyt, expected to retire this month, as head of Humane Society International, the umbrella group for HSUS affiliates.

The New Orleans-based activist group Legislation in Support of Animals opened 1996 by announcing a probable name change, to the League in Support of Animals, to better reflect the range of activities it undertakes, and got on about a campaign to improve animal control ser-

vices in Mississippi and Louisiana, now in its seventh year, that has included doing 70 shelter inspections, using three municipali-
ties, and proposing major reforms in many more. Early 1996 cases included an allegation that Lafayette Animal Control neglected a terminally injured calf, leav-

ing him to lie in excrement for two days while failing to call the number on a veteri-

nary tag, and a long list of complaints against the Vinton Animal Shelter, which

“we believe is poorly constructed, main-

tained, and supervised,” said USA founder Jeff Dorson.

The future of the Bellingham, Whatcom Humane Society, of Bellingham, Washington, may be decided at a May 21 membership meeting. Executive director Gary Magrude resigned April 9, effective April 30. Magrude took the job in August 1994, amid acrimony surrounding the embattled conviction of former director Mary Henry. Magrude won the support of most of his staff, but allegations of mismanagement were soon raised by public critics. Exasperated, Magrude quit after a board meeting at which four of the eight directors lost their seats for failing to pay dues; the other four face a recall vote.

Sun City Animal Rescue, of Phoenix, Arizona, opened a shelter in December, but by March 20 appeared close to dissolution or restructuring, as about a third of the members sought the resigna-
tion of four board members and the rein-

statement of founder Karen Britten to the SCAR leadership. Britten was reportedly ousted from the board in January for alleg-

ing that other board candidates would cause the deaths of hundreds of cats. She was replaced, he added, by an unsuccessful board candidate.

Police in Parma, Ohio, in early March seized records from animal warden Samuel J. Roe and asked for a state audit of animal control accounts. Roe, serving Parma since 1986, is also a nuisance ani-
mal trapper. In February he was charged with cruelty by North Royalton animal con-

troller Sandra Grattan, for allegedly keeping a caged opossum in the back of his pickup truck for at least eight hours in minus-20 degree weather. Wildlife offi-
cials are reportedly still probing claims that Roe has released raccoons, skunks, and opossums behind the city garage, instead of euthanizing them within 24 hours, as state law requires. Roe reportedly says he releases the animals when he can’t get them to a veterinarian soon enough.
**Animal control & rescue**

**No-kills**

*The International Fund for Animal Welfare* in an April mailing asserted that it needs “to raise over $10,000 each month to continue providing vital support to local shelters worldwide who cannot exist on their own.” IFAW is well-known for many programs, but assisting animal shelters isn’t even mentioned as a program activity on the IFAW filings of IRS Form 990. “During 1994 and 1995, IFAW contributed approximately $19,000 to some 40 animal protection groups with a no-kill policy.” IFAW director of field activities Paul Segall told *Animal PEOPLE* April 12. “We are altering the spring 1996 recipients, who will share $200,000.” Among the 1994-1995 recipients were shelters in Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the U.S., and South Africa.

**On the beat**

Arizona governor Fife Symington on April 15 signed into law a bill upgrading cruelty to a Class 2 misdemeanor and increasing the maximum fine for harming a trained service animal to $150,000. The new law was inspired by the murder of Mr. Moose, service dog of paraplegic Peggy Thomas, whose training by Canine Companions for Independence has earned an estimated $10,000. The killer neighbor Bebeeec Beebou, who said she set out to kill Mr. Moose, was convicted of the old law, facing a maximum penalty of eight months in jail, a fine of $1,500, and four years on probation. Thomas has already paid a CCL-trained golden retriever named Van.

**Laws**

The Humane Society of Sonoma County on March 15 won a 39-month contract to continue managing the city animal shelter in Petaluma, California. HSSC had run the shelter from 1989 into 1995, but lost the contract to a lower bidder, Thursday and Lighting’s Cause, in August 1995. Four months later, however, the Petaluma city council suspended the TLC contract during a police probe of alleged mismanagement, and brought HSSC back on an interim basis. Although no charges were filed, the city council cancelled the TLC contract in January.

“Indiana is considering the institution of a uniform animal bite registry for all agencies that take bite reports and conduct animal bite investigations,” reports Fort Wayne Animal Care and Control Director Belinda Lewis. “The state committee is made up of representatives from the Indiana Humane Law Enforcement, the Indiana Board of Health, and the Indiana Association for Animal Control, the Indiana Board of Health, and the Indiana Board of Animal Health.” Standardizing the report format is expected to produce better bite statistics, leading to better bite prevention.

“The Buddy Foundation, of Arlington Heights, Illinois, recently completed a year of operation with 30 volunteers, 120 paying members, and a list of 400. The young foundation, still without a shelter, placed about 100 animals in homes.

**People**

Broward County Detective Sergeant Sherry Schleuter, 45, was profited in the March 9th, 1996 edition of Boca Raton magazine, whose usual subjects are multi-milionaires. Schleuter was noticed because in 1982 she “proceeded one of the world’s only law enforcement units specifically in charge of investigating animal abuse,” a job usually left to humane societies. “In June of last year,” the article continued, “the “six-person unit was expanded to 24 people including a vice president, public works director Kurt Willard, and police officer Mike Wilson, of Newport, Arkansas, dead and her human counterpart Brenda Smith of Arkansans for Animals back in 1993 by charging her with trespassing, for which she was fined $50 plus $77.50 in court costs. The last laugh was on them: Smith sued, recently winning $20,000 from the city of Newport to cover her costs, plus a judicial order that Newport must improve its shelter and operate it according to the guidelines prescribed by the Humane Society of the U.S.

**Washington Humane back in D.C.**

WASHINGTON D.C.—The Washington Humane Society on March 1 reacquired the Washington animal control contract at $120,000—a contract held for the City of Washington, D.C., since 1993, by Capitol Animal Control, Ltd., an upstart headed by local activist Dee Atwell. WHS had pro- vided animal control service since 1980, but was unhappy with short-term contracts and late payments due to the city’s shaky financial status.

WHS executive director Mary Healy told *ANIMAL PEOPLE* that her staff found it was as hard to police Animal Line—whose operation was ERAZED at one point—doubled as animal control. She added that WHS is now resigned to doing animal control at a loss.

A March 4 inquiry by the D.C. Committee on Human Services heard from former Animal Line volunteer Franklin Key who said Atwell, treatment of injured animals, recordkeeping, adoption screening, spaying, and euthanasia were often deferred or denied without the allegations, but acknowledged a lack of capable staff.

The day following the hearing, Office spokesperson Kevin Ohlson said the period of Animal Line manage- ment, “is under review to determine if criminal violations have been committed.” As agency staff were dedicated to duty, the House Appropriations legislative branch committee allocated $100,000 in emergency funding to deal with another D.C. animal care crisis by mov- ing the Capitol Police from Training Facility from a decrepit site where one of the 27 dogs housed there escaped and killed a $50,000—died from a rare virus transmitted by rain.

**Special programs**

The Doris Day Animal League claims 51,000 cats and dogs were neutered on or around Spay Day USA 1995, a 28.8% increase over or around Spay Day USA 1995. On the air since 1990, the southern California TV show *The Pet Place* claims to have arranged nearly 166,000 adoptions from 22 shelters within the broadcast radius.

The Animal Defense League of Canada reports that fund- raising for low-cost neutering has been restored to the City of Ottawa budget for fiscal 1995-96. A low-cost neutering clinic since 1978, but was considering axing it to save money.

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**No-Kill Directory**

NACA through 3/97

“Animal People, May 1996 - 15"
Forty grand to give it away?!

Concerns for Helping Animals in Israel has a fully-outfitted $26,000 animal ambulance ready to dock with the Tiberias SPCA—except that at the last minute, after CHAI founder Nina Natelson thought she had secured an exemption for the vehicle from customs duties, the Israeli government demanded $4,000. The effort followed the successful CHAI and Friends of the SPCA lobbying for a new vessel, a restraining order, scheduled for April 21 judicial review, temporarily halting stray animal poisoning in the towns of Arad and Emek-Hefer. Israeli environment minister Yossi Sarid “recently issued a pronouncement saying that strychnine poisoning would be banned in Israel,” notes Natelson, but Amnon Shmishnoy, head of veterinary services within the Israeli department of agriculture, immediately notified all municipalities that they may go on poisoning if they use alpha chlorose, another poison of similar effect. “They are not going to allow in a municipal pound,” Natelson said, “and encouraged the government to use the oral rabies vaccine as a substitute for poisoning. Field tests of the vaccine are underway, but meanwhile, poisoanings may continue.”

Photo by Rachel Levine.

BAD DOGS & WORSE PEOPLE

Hearing testimony from attack victims Allison Judah, 14, and Tiara Davis, 9, who were attacked by a dog named “Scrappy,” local officials in Juneau, Alaska, on April 2 passed an ordinance requiring that all pit bull terriers be spayed or neutered and be kept behind locked gates in public. Violations resulting in human injury may be punished by fines of up to $20,000. On February 19, A. Anthony Fuller, 22, allegedly led a gang in sexually threatening Judah and Davis. They fled into an apartment building, but were chased out by the manager, whereupon Fuller allegedly set his pit bull on Judah. Her leg injuries will require plastic surgery. Washington Humane Society executive director Mary Healy objected that, “If our kennels fill up with Rottweilers and pit bulls who are outside without muzzles, we will have no space for adoptable dogs.”

Responding to complaints about dogfighting, the San Francisco Housing Authority has evicted about 50 residents since last July for illegally keeping dogs. The San Francisco Police Department of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and New London, Connecticut are proceeding with similar evictions. However, in yet another lawsuit arguing that the crackdown unjustly discriminate between types of pets, after fighting a suit a state superior court last October, the Allegheny County housing authority has barred all pets of any type.

Cindy Kesler (May/June)

The Royal SPCA is “reviewing our opposition to experiments on primates,” according to a new owner, after a newspaper warning from Richard Fries, Chief Charity Commissioner for the London SPCA. Fries said it would be acting in a manner “inconsistent with its charitable status” if it argues that, as Andrew Corner of the London Times paraphrased Fries’ argument, “the infliction of pain on animals could not be justified if it was for the good of man.” Fries’ warning, I say, apparently also enables fox hunters to challenge RSPPCA opposition to fox hunting, since the hunters claim killing foxes is for the good of farmers. The warning comes as the 28,000-member RSPPCA is fighting an attempted trespass takeover by the British Field Sports Society, which in March asked its 80,000 members to join the RSPPCA in time to vote at the annual meeting.

Jim Barrington, director of the League Against Cruel Sports, 1988-1995, announced April 8 via the London Sunday Telegraph that his newly formed Wildlife Network has the support of former LACS chairs Mark Davies and Howard Hedges, has received funding from “private sources,” and is in funding negotiations with the board, the executive committee, the board vice president, and several senior staff, after the remaining board and member-ships were said to be in danger of being referred rather than abolished.

The Australian research group Petarecognition under the leadership of Dr. Richard Sloane in the Australian pet cat population, from 2.9 million down to 2.8 million, based on an annual report issued by the RSPCA, still has the highest per capita cat population in the world.

The British White Paper on the European Union, published March 12, reportedly included a call for amending the Treaty of Rome to protect penalitites against nations which fail to enforce animal welfare standards in any areas covered by EU legislation. This would exempt bull- fighting and fox hunting, but would strength- en rules governing livestock transport and the EU ban on use of live hogs as feed.

Exotics

Dull Stanley-Brumcan of In Defense of Animals on April 2 filed a courtly charges against erstwhile exotic animal rescues Catherine Graham and Lawrence Twiss of Philadelphia, Mississippi, for allegedly keeping a menagerie including 46 lions, 21 tigers, six ligers, five bears, five cougars, a camel, and a leopared in crowded and filthy conditions, often without water—and bid for custody of the animals at a Chapter 7 bankruptcy proceeding. According to Stanley-Brumcan, Graham-Twiss “started her personal collection from rescues and allowed them to breed.” Stanley-Brumcan said many of the animals had lost their tails in flights, while some cubs had been eaten.

Humane Society of the U.S. director for companion animals Martha Armstrong on March 11 told representatives of the exotic interest groups that HSUS will no longer oppose legalization of ferrets in California, the last state where they are still illegal, if the state keeps a ban on selling ferrets in pet stores, requires that pet ferrets be neutered, requires permanent microchip or tattoo identification, prohibits the establishment of commercial ferret breeding farms, and “requires independent breeders to be regis- tered or licensed.”

JES Exotixcs of Sharon, Wisconsin, was recently split of founders Jill and E.J., Shumak. Surviving a di zone pact with local authorities, the sanctuary is now raising $12,500 to acquire another large piece of property. “I’m donating my half to JES because it’s important for me to know my work will be continued 100 years from now,” wrote Jill, who carries on with son Corey and volunteers.

Arthur Tartett, Illinois, on May 3 adopted an exotic animal ban in response to the presence of a half-Siberian, half-Bengal tiger cab named Caja, who was born at the Land O’Lorin Exotixcs wildlife refuge in nearby Batavon. Tartett realtor Lois Kieffer, a refuge volunteer, bought the cab home to nurse on December 26, intending to return him to the refuge when older.
A matter of brains

MAD COW DISEASE PANIC CONTINUES

LONDON, BRUSSELS, PARIS, WASHINGTON D.C.—International panic over the possible linkage of "mad cow disease" with the disfiguring Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans, just beginning to wane as the May edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE went to press, may be revived by publication of a provocative new paper suggesting that data suggesting the disease may be carried from one animal to another by mites—and may be virtually impossible to eradicate.

"You could remove all the poor cows and then find that what was the source in the first place," said Henry Wisniowski, whose team at the New York State Institute for Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities discovered the possible role of mites, publishing their findings in the _Science_, a leading British medical journal. Exploring the theory that bovine spongiform encephalopathy is a mutated form of the sheep disease scrapie, Wisniowski injected hay mites from a scrapie-plagued part of Iceland into the brains and abdomens of 71 mice. Ten of those mice developed the microscopic sponge holes in the brain that are symptomatic of scrapie, BSE, and CJD.

"There is no question that the mite agent crossed the species barrier," Wisniowski said, suggesting that the findings may explain why "sheep have developed a scrapiejust by being from the same burns and fields that infected sheep occupied as long as five years before.

The same trend has been seen in some British cattle herds, but the number of infected cattle peaked at 10,403 among cows born in 1989, falling to 3,140, 956, 48, and one another peak was born in each ensuing year through 1993.

The leading current theory about the mode of transmission is that the spreading hay was put into cattle via processed offal supplies that until 1989 were commonly used in Britain. An alternative theory is that mites of potentially infected offal in cattle feed was banned in Britain, British processors exported 15,500 tons of contaminated cattle offal to France, and 13,480 tons to the Netherlands. Offal cattle feed supplements are still commonly used in the UK and Canada.

Cannabis

How exactly BSE might have gone from cattle to humans, if it did, is still unclear. While consumption of bovine nerve tissue seems to play a role, there are no reports of people developing the disease who were not exposed directly to cattle, and in the case of "common animal material, or might have eaten meat from diseased cattle at some point prior to becoming vegetarian. The infections apparently spread from cow to cow, BSE, and CJD is apparently a rogue shape of a kind of protein particle called a prion. Prions are normally found on the surface of nerve cells. The disease- causing proteins, though they carry no genetic material, apparently can somehow convert normal prions into the abnormal and deadly kind.

Wisniowski's findings suggest chiefly that the disease-causing prions may have multiple avenues of transmission. Until the appearance of 10 CJD cases in Britain in 1992 and 1993, CJD was found only in elderly people and seemed to have a hereditary component, since clusters in one region of Slovakia, among Libyan immigrants to Israel, and Sephardic Jews who immigrated to France from Tunisia and Algeria. At least 62 cases have been reported in Britain since March 1995. Scotland's chief veterinary officer added that there has been no indication of a disease such as this among animals, but that such a finding might well occur in the next few years. In humans, CJD may incubate for up to 20 years before it becomes symptomatic. Comparably diseases have turned up in cats, ranched mink, squirrels, and deer.

Investigation of possible avenues of BSE/CJD transmission turned up news that shocked Switzerland on April 5, when official authors of two-year long BSE- scattered cattle have had human placentas to cat- tle feed producers. Zwisch chief veterinary Regula Vogel immediately stopped the prac- tice, but said it had never been illegal. Switzerland has had the most BSE cases of any nation other than Britain.

Texas to sue?

The BSE/CJD scare gave advocates of vegetarianism unprecedented opportunity to talk about beef and health before mainstream audiences. Former Texas rancher and Guadalupe Lyman was apparently particularly effective on the April 16 Oprah Winfrey Show. After Lyman's appearance, five live cattle raining off the crashed on the Manchester Mercantile Exchange, prompting Texas agriculture commissioner Rick Perry to instruct state animal prover- dal Dan Morales prosecute Lyman for using "sheer insidious and deceptive insinuation" to defame a food product in violation of a state law against circulating false information that makes a product unsafe for consumption by the public. Lyman is currently executive director of the Eating With Confidence, Inc., a project of the Humane Society of the U.S.

In Britain, anti-pesticide campaigner Mark Pimm of the London's Greenpeace, a group that was formed in 1995, has been defending organophosphate pesticides, particularly phosfonit, a blend of organophosphates with the notorious drug thalidomide, which British farmers were obliged to use in the 1980s to fight a wabfly fly outbreak. Pardoy's theory was carefully con- sidered by participants in the PRO-MED/ AHEAD online discussion of zoonotic disease, sponsored by the World Health Organization, but was generally rejected because the effects of organophosphates have a well-established path of death. The British government is now under pressure to stop the spraying of phosfonit.

The British government labored unsuccessfully from mid-March to mid-April to lift boycotts of British beef imposed by vir- tually every regular overseas buyer. At the beginning of April, officials seemed resigned to eventually having to slaughter the entire British cattle herd of 12 million, burning the carcasses to prevent anyone from rendering them into any product for either human or ani- mal consumption. The European Union on April 2 agreed in principle to pay 70% of the cost of the BSE eradication effort. On April 17, however, the EU balked at the scale of the projected killing, which had been diminished to a target of 4.5 million cattle, all of those now more than 30 months old, who are believed to be at most risk of carrying BSE. Those would be killed at the rate of 15,000 a week, or 700,000 a year, for the next five to six years, at a cost of perhaps $5 billion.

Britain was to present a plan on April 29 for burning the remains of the culled cows at power plants. The BSE/CJD scare broke in England on March 20 just as the Farm Animals Research and Development Council released _The Great American Meatout_ with more than 1,000 vegetarian events across the U.S.

Earl 2000 founder Danny Seo is to be featured in a forthcoming McGraw-Hill math textbook "People in the News," which will encourage students to apply math skills to investigations of a veg- etarian diet. Seo started Earth 2000 National, billed "the country's largest youth-empowering organization fighting for animals," in 1989. Membership inquiries are welcomed at POB 24, Shillington, PA 19076-0024.

Joseph Connelly has formed the Syracuse Area Vegetarian Education Society (SAVES) POB 302, DeWitt, NY 13214; 315-437-2163.

Religious & animals

A Sarajevan mob for reasons unknown assaulted a Hare Krishna street processio on April 20, injuring two members from Britain, one from Japan, and a young Bosnian recruit. "The clash was unexpected," reported Reuters. "The Hare Krishna movement was very active in Sarajevo throughout the war, performing their dance and songs in the city streets even during the worst of the shelling and winning sympathy for their courage from the besieged resi- dents." In Sarajevo, Grozny, and other war-torn cities behind the frozen Iron Curtain, Hare Krishnas are also known for their bak- eries and vegetarian soup kitchens. "There is just the rule that the members of the sect must live: no people within 10 miles of their residence should go hungry." The Vishnu Hindu Parishad pledged in March to Dharma convents, and a general election issue of cow slaughter in response to the global 'mad cow disease' issue. One of the Hindu groups is the NY-based Giriraj Kishore who said the scare demonstrates the truth of Hindu teachings against cows, which in New Delhi is a crime punishable by up to five years in jail. Media around the world then reportedly reported on April 1 that the World Council of Hindus had offered to transport in India and take care of the British herd of about 12 million cattle, rather than have them be killed to stop the spread of "mad cow disease." It was a nasty hoax, obliging Hindu leaders to explain, more to their embarrassment than that of the duped media, that they hadn't made the offer and have no means to do any such thing.

Since November 1995, Israeli soldiers have had the right to wear non- leather boots if they so choose for reasons of conscience. The boots must be approved by the Israeli Defence Force chief medical offi- cer. The policy was adopted on behalf of a 17-year-old Jerusalem vegans Ido Ayad and Yishai Bakhsh, at request of Kneseet mem- bers Ron Cohen and Naomi Chaim.

Animal People, May 1996 - 17

The decade-old "murial ministry" maintained by Canon Neville Chamberlain at St. John's Episcopal Church in Easter with a 10-foot-square image of a cow crucified on meathooks. Associate rec- tor Murray W. K. Betts conceived the idea inspired by "the apparently ohhhand way in which people are contemplating the destina- tion of the cruelty of eating. We much need to stay out of politics, but there are some issues of considerable ethical and moral import that the Church, however reluc- tantly, is obliged to speak upon." Life Experience School is a place where young people with less chal- lenges become active participants in life, located in a new building near Greensboro, the recently published first edition of the school newsletter, Strawberry Fields. "In 1988, Mother Teresa wrote to me to visit the staff. She visited the founding of the Peace Abbey, which "pro- vides a spiritual environment for people who follow the peaceful teachings of the religions of the world." Since Christmas Eve, it has also been home of Emily the Cow, who, recounts folk-singer Ben Tonsley, "at five years old was being led into the Arena Slaughterhouse in Hopkinton, when sudden- ly, mysteriously, she broke free, scaled a five-foot fence—her weight at the time was 1,400 pounds—and ran off into the nearby woods, where she eluded hunters for 40 days and 40 nights." Peace Abbey staffers Lewis and Carmen have managed to raise a dollar, caught her, and explain to visitors, as Lewis puts it, that "Emily is here to remove the cruelty of eating. We want to feed. Veginism is the most compassionate form of pacifism, for it takes into account the blessedness of all God's creatures."

Evangelical minister J.R. Hyland, who serves prisoners and migrant farm- workers, has commenced a periodical, Humane Religion, devoted to social justice issues including vegetarianism, and has re- issued his 1988 book, _The Slaughter of Terrified Beasts: A Biblical Basis for the Humane Treatment of Animals_. "I think you will find that Rev. Hyland brings a unique perspective to this work," writes Victorius Minster in the public relations department. "No excuse is offered for wrong treatments and callous attitudes toward animals. _Hyland's Slaughter of Terrified Beasts_ is S6.95. Both are distributed by Victorius: 1715 Stickney Point Blvd., _Earth 2000_ National.

Diet & Health notes

_The BSE/CJD scare broke in England on March 20 just as the Farm Animals Research and Development Council released _The Great American Meatout_ with more than 1,000 vegetarian events across the U.S._

_CREDIT_ Photo by Donna Carter.
Sea World took a high profile in marine mammal rescue efforts at opposite corners of the U.S. in early April.

In Florida, Sea World Orlando biology staff led efforts to discover the cause of a 238 clam plant. Marine mammal experts and veterinarians examined the scene.

A giant turtle weighing more than 2,000 pounds has been reported using the same rearing tank in a Florida aquarium.

The Vaughan Park Board on April 10 asked the city legal department for advice in drafting a new bylaw to ban fur from impound shelters, into Stanley Park, home of the Vancouver Aquarium. According to the bylaw, which was to be implemented in the spring, there were 42 species of dophin; the Pennvis for Cetacean Studies, which was held June 18.

Salmon
Canadian fisheries minister Fred Millin on March 30 declared that the government would cut the British Columbia salmon fishing fleet of 4,000 vessels in half over the next few years, under $1 million, buy-backs. Fishing industry representatives said the plan wouldn’t do much to help depleted salmon recover, however, because 5% of the catch is taken by the 20% of the fleet most likely to stay active.

Global warming has cut the ocean habitat for Atlantic salmon by 20%,” says James Rekshin, a government scientist who studies the effect of increased temperature on salmon populations in the lower continental slope. The high temperatures in the northern part of the habitat have been getting warmer, so the area of the salmon habitat is collapsing on itself.

Oceaniarum
The Vancouver Park Board on April 10 asked the city legal department for advice in drafting a new bylaw to ban fur from impound shelters, into Stanley Park, home of the Vancouver Aquarium. According to the bylaw, which was to be implemented in the spring, there were 42 species of dophin; the Pennvis for Cetacean Studies, which was held June 18.

Sea Town: A New Ocean of Science and Discovery
The Sea Town project is based on the idea of creating an oceanarium in the heart of the city, where people can explore the wonders of the ocean in an immersive and interactive way. The oceanarium will feature exhibits that bring the ocean to life, allowing visitors to learn about the marine life, the challenges its faces, and the importance of conserving it.

Two years after Ric O’Barry of The Dolphin Project and Sea Town: A New Ocean of Science and Discovery Foundation began complaining about alleged structural deficiencies at the Sea Aquarium, the building was closed under pressure from Metro Miami to fix a 26-year-old grandstand. "Saltwater splashed by Lolita, the Seaquarium's orca, has eaten away at the steel rods that support the stand," Ron Frestock of the Miami Herald reported. "We have to do mainte- nance," Seaquarium chief executive Arthur Hertz acknowledged. "It could be days; it could be weeks."

Sea Turtle
Earth Island Institute, The Fund for Animals, and the Humane Society of the U.S. on April 19 announced the formation of a 30-organization campaign to end the slaughter of sea turtles in shrimping by seeking to "turtle-safe shrimp ecotourism," patterned after the dolphin-safe labeling campaign.


Like winning both ‘Cy Young’ and ‘MVP’
Patti Olsen , DVM, recently named executive vice president of Director of Veterinary Affairs and Science for the American Humane Association, received the American Animal Hospital Association’s Humane Ethics and Animal Welfare Award in March—and the Geraldine Dodge Human Ethics in Action Award in April.

Sea Turtles
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American Spca Honors American Airlines

New York, N.Y.—The American Spca on March 27 honored American Airlines with a Corporate Citizen Award, after a year American Airlines received the Association's Animal Welfare Award.

Both awards recognize not only a sustained handling of about 100,000 animals per year, but also American Airlines' donation of transportation in connection with numerous exotic animal rescues facilitated by Animal Welfare Program director Kathi Travers. In one instance American Airlines put a jumbo jet's cargo hold held by smaller aircraft, to fly three African lions to a sanctuary near Fort Worth, Texas.

Travers and American Airlines recently teamed up to make a filming trip about airport and in-flight animal handling.

But Travers' longtime chief companion, and long-time ombudsman for the airlines, in the way she at first job at Air West.

Esa Revision Bill Unlikely to Go to Vote

Washington, D.C.—The Biological Technical Committee on April 1 led a coalition of grass-roots groups in filing suit against Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for alleged violation of the Endangered Species Act and Administrative Procedures Act on February 27, in keeping with the moratorium on listing new endangered species agreed to by President Bill Clinton and Republican Congressional leaders, about 4,000 species were dropped from consideration as "federal candidates" for ESA protection.

A motion to lift the moratorium failed by just two votes in the Senate on March 14, as the Clinton administration failed to block it, but it was stopped by just one vote later when Senate Bill Bradley (D.-New Jersey) threatened to filibuster a bill that would have protected two million acres of Utah while opening more than twice as much now-protected land to mining and development. This time a motion to block the filibuster failed by two votes.

The Endangered Species Coalition, a consortium of environmental and animal protection groups, also on April 17 outlined via the Gunnnet News Service the highlights of a proposed Endangered Natural Heritage Act. "We've seen moderate Republicans band together to oppose efforts to gut the ESA, we've seen strong opposition to public outcry, and we've seen a president who stumbled but came to realize the environmental importance of that," said Brian Vincent of the Northwest Ecosystem Alliance. "We're looking to build on that by launching an offensive strategy.

The Animal Welfare Information Center at the National Animal Disease Library has lost last of three of its operations to program budget cuts—and barely survived a move to merge it back into the main USDA library. AWIC is used by about 3,000 people a year, 53 of them biomedical researchers. Animal protection groups are also heavy users.

Asian Wildlife

The Vietnamese government and the conservation group Fauna and Flora International on April 12 announced a joint effort to rebuild the Viet population of Asian elephants, down from around 1,500 fifteen years ago to perhaps 250 today. About a quarter of the 600,000 project budget is to be donated by J&B Scotch Distillers' "Care for the Rare" campaign, possibly inspired by the success of Rhino Chasers beer, brewed by William & Scott Inc., profits from which help Afican Wildlife Foundation efforts to protect black rhinos in Kenya and Namibia.

In what Reuters called "a rare example of investigative journalism," the Chinese state TV news show on April 7 showed alleged violations of a February order by Yunnan province officials that logging halted in Deqing county, home of about 200 of the last 1,500 wild unbothered golden monkeys.

Chinese wildlife officials on March 27 captured a giant panda which pushed his way into farmer Gu Yingjiao's home in Shaanxi province. "I was both surprised and excited to find my special guest," said Huo Yixi, mayor of Yangxian village. The panda lived for four days in Gu's cattle pen, eating a pile of honey and bamboo shoots from the grove around the house. The panda fell ill, necessitating the killing of Gu's male and his mother gave him meat.

Australia

At request of the Australian government, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on April 12 announced that Australian saltwater crocodiles would be classified as threatened, rather than endangered, and a special rule would be issued to allow their hides and those of Nile crocodiles to be imported.

Grizzly Bear

British Columbia environment minister Mike Sibuta on April 12 announced an omnibus third bear protection bill. A key grizzly salmon-fishing site at the confluence of two rivers north of Bella Coola, formerly slated for logging, will become a 255-acre sanctuary, and the fine for poaching a grizzly, first offense, will increase from $10,000 to $25,000. Western Canadian Wilderness Committee spokesperson Sue Fox expressed disappointment that Sibuta didn't halt hunting grizzly bears. From 10,000 to 13,000 grizzlies live in British Columbia, believed to be half the Canadian population and 25% of the total North American population. Sibuta didn't announce any measures on behalf of the rare Kermode bear of the British Columbia rainforest—a black bear who is white. The Valhalla Wilderness Society and Bear Watch had poured resources into a TV ad blitz in both Canada and the U.S. on behalf of the Kermode bear, starting March 18.

Flooding along the Columbia River killed about 150 Columbia whitetailed deer in a 25-mile area near Cathlamet, Washington, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Dan Clark told media on March 16. Already weakened by winter, the deer didn't drown, but were overwhelmed by flooding water that covered most of the refuge to a depth of two to three feet for weeks. About 5,400 of the small deer, on the Endangered Species List since 1974, survive at three other locations. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was reportedly on the verge of delisting the deer as "recovered," and some biologists favored introducing limited hunts to reduce the numbers of older deer—who apparently took the brunt of the flood losses.

American Humane Association group membership (through December 1996)
Moving fast for turtles to stay ahead of Tauzin

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Manhattan is a long way from Louisiana, but expert intervention by the New York Turtle Task Force on March 21st bought 10,000 Louisiana box turtles their biggest break since they hatched.

As a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service memo put it, "The Office of Scientific Authority is unable to find that export of Gulf Coast box turtles and three-toed box turtles collected in Louisiana will not be detrimental to the survival of either subspecies. Therefore OSA advises that an export quota of zero be set for 1996 for box turtles, which previously could be taken only from Louisiana.

Political support for the New York Turtle and Tortoise Society emerged from the New Orleans-based activist group Legislation in Support of Animals and the Humane Society of the U.S., who jointly threatened to sue the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if the exports were allowed—but it was the scientific testimony of the New York-basedturtle experts that saved the day. There was no high-profile "Save the turtles" campaign; turtles, as yet, have no constituency.

Among the oldest species on earth, the most intelligent of reptiles, capable of living individual lives longer than those of humans and parrots, the runaways—long enough to find land animals, turtles are loved by everyone—and that’s the problem. The half of the world that doesn’t love to eat turtles loves to keep them as precision low-maintenance pets, sentencing hundreds of thousands to years to death—if they survive the transport—in European gardens, where they typically starve or succumb so slowly to fungal infections that their purchasers never seem to notice it. They aren’t allowed to stop slowly moving and rot. Hundreds of thousands more die of poor feeding or neglect in Asian fishponds.

Just enough lucky individuals were released into habitats where they can survive that feral red-eyed sliders have become a threat to native turtles everywhere, in parts of France, Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands. Feral snapping turtles have repeatedly menaced swimmers in southern France, though the species’ native range seems much larger in Chuck Berry’s 1973 hit song "My Ding-A-Ling" than in real life: there isn’t even one case in the ANIMAL PEOPLE files of a snapping turtle seriously injuring anyone who wasn’t trying to kill the turtle.

Red-eyed sliders

A November 1994 HSUS "preliminary report" titled Live Freshwater Turtle and Tortoise Trade in the United States traces the rise and fall of the "pet" turtle-breeding industry from the 1960s and 1970s, when every variety store had a turtle tank, selling baby red-eyed sliders whose typical lifespan, due to poor care, was less than six months. When the domestic sale of turtles under four inches long was banned in 1975, to protect children from salmonella poisoning, an industry that had grown to millions upon millions by 1975 continued, and the one-to-two-inch red-eyed sliders per year collapsed.

About 50 turtle breeders survive by exporting turtles—about as six million a year. That wasn’t forbidden. In 1993, South Korea bought 1.4 million red-eyed sliders; Italy and Japan each bought more than 600,000. In 1994, the trade went both ways: U.S. dealers and fanciers imported about 124,000 turtles, of at least 15 species, all but one of them listed as "threatened" on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. This was an increase of nearly 80 species imported into the U.S. in 1970-1971. About 38 turtle species are available in the U.S. by mail order, about two-thirds of them native North American natives.

While captive-bred red-eyed sliders are the mainstay of the turtle trade, the real money is in the scarcer specimens—the "exotic" market, including some serious herpetologists and a lot of people who just want a conversation piece.

Red-faced rednecks

That’s where the Louisiana box turtles come in—and go out. The good old boys in the bayous have been looking for something else to kill for a living without having to work too hard ever since the market for the scarcer species—the "rarer collector" market, including some serious herpetologists and a lot of people who just want a conversation piece.

Court Calendar

Money

Allen G. Schwartz, U.S. District Judge for Washington D.C., on April 4 issued a default judgement against former Humane Society of the U.S. board member Irwin H. (Seymour) Bloch, M., his wife Hilda, and six of his companies, ordering them to repay $3.9 million they collected under allegedly fraudulent pretense via the radio talk show talk Bloch hosted from 1980 to 1996. Bloch is also still in a civil suit with New York City’s Animal Cruelty Division for failing to ship animals with defrauding investors of $21 million, and in Manhattan with tax fraud and perjury. HSUS executives have refused to say to what extent HSUS has had to’humbled’ the Bloch’s, and a civil suit is pending. He was associated with HSUS for at least a decade, was elected to the board in January 1991, and left coincidentally with his indictment early last year.

International Society for Animal Rights founder Helen Jones on March 21 filed a motion seeking dismissal of the lawsuit filed against her on February 28 by the ISAR board. Recently ousted from the ISAR presidency she had held since 1995, Jones and her sometime driver, Edward Woodyatt, are accused of sufficiently brazening their fiduciary duties toward ISAR, and are asked to make $1 million restitution of assets allegedly illegally converted to their personal use. The Internal Revenue Service is meanwhile said to be investigating information from Gothard’s lawyers. Jones, who has said he was never cruel to animals and that ISAR attorney Henry Mark Holzer received substantial sums from ISAR on a regular basis via his Brooklyn-based Institute for Animal Rights Law, which were not reported on the ISAR filings of IRS Form 990—although ISAR newsletters published since 1991 make frequent reference to supporting IARL. The winter 1991 ISAR newsletter mentioned "the newly-formed IARL," but a request to the New York State Board of Charities Registration for the IARL filings of IRS Form 990 brought word that IARL had only applied for charitable status just this year. Holzer did not respond to messages left by telephones and fax.

Schools of cruelty

Four members of the East Bernard High Brahmas, two-time Class 2A Texas baseball champions, face cruelty charges for stuffing a three-year-old tabby cat named Tiger into a feed bag, beating her with tennis shoes and then throwing her on a meat hook on March 16—because she defecated on the diamond. Three teammates who tried to conceal the evidence have not been charged. "Most of the town seems to have rallied behind the boys," and a local attorney advised.

University of Florida police on March 27 asked State Attorney Red Smith to press cruelty charges against arts senior Vince Gothard, 22, who bought a frozen fish and later, when his roommate brought home a snake food supplier, then dipped them in hot resin to form plastic "moozic" cubes. Gothard’s lawyer, Robert Bush, said the exercise was no worse than any other (Sonny) arsons, "just as intense as a horse or a dog or a cat," returned Gainesville nurse ushers, and that Gothard’s idea was to "put the animals at ease," which means they aren’t popular, though not popular. "I have no idea what this is for." Gothard, who said he didn’t want to cause or hurt anyone, said he was trying to do something about..." which makes me think of anything but that a person could consciously brown mice in her resin and then watch them suffer and die and not feel he was doing anything wrong.

Activism

Dutch activists Frank Kocera, 25, and Eric van de Laan, 20, have reportedly confessed to 12 arson and attempted arsons against meat trucks and slaughtering plants, all between March 30, 1995, and March 25, 1996, when they were arrested in Amsterdam. They are said to have operated under the acronym R.A.T., for Right Animal Treatment, and A.I.P., for Animal Justice Front.

Ty Russell, owner of the Petland pet shop in Pensacola, Florida, was at deadline uncertain whether to prosecute David Atkinson, 15, and a 14-year-old companion for setting a yellow flame nose cone plastic turtle on April 6. Though detected by a security camera, the two got away—temporarily—and mailed the turtle to the brother of one of them, an Atlanta resident who was planning a visit to Venezuela. The idea was that the brother should release the turtle in her native habitat.

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Philadelphia—Jury began April 2 for the trial of MOVE activist Ramona Africa, accused of the 1985 bombing of the Philadelphia police MOVE headquarters, ending a 90-minute recess. At 10:30 a.m., the police fired an estimated 10,000 rounds. MOVE members, dressed in t-shirts, two shotguns, and a .22 rifle. Six adults and five children were killed. The siege was widely noted as a landmark in the history of African-American struggle, and the court with authority. Recent accounts have added the claim that MOVE had an "animal rights" orientation. From the April 2nd edition of The New York Times: "MOVE, an inter racial group founded in the early 1970s around the issues of animal rights and police brutality, preaches a back-to nature life."

The source of this information seems to be Ramona Africa herself, who has claimed in recent writings and lectures that MOVE was vegetarian and animal oriented. In an e-mail to ANIMAL PROOF, she claimed MOVE in the 1970s led demonstrations purportedly violently resisted by police, against Canadian realization of the Philadelphia Zoo and baboon-bashing-crushing experiments at the University of Pennsylvania. She also claimed MOVE founded a "we need to do more to stop dogfighting in Rochester, New York, that nobody else is up there," without citing specifics as to when or how. Elaborating, MOVE supporter Marpessa Kupen-

Fields’ survivors charged in Love & Care case

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Attorney Tom Leitch, Jr. charged that on Feb. 28 announced the indictment of Ronald Lee Denney, 30, Tina Elizabeth (Fields) Denney, 33, and H. Louis Jones, DVM, for criminal conspiracy. The trio allegedly diverted donations to the former Love & Care dog shelter to their own newly formed organization, Saving Animals From Usaneth. The three had been living in a trailer receiving stolen property, misrepresenting themselves in order to adopt eight dogs and 12 cats who were evacuated from the Love & Care premises to a temporary adoption center set up in Montgomery by the Women’s Anti-animal Abuse League and the Montgomery County Humane Society. They then claimed in a fund-raising appeal that they had saved the animals’ lives. Earlier, the Denneys and Jones issued numerous appeals, apparently using the Love & Care mailing list, asserting that court-appointed receiver Alan Cory intended to euthanize the 754 animals who were left after Tina Denney and H. Louis Jones were arrested in 1989, died suddenly on October 21, 1993, at home in Indian Wells, California, while facing legal problems. A new beginning was offered by another Alabama attorney general Dennis Wright in June 1995. The action originated in part from the report of two Love & Care friends, plead with ANIMAL PEOPLE from 1988 to 1994 and forwarded to Wright’s predecessor in the case.

In fact, 484 dogs and 198 cats from Love & Care were placed for adoption or lifelong shelter care, while 27 dogs and 45 cats died or were euthanized. The order in which a selection list included the Alabama Federation of Animal Control and Humane Societies, the Chicago-based Society by Love & Care newsletter of stealing equipment and running drugs. Lewis purportedly quit in September 1994, providing damaging information about Love & Care to the Alabama Office of the Attorney General.

Suicide

Fields’ body was purportedly discovered by Lagunas and also identified by Jerry Fields and Lewis, who told the body was “Fields’ daughter, but not by blood.” According to information received by ANIMAL PEOPLE from sources close to the investigation, Fields’ death, from an overdose of Propheny (Darvon), in a horse-shaped capsule, was classified as a homicide. It was reclassified a suicide because there were no marks on her body indicating that the ingestion of the drug might have been forced. The body was released by the coroner on October 24 and buried in Mexico,22 years after her death. Some authorities continue to seek Fields’ assets; at her death, she owed more than $1 million in unpaid taxes.

Was MOVE an animal rights group?

United Animal Nations

New from Doing Things For Animals, P0B 2165, Sun City, Az. 85372-2165

When Bob Frank of the Society of St. Francis needed help to find homes for the last of the hundreds of dogs left behind by the demise of Ann Fields and her partner Lee and Care for God’s Animalshelfare in rural Alabama, he picked up the 1995 No-Kill Directory, edited by Lynda Fero, and started calling. Now the 1996 edition is out, thicker than ever with approximately 250 listings. Price: $15.

From the American Humane Association, 63 Inverness Drive E., Englewood CO 80112-51/7.

The Case for Early Neutering: a tool for companion animal population control. Video and animal book, $14.95 together, $3.95 extra per copy of the handbook. Organizations trying to sell their own staff, board, or funding source on early neutering will find this video and handbook useful. Portions might be excerpted for public education, but graphic scenes of surgery will be more than most people want to know. The handbook will, however, provide quick answers to whatever questions the public may ask. A rave comes from Jessica Bart-Mikonsios, executive director of the Bennington County Humane Society in Shaftsbury, Vermont. In 1990, BCHS had an euthanasia rate of 73%, near the national average. In 1995, however, Bart-Mikonsios reports, a year after beginning to promote early neutering, “We received fewer animals than ever on record in our 36-year history.” Puppy intake cracked, while kitten intake continued to grow slightly, “and for the first time were able to place more animals into loving, permanent homes” than were euthanized. “With 70 animals placed in 1995, our adoption rate climbed to 50%, up from 26% only five years ago,” when 402 animals were adopted, out of 1,564 received. “Correspondingly,” Bart- Mikonsios adds, “our euthanasia rate was down to 47%.”

A Training Guide for Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse for animal control officers and human investigatorers. $20/single copy, $50/3 copies, $80/10 copies. This guide can be read-hard: it includes photographs illustrating the tell-tale marks of common forms of abuse—exactly what the animal control officer or human investigator needs for reference when trying to intervene in a child abuse case. Thoroughly written, this guide is appropriate for both desk use and as the basis of in-service training seminars.

Final Report for a Limited Cultural Assessment of the Pet Overpopulation Crisis in the Colorado Hispanic/Latino Community summarizes the findings of a series of focus group meetings recently convened by AVA in an attempt to improve minority outreach. These findings could be valuable to any organization serving a substantial Spanish-speaking population. Underscored are the need to provide transportation for pets as part of a low-cost neutering program, since many lower-income people don’t have cars; the lack of accurate humane information published in Spanish; and the need to integrate humane services and education into Spanish-speaking culture.

Sentencing John Kevin Cooper, 24, and Douglas Grant Rustay, 25, for illegallyucking the tail feathers of two golden eagles at a nature center, U.S. Magistrate Judge, Tifton, Georgia, on January 1 ordered the men to pay fines of $500 and restitution of $600 apiece by working a 40-hour week as chicken-pluckers.

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Tools for humane work
Out of Harm's Way: the extraordinary true story of one woman's lifelong devotion to animal rescue by Terri Crisp and Samantha Glen.

Pocket Books (Simon & Schuster Inc., 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020), 1996. 394 pages, $23.00 hardcover.

Portions of the proceeds are donated to United Animals Nations.

I remember seeing film footage back in late 1950s of people working to rescue animals during a flood, wondering why they were doing that. Raised on an isolated Queensland farm, with my animals as my constant and only regular companions, I knew animals were pretty smart, and I thought they were capable of surviving or escaping disasters of all sorts on their own.

Terri Crisp, who has spent much of her life organizing animal-rescue operations during natural disasters, has found this common perception to be one of the biggest obstacles to her work. Whether rescuing pets from the 1983 Alviso or 1993 Missouri floodwaters, the Los Gatos hill fires, or Florida’s Hurricane Andrew, the situations were exacerbated by the ignorant or callous actions of pet owners who all too often abandoned pets to fend for themselves.

Notes Crisp, “we have made pets dependent on us by meddling with their ability to escape injury and death during disasters. When animals are confined in a cage, run, pasture, house, or barn, they need a person to save them from approaching fire or rising floodwaters.”

Crisp finds, too many times, that people are so intent on saving furniture, mementos, and other property that they don’t even take the simple expedient of freeing pets to fend for themselves, much less remove the animals from danger. She also finds that animal control agencies and humane-society workers try to fit pets into plans for disaster. The Red Cross, which shelters human disaster victims, does not shelter pets.

Out Of Harm’s Way is Crisp’s account of more than 12 years of work to rectify these problems. She got her training the hard way, slogging through floodwaters, picking through debris, rescuing animals and taking them to emergency accommodations. She also began on the job of training other volunteers to do such work, and of setting up in place agencies which help mobilize volunteers for disaster relief.

An interesting and useful book, Crisp’s book should be sent to every municipal or county government to convince them of the necessity of drawing up disaster plans for rescuing animals; and should be read by anyone who cares about animals, to guide them in safeguarding their pets in the event of a large-scale emergency.

—P.J. Kemp


Subtitled “A natural history account of a small bird’s annual migration from the Arctic Circle to the tip of South America and back,” this is a beautifully illustrated book about the remarkable yearly journey of a species of sandpiper known as the red knot. Measuring approximately 10 inches long and weighing about 20 ounces, this hardly migrant migrates nearly 18,000 miles every year—an awesome distance by any reckoning. As well as being an extremely detailed and comprehensive study of the red knot, The Flight discusses bird migration habits in general, as well as some interesting side-stories on the life histories of various species which constitute the diet of the red knot. Harrington also includes observations about the need for conservation and the disrupting effect that environmental pollution has on the survival of these species.

—P.J. Kemp


At about age four, I was terrified of a momma baby Cuvier’s Dwarf Caiman belonging to a student who went with us in part because he was dead. I sensed that the caiman no more wanted to be among us than I wanted him to be there. Alligators & Crocodiles brought that 4-year-old memory back with a photo, captioned “Studies of the contents of the stomach of the Cuvier’s Dwarf Caiman suggest that these caimans sometimes eat their young.” Adds a second caption, “Probably the Cuvier’s Dwarf Caiman is the rarest.” Such a small crocodile might not think of anything else, devoted mother. And this book tells everything any child is likely to want to know about them.

—M.C.

Obituaries

Lacey, age 84, female Irish wolfhound beloved by Boston Columnist Vicki Cooke, the inspiration for many of Cooke’s columns, was euthanized at Croke’s request on March 29, to end incurable suffering from osteosarcoma. “When you first met the 140-pound Lacey, Cooke remembered, “one of our dearest friends, you said, you’d ‘think! What a huge dog,’ but soon she seemed just like a fluffy, honey-colored teddy bear. Only better, friend-two-year-old son once set fainting Lacey cookies. After about the fifth, he decided he wanted it back and reached into Lacey’s huge massive natural instincts up to his armpit, and retrieved it. Lacey would never hurt anyone—just ask our burglar.”

Lester Aronson, 84, who studied sex offenders at the University of California Museum of Natural History from 1938 until some years after his official retirement in April, died April 7 at a nursing home in Old Tappan, New Jersey. Animal Rights International founder and president Henk Spitsa debated in animal rights by leading protests against Amsterdam’s cat experiments, halted in 1976 as the first major victory of the animal rights and antivivisection movements.

Memorials

Our son, Peter Berg, died in 1991. As an ethical animal activist, his life was fervently devoted to seeking compassionate treatment for all living creatures.

—Flora & Bernt Berg

In loving memory of Monique, the most loving, adoring cat, who went to heaven in March of 1996. Monique was one of the best ones who ever got in the way. What a wonderful home with her “mom” Amy, who rescued her from deprived conditions at a so-called shelter just a few years ago.

—Solveig Jentner

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

Send donations (any amount), along with an address for acknowledgement, if desired, to

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The Dogs Who Came to Stay by George Pitcher


If you enjoy reading about dogs, but don’t expect much from their guardians, here’s a book for you. George Pitcher has written this biography of two dogs, Lupa and Remus, that will have you smiling at the dogs while crying for the author.

In the beginning Lupa arrives and produces a litter of seven pups. Six are given away, while the runt, Remus, and his mother win the hearts of Pitcher and his housemate, who predictably doesn’t want to keep any animals.

All dogs can charm, and these two certainly do—as much for what their adoptive parents put them through as for anything they do themselves. Two trips across the Atlantic on the Queen Elizabeth II and around the south of France highlight the love it must take to be Pitcher’s dog.

The author’s upper crust lifestyle doesn’t connect emotionally with the dogs’ stories. References to or of fine wine and food readers will find themselves shaking their heads far too often. Remus, for instance, is not interested until he is 13: “The thought of Remus without tuxedos would have struck me as quite horrible,” writes Pitcher, while merely taking him to a fancy restaurant meant only to have him “creep toward a beautiful blond cocker spaniel bitch” in the middle of the dinner. He allows the dogs to chase deer and cats on their walks; one assumes leashes are hard to come by in Princeton, New Jersey. And with the dogs’ friends—“Remus and friends—now elderly, and vision-and-hearing-impared after a brain seizure—Pitcher searches for the “middle of each course of our uneasy dinner.”

—Joseph Connolly


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SHelters that adopt & rescue ferrets Tom Henry, chairman of the Minnesota Ferret Society, Inc., POB 237, 8231 Douglas Avenue, St. Louis Park, MN 55426. Ferrets are perfectly happy as indoor pets. To learn more, write for the Free Ware Spring 1983.

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You too can have an ANIMAL PEOPLE classified—just 50¢ a word!
Fellow lover of animals,

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

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

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

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

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

Bruno had injured his leg.

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

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

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

Five times he entered the cage and backed away.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

And the other day he wagged his tail at me!

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

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

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

...back in 1979. I still remember that morning as if it were yesterday... sadly, I found 35 dogs in the forest that day... so hungry they knocked over garbage cans full of picnic trash... trying to find a morsel of food... they even ate paper sandwich wrappers.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

It took a full year to get them all out of the forest, but I did... before the next winter's rains. I found loving homes for some, but many I kept myself... I was too much in love with them to say "goodbye."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

And it gets crowded!

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

We must all do something about it.

What can you do?

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

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

Your gift will make the difference... for at least one animal like Bruno.

For his sake... send right now.

For the animals,

Leo Grillo, Founder

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

$q30 to rescue a pet, like Bruno, in the wilderness.
$q50 to spay or neuter and medicate this animal.
$q90 to care for him at our No-Kill Shelter.
$q250 to care for a mother and her litter.

Other $ __________

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

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