

Banning exotic & dangerous wildlife for the animals' sake



The younger of two Baylor mascot bears. (Colleen Gardner)

WACO, Texas—As the living conditions of large carnivores and exotic wildlife in private hands go, the mascot bears at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, are better off than most. The six-month-old baby bear has a toy: an orange cone. Some say it resembles a Baylor cheerleader's megaphone. Others call it a dunce cap. The 18-month-old senior bear has a multi-level enclosure. Both bears have pools. Few roadside zoos or backyard menageries offer comparable amenities—but few are as visible to as many well-educated people, who might recognize conditions falling far short of optimal for the animals.

Baylor recently did something about that, after the bears' stereotypical pacing, filthy water, and lack of any way to get off the bare concrete drew protest: someone put up a plywood fence to inhibit casual viewing.

Cut off from any way to see either the outside world or her quasi-companion in the next cage, the baby bear cried for hours, reported Steve Hindi and Colleen Gardner of SHARK. Despite the plywood, Hindi and Gardner videotaped her, using a camera mounted on an adjustable pole.

Gardner flew from Salt Lake City to Chicago and drove south to Waco with Hindi after viewing earlier footage of the bears taken by her son Jeremy Beckham during a summer visit to Baylor to participate in a student debating tournament.

"Our mascot program meets all standards of the USDA for a Class C zoo," responded Baylor University associate vice president for external relations Larry D. Brumley. "Having said that, the University is always looking for ways to

10TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

improve the bears' environment. In 1976, a major renovation of the facility was completed. Plans were developed two years ago to expand the facility and add natural habitat features such as grass and trees. The Baylor Chamber of Commerce, which manages our bear program, is in the process of identifying funding for the expansion."

That does not impress Rob Laidlaw of the Canadian organization ZooCheck, critiquing zoos since 1979.

For starters, 1976 is ancient history in terms of ideas about how zoos should be built. The Walt Disney Corporation opened the Discovery Island Zoo in Orlando, Florida, for example in 1974, as a then state-of-the-art facility—and closed it as hopelessly obsolete in 1998, when it opened the nearby Wild Animal Kingdom.

Few bear exhibits at zoos accredited by the American Zoo Association have not been built or completely rebuilt since 1976, typically with very different design concepts. The AZA membership also long since identified the major source of funding for expansions and renovations necessary to maintaining the physical and psychological health of zoo animals: they borrow it, at competitive mortgage rates, and pay off the loans by pleasing visitors and donors.

"The larger bear is displayed in an antiquated grotto-style enclosure that, for the most part, allows viewers to look down on the animal," explained Laidlaw to Hindi and Gardner, after viewing their videotape. "This kind of enclosure is a throwback to the old 19th century menagerie-style zoos, where

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals



October 2002

Volume XI, #8

Korean animal advocacy after the soccer World Cup—and looking toward China

SEOUL—What came out of four years of escalating protest against South Korean torture-killing of dogs and cats for human consumption, focused on the 2002 World Cup soccer tournament?

Exactly as predicted by International Aid for Korean Animals founder Kyenan Kum and her sister Sunnan Kum, founder of the Korean Animal Protection Society, pro-dog meat legislators waited until after the World Cup was over and most western visitors and news media left Korea. Then the legislators dusted off and again began touting a bill promoted several times previously, which seeks to repeal the weak 1991 South Korean ban on the sale of dog meat and cat meat. The bill would authorize the establishment of commercial dog-slaughtering plants, on the pretext that such facilities could be inspected by the agriculture ministry, and would therefore be "humane."

Dog and cat slaughtering locations are presently not inspected because dogs and cats are not officially recognized as fit for human consumption.

The Korean Animal Protection Society meanwhile announced on August 16 that it plans to file lawsuits against the Minister of Health and the Food and Drug Administration "in the tens and hundreds," seeking enforcement of a series of edicts against the sale of dog and cat meat issued sporadically since 1984, culminating in the 1991 law. Distribution of dog meat soup samples during the World Cup by the National Dog Meat Restaurants Association, the Kum sisters pointed out, was a particularly flagrant viola-

tion of the law, which forbids the public sale or consumption of "unsightly" foods.

As IAKA and KAPS hoped, the World Cup was nearly overshadowed at times by the intensity of global coverage of dog-eating, especially, with lighter attention to cat consumption. The Spanish soccer team adopted as their mascot a puppy who was purchased at a dog meat market by a reporter who was traveling with the team. Demonstrations in Seoul by visiting members of PETA, the Scottish group Advocates for Animals, and others attracted TV time, and various photographers and videographers established that despite South Korea promises that the notorious Moran Market would be cleaned up, dogs, cats, rabbits, and poultry are still caged and killed there in the same filth and misery documented by ANIMAL PEOPLE in May 2001.

A new protest front opened in late June when National Federation of Badger Groups (U.K.) trustee Steve Jackson discovered while web-browsing that a Korean entity called the Osan Badger Farm appears to raise badgers for human consumption under conditions similar to those suffered by the dogs and cats raised for slaughter.

Very little of the western attention to the Korean animal markets and eating practices translated into material support for further campaigning, however, and relatively little of the protest activity even attempted to enlist Koreans, even though only 7% of Koreans actively participate in either dog-eating or cat-eating—about the same as the percentage of

(continued on page 5)



Foraging street dogs, Calcutta. (Kim Bartlett)

Street dog & feral cat sterilization and vaccination efforts must get 70% or flunk

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida; BANGKOK, Thailand—Bitten by a rabid cat on July 22 at Ocean Reef Park on Singer Island, Florida, feral cat colony caretaker Judy Solomon struggled for weeks to save her cats through legal action, but lost the last round on August 8 when Palm Beach County Circuit Judge Jorge Labarga ruled that she could not be considered the cats' legal owner, and that "There is a public interest in capturing, testing, and euthanizing these animals if necessary."

Meaning well, Solomon had made too many basic mistakes, beginning with failing to accurately identify the number of cats she was dealing with. She testified that she had reduced the population from about 36 to as few as five—but there were actually 16 cats in the vicinity. Not knowing how many cats there were, she did not manage to get all of them vaccinated against rabies. She maintained the colony in a public place, in proximity to protected wildlife habitat, each a circumstance sure to create controversy even without a rabies outbreak.

In the end, Solomon inadvertently

created an exhibit for those who argue that attempting to sterilize and vaccinate street dogs and feral cats is costly, dangerous, and futile. After she was bitten, Palm Beach County animal control officers tried to capture the cats until one of them was also bitten. The county then called in USDA Wildlife Services to complete the job.

The city of Palm Beach seized the opportunity to enforce a bylaw that officials say prohibits feeding, sterilizing, and vaccinating feral cats. The Palm Beach council voted unanimously to buy 20 traps, to enable the animal control department to eradicate all 32 of the local feral cat colonies that Palm Beach Cat Rescue and Humane Society founder Catherine Bradley has monitored and tried to control for about 15 years.

"We don't establish the colonies. The cats establish the colonies," Bradley tried to explain.

Police chief Michael Reiter estimated that as many as 1,400 feral cats are at large on Singer Island, doubting that they could ever all be eliminated.

(continued on page 6)

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Leo Grillo, founder
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Editorial

10 years and still flying for the animals!

Ten years ago this month, they said **ANIMAL PEOPLE** would never take off. The runway was too short, too shaky, we were hauling too much weight, and we would be flying blind, dodging flak all the way.

No one had ever before done what we set out to do—to independently report about animal protection, for a global audience, with a proactive and self-starting approach to getting things done.

We started out flat broke, hopeful, yet lacking even a tangible promise that help would come from anyone.

We began after taking hits that were meant to silence us. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** publisher Kim Bartlett had edited another pro-animal periodical for six years. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton was her news editor. After exposing waste and corruption within major animal advocacy groups with friends on the board, Merritt was fired and Kim resigned.

That was not all. Our not-quite-two-year-old son Wolf needed emergency surgery to remove a brain tumor—which luckily proved benign. We did not yet know what would happen, but Wolf loved cats, dogs, birds, horses—every animal he met—and no one encouraged us more. As our illustrator, his cheerful drawings of animals now encourage the world.

We also “inherited” 31 feral cats, plus our own 10, when our former employers terminated our use of office space to facilitate one of the first major feral cat neutering projects undertaken in the U.S. This was supposed to make us “see reality,” and compromise our determination. Instead, we stripped down to bare essentials, took the cats with us (we still have many of them, along with three rescued dogs and two rescued burros), and pushed our personal credit to the limit to launch the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** mission.

It was a one-way mission, because there was no way to turn back and nowhere to turn back toward. But it was no suicide mission. The bombshells we aimed to drop were truths that we knew could save animals’ lives right around the world. We just had to demonstrate that new ideas could fly.

Within just 10 short weeks, the first edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** hit the mail. We reported on the appearance of the Ku Klux Klan at the Hegins pigeon shoot, the inefficacy of the tactics used against the shoot over the preceding seven years, the success of Steve Hindi in halting pigeon shoots in Illinois—using the approach that eventually stopped the Hegins shoot—and his formation of the advocacy group SHARK to pursue the tactics he thought would work, whether or not the big groups helped.

Five weeks later, we published again, featuring feral cat rescue information and roadkill avoidance tips that are still in daily demand from the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** web site.

Five weeks after that, we issued the first of our annual “Who gets the money?” editions, detailing the budgets, assets, top salaries, and spending patterns of all the top animal and habitat protection groups.

Within our first six months, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** also helped Animal Rights Mobilization to win their “No Dolphins In Denver” campaign, the first time an animal advocacy group ever won a pledge that dolphins and whales would not be exhibited at a facility originally designed to keep them.

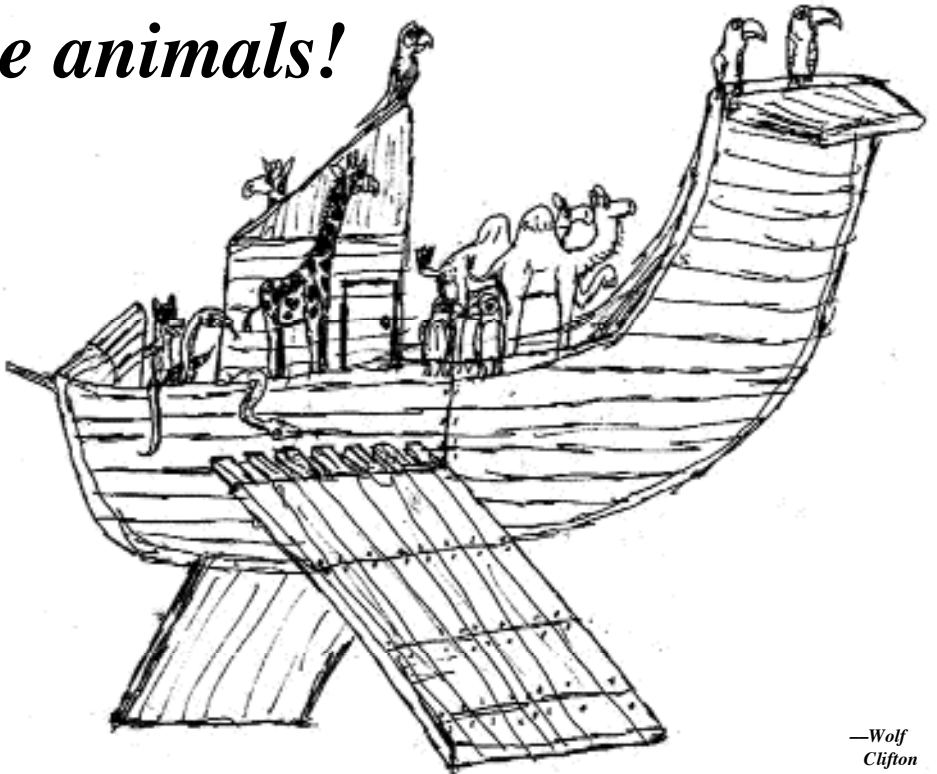
In the same edition, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** published the first exposé in more than a decade of the mistreatment of horses by the estrogen supplement industry. Our coverage was soon amplified by three of the five biggest New York City newspapers, leading to the start of the Premarin boycotts.

ANIMAL PEOPLE had immediate impact because our concept was to inform and give. From the start, we emphasized outreach. Our low-budget newsprint format enabled us to send free subscriptions to every animal shelter and every animal advocacy group in existence, to mobilize them with new ideas and enthusiasm.

The big national groups were not about to do that. They asked animal shelters to pay for their publications—and their idea of how to help was mostly still just distributing reprints of the 1966 essay “Why we must euthanize,” and hosting conferences whose exhibit halls centered on displays of gas chambers and crematoriums. The Humane Society of the U.S., then and now the world’s richest animal advocacy group, rejected and even tried to prosecute neuter/return of feral cats and street dogs as “abandonment.” HSUS called no-kill sheltering “animal warehousing,” and insisted that high-volume adoption could never out-compete puppy mills. (One HSUS representative told the media that our pilot feral cat project was spreading rabies by returning vaccinated and sterilized feral cats to their habitat—even as we received a local police award for our help in stopping a rabies outbreak.)

No one at all was doing much by way of foreign outreach.

Sending free subscriptions abroad, we felt certain, would stimulate an explosion of grassroots humane work, in places no one ever heard of, where atrocities were sometimes decryied by multinational groups in mailings but where no one was helping concerned local people to turn things around.



Monitoring the accomplishments and accountability of the major animal advocacy groups, we anticipated, would educate a more effective donor base, who would in turn demand more results from their contributions to help animals, and would no longer be unaware of executive salaries rising much faster than any barometer of campaign success.

Direct hits

We shared our most important founding concepts in our first editorial.

“After over two decades of animal and habitat protection work,” we wrote, “we have come to the inescapable conclusion that most of the progress on most issues has come about not because of national campaigns, but rather through one-on-one persuasion, often in the virtual absence of national campaigns.”

We suggested that despite a noteworthy absence of effective national leadership on cat-and-dog issues, individual local use of the tactics we wrote about could continue a downward trend in shelter killing, resulting from successful humane education and peer pressure—which the national groups did not even acknowledge. Gathering more data each year to monitor the trend than any of them ever had, we documented the improvement as the numbers of animals killed in U.S. shelters fell steadily from eight million in 1991 to 4.4 million last year, and spotlighted strong new national organizations including Alley Cat Allies, PETsMART Charities, Spay/USA, and the Pet Savers Foundation as they emerged from obscurity to promote all of the life-saving ideas that we outlined in our first two editions.

We suggested that direct one-to-one peer group pressure could continue to erode hunting participation, even though the Fund for Animals was the only one of the ten biggest animal advocacy groups in the U.S.—then or now—to make hunting a primary focus. Eight percent of U.S. citizens hunted in 1991, but only five percent did in 2001, a 38% drop.

“The number of vegetarians in the U.S. has tripled or quadrupled,” we wrote, “but the biggest groups, while officially pro-vegetarian, have largely left the matter to the smaller groups who specialize in agricultural and health issues.”

That is still true, yet small-group activity and individual influence have been so effective that Burger King now sells their new BK Veggie sandwich at all locations, and in early August told us that they soon hope to be serving vegan buns and fries, too.

Overseas, the number of active animal advocacy groups has at least quadrupled since **ANIMAL PEOPLE** began, with the most spectacular growth coming in Asia, Africa, eastern Europe, and parts of Latin America which previously had no humane organizations at all. Almost every day we help new organizations abroad to learn the basics of fundraising, communications, and management of hands-on vaccination and sterilization programs.

ANIMAL PEOPLE warned, in our first editorial, against organizations which “use unending direct mail campaigns to siphon donations away from local humane societies—often encouraging the misconception that some of the money goes back to hands-on animal work.” This remains a paramount concern, because as informed donors have become more demanding of results, high-volume mailers have become more brazen about misrepresenting programs and policies, for instance by implying that they support hands-on work abroad that donors have no way of checking up on—except through **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

The initial **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial concluded: “There are very few deliberate enemies of animals in the world (a belief it is admittedly sometimes hard to maintain). Despite the atrocities we all witness, ours is not so much a fight against evil as it is a struggle against ignorance. Most cruelty, in our observation, is less deliberate than it is the result of cultural blindness,” which we now describe as “denial.”

“The most effective leader you know should be the one you see in the mirror,” **ANIMAL PEOPLE** continued. “Do what you can do, as well as you can do it. Give your own efforts first priority; they are, after all, most important,” in terms of influencing others by example, “whether you are doing hands-on care; writing letters to newspapers; or simply giving your own family vegetarian meals and the lessons of kindness. In the end, it is not organizations that make a difference, nor is it law, since laws that are not generally respected for heartfelt reasons are also not generally obeyed. What does make a difference is that each one of us will do something differently because someone whose opinion we value—someone who might even be in the mirror—showed us a better way.”

Ten years ago **ANIMAL PEOPLE** came in under the radar of the animal use-and-abuse industries, dodging the flak from the big animal advocacy groups that could not figure out how to effectively fight them, or did not dare to try. We put the struggle on behalf of animals right into the hands of local animal defenders all over the world.

We demonstrated the value of targeted in-depth humane education by really doing it, not just carpet-bombing donors with ever-escalating numbers of slick appeals telling you nothing you do not already know.

We flew a lot on empty tanks, desperately hoping each month that enough new subscriptions, ads, and small donations would come in to fund printing and mailing the next edition. Two years of around-the-clock work passed before we were even able to cover our personal living expenses with minimal salaries, but we kept **ANIMAL PEOPLE** coming.

We are *still* flying with a low tank—because as we have grown, we have extended our mission. We initially sent free subscriptions to about 2,500 animal shelters and advocacy groups. Now we reach more than 9,000. We maintain an online web archive of 11,000 electronic pages of articles from our back editions, plus extras such as a handbook on keeping cats healthy in animal shelters, a handbook on rabies, and a series of fundraising and media relations tip sheets for animal advocates.

Much of our material is now translated into French and Spanish, to better help the regions with the least access to humane information.

We are still on a one-way mission—the way of kindness—and it must succeed. Your donations help to light the way.

SEARCHABLE ARCHIVES: www.animalpeoplenews.org

Key articles now available en Español et en Français!

ANIMAL PEOPLE

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Publisher: Kim Bartlett

Editor: Merritt Clifton

Web site manager: Patrice Greanville

Newswire monitor: Cathy Young Czapla

POB 960

Clinton, WA 98236-0960

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Telephone: 360-579-2505.

Fax: 360-579-2575.

E-mail: anmlpepl@whidbey.com

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LETTERS

Australian “aliens” in their native land

Thank you for speaking out against the illogical mass killing of both introduced and native animals in Australia. It will be beneficial for people with no understanding of the fact that animals, feral or not, are each and every one the experiencing subject of a life, to learn that Australia is being criticised overseas for its callous attitudes.

An item last night on our national *ABC Seven Thirty Report* absolutely bore out everything in the September 2002 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** cover feature, “Aliens in their native land.” There was a big story about the “plague” of kangaroos, said to be in “pest proportions,” eating all the grass that should be left for the starved cattle during the drought. Many farmers were interviewed, all saying we need a vast slaughter of kangaroos, and that kangaroos are the most prolific breeder, and that we should be farming kangaroos, not sheep, without a single animal rights person included to even comment that the kangaroos were here first and we took their land, and

they have come in to eat in the paddocks because all their rangelands have been destroyed by sheep and cattle grazing.

This year the legal kangaroo kill has already been increased 25% from last year. The topsoil that belonged to the forests and the aborigines and the kangaroos is blowing away. If the earth was left unploughed and ungrazed, there would be enough dry grass and scrub to hold the soil until the drought passes. It has been known for 100 years that the Australia inland has erratic rainfall which cannot be depended upon, yet in times of plenty the paddocks are still overstocked, so that in the bad seasons the earth is degraded, cracked and eroded.

—Christine Townend
Leura, NSW
Australia
<CJTownend@bigpond.com>

On the spot

It is very refreshing to see someone write about the way things really are in Australia, and put some of the alleged animal advocacy groups who favor the wanton killing on the spot.

—Pat O’Brien, President
Wildlife Protection Assn. of
Australia
and Coordinator
Natl. Kangaroo Protection Coalition
P.O. Box 309
Beerwah, Queensland
Australia 4519
Phone: 07 54941890
<austwildlife@rocknet.net.au>
<www.wildlifeprotectaust.org.au>

Accurate dog, cat, human birth ratios

For many years the Humane Society of the U.S. disseminated an erroneous claim that there were 15 dogs and 45 cats born for every person each year in the U.S.

HSUS no longer publishes these statistics, but has not corrected them. Therefore, hundreds of organizations continue to use them.

The number of humans born each year in the U.S. is just over four million. The number of dogs born is generally agreed by researchers to be about 8 million or a little less. This makes the ratio of dog births to humans births approximately two-to-one, not 15-to-1.

Producing a reliable estimate of the number of cats born is made difficult by the large number of feral cats, but most estimates (using a variety of techniques) put the number of cats born per year in the U.S. at 20-35 million.

Using a mid-point of 28 million, the ratio of cats born to humans born is 7-to-1, not 45-to-1.

Animal welfare organizations, almost all of which actively support spay/neuter programs, continue to use the outdated statistics for their shock value, in an effort to persuade the public to sterilize more of their pets. The goal is noble, but the use of obviously incorrect information eventually diminishes the stature and reputation of any organization

CORRECTIONS

One date was transposed and another was omitted in “Animal Advocates lead in preventing hot car deaths,” page 7, September 2002. The convictions of Christine Hayes, 34, of Lafayette, New Jersey, for reckless manslaughter and Paul Wayment, 37, of Weber County, Utah, for negligent homicide, in connection with the deaths of children left alone in cars, occurred in 2001, not 1991. The Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department successfully prosecuted Cynthia Boot Binewicz for cruelty for leaving her dog alone in a hot car in 1991.

Gas chambers

Your July/August editorial stated that gas chambers are on their way out of use in U.S. animal control shelters. Wrong! The gas chamber at the Craven/Pamlico Animal Services Center in Craven County, North Carolina, killed approximately 5,800 animals last year. Little or no attempt is made to promote adoption. There are no plans to change to lethal injection in the near future.

Yes, sterilization is very important to quell overpopulation. But what of the animals who are already born? Don’t they deserve to live their lives out? The old excuse that there aren’t enough homes has grown redundant. If so many animals are finding homes through the no-kill movement, why can’t Craven County?

—Jean L. Smith
New Bern, N.C.
<catnip@aboutcny.net>

Brach grants

Your September 2002 obituary for Charles Vorhees, brother of Helen Vorhees Brach, stated that the Helen V. Brach Foundation is a “major funder of animal welfare projects.” Although Helen Brach created her foundation with the intent that grant money would be used for animal welfare, she would sadly note that her foundation currently is **not** a major funder of animal welfare organizations—but is a major funder of human services organizations. The Brach Foundation is not honoring the wishes of its creator, and animal organizations, badly in need of funds, are being deprived of help.

—M. Susan Hess
President/Founder
Kindness Inc.
P.O. Box 7071
Elgin, IL 60121
Phone: 847-888-2750
Fax: 847-742-0461

Editor’s note:

Before Helen V. Brach was murdered in 1977 while investigating a ring who killed race horses to collect insurance, 100% of the grants issued by the Helen V. Brach Foundation were made to projects benefiting animals, reported Steve Warmbir of the Elgin Daily Herald in July 1995. From 1989 to 1993, however, animal-related projects got just 20% of the grant money, Warmbir found. His expose of the conflict between the intent of Helen V. Brach and the priorities of the Helen V. Brach Foundation, however, seems to have achieved nothing: in 2000-2001, the Brach Foundation gave just \$581,000 to animal-related projects, 12% of total allocations, and of that amount, \$102,000 went to zoos, guide dog training, and therapeutic riding programs, for which humans rather than animals are the main beneficiaries.

Rosenberg Award

The Bill Rosenberg Award is a plaque and a \$300 cash prize presented each year to a person under the age of 18 who has made a substantial contribution to ending the abuse of animals raised for food.

The award was established in 1990 in memory of a young champion of farmed animals who passed away earlier that year. Past winners include Kathryn Blomgren, Mike Markarian, David Berman, Katy Reagan, Marc Freligh, Danny Seo, Ella Magers, Paul Shapiro, Chu Hui Cha, Patrick Kwan, Nathan Runkle, and Erin Creegan.

To be considered for the Bill Rosenberg Award, please submit to the address below a one or two-page typed statement of your accomplishments to help stop the suffering of farmed animals. You may also send up to three pages of supporting materials, including recommendations from animal rights leaders or others who are familiar with your work. The deadline for nominations is September 30.

—Patrick Kwan
Bill Rosenberg Award Committee
c/o Farm Animal Reform Movement
10101 Ashburton Lane
Bethesda, MD 20817
Phone: 212-696-7911
<pkwan@defendanimals.org>

—Wolf
Clifton

Live feeding at Chinese

I am just back from China where I visited two facilities that feed prey animals to predators.

At the Badaling Safari Park, five miles from the Great Wall, terrified chickens were held out of bus windows as tigers and wild dogs congregated. Then they were tossed out.

The Guilin Bear/Tiger Park was a nightmare. A terrified buffalo was introduced into an arena, held with ropes. A medium-sized tiger also held by ropes was brought in and the tiger tormented the buffalo for a while, but was removed from the scene. Then a really large tiger was let in with the buffalo. The tiger did not have good killing skills, but did go for the neck, and started eating the buffalo alive. The wretched animal was bellowing in agony and twice got up and staggered away only to be seized again. Finally the tiger lost interest and the buffalo started stumbling around the arena with a huge

bloody area around his neck. A truck was brought and men with sticks hit the buffalo to get him into the right position to be trussed in the bin behind the truck.

The owners claim to be preparing the tigers for release, but where? They are all humanized and would present a real public danger anywhere.

The worst thing was the glee shown by the public—including children. I know this is nature but children were being desensitized to animal suffering.

Sadly, most of the adults were already desensitized.

—Shirley McGreal
President
International Primate
Protection League
P.O. Box 766
Summerville, SC 29484
Phone: 843-871-2280
Fax: 843-871-7988
<info@ippl.org>
<www.ippl.org>

Editor’s note:

Actually, this sort of performance is not nature, and does nothing to prepare a predator for life in the wild, where by far the greater part of hunting is locating and stalking the prey. The dispatch, by any wild predator with a chance of survival, is swift and efficient, as a predator who is not swift and efficient will soon be killed or incapacitated.

We have reported about the appalling performances at the Badaling and Guilin parks, as well as others in China, many times since 1996, when we received our first eyewitness accounts from Asian Animal Protection Network founder John Wedderburn, of Hong Kong.

At least once the government of China pledged to stop live feeding, but failed to do so.

Seeking WWII animal stories

I am researching animals and the environment during World War II, and hope elderly animal lovers can help me. I would like to hear from any person who lived through World War II and has memories to share.

I am seeking contact with anyone associated with military use of animals, such as dogs, horses, carrier pigeons, etc., during the war, and am also seeking stories about animal mascots of military personnel, as well as of veterans who met wildlife in war zones,

such as the Pacific islands and Asian jungles.

Among children during the war, did special pets substitute for loved ones who were away?

Who was your favorite wartime animal star of the cinema? Rin-Tin-Tin? Trigger? Lassie?

I am also interested in hearing from persons who lived outside the U.S. during this time, and am seeking photographs of animals taken during the war. Please send duplicates. I cannot pay for photographs or correspondence.

Thank you,
—Robert J. Clark
P.O. Box 685
Collinsville, IL 62234



In memory of Samuel

Samuel was born at the Coulston Foundation research colony.

He was the only baby chimp ever diagnosed with hypothyroidism. Although he was wanted for research, Dr. Frederick Coulston

voluntarily retired him to sanctuary at Primates.

Samuel died on December 12, 2001. He is sorely missed.

Samuel was only one among more than 800 exotic animals

who have found a new world and home at Primates.

Left on the shore of Lake Erie, used in hepatitis studies, found in a cemetery, trapped in a burning building—each has a tragic story, and each now has a congenial

Korean animal advocacy post-World Cup—and looking into China *(from 1)*

Americans who hunt.

Some western coverage favored dog-and-cat-eating, including some commentators syndicated by newsmidia associated with the Unification Church, founded by South Korean evangelist Sun Mying Moon,

“Why are most fingers pointing at Korea?” asked John Fiffer in the *Toronto Star*. “Dog is [also] eaten in China, Taiwan, Burma, Indonesia, Laos, Vietnam, Ghana, and the Congo.”

The Fiffer essay appeared while the South Korean embassy in Ottawa was reportedly seeking a permit from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to import dog meat. The application was withdrawn after the CFIA pointed out the inspection and sanitation standards that would have to be met.

Asian animal defenders meanwhile made plain that while dog-eating may be an entrenched vice in many nations, it is rarely a mainstream practice—and in most Asian nations, it never was.

“The majority of Asians abhor and condemn the practice of dog-eating,” Animal Concerns Research and Education Society president Louis Ng told news media at a June 13 rally in Singapore attended by representatives of humane groups in 12 Asian nations. “Dogs are historically an integral part of our family,” Ng continued. “Therefore we ask our Korean brothers to help stop dog-eating.”

Other Asians sought to distance themselves from the Korean practices by deed as well as word:

- Caught in mid-May stealing dogs for sale to meat markets in Pnom Penh, Cambodia, Chea Sarith, 38, and Chan Sopheak, 22, escaped formal prosecution, but were embarrassed by prominent news coverage of their actions.

- Taweep Thewin, governor of Bakon Nakhon, Thailand, on June 6 instructed his government to enforce a somewhat paradoxical provision of law which forbids the sale of dog meat without actually making it illegal.

“It is time the world stopped viewing Sakon Nakhon as ‘the City of Dog-eating,’” Thewin said.

Located in the northeastern part of Thailand, Sakon Nakhon received a heavy influx of dog-eating ethnic Chinese refugees from Vietnam in the years immediately following the Vietnam War. The city of Tha Rae became known for dog-eatiug during that era.

“Dog meat is no longer available in Tha Rae,” *The Straits Times* reported, “although the dog meat slaughterhouses are still there.”

Unlike the ethnic Chinese immigrants, who are mostly Confuscians, Thais of ethnic Thai descent are mostly Buddhists, and consider dog-eating offensive.

- Yuri Zyastinov, 40, of Barnaul, Siberia, was on July 10 convicted of 10 counts of cruelty to animals for bludgeoning dogs to sell their meat. “That one killing was carried out in front of his young niece was considered an aggravating circumstance,” Agence France-Presse reported. Zyastinov drew a two-year suspended sentence.

- The Hong Kong-based ParknShop supermarket chain announced on August 9 that it would cease selling dog meat at mainland Chinese branches, after a week of rising boycott pressure led by actress Gigi Fu Ming-hin, the Hong Kong SPCA, and the Animals Asia Foundation. The sale of dog meat by ParknShop was exposed on August 2 by the *South China Morning Post*.

Possibly the greatest challenge ahead for animal advocacy will be establishing strong representation in China, which now has one fifth of the world’s human population. Just a handful of government agencies, nature clubs, and mostly very small humane organizations look out for animals, while growing affluence during the past decade has stimulated consumption of wildlife as luxury food and medicine on a scale threatening to drive species from tigers to turtles into regional extirpation, if not extinction.

Pangolins, an armored insectivorous mammal resembling armadillos, are the species currently in greatest demand. Thai wildlife officials seized 1,944 pangolins from illegal shipments heading to China in 2001, but seized 10,763 during just the first seven months of 2002. Hong Kong authorities seized nearly three tons of pangolin scales from a single freight container in late 2001, while Malaysian customs officers discovered a cargo of 1,215 frozen pangolins among a load of fish from Vietnam.

Among other notable recent seizures,

Thai inspectors on August 5 found 1,160 turtles of various protected species in an air cargo going to China—and found about 100,000 live snakes plus 10,000 turtles aboard a convoy of three large trucks intercepted just as they were preparing to unload the reptiles to be barged across the Mekong River into Laos. They were then to have been taken on into China by way of Laos.

China has made some efforts to restrain the illegal wildlife traffic, for instance sending Beijing wildlife restaurant owner Tan Hualing to prison for five and a half years on June 5 and fining him heavily, for having purchased four cobras, two pangolins, and two protected lizards on the black market. His cook, Chen Kejin, drew five years in prison.

Also in June, Hebei province banned the production and export of frogs and frogs’ legs, after the export of up to 2,000 tons of frogs’ legs per year coincided with heavy crop losses due to proliferating insects.

Demographics, however, project ecological disaster, if present consumptive attitudes toward animals cannot be replaced—quickly—with a view of reverence for all life.

This is not just because the Chinese population is growing. Of even greater importance is *how* it is growing—far out of gender balance due to the ancient Chinese cultural preference for male children, the government policy restricting families to one child, and the easy availability of ultrasound examinations to determine the gender of fetuses, together with ready access to abortion.

According to the Xinhua News Agency Population Reference Bureau, Chinese male births now exceed female births by 54/46. In Guangdong and Hainan, the most affluent parts of China, with respectively the most dog-eating and most wildlife-eating, the birth ratio is 57 males to 43 females.

The imbalance suggests that the Chinese population could soon drop for the first time in centuries. Yet that may not help animals much. Consumer profiles explain why: Chinese men, like men in all societies tend to eat much more meat of all types than women; eat an even more lopsided share of total wildlife meat consumption; and eating dog meat is almost exclusively a male vice.

Men are also more affluent in China, as elsewhere; single men eat most often at restaurants; single men are most likely to eat with other men; and men eating with other men are most likely to order “status” meats—like wildlife meat and dog meat.

Further, men in every culture tend to be more resistant than women to accepting change, especially in traditional and patriarchal societies where change may bring diminished status and privileges.

Men are also more likely than women to mistreat or kill animals as part of a dominance display directed at other humans.

Women, right around the world, are four times more likely to become vegetarians, and are more than four times more likely to support humane work in every society where this has ever been studied, except India,

where the gender ratio in humane work is almost equal.

Women head six of the nine humane organizations known to be currently operating in China, and probably make up the majority of membership of all of them.

The gender imbalance actually projects an increase of 14% in meat, wildlife, and dog consumption over the next few decades even if present per capita consumption by gender does not rise.

If per capita consumption doubles, as seems likely to occur with the projected rise in affluence over the same time, assuming the enough animals can be hunted or farmed to meet the demand, the increase would be 28%.

Even if the total Chinese population fell over the same interval, it would have to fall by more than half—highly unlikely—just to bring meat, wildlife, and dog consumption back to the present levels, if the gender imbalance persists and a societal turnabout in attitudes toward animals does not soon develop.

The great future hope for China may evolve through males without mates turning toward pets for companionship, thereby developing personal appreciation of animals.

Females may also be persuaded to make male attitudes toward animals a major part of their mate selection process.

The six years between now and the 2008 Beijing Olympics may afford animal advocates their best chance to help build the effective pro-animal movement in China that might bring the necessary changes.

Downers Revenge

Music Group Helps Animals

Dear Friends,

We have a request.

A song entitled “Corporate America” has just been released from a new group called **Downers Revenge**. This new song pointedly refers to veal crates and other abuses against animals and the environment. “Corporate America” was written by Tom Scholz, who is a long-time supporter of the Humane Farming Association (HFA) and other animal rights causes. It would be helpful for all animal activists to take the time to play/download this new song from the following link:

http://artists.mp3s.com/artists/452/downers_revenge1.html

We are trying to generate as many hits as possible. This will greatly help in the success and promotion of this song. Every daily play/download is counted – in other words, the more hits this song gets, the greater the chance it has of getting radio airplay.

It would be helpful for all supporters of animal protection and environmental causes to play/download this song ASAP. Time is of the essence. Please also encourage others to do so as well.

Thank you for helping to get this important message heard by as many people as possible.

Street dog & feral cat sterilization and vaccination efforts must get 70% or flunk (from 1)

A parallel situation developed in Bangkok, Thailand, where “authorities admit neutering is not working,” Vaudine England of the *South China Morning Post* wrote on August 26.

“We have reallocated the money because our plan to sterilize stray dogs has failed to achieve its goals,” said Bangkok health department director Krit Hinzanras, MD.

“Instead of sterilizing 30,000 dogs by the end of September as planned, only 5,200 have been sterilized since June 1,” England explained. “City officials found it difficult to catch the dogs, and not enough veterinarians were available to perform the surgery.”

The Bangkok program began in May. All of the estimated 120,000 dogs on the streets of the city were supposed to have been microchipped, vaccinated, and sterilized within one year by the 23 Bangkok city veterinarians, plus 39 more veterinarians hired for the campaign. But many of the new positions went vacant.

Now, Hunranras told England, the dog-catching bounty will be increased from about 19¢ apiece to 50¢, and kennels will be built to house the captured dogs, in lieu of sterilizing them and returning them to their capture points.

Already keeping about 600 street dogs at two city shelters, Hunranras reportedly anticipates taking in as many as 12,000.

Yet removing the dogs from the habitat will make more refuse and rat carcasses available to those who escape the catchers. These elusive dogs will swiftly breed and raise more puppies to replace the dogs who have been taken. Soon there will again be as many dogs as ever on the streets, plus all the kenneled dogs to feed—or kill, or because Thailand is a Buddhist nation with strong scruples against directly killing dogs, allow to die from fighting, disease, and starvation, as was for decades the norm in Taiwanese pounds, and at some pounds still is.

The Animal Protection Law, adopted by Taiwan in 1988, was supposed to end the practice of killing dogs through passive neglect, but did not, vice secretary general Chi Shu-ying of the Life Conservationist Association and Wu Hung, chair of the Environment and Animal Society of Taiwan, jointly charged in March 2002 after finding starving dogs cannibalizing the dead at the Chian Township pound in Hualien County.

The pound was fined and two staffers were fired, Sandy Huang of the *Taipei Times* reported, but an organization called the World Alliance for Stray Animals sued the Taiwan Council of Agriculture Bureau of Epidemic Control and Quarantine anyway, for alleged nonenforcement of the Animal Protection Law.

Why 70%?

Sterilization and vaccination of either street dogs or feral cats can quite effectively reduce the homeless animal population and almost eradicate rabies. The number of feral cats killed by U.S. animal shelters has declined by two-thirds since neuter/return became popular 10 years ago, for example, and despite the Singer Island fiasco, rabid feral cats are rarely detected—but the results are only seen if the work is done on an adequate scale.

Sterilizing and vaccinating 70% of the street dog or feral cat population in any given locale is the minimum standard for success, but there is no “gentleman’s C” in grading this kind of test. Reach 70% and the effort earns an A for All’s well, because then the odds that animals will meet who are capable of infecting or reproducing with each other

drop to the vanishing point.

Fall short of 70%, however, and a sterilization and vaccination project will get a big F for fecund animals, fearful people fleeing dog packs, feline feces in gardens and children’s sandboxes, and frothing-at-the-mouth critics flinging allegations of fraud.

Impatient politicians will reinstitute the high-volume killing campaigns that have failed to lastingly reduce street dog and feral cat populations despite more than 1,000 years of effort in some parts of the world. Years may pass before sterilization and vaccination get another chance—which will not be a fair chance until and unless the resources needed to reach 70% are available.

To avoid becoming entangled in unfair tests, advocates of sterilizing and vaccinating street dogs and feral cats need to learn to promise only what they can deliver. For example, sterilizing a lesser percentage of the animals at risk somewhere will not bring any visible reduction in numbers. Instead, the dogs or cats who have not been sterilized will have less competition for food and cover, and will be able to

raise larger litters.

If the carrying capacity of the habitat has already been reached, the larger litters may experience higher mortality, through predation, starvation, or disease, and sterilizing only 10% or 20% of the street dogs or feral cats per year might over time produce the sum of 70% sterilized. But humans typically consider street dogs and feral cats intolerably abundant long before their populations ever approach carrying capacity.

Animal aid societies often introduce sterilization and vaccination programs on a limited scale, of economic necessity. Yet acceding to economic reality must not be confused with economic prudence, because sterilizing and vaccinating 70% can be done most economically by getting to 70% within a single breeding cycle.

Further, the most effective demonstration a small and poor group can make of the value of sterilization and vaccination is to concentrate the effort on a particular building, block, or neighborhood, within which 70% can be realized. Scattering efforts beyond that range

usually will have little or no demonstrative value, because the results will be almost invisible.

“We go into areas and sterilize, take out animals who are beyond help and so on, and if in six months’ time we went in again and could see a difference, we could say the destruction [of about 1,400 dogs and cats per month] was worth it. But when we go back six months later and find we are starting again at square one, it becomes soul-destroying,” admitted Animal Welfare Society chair June Woodman, of Western Cape, South Africa, in a recent edition of the South African magazine *Animal Voice*.

Reality is that going into each area the Animal Welfare Society visits at six-month intervals is probably foredoomed to fail. Yet focusing efforts on a single area might create an influential and inspirational model, which other small organizations might emulate.

Vet skills

The sterilization volume that Bangkok set out to do should not have been impossible. The 23 veterinarians already on the city staff

could have reached the summer goal of 30,000 surgeries by doing an average of 20 apiece per working day—about half the pace of the top U.S. shelter vets.

In Clinton, an upstate New York town of just 6,000 people, the sanctuary organization Spring Farm Cares financially assisted 25,000 dog and cat sterilizations between September 1999 and July 2002, working with private practice veterinarians scattered throughout a six-county rural area. Bangkok should have been able to take that approach at least as effectively, if just finding enough veterinarians was in itself the problem.

In truth, the biggest impediment to rapid sterilization progress in most of the world now—apart from the lack of access to injectible immunocontraceptives and chemosterilants which could eliminate the need for time-consuming surgery—is lack of sterilization skill among veterinarians who have rarely been formally trained to operate on small animals, and have not learned the high-speed techniques which now prevail in the U.S.

(continued on page 7)

For feral cats like Elizabeth...
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As many as half of all kittens born in feral cat colonies die within their first year.

The feral cat population has grown steadily despite the fact that municipal animal control efforts have aggressively increased.

How can this be? The conventional method for population control – trapping and killing – is inefficient. (Have you ever tried to catch a frightened cat on the run?) It’s also ineffective because of what experts call the “vacuum effect.” Remove enough cats and, over time, others will inevitably show up to take their place!

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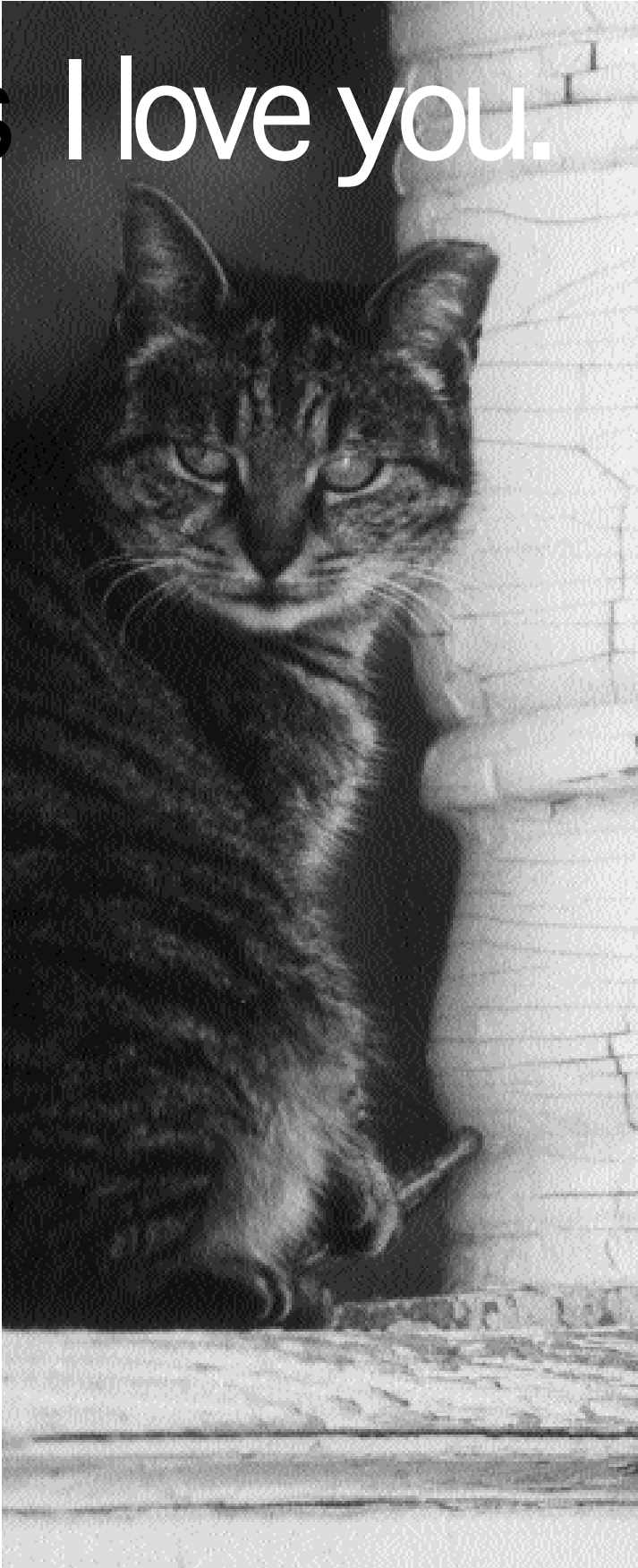
solution that gets to the root cause of overpopulation. Breeding.

Here’s how it works. A feeding schedule is established. Then, using humane traps, the cats are caught and taken to the vet for medical checkups. After they are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and have their ears tipped for identification, they are returned to their original habitats to live out their lives under the supervision of caring individuals.

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Fix & vaccinate 70% or flunk (from 6)

Jeff Young, DVM, who teaches sterilization surgery abroad for Spay/USA, recently told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that he has come to expect that the veterinarians for whom he performs demonstrations will not know that a spay incision should ideally be very short to prevent infection and promote faster healing, will not know how to use a spay hook, and will not understand many basic principles of maintaining antiseptic conditions. Typically, Young finds, he is training veterinarians who learned most of what they know in commercial agriculture. Many rarely if ever performed internal surgery during their previous practice, and seldom treated dogs and cats.

That does not mean that they are necessarily bad vets, Young said, but it means that they must be willing to master new skills in order to reach an acceptable rate of speed and safety for a sterilization specialist.

Beyond the lack of veterinarians with good sterilization skills, underdeveloped nations typically also lack veterinary technicians. A good team of vet techs can do all the preparation work on each dog or cat who is to be sterilized, and can even suture the incisions after each surgery, freeing veterinary time to operate on more animals.

Some nations, however, still have virtually no vet techs. Others have only informal vet tech teaching programs, in which each veterinarian trains his/her own help, while no one trains vet techs available for hire.

Young is soon to open a clinic he has been building with his own funds in Slovakia. His idea is to teach there by doing. He picked Slovakia partly because the location is easily

accessible from much of eastern Europe, ideal for a training facility.

Revaccination

In theory, an aggressive global vaccination campaign using both injectible and oral vaccines could eradicate canine rabies entirely, eliminating that concern even before sterilization brings the street dog population into permanent check.

In actuality, street dog vaccination progress in much of the world is impeded by the perceived need to revaccinate the dogs at frequent intervals to maintain rabies immunity—which diverts personnel and equipment into endlessly recapturing dogs who have already been treated, instead of catching those who have yet to be vaccinated.

The standard Indian ABC protocol, for example, requires revaccination every 11 months, on the presumption that obsolete locally manufactured vaccines may be used, and that they may lose potency due to inconsistent refrigeration.

Those problems occur—but it is both more effective in terms of preventing rabies, and much less costly in the long run, for an ABC program to purchase a reliable veterinary refrigerator with a backup power source, and use quality vaccines that last three years, than to waste resources doing any revaccination before the 70% vaccination and sterilization targets are reached. Once the 70% targets are reached, which should be in under three years in most locales, if the effort is well-directed, revaccination can proceed as necessary. However, since three years is close to the life expectancy of a street dog, relatively few dogs will have to be recaptured each year if the work proceeds on a three-year cycle. In addition, even if dogs vaccinated in the first year of a three-year cycle lose their rabies immunity by the end of the third year, the two-thirds of the dogs who are vaccinated in the second and third years will keep the background vaccination level close to 70%: high enough to keep any rabies outbreaks from spreading.

Moscow gets it

Beyond the shortages of skilled veterinary personnel and the revaccination issue, Indian ABC programs are often crippled by political gamesmanship. Responsibility for sterilizing street dogs tends to be divided in most major cities among nonprofit humane societies, which typically work with the best efficiency they can manage, and government agencies, which perpetually fall short.

As August 2002 ended, the city ABC program in New Delhi was reportedly sterilizing just 1,200 dogs per year. Jeff Young has often sterilized more dogs by himself in just six weeks. Two serious maulings



"A great peaceful gathering was organized in Multan, Pakistan, on 19th July, 2002, under the leadership of Khalid Mahmood Qureshi, chief editor of The Tension weekly newspaper," reported Shahzad Ahmed Khan in an e-mail to ANIMAL PEOPLE.

Topics of concern, according to Khan, included "the safety and survival of rare animals and birds which are on the verge of extinction"; the weakness and nonenforcement of Pakistan's 1890 animal protection act; and animal fighting for entertainment, involving cocks, quail, pheasants, bulls, camels, dogs, and dogs set against tethered bears.

Participants in the gathering including Supreme Court advocate Nafees Ansari and Arif Mahmood Qureshi, managing trustee of Animal Rights International/Pakistan, raised banners bearing slogans such as "Animals are the beauty of our earth," and "Love the animals—don't tease or torture them," Khan said.

"Banners also protested," Khan wrote, "that the District Court Bar of Multan and the Municipal Corporation of Multan recently poisoned street dogs and feral cats."

of small girls by street dogs brought to light in Pune that the city dogcatchers had allegedly not delivered any dogs to the local ABC clinic in more than a year. An organization called Stray Dog Free Bangalore meanwhile sued the city of Bangalore, trying to halt public funding of the ABC program there in favor of resuming high-volume dog-killing.

But India at least has ABC programs. Also in late August 2002, city veterinarian Mario Arriola of Zamboanga, the Philippines, built a gas chamber that kills dogs with fumes from car exhaust, and announced his intention of killing at least 10,000 street dogs with it. His staff had reportedly captured about 100 dogs since a rabid dog bit 17 Zamboanga residents on April 23, touching off a regional panic.

Police in Semporna, Malaysia, shot 200 of 700 dogs believed to be at large in the neighborhood where Mohd Nasran, age 6, was on August 18 killed by two dogs and partially eaten.

In Sibul, Malaysia, public health standing committee chair Yiu Sie Ming, M.D., told *The Sarawak Tribune* that, "Despite all our efforts to get rid of dogs, their number seems to grow. It is estimated that there are now more than 10,000 stray dogs here."

The need to introduce high-volume sterilization and vaccination might have seemed obvious, but Ming only promised to try to increase the killing, recently proceeding at the rate of about 70 dogs per month.

The same lesson was ignored in Armenia, where bounty hunters killed 4,000

street dogs during 2001, then killed as many during the first five months of 2002.

Despite the futility of trying to keep street dog and feral cat populations down by killing, lethal responses remain politically popular because they produce quickly visible results that temporarily quell public concern, appear to cost little despite being more expensive in the long run than sterilization and vaccination, and—often—can be managed to create patronage jobs.

But there seemed to be good news from Moscow, where recently appointed animal control chief Tatiana N. Pavlova in mid-2001 replaced catch-and-kill with sterilization and vaccination.

"Several years ago, biologists surveyed Moscow and determined that its garbage bins and Metro stations support a stable population of about 25,000 homeless dogs," Douglas Birch of the *Baltimore Sun Journal* wrote in March 2002. "These strays occupy an ecological niche in Russia's capital. Rounding up and killing them never made much difference. Exterminate a dog, the biologists say, and another will take its place. But replace fertile females with sterile females, and the population will gradually decline."

Pavlova told Birch that she continues to have trouble with private animal control subcontractors who bill the city for sterilizations not performed, and kill the dogs they catch instead.

But Birch indicated that Pavlova, a longtime prominent animal advocate, seems to have swung public opinion firmly to her side.

Dickson out at WSPA

LONDON—Andrew Dickson, chief executive of the World Society for the Protection of Animals since 1992, either resigned or was dismissed in early September 2002, informed sources told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** at deadline.

Further details were unavailable.

Dickson had survived many public controversies, including a 1995 rift with primatologist Jane Goodall, several splits with Latin American donors and affiliates, and allegations of extensive mismanagement of the WSPA bear sanctuary program raised from several different directions in 2001.

There was no immediate word as to who the WSPA board might pick to succeed Dickson. Formed by a 1981 merger of programs of the Royal SPCA, Massachusetts SPCA, and the Humane Society of the U.S., WSPA is governed by four representatives from each of the founding organizations, plus one representative each from four other organizations.

TRIBUTES

In honor of the Prophet Isaiah,
St. Martin de Porres,
and Albert Schweitzer.
—Brien Comerford

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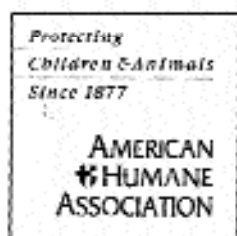
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Recovery from misuse of funds takes years

SANTA CRUZ, Calif.; SEVIERVILLE, Tenn.—Catching alleged misuse of funds by trusted executives can be difficult. Recovering from the damage may be harder still, the recent experiences of the Santa Cruz SPCA and Sevier County Humane Society seem to illustrate—while some of the people involved with each organization maintain that their major problem all along has just been unfriendly news coverage.

Serving an affluent and picturesque California coastal community, the Santa Cruz SPCA is just a long but pleasant commute from either the Silicon Valley—the Santa Clara Valley on maps—or San Francisco.

The Sevier County Humane Society, in Sevierville, Tennessee, serves Appalachian hollows (“hollers” in local dialect) best known for exhausted strip mines, poverty, and country music.

Yet both are in comparable situations involving loss of community confidence, embattled leadership, and no clear route toward recovering stability and a good reputation.

Santa Cruz

The Santa Cruz SPCA debacle exploded into public view in March 2002, after the board fired the third executive director it had hired in four years, and asked Santa Cruz County plus the cities of Santa Cruz, Capitola, and Scotts Valley for a 56% increase in the amount it was paid to provide animal control services.

The Santa Cruz SPCA claimed to have lost more than \$500,000 in fulfillment of the previous contract over the preceding two years.

County auditor Gary Knutson reported, however, that the Santa Cruz SPCA owed the county \$229,000 in fees and fines collected but not relayed to the county, as required.

On April 20, Knutson added that in 1999 the then-Santa Cruz SPCA husband-and-wife management team of Jo Storsberg and Brian Taylor spent \$8,355 on unauthorized travel, dining, and personal purchases, using an SPCA credit card without board approval.

An informed source told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that at least half of the allegedly unauthorized spending involved legitimate expenses incurred in connection with attending the Humane Society of the U.S. Expo in Las Vegas, but few if any other organizations spend anything like that much money just to send two people to a conference.

Continuing his audit, Knutson on June 18 concluded that the SPCA had misused \$715,000 in all.

“The audit also showed that public money had been used to pay for a leased Audi” for Storsberg and Taylor, *Santa Cruz Sentinel* staff writer Jeanne Harlick reported.

But Storsberg and Taylor departed in 2000 when the board did not renew their contract, Harlick explained, and declared personal bankruptcy, putting them apparently beyond reach—at least with any hope of recovering the money.

The county reclaimed the animal control contract, but two months of stalled efforts to negotiate a lease of the Santa Cruz SPCA shelter obliged the county animal control staff to work out of temporary facilities, boarding impounded animals with local veterinarians.

The SPCA board resolved on July 1, meanwhile, to disinter countless animals from the 1.5-acre Pine Knoll Pet Cemetery, a community landmark, and sell the property to repay the funds owed to the county—although the exact amount to be repaid remained unsettled.

Said the Santa Cruz SPCA board of directors in a joint statement, “The county claims we owe them \$500,000 for not following their budgets.

We have agreed that we owe them \$226,000 for license fees that we collected and used to pay for animal control services, but the claim for half a million dollars is unjustified and absolutely disputed. All money was spent on animal control and sheltering.”

The notion of selling the pet cemetery was not well-accepted. Charles Edward Graves, DVM, founded both the SPCA and the cemetery in 1938. Roy Graves, his son, said there were at least 300 registered pet graves on the site, and hundreds of others left unmarked.

The animals’ graves were excavated and their remains removed, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** was told, but the plan to sell the cemetery was stalled and eventually withdrawn when the site turned out to be habitat for two endangered species—the Mount Hermon June beetle and the Ben Loumond spineflower. The land may not be sold, legally, until and unless a habitat conservation plan is approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sevierville

The Sevierville Humane Society fired former shelter director Reba Click for alleged embezzling in August 2000. Click was convicted in February 2002 of stealing more than \$17,000, but \$80,000 remained unaccounted for, SHS board secretary M.C. Wilson reportedly told Anna Garber of *The Mountain Press*.

Board member Dawn Elbertson succeeded Glick until May 2002, when newly hired executive director Riley Campbell and volunteers found “dead cats, drug paraphernalia, and urine-soaked piles of garbage” on the premises, according to *Mountain Press* managing editor Jeannie Brandstetter. Campbell reportedly also found an inoperable crematorium filled with partially burned and decomposed remains, and numerous diseased and heat-stressed animals in urgent need of help.

Campbell summoned emergency aid from other Tennessee humane organizations. Officers of two of the organizations separately told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** after the rescue mission that in their view the SHS board should be prosecuted for neglect.

The Mountain Press meanwhile revealed a recent history of management failures, including not filing documents required by the state of Tennessee to keep nonprofit status, not remembering to bill Sevier County and the cities of Gatlinburg and Sevierville for animal control services, and allegedly paying \$8,900 to Hal Johns, the husband of board president Sheila Johns, for a “barn renovation” that Campbell said was little more than a paint job. Sheila Johns argued that the actual amount was \$8,400, that substantial renovation was done, and that her husband only relayed the money to subcontractors.

Campbell and office manager Fred Sawyer, whom Campbell hired, ran into trouble in early August when the SHS board of directors reportedly found that Campbell’s resume could not be verified, while Sawyer had never submitted one. Reputedly a former reptile trainer, Campbell had also made more than 54 hours’ worth of cell telephone calls in barely six weeks to people believed to be reptile dealers. Both Campbell and Sawyer resigned, apparently taking the SHS drug use and euthanasia records with them.

Elsewhere

Other humane societies may soon be going through similar.

At least a dozen prosecutions of former humane society executives are pending elsewhere around the U.S., most of them beginning after economic hard times forced boards of directors to more actively audit the organizations’ accounts.

Most of the pending cases

involve relatively small sums, but the Los Angeles SPCA in late March 2002 sued seeking recovery of \$928,352 that former chief financial officer Kenneth Brookwell allegedly took from a retirement fund.

The LA/SPCA, which paid Brookwell \$73,140 per year in salary and benefits, “contends Brookwell wrote at least 74 checks drawn on the fund to himself, to his banks, to his credit card companies, and even to companies building his home,” Associated Press reported.

Hired as controller in January 1996, Brookwell reportedly won four promotions in as many years before going on disability leave in July 2001.

Been there, done that

South of Santa Cruz, on the far side of Monterey Bay, SPCA of Monterey County executive director Gary Tiscornia could testify from direct experience about the difficulties that the Santa Cruz SPCA, Sevierville Huame Society, LA/SPCA, *et al* can expect to meet ahead. Tiscornia headed the Michigan Humane Society for a decade after predecessor David Wills departed, leaving an unexplained deficit of \$1.6 million.

Bookkeeper Denise Hopkins was successfully prosecuted for allegedly embezzling a small portion of it. Wills was successfully sued in 1994 for taking money under false pretenses at his next stop, the defunct National Society for Animal Protection, and was in 1997 convicted of embezzling from the Humane Society of the U.S., where he was vice president for investigations, 1991-1994.

Wills was never brought to account for any of the missing Michigan Humane money, however, and although Tiscornia was credited with impressively rebuilding the organization, the losses had a ripple effect evident even 10 years afterward, when Michigan Humane cut back a discount pet sterilization program because tight funding inhibited hiring enough veterinarians to keep it operating at all three of the MHS shelters.



At the Sheldrick elephant orphanage. (Kim Bartlett)

Is Osama stealing milk from elephant

NAIROBI, Kenya—Checks sent directly to the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust elephant orphanage in Nairobi National Park, Kenya, have recently been diverted, prompting founder Daphne Sheldrick to remind donors to route their support via the trust office at 158 Newbattle Abbey Crescent, Eskbank, Midlothian EH22 3LR, Scotland, U.K.

“On July 8 of this year,” one donor told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “I wrote a check for \$50 to the Sheldrick Trust, which I proceeded to send to the Nairobi address. My bank returned the check to me altered to list the amount as \$4,000, credited to the Arab Bank in Deira, Dubai. Unfortunately I had enough in my checking account to honor the amount, but the bank is repairing the damage and I won’t be charged for it.”

Commented Daphne Sheldrick, “This is happening all too often now, and is exceedingly worrying to us. We have reported it to the local authorities on numerous occasions,” after being alerted by defrauded donors, “and have even reported it to the U.S. Embassy, because there are those who suspect the hands of Osama bin Laden and al Qaida. There has been a huge outcry about it in the local press, as well, but the scam continues, impacting negatively on our donor base.

“We can only hope that the fraud squads can bring the perpetrators to book,” Sheldrick added. “With no less than 30 little elephants here, still dependent on both milk and their keepers, we need all the help we can muster, and are deeply grateful for it.”

The 2002 ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on 101 Animal Protection Charities listed the Nairobi address because the Sheldrick Trust had ceased raising funds via the British group Care For The Wild, and we did not yet have the Scottish address.

CHAMP 2003

Download your *free* HANDBOOK ON RABIES by Maneka Gandhi and ANIMAL PEOPLE: <http://207.36.248.191/rabiesEN.html>

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Hard times close two more shelters

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz.; ARLINGTON, Wa.—Critter Crater, of Flagstaff, Arizona, and Sheltering Arms, of Arlington, Washington, closed on August 10 and August 18, respectively. Both evolved out of the failures of previous shelters, and both made promising starts but were casualties of the ongoing economic shakeout that began with the late 2000 collapse of high tech stocks.

Critter Crater emerged from the dissolution of the long-struggling Valley Dale Animal Haven in Sedona. Hired from upstate New York in 1993 to try to save Valley Dale, former executive director Christine French and shelter manager Bill DeRitter at last gave up in 1997 and joined several volunteers and donors in starting over at a new site. But the group soon split. French and DeRitter returned to upstate New York, to manage the Ulster County SPCA. Critter Crater meanwhile had at least two other management teams during the next four years.

Sheltering Arms lasted just two years in a city-owned facility made available after the North Snohomish County Animal Shelter closed in 2000. Much praised by local activists and news media, Sheltering Arms lacked the budget to hire staff and ultimately could not find enough volunteers to stay open. The Humane Society at Happypaw Farms, also of Arlington, is reportedly interested in taking over the building.

Legislative Calendar

U.S. President George W. Bush on August 12 vetoed a \$17.9 million Congressional appropriation of emergency funding to combat **Chronic Wasting Disease**. Similar to “mad cow disease,” CWD attacks deer and elk. Identified among captive deer and elk herds in Colorado as far back as 1966, it was long regarded as an isolated curiosity—but within the past year it has been detected as far east as Wisconsin, as far north as Alberta and Manitoba, and as far south as the **White Sands Missile Range** in New Mexico. Suspicions are growing, meanwhile, that like “mad cow disease,” it has begun attacking and killing humans who eat the diseased portions of infected animals. Part of a \$5.1 billion anti-terrorism package, the appropriation would have allocated \$14.9 million to the **USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**, \$2 million to the **Agricultural Research Service**, and \$1 million to the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**. The federal agencies were in turn to grant the money to their state counterpart agencies. Bush said he vetoed the appropriation because the \$5.1 billion bill included too many other unrelated riders, such as funding for AIDS prevention and aid to Israel and Palestine.

New York Governor George Pataki on July 23 signed a bill strengthening the 1981 and 1998 New York state legislation banning the transport of horses in double-decked cattle and hog trailers. Often used by “killer buyers” to haul horses from Pennsylvania auctions to slaughterhouses in Quebec, the double-decked trailers force horses to stand for many hours in an unnatural position. Some haulers have

repeatedly flouted the ban, according to **Christine Berry** of the **Equine Protection Network**, including **Arlow Kiehl** of Watertown, New York, who was convicted in 1998, 200, and 2001, and **David Karper**, of **Frank Carper & Sons** in Cranbury, New Jersey, who still has not paid a fine of \$11,000 levied in 1994.

Pataki in early August also signed a bill which requires nuisance wildlife control personnel to be licensed and to pass a training course to be started by the **New York Department of Environmental Conservation**. The course is to include information about nonlethal ways to resolve common nuisance wildlife problems.

Illinois Governor George Ryan on August 6 signed a bill creating a misdemeanor penalty for either selling or producing for sale videotapes of illegal cruelty to animals. Offenders may be jailed for a year and/or be fined up to \$2,500. **American SPCA** attorney and regional legislative representative **Ledy Van Kavage** told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the bill exempts news reporting and documentation of cruelty by representatives of humane organizations for the purposes of achieving prosecution or prevention of the acts depicted.

Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating on August 20 signed an executive order placing a ballot initiative seeking to ban cockfighting on the November 5 state ballot, ending two years of delay while the **Oklahoma Gamefowl Breeders Association** pursued legal appeals to keep the initiative from going before the voters. **The Oklahoma Supreme Court** ruled against the gamefowl breeders in

Dog laws tested

The Manhattan Supreme Court on July 15 upheld the right of the **New York City Center for Animal Care and Control** to sterilize dogs and cats found at large or seized for cause, regardless of the wishes of owners who later reclaim them. The verdict followed a June 21 Manhattan Supreme Court ruling that the **New York City Board of Health** has the authority to enforce a 1999 ban on keeping ferrets within city limits.

U.S. District Judge Ralph Tyson on June 25 ordered the town of Walker, Louisiana, to stop enforcing an anti-barking ordinance that he found “flagrantly and patently” unconstitutional because, “It fails to put the average person on notice as to what conduct might violate it.” Tyson ruled on a case brought by **Wallace Connerly** and **Meg Casper**, who sued Walker over fines imposed in response to barking complaints about their two Belgian Malinois.

November 2001, July 2002, and earlier in August 2002. “Cockfighting is cruel, it promotes illegal gambling, and it is simply embarrassing to Oklahoma to be seen as one of only a tiny handful of locations outside of the Third World where this activity is legal,” Keating told reporters. “I will vote yes for State Question 687,” as the initiative is officially called, “and I encourage all Oklahomans to do the same.”

California Governor Gray Davis is expected to soon sign a bill to increase regulatory supervision of animal use in veterinary blood banks. The bill cleared the state assembly on August 25 and the state senate on August 29.

Events

Sept. 14-15: Sanctuary 101, Pasado's Safe Haven, Sultan, Wash.. Info: 360-793-9393; <susan@pasadosafehaven.org>.

Sept. 19: Connecticut Animal Control Officers Assn. conf., Cromwell. Info: 860-423-7195.

Sept. 19-22: National Humane Conf., Denver. Info: American Humane Assn., 1-800-227-4645.

Sept. 21: 75th anniversary, Humane Society of Baltimore County, Reisterstown, Md. Info: 410-833-2387.

September 23-28: International Orca Symposium, Chizli, France. Info: <www.cebc.cnrs.fr>.

Sept. 26-28: Pacific NW Animal Care & Control Conf., Seattle. Info: Paul Delgado, 425-745-6175; <paul@cityofmillcreek.com>.

Sept. 27-28: Critter-Aid Conf., Penticon, B.C., Canada. Info: <catbud-dy@quadrant.net>.

Sept. 28: Charlottesville Vegetarian Festival, Lee Park, Charlottesville, Va. Info: 434-823-1200 or <cvillevegfest@aol.com>.

Sept. 28: Conf. on Legal Issues Re Protection of the Horse, Assn. of the Bar of the City of New York. Info: 212-735-8805 or <www.abcnyc.org>.

Sept. 29: Go Veggie Fest, Oakland, Pa. Info: Animal Advocates, 412-928-9777.

Oct. 3-6: Southern Regional Leadership Conf., New Orleans. Info: Spay/USA, 1-800-248-SPAY, or <www.spayusa.org>.

Oct. 4-6: Compassionate Living Festival, Raleigh, N.C. Info:

(continued on page 11)

IF YOUR GROUP IS HOLDING AN EVENT, please let us know—we'll be happy to announce it here, and we'll be happy to send free samples of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** for your guests.



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Since 1967, The Fund for Animals has been providing hard-hitting information to the public and crucial resources to grassroots organizations and activists. Cleveland Amory's landmark book, *Man Kind? Our Incredible War on Wildlife*, launched the American anti-hunting movement. And today, The Fund carries on Cleveland Amory's legacy by launching campaigns, lawsuits, and rescue efforts to stop animal abuse around the nation. Please visit The Fund for Animals online at www.fund.org, where you can find the following information and resources.

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Nevada, Hong Kong shelter planners learn to see like dogs

INCLINE VILLAGE, Nevada—The Pet Network of North Lake Tahoe had a lot to show off on August 25, as host of the 2002 Conference on Homeless Animal Management and Policy shelter tour, beginning with the two-year-old shelter itself.

The talking points—except for one—were neatly set forth on fact sheets inside a folder given to each of the 25 CHAMP visitors. The point omitted, the most remarkable of all, is that approximately 250 residents of Incline Village and nearby communities volunteer for the Pet Network, contributing 400 to 600 service hours per month.

This was left out, director of development and public relations Therese Flanagan told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, because none of the staff and board realized how unusual their community participation level is: Incline Village has just 9,000 human residents, many of whom are in town only during the ski season, or during the summer months when Lake Tahoe is accessible.

The San Francisco SPCA, with as many as 2,100 volunteers, and the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, attracting as many as 2,500 in recent years, are a comfortable day's drive to the west and southeast, respectively. But those legendary organizations shimmer like mirages in the Nevada desert.

Beyond those two, even the biggest shelters in the biggest U.S. cities rarely have 250 volunteers. Relatively few have even 150.

Volunteer coordinator Betty Battle was not present to explain how she recruits, trains, and motivates so many, but board member John Stimm pointed toward one reason for the Pet Network success.

The next generation

"We are right next door to the high school," he noted. "The kids come over all the time to see the animals and meet their friends on the corner, and we find ways to pull them in and get them involved. Some take on jobs as a social activity, some do things for us as class projects, and some are earning community involvement points for their college applications," and/or are earning Scouting merit badges.

Flanagan added that the Pet Network also runs summer programs for children under 14, many of whom become volunteers.

But there is also no shortage of adult help. Many rows of volunteer badges in the check-in area confirm the numbers of Incline Villagers who donate time on a regular basis. Besides socializing and fostering animals, greeting visitors, running off-site adoption events, and organizing fundraising activities, Stimm said, volunteers handle most of the building and grounds maintenance, including the snow removal, a frequent necessity from February until as late as early June each year.

"This last winter," Stimm added, "the heavy snow started in December."

Another reason for the heavy volunteer participation is that the Pet Network itself began and grew as an all-volunteer group, rescuing and placing animals from Carson Animal Services in Carson City at first, and eventually expanding to assist Reno Animal Services as well. For nearly eight years the Pet Network had no one physical location and no paid staff, while learning to make maximum use of the adoption boutiques at pet supply stores in Carson City, Reno, and South Lake Tahoe, assisted by internet communications and advertising.

"The Pet Network is the next generation of animal welfare organizations," the 10-year-old group dares to proclaim in a program information brochure. The shelter maintains a no-kill policy, but accepts any dog or cat whose condition can be treated with a reasonable hope of success, including a dog currently in the rehabilitation area who required orthopedic surgery to straighten a leg that was mangled in puppyhood by some sort of acci-

dent, and did not set properly.

"We recently adopted out a 17-year-old cat," adoptions manager Adam Hulme said. "So far in 2002, we have euthanized three animals," each due to a painful and incurable medical condition.

During the 12 months before the CHAMP tour, the Pet Network handled 1,029 animals in all: 768 cats, 256 dogs, and five other small mammals. It averaged 86 adoptions per month, 77 of them animals taken out of the Carson and Reno animal control shelters. This enabled the Carson animal control shelter to virtually cease killing cats, Flanagan said. The increase in adoptions over the first year that the shelter was open was 173%.

"Our state-of-the-art facility is specifically designed for optimum animal care and cleanliness, in a warm and social environment for pets and people alike," a membership information brochure claims. The building lives up to the description.

Architect George Myers, a shelter specialist, did the basic planning. Local architects made amendments to comply with the strict Incline Village design requirements. The community is the most affluent enclave within Washoe County, which stretches all the way to Reno, and fronts on environmentally sensitive Lake Tahoe. The shelter is right in the middle of the Nevada side of the community, which flows into Brockway, California, less than a mile to the north. There was considerable community opposition to siting it where it is; the location preferred by many Incline Villagers would have been away from town, near the sewage treatment plant.

That, the Pet Network board insisted, would send the wrong message about the value and attractiveness of adoptable animals.

Except for the outdoor dog exercise yards, the Pet Network shelter could pass for a church. It houses just 36 cats and 13 dogs when at designed capacity, plus a veterinarian-operated private boarding kennel which often has more dogs than the shelter side of the building. Running the boarding kennel is a requisite for the shelter veterinarian.

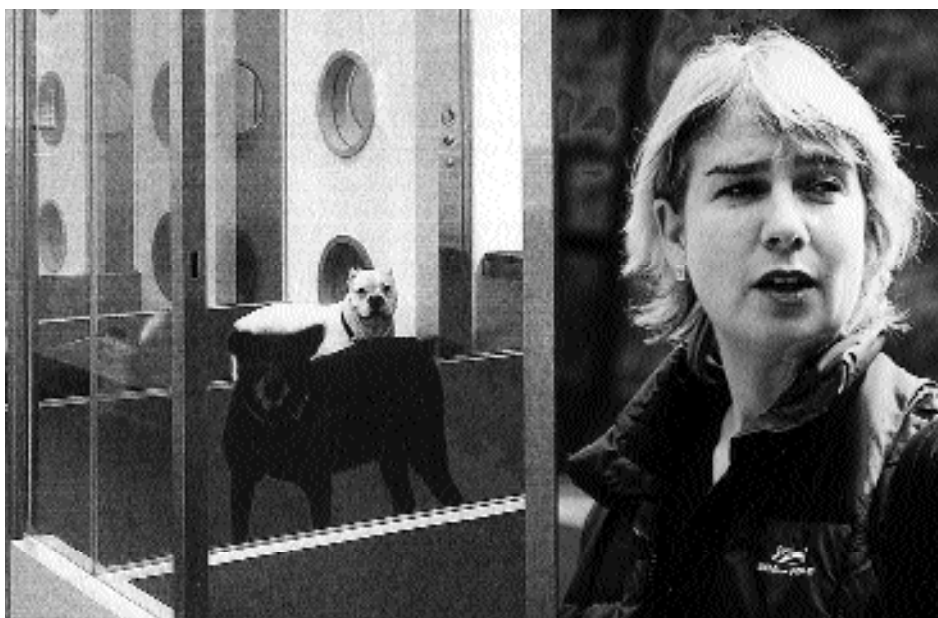
Quiet

The contrast between the relatively conventional boarding kennel design and the side of the building housing the Pet Network animals affords an all-under-one-roof demonstration of how the Pet Network strategy differs. The boarded dogs inhabit barred cages. Air exchanged twice an hour keeps the atmosphere fresh. The dogs have varying amounts of space according to size, temperament, and price paid; some are housed with companions; and they enjoy toys, bedding, walks, and the other usual boarding kennel amenities.

Yet the boarded dogs also bark at the slightest variation in routine, like kenneled dogs almost everywhere. If soundproof doors and baffles along the walls and embedded in the ceiling did not keep the noise from spreading, the decibel level inside the Pet Network building might rise toward the shelter norm—which tends to drive visitors out, decreasing adoptions and volunteer help.

The Pet Network side of the building, however, is library-quiet. There are no barred cages. Instead, each dog room is enclosed in thick shatterproof glass.

Hong Kong SPCA shelter architect Jill Cheshire explained the advantages of glass instead of bars to everyone she could at her booth in the CHAMP conference exhibit hall. Cheshire had no involvement in planning the Pet Network facility, but discovered the same principles in designing and overseeing the construction of the also two-year-old Hong Kong SPCA satellite shelter in Kowloon.



The Pet Network planners separately made the same use of glass to prevent neurotic barking that Jill Cheshire used in designing the Kowloon branch of the Hong Kong SPCA.

(Architectural photo by John Butlin; photo of Cheshire by Kim Bartlett.)

"To lower the volume of noise inside a dog shelter," Cheshire pointed out, "you have to realize that dogs see with their noses. Bars or chain link allow them to be stimulated by everything that goes on in your shelter. Because what stimulates them most is the presence of other dogs, and there are always other dogs in a shelter, they bark all the time. Nobody can stand it. Then shelters often try to deal with the noise by restricting what their dogs can see. They end up putting their dogs inside boxes, with no visual stimulation at all—so what do they have left to do? They bark some more. The visual barriers may help to deaden the sound, but they do nothing to improve the psychological health and adoptability of the dogs.

"What we have learned to do instead," Cheshire continued, "is to put the dogs inside glass, so that they can see everything but cannot smell anything. This encourages them to spend a lot of their time up looking around, using their other senses and being in front of their enclosures where the visitors will see them and maybe adopt them. If you look inside a glass-enclosed shelter, what you see are lots of alert and attentive dogs, who are always watching everything very carefully, but are rarely barking."

Cheshire's observations—and her attention to use of angles that maximize use of natural light—are echoed throughout the Pet Network shelter planning. But the model that the Pet Network people mention is Maddie's Adoption Center, the \$7 million San Francisco SPCA facility opened in 1998. Maddie's Fund also helped to finance the Pet Network shelter, and the Pet Network personnel describe their shelter as a downsized version of the San Francisco building. It is, and because of the high price of land acquisition, unusually complicated design approval process, and higher-than-U.S.-norm cost of construction itself in Incline Village, the Pet Network shelter actually cost as much or more per square foot to build.

Can be emulated

But there is this important difference: take away the costly aspects of the project which were unique to the Incline Village location, notably the cost of the land, and the rest could be emulated by most communities, on a normal shelter construction budget.

As Cheshire kept saying during her presentations about shelter design, "This is not rocket science. This is paying attention to

your animals and what they need, instead of just copying what every other shelter has always done."

Using glass instead of chain link or bars, for instance, costs little more, and cuts shelter maintenance costs because it is more easily cleaned and disinfected. The use of glass also enables shelters to expand their quarantine and infectious disease isolation space as necessary, because any enclosure can become a quarantine or isolation unit.

Quality cats

The Pet Network shelter includes separate kitchens for the primary dog area, primary cat area, the quarantine area, the boarding kennel, and the human staff. Five kitchens, Stimm admitted, is a luxury, but a luxury that pays off in improved convenience and sanitation, and is especially handy when particular animals require special diets. In fact, special diets were prescribed for eight of the 49 animals in care during the CHAMP tour. Most shelters, of necessity, get by with only one or two kitchens, and probably always will—but one Pet Network feature, copied from fast-food restaurants, could be incorporated into the planning of any new cat facility: the cats can watch the food preparation. The Pet Network kitchen serving the cat area is long and linear, stretching behind the banks of cat cages, and is also in plain view of visitors as they inspect the cats.

There is little that most cats like to do more than watch their person opening cans, sniffing and maneuvering to get a better view of the countertop activity. Most shelter cats do not get the opportunity to be stimulated by feeding, as their meals just arrive in bowls, ready to eat, but the Pet Network cats can enjoy the entire typical household routine, except that they cannot jump up on a countertop to jostle the elbow of the person opening the cans and trying to serve them.

The Pet Network placed 384 cats for adoption at \$50 apiece through the pet supply stores during the preceding 12 months, but placed the same number through the shelter at \$75 apiece. Flanagan and Stimm explained that the difference is a matter of pricing to meet costs. Yet in a town where Audis may outnumber station wagons, there is also a strong tendency among residents to equate price with quality, and it seems possible that cats rubbing and purring in anticipation of their meal are perceived as "quality cats," even if they are the same cats offered for much



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DOG TRAINER STEPHEN KING CONVICTED

LONDON, U.K.—"Yesterday, August 14, [dog trainer] Stephen Barry King was found guilty" of two counts of animal abuse, with separate trials on two similar sets of charges scheduled for September and October, his former girlfriend Sarah Boat e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** from London.

Boat and the British online animal advocacy publication *Ooze* both reported that British news media were barred from publishing details of the first verdict, pending completion of the second and third trials. The cases were heavily publicized earlier.

King, 41, became notorious in Portland, Oregon, during the late 1980s for allegedly brutal tactics including "helicoptering" dogs by their chains. Disapproved by most humane societies, similar methods are used by many other trainers, and are recommended by William Koehler, author of *The Koehler Method of Dog Training* (1962, 1990, 1996). Thus King was not charged with abusing dogs in Oregon.

But there are precedents for conviction in Britain. Former Essex police dog trainers Andrew White, 41, and Kenneth Boorman, 46, were fired and jailed in 1999 as result of November 1998 convictions for abusing five German shepherds during training sessions in 1997. One dog died after being hung by his chain and kicked.

A third Essex trainer, Stephen Hopkins, 45, was also convicted and barred from working with dogs, but was allowed to remain a police officer.

The British Association of Chief Police Officers soon afterward introduced six reforms of police dog training procedures, at recommendation of the RSPCA and the National Canine Defence League.

King claimed to have worked with police canine units in Oregon and California. The police departments in question told cruelty investigator Bobbi Michaels of the Portland organization CAPER that they never hired him—but some knew of him.

"Between 1989 and 1991, King had several run-ins with local police: complaints of menacing, a family disturbance, an altercation with a neighbor, and a restraining order filed by his ex-wife," Robin Roth of the *Willamette Weekly* reported in 1997.

Former King helper Kristin Beck told Roth that King used her as a "human shield" while threatening to shoot her, along with his then-pregnant first wife, Brenda Carrothers, and Carrothers' daughter from a previous marriage during an April 1991 confrontation with the Washington County SWAT team.

King claims to have spent some time in Costa Rica circa 1993, before returning to Portland.

"In 1999, King was charged with kidnap, menacing, and a felony assault on his third wife, after she started divorce proceedings," Addie Gallagher and Frances Gavin reported for *Ooze* in October 2001. "The charges were later dropped."

King began an e-mail relationship with Boat in 1998. On January 1, 2000, Boat was jailed for 14 hours, Gallagher and Gavin wrote, after King accused her of beating and stabbing him. King eventually admitted that the injuries were self-inflicted, but was not prosecuted for filing a false report because Boat had returned to England.

King followed Boat to London, married another British woman after Boat rejected him, and reportedly began training dogs there in February 2000.



'Tiger,' a microchipped 10-year-old yellow tabby, was returned after being lost for two and a half years!

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Events

(from page 9)

<njregan@-nc.rr.com>, or
<www.cultureandanimals.org>.

October 2: World Farm Animals Day. Info: 1-888-FARM-USA; <www.wfad.org>.

Oct. 4-6: The Culture of Whales, American Cetacean Society conference, Seattle. Info:

<www.acsonline.org>.

October 16-18: North Carolina Animal Rabies Control Assn. conference, Boon, N.C. Info: <www.ncarca.com>.

October 18-21: National Institute for Animal Advocacy training course. Info: 203-453-6590; <jlewin@igc.org>.

October 23-25: Virginia Animal Control Association conference, Virginia Beach. Info: Mark Kumpf, 757-441-5503; <Mark.kumpf@norfolk.gov>.

October 25-27: No More Homeless Pets conference, Atlanta. Info: Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 435-644-2001, x129; <info@bestfriends.org>.

November 6-8: Intl. Conf. on Animal Protection in Spain, Barcelona. Info: <www.altarriba.org> or <ciplae@altarriba.org>.

November 11-13: Texas Animal Control Association conf., Abilene. Info: <laural@ci.brownsville.tx.us>.

Nov. 11-13: Australian Koala Foundation conf. Info: <www.savethekoala.com>.

November 13-15: International Companion Animal Welfare Conf., Prague, Czech Republic. Info: <www.icawc.org>.

Nov. 13-16: Florida Animal Control Assn. conf., Indian Rocks Beach. Info: <asshq@l-tgraye.com>.

Nov. 17-20: Carnivores: From the Mountains to the Sea, hosted by Defenders of Wildlife in Monterey, Calif. Info: 202-789-2844, x315.

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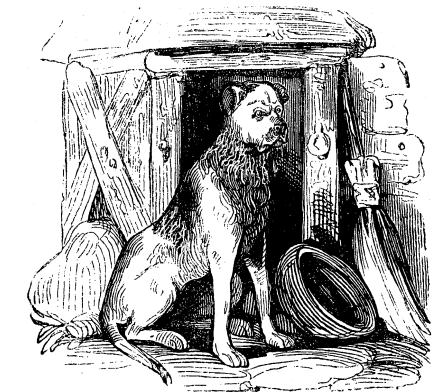


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The Watchdog

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

Free Willy/Keiko swims to Norway

OSLO—Swimming up to 100 miles a day with pods of 40 to 80 wild orcas, spending 41 consecutive days at sea, Keiko in August 2002 seemed to be a free whale at last—or so said the Humane Society of the U.S., which took over his care in June 2002, about six months after the top funder of the former Free Willy/Keiko Foundation quit the project.

Then Keiko on September 1 swam into Skaalvik Fjord, Norway, 250 miles northwest of Oslo.

“The orca surprised and delighted Norwegians, who petted and swam with him, and climbed on his back,” reported Doug Mellgren of Associated Press.

“He is completely tame, and clearly wants company,” Arild Birger Neshaug, 35, told Mellgren. Neshaug said he was rowing with his 12-year-old daughter Hanne and friends when Keiko appeared. Keiko followed them to their dock, and remained nearby for days, eating tossed fish.

Norway is the only nation which openly hunts whales for commerce, but most Norwegians seemed delighted by Keiko’s presence. But Niels Oeien, of the Institute for Marine Research in Bergen, on September 3 accused Keiko of “disturbing fish farms,” and told Aftenposten Multimedia, “If there are more such episodes, he should be destroyed.”

Eight members of the Free Willy/Keiko Foundation team, led by ex-director of research and operations Jeff Foster, had in late August challenged the HSUS claim that Keiko was fully rehabilitated, in letters to the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Marine Mammal Commission.

“The concerns raised by the trainers are serious and valid,” U.S. Marine Mammal Commission permits officer Jeannie Drevenak told Katy Muldoon of the *Portland Oregonian*.

Captured in Icelandic waters at about age two, 21 years ago, Keiko became the standard-bearer for whale and dolphin liberation after starring in the 1993 film *Free Willy!*

Ric O’Barry, the first high-profile cetacean freedom advocate, who has been liberating dolphins with increasing success since 1970, warned that Keiko had probably already been captive far too long and had become too dependent on human companionship to be considered a good release candidate. But the dramatic ending of the film, showing the orca leaping a breakwater to escape his captors, caught the public imagination.

Filmmakers Richard and Lauren Donner invested their profits from *Free Willy!* and two sequels, small donors gave as much as \$5 million, and telecommunications billionaire Craig McCaw reportedly kicked in as much as \$15 million over the next eight years to buy Keiko from the *El Reino Aventura* amusement park in Mexico City, move him to a specially built tank at the Oregon Coast Aquarium in January 1996, and then move him again in September 1998 to a sea pen at Klettsvik Bay, Iceland.

Hoping to release Keiko in late 2000, and planning for a post-Keiko existence, the Free Willy/Keiko Foundation merged with the Jean Cousteau Foundation to become Ocean Futures.

But Keiko couldn’t learn to feed himself. The media spotlight swung away.

HSUS TAKES OVER GENESIS AWARDS

HOLLYWOOD—Seeking since 1954 to challenge the pre-eminence of the American Humane Association in monitoring the U.S. film industry under union contracts which date to 1939, the Humane Society of the U.S. on August 27, 2002 gained a prominent and influential Hollywood presence by absorbing the financially struggling Ark Trust, coordinators of the 17-year-old Genesis Awards program to honor animal advocacy in the mass media.

The Ark Trust, whose losses since 1995 significantly exceeded remaining assets, will now be known as the HSUS Hollywood

Donations fell off. Craig McCaw lost much of his fortune in the 2000-2001 high tech stock market shakeout, and cancelled his support, although his ex-wife Wendy still helps.

By fall 2001, Ocean Futures personnel quietly conceded to the few reporters who remained interested that Keiko might never go free. Giving up most of their equipment to cut costs, the Keiko project staff prepared themselves to maintain hospice care, in effect, for the few more years Keiko might live.

On July 8, however, soon after the HSUS team replaced the original Keiko project staff, Keiko abruptly changed his ways. Escorted to sea by boat, he returned to his sea pen 15 days later for one last hand-feeding, then swam back out. He was seen at sea twice in July, and was detected in August by radio transmitter, among pilot whales, dolphins, and a sperm whale near the Faroe Islands.

The claimed late success of the Keiko project coincided with the July 2002 reunion of an orphaned orca with her wild pod in the Johnstown Strait, north of Puget Sound. Called both Springer and A-73, the orphaned orca spent the spring following ferry boats between Vachon Island and Seattle. Taken back north by boat, she was quickly re-accepted by the pod, and found a surrogate mother in A-51, a 16-year-old orphaned female.

Cetacean freedom advocates won yet another round later in July when Argentina refused to authorize the sale of the male orca Kshamenk to Six Flags Worlds of Adventure, in Aurora, Ohio. Kshamenk has lived at the Acuario Muno Marino in Buenos Aires since May 1992, when he was purportedly rescued as a stranding victim. Argentine authorities agreed with HSUS, Earth Island Institute, and other critics of the deal, however, that he may have been illegally forced aground.

Formerly Sea World of Ohio, the park had three orcas then, but they were moved to other Sea World locations after the site was sold. Attendance fell—as at Marine World Africa USA in Vallejo, California, another Six Flags facility, after the deaths of the last orcas there. Six Flags responded by purchasing an eight-year-old female named

office. The Genesis Awards will continue to be produced and directed by actress Gretchen Wyler, who began the program in 1985 as a project of the Fund for Animals, and then took it independent in 1990.

“I couldn’t be happier,” Wyler told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

“This will give the Genesis Awards the operating funds they need, and allow Gretchen to focus on encouraging media attention to animal issues,” said former Ark Trust executive director Vernon Weir, now executive director of the American Sanctuary Association.

Shouka from Marineland Antibes in France, and hoped to buy Kshamenk as a mate for her.

A reminder that whalekeeping in captivity is an awkward fit came on August 5 when a 28-year-old trainer at SeaWorld San Diego reportedly suffered a severely broken arm when pulled into the water by either the male orca Splash, age 12, or the female Orkid, age 13. She was working with both. Her name was not released. SeaWorld spokesperson Darla Davis said the trainer was a six-year SeaWorld employee, who had been working with the orcas for about one year.

The best known orca still in captivity is Lolita, kept at the Miami Sequearium since her 1970 capture at Penn Cove, Whidbey Island, in Puget Sound. Lolita is the last living orca taken from Puget Sound, where captures ended in 1976. Informally speaking at an August 15 book-signing by cognitive ethologist Marc Bekoff in Clinton, Washington, Orca Network cofounder Howard Garrett admitted that the chances of winning her release are slim, but said he would not give up hope, as she may live to age 50 or beyond.

The Seaquarium in August 2001 announced plans for a \$17.5 million expansion of Lolita’s tank into a four-pool complex, but Dolphin Freedom Foundation president Russ Rector told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in early August 2002 that little progress is visible, while modifications to the existing tank suggest to him that Lolita may be losing some of her flexibility due to age. She has already lived longer in captivity than any other orca.

Although participation in swim-with-dolphins programs continues to rise, especially in the Caribbean, traditional whale-and-dolphin acts are tired, Busch Gardens of Tampa general manager Robin Carson declared on August 18. Fighting a reported 8% drop in attendance, Carson told Associated Press that the “Dolphins of the Deep” act featured at Busch Gardens since 1980 would close on September 2, to be replaced by a 750-seat amphitheater film exhibit.

Three dolphins, two sea lions, two otters, and their trainers will be transferred to Sea World Orlando, Carson said.

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The PETA “tiger” campaign has been waged mainly in the U.S., but these placards were printed for use in India.

PETA fights for First Amendment rights

SALT LAKE CITY, WASHINGTON D.C.—People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals on August 7, 2002 won rulings that supporters’ First Amendment rights to freedom of expression were violated in both Taylorsville, Utah, in 1999, and in Washington D.C. earlier in 2002.

In Taylorsville, police stopped a series of protests against the display of a McDonald’s Restaurants banner on the flagpole at Eisenhower Junior High School, in recognition of McDonald’s donations to school activities. PETA sued, but in June 2001 U.S. District Judge Dee Benson ruled that the police action was in accord with state law. That ruling was overturned by the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals, which found that the law Benson cited is inapplicable. The appellate court said that PETA may sue for financial damages, but may not seek to overturn the law itself because, “There is no credible threat of prosecution under the statute for

any future protests at Eisenhower.”

In Washington D.C., U.S. District Judge Richard J. Leon ruled that the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities unfairly rejected an entry from PETA in assembling a street exhibit of 200 statues of cheerful donkeys and elephants in various whimsical and satirical costumes and poses. PETA sought to display a weeping elephant in chains, bearing an anti-circus message. The exhibit debuted in April, and was to run until Labor Day.

PETA and the American Civil Liberties Union have a First Amendment suit pending against the city of Shreveport, Louisiana, for the alleged false arrest, imprisonment, and prosecution of activists Kristie Phelps of Virginia, Susan Gross of Shreveport, and Cynthia Lieberman of Colorado, at an anti-circus demonstration on May 29, 2001. All three were charged with obstructing a public way, and Lieberman was additionally charged with performing an obscene act, by

posing in a cage wearing a bikini bottom, pasties, and body-painted tiger stripes. The Shreveport case was filed on May 29, 2002.

Two days after her Shreveport arrest, Lieberman, 31, was charged with essentially the same offense at an anti-circus rally in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Four days after that, Kayla Worden, 40, of Asheville, was arrested for trying to pose in the tiger costume in Jackson, Mississippi. But one week later, Brandi Valladolid, 24, drew notice but was not arrested for wearing the stripes in a cage in downtown Oklahoma City.

The campaign continued in November with Lisa Franzetta, 27, posing as the tiger. She was not arrested in Augusta, Georgia, but was charged with disorderly conduct in Las Vegas.

Franzetta then took the act to Hong Kong in February 2002, as an anti-fur protest. “Police observed but took no action,” reported Agence France-Presse.

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Hogs in court

The U.S. 8th Circuit of Appeals ruled in St. Louis on August 14 that **Bell Farms Inc.** lacks standing to challenge the 1999 revocation of a land lease which would have allowed Bell to build one of the world’s largest factory hog farms on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. The new ruling confirmed an April 2002 verdict by the same court. Bell on August 15 said it will petition next to **the U.S. Supreme Court.** **The Humane Farming Association** and local activists have been fighting the Bell project at Rosebud since 1998.

U.S. District Judge Elizabeth A. Kovachevich, of Tampa, Florida, on July 1 dismissed a federal class action racketeering case filed against **Smithfield Farms**, the largest U.S. hog producer, by **Waterkeeper Alliance** president **Robert Kennedy Jr.**, who held that pollution caused

by Smithfield has harmed the property of 35 named plaintiffs plus unspecified numbers of others. “This will not affect our campaign to try to civilize the hog industry,” Kennedy said, pledging an appeal.

Horses in court

U.S. District Judge Henry Kennedy on July 10 ruled that the **USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service** was within its jurisdiction in allowing the Tennessee walking horse industry to self-regulate. Under a three-year agreement with Tennessee walking horse exhibit promoters, the promoters hire the inspectors who check horses’ hooves and gaits for signs of induced soring to make the horses step higher, while USDA veterinarians spot-check about 10% of the scheduled exhibits. **The American Horse Protection Association** argued that the delegation of authority violated the intent of the **1970 Horse Protection Act.**

A shocking verdict in Australia

MELBOURNE, Australia—More than 20 years of international controversy over the use of electrical shock collars in connection with dog training and buried-wire confinement systems brought a July 2002 split verdict from Federal Court Justice Mark Weinberg, of Melbourne, Australia. Weinberg ordered Innotek Australia, of Mudgeeraba, Queensland, to pay Royal SPCA of Australia president Hugh Wirth \$30,000 for accusing him of spreading “lies and innuendo” during a successful campaign to restrict the use of such electrical devices to cases prescribed by a veterinarian qualified in dog behavior—but Weinberg also ordered the RSPCA to pay Innotek \$100,000 for criticisms of the electrical devices issued by RSPCA inspector Kevin Apostolides, who was unable to document his remarks.

The Humane Society of the U.S. and American SPCA have endorsed some electrical dog training and confinement systems in recent years, after long opposition. The Royal SPCA of Great Britain, however, in 1999 prevailed upon the Association of Chief Police Officers to ban the use of shock collars in police dog training.

Most U.S. lawsuits involving electrical dog training and confinement systems appear to have been settled out of court. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** is unaware of any settlements involving injuries to dogs. The largest known award to a child who was hurt after a dog escaped from electronic confinement was \$390,000, in a Philadelphia case originating in 1978.

In May 1998, Kathy Carroll of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, mother of a boy who was severely mauled in a similar case, reportedly sued the Invisible Fence Co. in U.S. District Court for allegedly improperly concealing the outcome of the Philadelphia case. The outcome of the Carroll case was apparently not announced by either side. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has not yet received any response to inquiries sent to Invisible Fence and attorney James Lowe, who represented Carroll.

In 1999 a three-year-old in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, was reportedly electrocuted by contact with a 110-volt electrified dog pen. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found no record of legal action resulting from that case, which may not have involved a commercially manufactured product.

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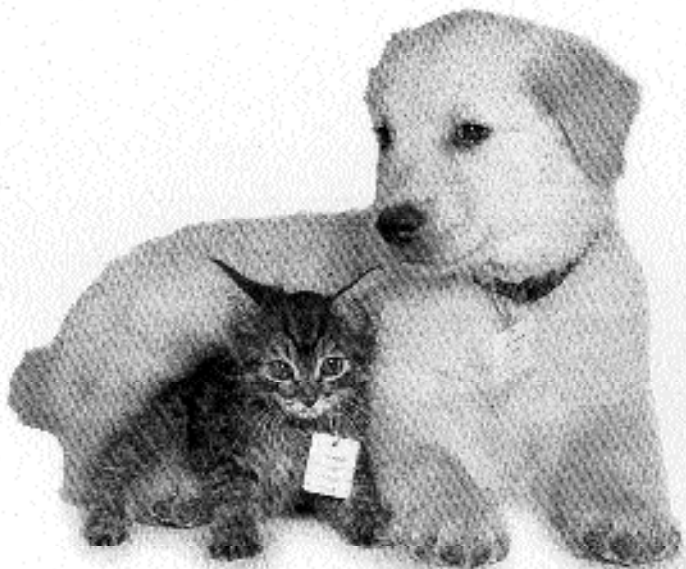
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JUDGES & PROSECUTORS WEIGH DOG ATTACKS

Civil law

Issuing one of the first court verdicts to weigh a conflict between the right of a legally disabled person to keep a companion animal and the duty of landlords to protect tenants from dangerous dogs, U.S. District Judge William Alsup ruled on August 8, 2002 that the San Francisco landlord of Guy Lowe, 38, met the requirements of federal law and the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission by allowing legally disabled persons to keep small dogs, and that Lowe, whose claimed disability is severe depression, acted unreasonably in demanding to keep a pit bull terrier. "The potentially catastrophic consequences of a pit bull attack must be considered, even if the risk of that attack is remote," Judge Alsup wrote.

The Board of Supervisors in Tehama County, California, on August 20 rejected a wrongful death claim by Antonio and Laura Novach, parents of Genoe Novach, age 6, who was killed on February 7 by three Rottweiler/pug mixes who had escaped from the yard of retired Red Bluff police officer Charles Schneider. The Novach family contends that the county negligently ignored neighborhood complaints about the dogs. The supervisors' action allows the family to proceed with a lawsuit.

Mauled in Brookfield, Connecticut, by a neighbor's 110-pound bull mastiff, Dawson Stout, age three, in July 2002 won an out-of-court damage award of \$902,400. Malcolm Piper, however, who was six when severely mauled by a neighbor's 125-pound English mastiff in Waco, Texas, won a settlement of just \$330,000 a month later in an otherwise very similar case.

A jury in Pierce County, Washington, on July 24 ordered building contractor George Stegmeier, his wife Virginia, and his sons Jonathan and Aaron, all of Tacoma, to pay \$1.34 million to realtor and musical booking agent Mary Kay Moiso, 66, for knee injuries Moiso suffered in 1999 when knocked down by Jonathan Stegmeier's Rottweiler. Moiso was showing a home under construction by George Stegmeier, whose sons were living at the site. The Rottweiler was tethered at a length that enabled her to reach the driveway, where the incident occurred. The Stegmeiers reportedly filed immediately for a reduction of the award and a new trial.

The Kentucky Court of Appeals ruled on July 12 that dog groomer Kathy Jordan, as temporary custodian of a chow belonging to Kevin Lusby, could not sue Lusby for a facial bite in absence of any specific evidence that Lusby knew the dog was vicious and misled her about the risk. Wrote Judge Julia Tackett, for a three-judge panel, "When Jordan accepted the dog for grooming, she assumed the risk of being bitten. 'Owner'

in this case does not simply mean a person with a property interest in the dog. The statute does not make a distinction between the legal owner or a second party owner; we see no reason to create one here."

Criminal law

Marie Kessler, 33, of Lake Wales, Florida, on August 22 drew two years on probation after pleading guilty to owning a dangerous dog who caused severe injury or death. The felony conviction will be reduced to a misdemeanor if Kessler completes probation. Steven Avery Coleman, 39, of Waverly, Florida, is scheduled for trial in September on the same charge. Kessler owned a 50-pound pit bull mix named Roscoe who was declared dangerous after biting an 11-year-old boy in June 2001. Coleman took Roscoe, but in August 2001 the dog escaped from Coleman's yard and mauled Summer Henson, age 2, who was hospitalized for nine days. Her father, Dale Henson, shot Roscoe but failed to kill him. Coleman then shot Roscoe dead.

Attorney Marjorie Knoller, 47, convicted of allowing two Presa Canario dogs to escape from her control and kill neighbor Diane Whipple, 33, in January 2001, on July 15 drew the four-year maximum sentence for manslaughter from San Francisco Superior Court Judge James Warren—the same penalty that Warren earlier imposed on Knoller's husband, fellow attorney Robert Noel. With credit for time served and time off for good behavior, both are expected to spend about one more year in custody. Warren on June 17 voided the March 21 jury conviction of Knoller for second degree murder.

As the Knoller sentence was pending, former pit bull terrier owners Carl and Kim Smith of Cagelsville, Arkansas, were charged with manslaughter for the death of Carolyn Joann Shatswell, 50, of Scottsville, whose mauled body the Smiths found in woods near their home in October 2001.

Circuit Court Judge John Brady of Juneau County, Wisconsin, on August 20 refused a defense motion to dismiss three felony counts of being party to homicide and first degree reckless endangerment brought against

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American Airlines bans pits, Rotts, Dobies

NEW YORK CITY—American Airlines on July 27 banned pit bull terriers, Rottweilers, Doberman pinschers, and related mixed breeds from all flights. Puppies from eight to 12 weeks of age are excepted.

The ban took effect five days after a 68-pound pit bull broke out of an approved molded plastic travel carrier en route from San Diego to New York City, tore an 18-by-8-inch hole through a fiberglass bulkhead, and chewed through four insulated cables in the electronics bay of the plane, a Boeing 757.

American Airlines spokesperson Gus Whitcomb told Steve Huettel of the St. Petersburg Times that the dog "damaged

cables for one of two radio channels, a device for exchanging data with the airline dispatchers, and a backup navigation system," putting the plane out of service for nine days and nearly forcing it to make an emergency landing. The flight carried 125 passengers and a crew of seven.

Ironically, Whitcomb helped to make policy and training changes during the early 1990s that made American Airlines reputedly the most animal-friendly of major U.S. air carriers.

Continental Airlines has restricted which dog breeds it will fly since 2001. Southwest Airlines refuses to fly any animals.

Wayne Hardy, 24, whose six Rottweilers killed Alicia Lynn Clark, 10, in February 2002. Hardy's companion Shanda McCracken, 32, faces the same charges. No trial date has been set. McCracken could get up to 38 years in prison if convicted of all charges. Hardy could get 72 years because he has a prior felony conviction.

Christopher Fettes, 21, of Springfield, Massachusetts, on August 12 drew six months in jail, with two years suspended and three years on probation, for unleashing his pit bull terrier against his cousin's 65-year-old landlady in June 2001. Fettes was also ordered to pay restitution of \$1,193, perform 200 hours of community service, apologize in writing to the victim, and undergo anger management counseling.

Mary Graham, 49, of Huntington Station, New York, was charged with reckless endangerment and misdemeanor assault

on July 15 after her three allegedly free-running pit bull terriers mauled a leashed Siberian husky belonging to Richard Robbins, 44, of Melville, N.Y., and then severely bit Robbins, who bit back. Police Lieutenant Kenneth Fasano told Long Island Newsday that Graham knew her dogs were potentially dangerous when she unleashed them at the Birchwood Elementary School in Melville for a Saturday morning run. Although July 15 was not a school day, the schoolyard is heavily used by neighbors for recreational activities.

Ottumwa, Iowa police sergeant Mike Tupper announced on August 28 that no charges would be filed against Richard and Darcy Shepherd in connection with the August 27 fatal mauling of their youngest of three children, CharLee, 21 months, by their two pit bull terriers. The Ottumwa health department, however, ruled the Shepherd house unfit to live in pending completion of 26

Emergency post-flood appeal

The deluge that hit central Texas on July 9 sent a four-foot wall of polluted water sweeping through the Wild Animal Orphanage. The flash flood immersed the enclosures of 16 big cats and five wolves. All survived. Their fencing withstood the torrent—but the sanctuary was cut off from the world for over a week, the grounds were saturated with contaminated water washed in by the flood, and more than 20 big cats and five wolves are now under special care for symptoms of stress and exposure to the pollution. All of the enclosures have required special cleaning and sterilization. All of the animals have needed antibiotics.

In addition, our office and clinic area were flooded, leaving a nasty mess. The roof needs repair. A 300-square-foot freezer full of food for the big cats and wolves was ruined. Newly bought building materials were washed away, some fencing was lost, and an 18-wheel truck trailer used for storage was literally tossed into a tree.

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visitor viewing took precedence over responding to the needs of the animals. Grotto style exhibits are no longer considered acceptable for any bear species,” Laidlaw continued. “Most animals become stressed when viewed this way.”

At Baylor, Laidlaw wrote, the older bear “has only two choices: to be looked at from above, or to remain in or around the upper pool,” where the bear paces for much of each day, “so as to be on the same level as the viewers. The ground surface in the exhibit is also extremely problematic,” Laidlaw added. “American black bears are forest-dwellers, who should be housed on soft substrates in large, naturalistic paddocks, incorporating live trees, understory vegetation, high grass, hillocks,” and places to climb.

“Over the long term,” Laidlaw said, “the concrete substrate may lead to chronic sores, and/or more serious pathologies of the feet and legs.”

Bears who incessantly pace on a hard surface may develop chronic stress injuries similar to those suffered by marathon runners who overtrain—except that pacing bears actually tend to spend more hours pounding the pavement than marathoners, and often weigh four times as much, so that the cumulative pounding their knees absorb is even greater, without special shoes to reduce the shock.

Laidlaw went on to note that the Baylor bears cannot dig, cannot construct day beds for themselves as they would in the forest, cannot escape the sound of running water, are exposed to artificial lighting all night, and receive little by way of environmental enrichment.

In consequence, Laidlaw confirmed, the stereotypical pacing and head-weaving that Hindi and Gardner documented was only to be expected.

“The videotapes clearly show distressed bears in horrendously substandard conditions,” Laidlaw concluded.

Retorted Brumley, “Anybody can find an ‘expert’ to support their cause.”

A similar controversy is underway in Massillon, Ohio, where the high school football team booster club has kept a tiger as mascot at Paul Brown Tiger Stadium during each of the past 22 football seasons. PETA asked the club to abandon the tradition on August 19, coinciding with the acquisition of the 13-week-old 2002 mascot tiger cub from Stump Hill Farm, a USDA-licensed exhibition facility.

Turning to the law

The Baylor bears and Massillon tiger cub are only three among thousands of exotic and dangerous animals in private hands whom activists would like to place in sanctuaries—except that there is not a fraction enough sanctuary space to take them, and not nearly enough money to ensure their care.

In the past five years, Houston SPCA chief cruelty inspector Jim Boller alone has taken in 59 exotic cats, half a dozen nonhuman primates, and three bears, plus “countless” wolves and wolf hybrids, he recently told Rachel Graves of the *Houston Chronicle*.

The average of nearly 12 exotic cats per year handled by the Houston SPCA is about four times the current “normal” exotic cat intake of a big city humane society. A generation ago, cruelty inspectors and humane officers might have handled such animals perhaps once in a decade. Instead of keeping statistics, agencies kept press clippings. Today most exotic cat seizures do not get newspaper space, unless there is some further compelling angle.

Fed up with the constant demands on their resources created by exotic and dangerous animal breeders and sellers, roadside zoos going out of business, and fly-by-night animal exhibitors, humane organizations including The Association of Sanctuaries (TAOS) and the rival American Sanctuary Association (ASA) have become increasingly successful over the past two years in obtaining legislation to prohibit exotic and dangerous pet ownership, close substandard animal exhibits, and ban circus animal acts. Apart from the cruelty often

involved in training animals to perform in circuses, acts involving dangerous and exotic animals are commonly blamed for inspiring the public to consider such animals as pets.

Of the 39 known local and state laws in the U.S. which ban exotic and dangerous animal possession or performances, at least 12 were adopted in either 2001 or 2002.

At least eight other jurisdictions outside the state of Texas have had such legislation under discussion during 2002—along with as many as 200 of the 254 counties in Texas, which were empowered to ban dangerous and exotic animal possession by the 2001 Wild and Dangerous Animals Act.

Among the non-Texas communities taking action:

- Western Connecticut State University, in Danbury, banned animal acts from campus grounds in February 2001.

- The planning and zoning commission in Hillsborough County, Florida, in June 2001 refused to allow Jungleland owner Eugene Calabrese to provide a winter home to the L.E. Barnes circus family.

- Ferndale, Michigan, in July 2001 banned keeping reptiles above four feet long, banned keeping more than three snakes, and required all reptile owners to register them.

- Missouri in August 2001 required exotic animal owners to register their animals with local law enforcement.

- Washington County, Arkansas, in August 2001 required owners of exotic animals to post warnings of the animals’ presence and asked the owners to register their animals. Registration becomes mandatory if the animals are subject of complaints to the county animal control department.

- Orange County, North Carolina, in August 2001 banned traveling elephant acts.

- South Whitehall Township, Pennsylvania, in October 2001 banned possession of “any animal which is wild, fierce, dangerous, noxious or naturally inclined to do harm,” including alligators, bobcats, potbellied pigs, raccoons, venomous and constricting snakes, ferrets, and wolf hybrids. The ordinance was amended in January 2002 to allow potbellied pigs and ferrets under certain conditions.

- Southwest Ranches, Florida, in January 2002 prohibited public display of dangerous and exotic wildlife other than animals kept by a nonprofit organization, which uses the receipts from exhibition toward the animals’ care. The Southwest Ranches ban was requested by Destiny Big Cat Sanctuary founder Tori Canzonetta, whose facility is reportedly not normally open to the public.

- Racine, Wisconsin, in January 2002 banned private possession of any wild, vicious, or hybrid animal.

- Encinitas, California, in April 2002 banned all exhibitions, circuses, rides or trade shows featuring nondomestic animals, such as elephants, giraffes, camels, ostriches, and emus. An exemption was permitted for llamas.

- Greenburgh, New York, in May 2002 banned wild and exotic animal acts plus rodeos from city property.

- Cleveland, Ohio, in June 2002 banned big cats, dangerous reptiles, and other pets deemed dangerous.

- Austintown, Ohio, in August 2002 banned private possession of endangered species, non-native wildlife, and predators not indigenous to Ohio.

- Portage, Indiana, in August 2002 tried to halt a traveling tiger exhibit but discovered that it lacked the necessary enabling legislation.

Possible federal action

Local ordinances pertaining to exotic and dangerous animals tend to be highly idiosyncratic, responding to the pressures and concerns of each community. Some target exhibition but overlook petkeepers; some target petkeepers but overlook exhibition. All, so far, might be most important as indicators to state and federal legislators of constituent interest in addressing exotic and dangerous animal-keeping, preferably in a more consistent and coordinated manner.

Movement toward stronger federal legislation addressing exotic and dangerous animals may have begun on July 25, when Representative George Miller (D-California) introduced a bill called the Captive Wildlife Safety Act. The bill “would ban interstate shipments of lions, tigers, and bears for the pet trade,” according to a press release from the Humane Society of the U.S.

HSUS requested the Miller bill, in concert with the American Zoo Association and the International Fund for Animal Welfare. The Miller bill has received notice from major news media, but has little realistic chance of advancing through the present Congress.

However, “It appears that breeders, dealers, transporters, exhibitors, and carriers will be regulated under the Animal Welfare Act,” American Federation of Aviculture President Benny J. Gallaway advised members on September 3.

“This turn of events was totally unexpected,” Gallaway continued, “as the so-called Helms Amendment,” passed as part of the 2002 Farm Bill to exclude rats, mice, and birds used in biomedical research from protection by the Animal Welfare Act, was believed to have completely excluded birds from any protection.

“Last week,” Gallaway explained, “the USDA contacted the AFA to express concerns that, in



The elder of the current Baylor bears. (Coleen Gardner)

reviewing the recently received text of the final legislation, changes in punctuation and phrasing of the Helms Amendment as incorporated into the final version of the Act were such that USDA would be required to include birds (and other specified animals not exempted for laboratory research) under the regulations. This interpretation of the language contained in the final legislation was subsequently confirmed by USDA legal and administrative staffs.”

The USDA move to regulate birds is a step toward stronger federal regulation of exotic and dangerous wildlife. Most birds commonly kept in private captivity are not native, and though birds are not commonly thought of as dangerous, many species can be quite dangerous if improperly handled.

Among the potentially dangerous birds often found in private collections are falcons, hawks, owls, gamecocks, and large parrots, like Bird, a cockatoo memorialized on page 22 of this edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** who defended murder victim Kevin Butler, 48, of Dallas, at cost of his own life.

Several state wildlife agencies seeking to eradicate feral mute swans have also called them dangerous, although authenticated injuries inflicted by mute swans are few.

Emus, on the other hand, can severely injure humans, and ostriches, relative to their numbers in captivity, may be the deadliest species commonly kept as livestock.

Within a recent four-year span, Ouma Hendriks, 63, of Joostenbergvlakte, South Africa, was kicked to death in December 1997 by an ostrich who had already incapacitated her husband Abraham, 65, after attacking them as they walked near a neighbor’s ostrich farm; hiker Jasper Smith was injured in a 40-minute attack during September 1998 on a trail that crossed an ostrich farm near Saldanha Bay, South Africa; Fred Parker, 81, was stomped to death in June 1999 while feeding his daughter Linda Carter’s pet ostrich named King Tut, at Winlock, Washington; a 90-year-old man was killed and his 86-year-old wife was critically injured at their son’s ostrich farm in Union Parish, Louisiana, during February 2000 (none were named by police); and Norwegian ostrich breeder Oeystein Froeynsnes, 38, suffered a crushed rib cage and punctured lungs in April 2000 after coming between a male ostrich and two females.

Reported deadly and nearly-deadly ostrich attacks dropped abruptly with the drop in the captive ostrich population which followed the end of an ostrich speculation boom that circled the world during the 1990s.

Meanwhile, among species usually raised for meat and byproducts, only breeding bulls killed more people in the U.S., South Africa, and Norway during 1997-2000.

International issue

The movement toward restricting private ownership of exotic and dangerous animals has growing momentum in many other nations:

- Mount Pearl, Newfoundland, Canada, in June 2001 banned animal circuses, following the recent examples of at least 20 British Columbia cities, including Vancouver.

- A two-year campaign in Brazil begun by Alianca International do Animal founder Ila Franco after a circus elephant killed a trainer in 1999, boosted a year later by the fatal mauling of a six-year-old boy by a circus lion, in November 2001 brought a ban on the use of dangerous animals in circuses in Rio de Janeiro state. Rio de Janeiro in May 2002 extended the legislation to ban animal circuses outright. Similar legislation was meanwhile approved in the cities of Sao Leopoldo, (continued on page 18)



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Olinda, and Puerto Alegre, and the state of Pernambuco.

- Bogota, Columbia, in May 2002 banned circus animal acts.
- Lake Macquarie, New South Wales, Australia, in February 2002 banned animal circuses.
- The Cyprus veterinary department in April 2002 tightened restrictions on importing exotic pets, after approving the import of more than 3,000 exotic birds in 2001.
- Costa Rica banned animal circuses in July 2002.

The Royal SPCA of Great Britain has since January 2002 urged the British government to strengthen the 1976 Dangerous Wild Animals Act, has requested a total ban of animal circuses, and has asked the European Union to more tightly restrict imports of exotic species. During the 1990s, the RSPCA says, 28,000 live crocodiles and 80,000 monitor lizards were imported into European Union nations, among more than a million total reptiles. RSPCA data shows that 23% of the reptiles did not survive the trip, while 72% of the turtles, 56% of the snakes, and 40% of the lizards were improperly housed by their purchasers.

In Norway, not a nation known for animal rights activism, agriculture minister Lars Sponheim recently proposed banning elephant transport as a public safety measure. Circus Merano owner Knut Dahl responded in late August by threatening to go out of business, after 28 years on the road.

“This is a cultural institution that is being shut down,” said Circus Merano spokesperson Turid Beth Hansen.

“That’s dumb and meaningless,” responded Sponheim to the newspaper *Aftenposten*, rejecting the argument that cultural tradition should trump other considerations.

Both Norway and Japan have claimed a cultural need to continue whaling, but culture has not been raised as an argument relevant to keeping exotic and dangerous animals in Japan, perhaps because keeping any kind of animals other than livestock in captivity has a relatively short history there. Japan has little animal-related entertainment, compared to most other affluent nations, and by the standards of most of the rest of the world, Japan has a relatively small dangerous and exotic wild pet problem, at least if measured in terms of public incidents involving escapes and injuries, despite being among the major importers of animals from Australia and Southeast Asia.

Yet the relative scarcity of dangerous and exotic animal-related incidents in Japan may be only because most of the imported animals do not live long—other than some raccoons, monkeys, rabbits, and squirrels who have established feral populations after escaping or being released.

The Nogeiyama Zoo in Yokohama reports receiving an average of 35 rare exotics per year from police, well below the intake at similar facilities in the U.S., but enough to encourage the Japanese environment ministry to consider stronger regulation of the exotic pet trade.

Mexico, among the nations reputedly most involved in exotic and dangerous wildlife trafficking, with little effective regulation, has long been under pressure from animal advocacy groups seeking a crackdown, to little evident effect.

Since the evening of July 28, however, expressions of concern have come from tourism promoters, as well. That evening schoolgirl basketball star Brittany Regeliski, 13, went to dinner with her 15-year-old sister, Ashley Regeliski, and her mother, Penny Pilcher, at the Parrilla La Mision restaurant in Cozumel. Restaurant owner Estella Miranda had a pair of two-year-old declassified African lions on exhibit in a cage which reportedly was without signs warning visitors to stay away. As many as five teenagers including Brittany Regeliski approached

to pet the lions. While touching one lion, Brittany Regeliski momentarily turned her head to speak to one of the other teens. The lion seized her left arm in his teeth and pulled. Emergency surgery saved the arm, but she may never again be able to play competitive basketball.

For decades, Mexican promoters have used wildlife to attract tourists. Maulings, however, tend to discourage tourism, especially when the victims are children.

Money in parts

Liability issues are driving most of the recent action to ban or restrict keeping exotic and dangerous wildlife, both in the U.S. and abroad. Relatively little of the public policy debate pays attention to what may become of the animals after bans are in effect.

Already overwhelmed by the incoming animal volume, and knowing that each ban on possession or exhibition of exotic or dangerous wildlife will mean more arrivals if the ban is enforced, the TAOS and ASA sanctuary alliances nonetheless strongly favor restrictive legislation because it tends to discourage breeding and trafficking. In the long run, most TAOS and ASA members believe, restrictive exotic and dangerous animal regulation hastens the time when extensive sanctuary networks will no longer be necessary to take care of animals who never should have been bred or removed from the wild.

Meanwhile, because sanctuary space and funding is quite limited, there is increasing risk that animals who are supposedly being rescued are instead being sold by “scamtuaries,” as TAOS and ASA members call dubious operations, and are ending up in canned hunts and the body parts traffic.

Bears, big cats, elephants, rhinos, and even wild horses are literally worth more these days dead than alive.

Hindi, Gardner, and many TAOS and ASA members familiar with the Baylor bear program suspect this includes the Baylor bears, after they become too big, old, debilitated, and/or cranky to be paraded safely at football games.

Chance, a Baylor mascot preceding the present pair, was delivered to Bear Country USA, described by *Animal Underworld* author Alan Green as, “a South Dakota drive-through park just down the road from Mount Rushmore, with a chronic history of flunking Animal Welfare Act inspections. Home to about 360 bears, this park has a radical approach to keeping its population stable,” Green charged in 1999. “Some of the bears are quietly trucked off to South Dakota slaughterhouses, where they are butchered and packaged for the exotic meat trade. During one recent year, 20 bears in South Dakota were slaughtered under state inspection. The state veterinarian will not say how many of those animals came from Bear Country USA, nor will the park owners.”

“We have assurances from Bear Country USA that Chance is not going to be slaughtered,” claims Brumley.

Considering the number of bears at the facility, however, the difficulty of identifying any one bear among them, and the reluctance of the owners and the South Dakota state veterinarian to provide details about the sale of bears to slaughter, such assurances are practically impossible for animal defenders to monitor.

Covert traffic

Bear Country USA sells animals to slaughter within the law. Many other exotic and dangerous animal-keepers cut corners. This recently landed at least 17 people in trouble with the USDA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Black bear. (Carroll Cox)

Ross Wilmoth, 77, owner of the Wild Wilderness Drive Thru Safari in Gentry, Arkansas, settled USDA charges in June 2002 by agreeing to pay \$5,000 to the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, spend \$2,500 on improved training in animal care and nutrition for the safari workers, and spend \$2,500 on site improvements. His son Freddy Wilmoth was on May 20 given three years on probation and ordered to pay \$10,000 restitution in connection with selling four tigers to Todd and Vicki Lantz of Lazy L Exotics, in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Todd Lantz shot the tigers at his father-in-law’s 5-H Ranch, and sold their hides, meat, and other body parts for \$4,000, prosecutors said. On August 27, Todd Lantz drew five months in prison. For allegedly falsifying related documents, Vicki Lantz drew six months under home arrest, plus five years on probation.

Timothy Dale Rivers, of Animals in Motion in Citra, Florida, better known for promoting the nationally notorious Tim Rivers Diving Mules traveling show, in mid-August pleaded guilty to illegally selling two black leopards to an Illinois buyer through Todd Lantz. Rivers also admitted selling a Bengal tiger to a co-defendant from Chicago.

Steven Galecki, 32, who formerly operated the Funky Monkey Animal Park in Crete, Illinois, on August 29 pleaded guilty to conspiracy for his alleged involvement in selling at least 19 tigers, seven leopards, two African lions, a snow leopard, a puma, and an Asian swamp deer to their deaths. Galecki admitted selling six of the animals to Robert Martinez, M.D., of Palos Heights, Illinois, who allegedly then borrowed a gun from William Kapp of Tinley Park, Illinois, to shoot the animals in cages on Galecki’s property. A friend, David Woldman of Lombard, was also involved in killing at least two of the animals, the prosecution charged.

Martinez allegedly paid Galecki \$7,000; Galecki paid Kapp \$2,000.

The carcasses were allegedly delivered to meat market owner Richard Czimer. Czimer and Woldman have also been indicted in the case.

Previously convicted were Woody Thompson, owner of the Willow Lake Sportsmen’s club in Three Rivers, Michigan, who was fined \$30,000 and given six months of home detention, and Timothy Laurie, of Elgin, Illinois, who is still awaiting sentencing.

Numerous related cases are also pending.

The U.S. cases echoed the suspicions of Dr. Harish Maikhusi, of the organization Prithvi Kalyan Samiti Godeshwar in Garhwal, Himalaya, India, who recently wrote to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** after the exposure of a zoo-based wildlife parts trafficking ring in India, “I think tiger parks are maintained only to provide tiger skins to smugglers.”

Maikhusi enclosed a photograph of leopard pelts seized from smugglers in his region.

ANIMAL PEOPLE compared the reported death rates among big cats in Indian zoos and AZA-accredited U.S. zoos for three months after receiving the message from Maikhusi, and found that they were approximately the same, with no evident reason to suspect wrongdoing on a significant scale at the public zoos of either nation. Many of the recent deaths of tigers, lions, and leopards in India, moreover, involved animals who were recently confiscated from illegal traveling shows, and arrived in poor condition, with untreated parasitic infections and tumors.

In Lahore, Pakistan, however, Punjab state director general of wildlife and parks M.D. Chaudhary and Zoological Garden Bahawalpur curator Muhammad Lateef Chaudary boasted to the *Frontier Post* of Peshawar in mid-August of having just sold six lion cubs, raising their total of cubs sold to more than 100.

“We have a stock of two tigresses and 15 lions and lionesses,” Chaudhary reportedly said.

If there is a major difference between the practices of the Zoological Garden Bahawalpur and those of many U.S.

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Why bother to explain a dead monkey in a sanctuary water tank?

SACRAMENTO— Why doesn’t Animal Protection Institute executive director Alan Berger answer questions from **ANIMAL PEOPLE** any more about conditions at the Texas Snow Monkey Sanctuary in Dilley, Texas, annexed by API in January 2000?

ANIMAL PEOPLE editor Merritt Clifton asked Berger that question in person at the August 2002 Conference on Homeless Animal Management and Policy in Reno, Nevada.

“Why bother?” Berger responded.

ANIMAL PEOPLE forwarded to Berger nine photographs of reasons to bother on July 25, 2002, along with a copy of a July 15 cruelty complaint against API filed by San Antonio attorney Juan Gonzalez on behalf of Lou Griffin, the snow monkey sanctuary director for more than 22 years.

Berger, 55, fired Griffin, 54, on March 5, 2002. The notice of dismissal did not state any cause. Neither did Berger and API board president Gary Pike acknowledge any cause in response to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** inquiries, as recounted in the April 2002 edition.

On July 26, 2002, Griffin via Gonzalez sued API, API southwestern representative Donald Barnes, and current sanctuary manager Tom Quinn for libel and slander in connection with their statements, mostly to others, about the alleged reasons for the firing.

Meanwhile, there were the nine photos, which were entered as evidence in support of the cruelty complaint.

“As you might imagine, we receive photographs of alleged neglect and abuse at animal shelters and sanctuaries almost every day, and have quite a lot of practice at recognizing the ambiguities inherent in them,” Clifton e-mailed to Berger while transmitting the photos. “Sick and injured animals, dirty cages, and so forth are inevitable at animal care facilities, and the real test of management is not whether they occur, but rather, how promptly and effectively the problems are rectified.

“With that caveat, it does appear to me that the photographs in the accompanying portfolio showing the dead monkey in the water tank are among the most unambiguous

photographic evidence of negligent management at a sanctuary that I have seen in quite some time, and I am wondering how you explain it.

“Why was the monkey able to get near the tank, which presumably is a drinking water source for the animals? Why was his absence not missed? Why was he not found until he was so long dead that rigor mortis had apparently come and gone? How seriously contaminated was the water?

“I am wondering how you explain the other photos, too,” Clifton said, “but those of the monkey in the tank are particularly problematic.”

San Antonio animal advocate Linda Howard, who was married at the sanctuary two years ago with Griffin as her maid of honor, told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the dead monkey in the water tank had probably been able to hide from sanctuary staff in nearby woods.

Berger, however, said nothing.

Weekly reports from Griffin alleged on August 3, August 12, August 21, and August 29 that her successors were continually allowing monkeys to escape and roam free, partly because they were allegedly unable to individually identify them.

“There were more than 40 primates outside of enclosures before the flooding in July,” which hit the Texas Snow Monkey Sanctuary as well as other sanctuaries near San Antonio, Griffin wrote in her August 29 report. “Now there are many more,” she continued, and they are scattered geographically.”

Listing three ranches where she said monkeys have been reported at large, Griffin pointed out that the Texas hunting season is imminent, and that “It is legal for any hunter with a license to shoot any monkey who is not confined. All of the ranches that surround the sanctuary are leased for hunting,” Griffin said.

Griffin herself had trouble with monkeys escaping and being menaced by hunters at a previous site, where the sanctuary was known as the South Texas Primate Observatory. For five years following the relocation, however, that problem seemed to be history.

Unusual histories are almost the norm among exotic animal keepers

DALLAS—Enthusiasts of exotic and dangerous animals are almost by definition unusual people—and that poses one of the perennial complications of the sanctuary dilemma.

Many and perhaps most sanctuarians became involved with dangerous and exotic animals through breeding, trafficking, exhibiting, and/or performing with them. They may obtain nonprofit status, and may actually do a significant amount of animal rescuing between continuing previous activities under the name of a sanctuary, yet even then may contribute more to the proliferation of dangerous and exotic wildlife in private hands than to containing it.

Some people calling themselves sanctuarians still breed and sell animals, some still admit unescorted members of the public to their facilities just as roadside zoos would, some continue to exhibit animals on tour, and some continue to perform with animals, all of which are contrary to the philosophies of The Association of Sanctuaries and the American Sanctuary Association.

TAOS and the ASA, the two largest of at least four organizations purporting to represent sanctuaries, have 69 accredited sanctuary members between them. Fifteen sanctuaries are accredited by both bodies.

Among their continuing subjects of frequently heated internal debate is when and how far they ought to bend their standards to accommodate sanctuarians whose intent seems sincere but whose practices blur the lines distinguishing sanctuaries from other kinds of dangerous and exotic animal businesses.

Only a handful of the TAOS and ASA founders and leaders, among them Martine Colette of Wildlife Waystation, Wally Swett of Primarily Primates, and Lynn Cuny of Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation, actually began as rescuers and rehabilitators.

Several of the most prominent were performers, including Pat Derby of the Performing Animal Welfare Society and Tippi Hedren of the Shambala Sanctuary. Others were exotic petkeepers with breeding ambitions, like Carol Asvestas of Wild Animal Orphanage a.k.a. the Animal Sanctuary of the U.S., who changed their directions and outlooks upon becoming aware of the surplus of exotic and dangerous animals, and the miserable fates of many of them.

The ex-performers and breeders are often the strongest voices in opposition to compromise. Both Derby and Asvestas, in conversations with **ANIMAL PEOPLE** nearly eight years apart, likened keeping exotic and dangerous animals for exploitive purposes to drug addiction. Both asserted that a sincere and effective sanctuarian must quit all breeding and commercial-style exhibition absolutely and irrevocably to be worthy of accreditation.

G.W. Exotics

The history of the G.W. Exotic Animal Foundation in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, includes many of the common twists and turns, and the jury of peers in the sanctuary field is still considering what to make of founder Joe Schreibvogel.

Schreibvogel operated an exotic pet store called Super Pet with his brother Garold in Arlington, Texas, until Garold was killed in an October 1997 truck crash.

Joe Schreibvogel was also identified by the *Dallas Morning News* as co-operator, with a man named Jim Claytor, of a wildlife rescue service called Nature's Hope.

In February 1999, police in Plano, Texas, found 69 dead emus and about 160 others cannibalizing their remains on the property of housing developer and former emu speculator Kuo-Wei Lee. Schreibvogel and Claytor took possession of the survivors and hauled most of them to a ranch about 50 miles away, to await relocation to permanent sanctuary. When they could not catch all of the emus, Schreibvogel and Claytor allegedly shot at least six of them. SPCA of Texas chief cruelty investigator Bobby French videotaped the shootings, but the



Wally Swett of Primarily Primates is among the few people in the sanctuary field who have never had any other career.

Ellis County grand jury refused to indict Schreibvogel and Claytor. Schreibvogel then filed a defamation suit against the SPCA of Texas, claiming that their release of the video to news media had hurt sales at Super Pet.

Schreibvogel sold Super Pet soon afterward, and in October 1999 opened the G.W. Exotic Animal Foundation in his brother's memory.

Despite Schreibvogel's past history as an exotic animal dealer, and despite whatever harm to his reputation occurred as result of the emu incident, the number of animals seeking sanctuary space is so large at all times now that within two years he had taken in 89 big cats and 1,100 other exotics, with 23 tigers on a waiting list, he told Angela Wilson of the Springfield (Missouri) *News-Leader*.

Schreibvogel had also become an outspoken critic of dangerous and exotic animal stores and auctions, and an advocate of legislation to stop the traffic, according to Wilson.

Schreibvogel became something of a public hero in August 2001, after taking in three severely emaciated bears who were seized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from Russian circus trainer Alexander Shelovnikov. A sheriff's deputy found the bears in a truck in McClain County, Oklahoma, while investigating a claim by truck owner Sylven Steeples that Shelovnikov had violated a protective order she had obtained against him.

Shelovnikov at last report was free on bail awaiting trial on state charges of assault and battery and felony cruelty to animals. Federal wildlife charges were pending.

Schreibvogel nursed the bears back to health. He told Ellie Sutter of *The Oklahoman* that readers of her coverage of the bears' plight brought him \$17,400 in donations—about 25%, he later estimated, of their projected total cost of care and housing.

But Schreibvogel meanwhile ran into trouble with the Oklahoma Wildlife Department for allegedly operating unsafe road shows.

"We know we have some young kids being put in enclosures with large animals," charged Oklahoma assistant attorney general Elizabeth Sharrock in July 2002.

"The park takes as many as 30 animals on the road. The animals are kept in cages and the park solicits donations at the shows," reported Bob Doucette of *The Oklahoman*, after Schreibvogel won a temporary injunction that allowed the road shows to continue.

"The animal park has been a destination of choice for state officials and other entities needing a place to house animals who don't normally live in Oklahoma," Doucette continued. "The cost of housing these animals is also a legal matter in the case. The animal park is seeking \$168,000 from the state to help defray costs," reported at \$89,735 on IRS Form 990 for fiscal 2000, against revenue of \$211,145.

But G.W. Exotics did not report paying any salaries in 2000. If salaries were paid to the staff of five people shown on the G.W. Exotics web site, the sanctuary probably would have lost money.

Compensation

Though fellow sanctuarians have mixed views of Schreibvogel and G.W. Exotics, many sympathize with his bid for compensation for taking care of animals confiscated by government agencies. Many of the animals, like the Shelovnikov bears, are—or were—evidence in criminal court cases.

"The continual stream of unwanted and neglected animals and the financial burden created by the USDA [and other law enforcement agencies] should not fall on the heads of sanctuaries," then-American Sanctuary Association president and Wild Animal Orphanage a.k.a. Animal Sanctuary of the U.S. founder Carol Asvestas wrote to former Agriculture Secretary Daniel Glickman in August 2000.

Hoping to establish a compensatory principle in connection with sanctuary care of seized animals, Asvestas appended to her letter to Glickman a list of more than 100 large carnivores who came to ASA member sanctuaries within the preceding two years as result of USDA actions. Their care cumulatively cost upward of \$500,000 per year.

After Republican candidate George W. Bush won the 2000 presidential election, Glickman was replaced. Bush, as Texas governor preceding his U.S. Presidency, was friendly to ward the exotic animal industry, vetoing legislation which would have restricted it. Efforts to get the USDA to provide compensation for animal care are still under sporadic discussion, but have not advanced, and according to the accounts of various participants, have refocused on topics such as sanctuary accreditation, regulation, and just who speaks for the sanctuary community, anyway? Given the deep differences of opinion among sanctuarians about almost everything, including matters as basic as the definition of "sanctuary," that may be the most problematic question. (See the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** July/August 2002 cover feature, "Is sanctuary an illusion?")



Tippi Hedren was star of "The Birds." (Kim Bartlett)

Kim Haddad

Among the odd twists of the representation issue is the recent emergence of Kim Khouri Haddad, DVM, of San Carlos, California, as a self-designated spokesperson for much of the sanctuary community and sanctuary liaison to the American Zoo Association—even though few leading sanctuarians and AZA representatives who maintain relations with the ASA and TAOS seem to know much about her.

Four AZA senior staff members and chairs of committees and panels that Haddad has been involved with told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that they barely know her, but each believed she was well-known to some of the others.

Haddad currently "heads up a committee including the Performing Animal Welfare Society, Humane Society of the U.S., the Fund for Animals, The Association of Sanctuaries, and others," American Sanctuary Association executive director Vernon Weir told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, "which is working on issues relating to exotics. ASA was intentionally excluded," Weir charged, after the ASA board members and other representatives who attended a June 17 meeting of ASA and TAOS leadership convened by Haddad in San Antonio unanimously rejected her version of the minutes and her appointment of the members of the committee, which she introduced as a "steering committee" to represent the entire accredited sanctuary community.

The Haddad minutes included a mention that a primary purpose of the meeting was to raise funds for Kimya, an organization begun by Haddad, whose web site represents it to be a "true sanctuary" even though it as yet appears to have no land and no animals. Kimya is currently promoting a November 2002 climb of Mt. Kilimanjaro, Kenya, as a fundraiser, at \$5,000 per person.

Haddad is also on the advisory board of the Ahali Sanctuary, planned by longtime circus performer Ivor David Balding, who according to the Ahali web site expects that the 600-acre Balding family farm in South Carolina "will be gifted by the family to Ahali" to make the venture possible.

Ahali has one elephant: Flora, 20, star performer of his Circus Flora for 17 years, still performing as recently as June 16, 2002, but boarded at the Miami MetroZoo for much of the past two years.

Balding in April 2000 told Ellen Futterman of the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* that he intended to retire Flora to a refuge in Botswana to breed—just as Botswana, claiming an elephant surplus, joined with Zimbabwe and Namibia to make another of many attempts to roll back the global ban on international ivory sales imposed by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in 1988. Yet another such effort is underway now, also supported by South Africa and Tanzania.

Flora was never flown to Botswana, but Balding apparently did not give up the notion of breeding her.

"Cristina Colissimo, listed as the Ahali secretary, told me in April 2001 that Flora was wintering in Florida in the hope of getting her pregnant," said ASA executive director Weir, questioning the involvement of an authentic sanctuary in breeding.

Asked by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** about her association with Balding, and about the breeding issue, Haddad claimed to "have no knowledge" of anything relevant.

Her own history seemed a tad shaky.

According to the Kimya web site, Haddad "works as a small animal veterinarian in the San Francisco Bay Area. She left a Wall Street career to pursue her dream...While working as a veterinarian in Jacksonville, Florida," the site continues, "Kim spent a great deal of time at the Jacksonville Zoological Gardens from 1994 to 1998.. Currently, she works as a consulting and relief veterinarian for the San Francisco Zoo."

Inquiries by ASA board members found that Haddad did not seem to be well known at either the Jacksonville Zoo, which has had heavy turnover in recent years, or the San Francisco Zoo, where her name was found on a roster of local vets who could be called in event of an emergency.

Haddad did not actually become a veterinarian until 1997. But Haddad was in Jacksonville during the time in question. Douglas S. Looney and John Walters of *Sports Illustrated* identified her in June 1994 as one of seven former employees

(continued on page 20)

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Histories of exotic animal keepers *(from page 19)*

of the Mandarin Veterinary Clinic near Jacksonville who exposed improper payments to members of the Florida State University national championship football team by FSU Seminoles booster Rick Blankenship, DVM, the clinic owner. The scandal was among the biggest in the recent history of college football.

Marcus cook

Hazy backgrounds and connections are, however, almost the norm in dangerous and exotic animal-keeping.

Sometimes the mystery is how more than 40 wallabies came to inhabit Isle Inchcoonachan in Loch Lomond, Scotland, thriving there for nearly 30 years, or how obstetrician Arthur Stehly, 63, came to have a female pygmy hippopotamus in his back yard in Escondido, California, seized by wildlife officials on January 28 and now reportedly *en route* to the Black Beauty Ranch sanctuary operated by the Fund for Animals in Murchison, Texas.

Sometimes it is why the Nashville Zoo sold three tigers in November 2000 to one Marcus Cook, of Kaufman, Texas. Cook was identified to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** by Dallas attorney Robert “Skip” Trimble as “very proactive in trying to defeat the Dangerous Wild Animal Bill, which recently became law in Texas,” and later, in “rallying the keepers of dangerous wild animals to sue the counties and the state,” seeking to overturn the bill.

Now president of the Animal Legal Defense Fund, Trimble previously served on the boards of several Texas sanctuaries, and was instrumental in winning passage of the Dangerous Wild Animal Bill.

Other Texas sanctuarians confirmed Trimble’s recollection, but American Zoo Association program assistant Vicki L. Duckett described Cook as a supporter of the bill in an article posted to the AZA web site.

Nashville Zoo director Jim Bartoo never answered the March 2002 inquiry from **ANIMAL PEOPLE** about why he sold Cook the tigers—and neither did Cook, but Cook called **ANIMAL PEOPLE** a few days later to demand “an address for service,” prefacing the call with a police-style warning that the conversation was being recorded.

Cook is a former police officer.

“Denton County prosecutors have dismissed several cases in which former Lake Dallas police Sgt. Marcus Cook was the only state witness,” *The Dallas Morning News* reported in August 1998, “because of concerns about his credibility. Cook quit his Lake Dallas job last fall during an investigation by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Education into possible falsification of his educational records.”

Cook, the son of a longtime Dallas police officer, “rose from trainee to supervisor in less than two years,” wrote Gayle Reaves of the *Dallas Morning News* in a separate expose. Added Reaves, “Lake Dallas has 10 fulltime police officers. In the last three years, four Lake Dallas officers have been fired. All say they were punished for questioning Sgt. Cook’s performance. At least three others have quit. Sgt. Cook has sued five former colleagues and a former city council member for defamation,” apparently in connection with their statements about incidents including Cook allegedly threatening to shoot a partially handcuffed burglary suspect, allowing his police dog to bite a handcuffed suspect, and leaving Gilberto Rico, 18, to walk home on a dark road after impounding his car on May 5, 1996. Rico was killed an hour later by a hit-and-run driver.

Earlier, Reaves said, “State and Dallas county records and lawsuit files connect Sgt. Cook as the registrant or director of numerous helicopter and air charter companies,” which were subjects of judgements won by a former landlord and another aviation firm.

After Cook’s police career, he worked for the Dallas World Aquarium. He moved on to Six Flags Over Texas in mid-2002, but his act was dropped on July 19, two weeks after the USDA cited his act for five alleged Animal Welfare Act violations, and one week after WFAA-TV News 8 of Dallas aired a video by former Six Flags animal handler Jean Robb that appeared to show a tiger cub biting a handler.

“On his resume, Cook claims his operation has evolved into a large-scale zoological service and research facility, operating worldwide,” reported Brett Shipp of WFAA. “However, the only operation News 8 could find is at Cook’s home in Kaufman, Texas. Observed there were two exotic cat pens, a zebra pen, and evidence of more being built. It’s nothing like what is described on Cook’s web site. Cook’s resume also boasts a zoology degree from the University of Wexford. Cook even provided News 8 with a transcript. But news outlets have reported that Wexford is nothing more than a diploma mill in Switzerland which fabricates a degree for a fee.”

OTHERS

Sometimes the mystery about exotic animal keepers is mostly because they find that keeping a low profile is the best way to avoid conflict with neighbors and regulators.

That would appear to describe former Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus trapeze artist Joan Byron-Marasek, who founded the Tigers Only Preserve in Jackson Township, New Jersey, with five tigers in 1975. Barely noticed until January 1999, when one tiger allegedly escaped and was shot by police, Byron-Marasek has gone through eight



Raised in Kenya, Martine Colette was a Hollywood costume maker before founding Wildlife Waystation. (Kim Bartlett)

lawyers since then while battling to retain possession of her present menagerie of 24 tigers.

New Jersey Superior Court Judge Eugene D. Serpentelli is expected to rule on the case in September. In closing testimony on July 30, wrote Joseph Sapia of the *Asbury Park Press*, “Serpentelli made clear that he prefers allowing Byron-Marasek to keep her tigers with her own relocation plan, rather than ruling for the state’s plan to move the tigers” to Wild Animal Orphanage. “So Serpentelli said he would reopen the record if Byron-Marasek’s side were to come in and testify to a feasible plan,” Sapia added, “something it has yet to do.”

Sometimes the mystery may result from a tragic past. That might describe Lorenza Pearson, 54, a traveling wildlife exhibitor and owner of the L&L Exotic Animal Farm in Copley Township, Ohio. Pearson reportedly keeps about 60 big cats, black bears, alligators, and snakes.

Pearson fell in love with dangerous and exotic animals as a child in Alabama, he recently told *Cleveland Plain Dealer* reporter Eddy Ramirez.

“Like a dummy, I went up and stuck my hand inside a bear cage,” Pearson told Ramirez. The bear injured him, “but I didn’t run away,” Pearson continued. “I went back and started scratching him. And he was loving it. That’s when I said, ‘I got to get me one.’”

In 1983 one of Pearson’s tigers killed his two-year-old son—and “five years ago,” Ramirez wrote, “Pearson’s two-year-old grandson was mauled by another animal.”

On June 16 the USDA charged Pearson with 47 violations of the Animal Welfare Act, following a series of local health department citations for alleged improper disposal of animal waste and the butchered carcasses of hooved stock used to feed the large carnivores.

Summit County Common Pleas Judge Patricia Cosgrove on August 26 gave Pearson 30 days to have all his felines vaccinated against rabies and produce a plan to rectify the problems leading to the local citations.

Crackdown on SHAC hits activist for child porn, brings Boston busts

BOSTON; CAMBRIDGESHIRE, U.K.—A year after Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty activists thought they were on the verge of victory, the campaign appears to be collapsing under the weight of the ruthless and often violent tactics that have characterized it.

British campaigner Robert Moaby, 33, in mid-August 2002 pleaded guilty to two counts of threatening to kill executives of Huntingdon and other firms, and 17 counts of making pornographic pictures of children.

According to BBC News, “Moaby sent e-mails containing violent threats to financial backers of the Cambridgeshire-based animal research organization, Southwark Crown Court was told. The messages were full of obscene language and threats of sexual assault, the court was told. When police examined his computer, they also found that he had more than 2,800 pornographic imagines of children,” reportedly as young as age five.

Moaby was sentenced to serve 54 months in jail for uttering threats, plus a concurrent 33 months for possession of porn.

In the U.S., Lisa Lotts, 23, and Ryan Kleinert, 17, of Allston, Massachusetts, were on August 17 arrested for allegedly stalking Robert Harper Jr., identified as a mid-level employee of Marsh, an international insurance firm which reputedly does business with Huntingdon but does not comment on client relationships.

“Authorities say Kleinert and Lotts were among the activists who threatened to burn down Harper’s apartment building, where he lives with his wife and two-year-old son, dumped gallons of red paint on his front steps on Father’s Day, and chanted outside his home at all hours while carrying posters of dead animals,” Jessica Haslam of the *Boston Herald* reported. “The group put ‘Wanted for Murder’ posters throughout the city bearing Harper’s photo, re-routed his mail, put his personal information on the Internet, repeatedly mentioned his son by name, and passed out fliers in his neighborhood calling him a monster who ‘supports torture,’ authorities said,” Haslam continued, adding, “Prosecutors say Harper’s work has nothing to do with Huntingdon. They believe he was targeted because his home is ‘geographically convenient’” for SHAC activists.

The first U.S. conviction of a prominent activist in a Huntingdon-related case

came on August 28 in Conway, Arkansas, where a jury found Brian W. Pease, 24, of Liverpool, New York, guilty of misdemeanor criminal trespassing, resisting arrest, and illegal flight. The charges were reduced from felony commercial burglary and third degree felony battery enhanced by engaging in a violent criminal group activity.

Pease “was among a handful of protesters who allegedly broke the back door” of the Stephens Group investment firm office during a January 2002 demonstration, “entered, and began kicking employees and breaking things, according to police,” said staff writer Samantha Huseas of the *Log Cabin Democrat*. Stephens Inc. economically rescued Huntingdon in late 2001, when it appeared to be on the verge of bankruptcy.

Pease, identified as a second-year law student and son of a senior federal attorney, was sentenced to serve 45 days in jail and pay a fine of \$1,100, plus \$250 restitution.

Pease was also charged with trespassing on February 21, 2002, after he was reportedly found, wearing camouflage, on the property of the laboratory animal supply firm Marshall Farms USA Inc., in North Rose, New York. Pease was released after that arrest on \$250 bail. On December 5, 2001, the Animal Liberation Front claimed to have taken 25 beagles from the same site, but no one has been charged in connection with that action.

Bad cops

An earlier police response to anti-Huntingdon and anti-Stephens Group activism may backfire in Las Vegas, where Jerry Vlasak, M.D., and his wife Pamalyn Vlasak, of Santa Monica, California, in May 2002 sued Stephens, the Metropolitan Police Department, two police officers, and the owners of the Monte Carlo hotel, where a March 2001 protest was held, for alleged conspiracy to violate their civil rights. Dr. Vlasak says the two police officers assaulted him, illegally searched him and his wife, and jailed him on charges that were later dismissed.

One of the two police officers named by the Vlasaks, Jack Brandon, 41, was on August 15 convicted of two counts of armed robbery and one court of burglary, for holding up the cardroom at Rae’s Restaurant & Lounge on February 22, 2002 and trying to make his getaway in an unmarked police car.

The other police officer named by the Vlasaks, detective Ronald Fox, “was demoted in 1996 after police determined that he falsified documents in an attempt to get a promotion,” wrote J.M. Kalil of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*—which is owned by the Stephens Media Group.

Effects of 9/11

In late summer 2001 direct action advocates in both Britain and the U.S. already claimed the Huntingdon campaign as a success for the use of violent tactics.

Car bombings, arsons, assaults on key personnel, and violent invasions of the homes of management staff had reportedly cost Huntingdon insurance coverage, bank credit, some employees who left the company, and many clients.

The anticipated closure of Huntingdon would not have demonstrably saved animals’ lives, since most of the testing that the firm does is to meet regulatory requirements, and much of the work was shifted to labs in Ghana, Pakistan, Poland, and South Africa, where more animals may be used with less regulatory supervision.

SHAC held, however, that closing Huntingdon would be an important symbolic gain, and would inspire activists to escalate direct action against other targets.

That was before the al Qaida terrorist attacks on the U.S. of September 11, 2001 markedly reduced public tolerance of violence waged in the name of causes, and helped law enforcement on both sides of the Atlantic to crack down on all forms of alleged terrorism.

Huntingdon today looks more economically stable than at any time since the SHAC campaign began, while a scheduled July 15 international day of protest against the firm produced nothing more dramatic than a camp-out and rally of unremarkable size in Britain, and the detonation of smoke bombs that brought the brief evacuation of 700 people from two Seattle high-rise buildings. The tenants of both buildings include Marsh Inc.

Grand jury investigations of alleged animal rights-related terrorism underway in several U.S. cities have not produced any recent major arrests, but the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in late July raided the home of frequent Animal Liberation Front spokesperson David Barbarash, 38, in Courtenay,

British Columbia, reportedly seizing about 100 videotapes. Sheriff Everett Flannery of Kennebec County, Maine, told Yvonne Zacharias of the *Vancouver Sun* that the search “was related to break-ins at three Maine rod-and-gun clubs in 1999.

Convicted of vandalizing fast food restaurants in Toronto and a 1992 break-in at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Barbarash escaped prosecution after a 1998 arrest for allegedly mailing razor-blade-rigged parcels to hunters, furriers, and others because the RCMP refused to disclose the identity of an informant.

Animal-related direct action is believed to be declining worldwide, at least partly because of the risk of backlash.

In New Zealand, for example, activists in 2001 allegedly threatened AgResearch geneticist Phil L’Hullier and poured acid on his car. The incidents persuaded New Zealand chief ombudsman Sir Brian Elwood to rule in August 2002 that AgResearch, a government agency, need not identify members of institutional animal ethics committees.

New unsolved cases

Among unsolved recent direct actions, the ALF during World Week for Laboratory Animals in late April 2002 claimed to have placed bottles of shampoo contaminated with ammonia and hydrogen peroxide on the shelves of 13 New Zealand supermarkets, as an attempted strike at companies that do animal testing; claimed to have burned a truck at Sims Poultry, of Bloomington, Indiana, on May 3; and claimed to have released 1,200 mink from the Misty Moonlight Mink Ranch near Waverly, Iowa, on August 17.

Activists are suspected of contaminating milk storage tanks with antibiotics and illegally injecting antibiotics into dairy cattle in at least 14 separate incidents in upstate New York during late 2001 and mid-April 2002. Activists are also suspected of releasing 170 red deer fawns from a farm near Elgin, Morayshire, Scotland, on April 23. All of these actions, however, are unclaimed.

Nor has anyone claimed credit for turning off the ventilation at four Tyson chicken barns in Kentucky—three on August 8 in Crittenden County, and one on August 27 in McLean County. The loss of air circulation killed a total of 78,000 chicks.

The Cosmic Serpent: DNA AND THE ORIGINS OF KNOWLEDGE by Jeremy Narby

Translated from the original French by the author, with assistance from Jon Christensen

DNA
snakes?

The Cosmic Serpent is not a quick, easy read. It is thought-provoking, and bound to bring to light surprising facts for readers, no matter what their area of expertise. That does not mean that the facts will convince most readers to agree with all the conclusions painstakingly drawn by anthropologist Jeremy Narby. Any book which begins as this one does, with a description of the author's hallucinogenic trip under the guidance of a shaman, is bound to stir some controversy.

Many **ANIMAL PEOPLE** subscribers will agree with one of Narby's conclusions: "In my hallucinations, I had learned important things—that I am just a human being, for example, and am intimately linked to other life forms, and that true reality is more complex than our eyes lead us to believe."

The author notes, "I did not talk about these things, because I was afraid people would not take me seriously."

He is talking about "these things" now. He says, "As I patrolled the texts of biology, I discovered that the natural world was teeming with examples of behaviors that seem to require forethought." After noting examples in the avian and mammalian world, he writes, "Some species of ants, with brains the size of a grain of sugar, raise herds of aphids which they milk for their sweet secretions and which they keep in barns...It is difficult to understand how these insects could do this without a form of consciousness."

Narby leads us through his journey from prejudices about shamanism, skepticism about plant remedies, and non-belief in spirits, to his arrival at a rather startling hypothesis based on "the idea that DNA in particular and nature in general

are minded. This contravenes the founding principle of the molecular biology that is the current orthodoxy."

Narby states, "I began my investigation with the enigma of 'plant communication.' [i.e., Shamans stating that their extensive medical knowledge...greedily sought by pharmaceutical companies...comes from plant-induced hallucinations.] I went on to accept that hallucinations could be a source of verifiable information. And I ended up with a hypothesis suggesting that a human mind can communicate in defocalized consciousness with the global network of DNA-based life. All this contradicts principles of Western knowledge."

Specifically, Narby's working hypothesis is this: "In their visions, shamans take their consciousness down to the molecular level and gain access to information related to DNA, which they call 'animate essences' or 'spirits.' This is where they see double helixes, twisted ladders and chromosome shapes [widely reported throughout time, Narby claims]. This is how shamanic cultures have known for millennia that the vital principle is the same for all living beings and is shaped like two entwined serpents (or a vine, a rope, a ladder...). DNA is the source of their astonishing botanical and medicinal knowledge, which can be attained only in defocalized and 'nonrational' states of consciousness, though its results are empirically verifiable."

Narby goes on to explain that scientists have discovered that DNA emits photons corresponding exactly to the narrow band of visible light, and from that fact, he then arrives at a neurological mechanism for his hypothesis.

Again, not an easy read, but fascinating, as the author reveals the discoveries he makes upon his journey: "Inside my body sitting there in the garden sun were 125 billion miles of DNA. I was wired to the hilt with DNA threads and until recently had known nothing about it."

He also refreshingly refers to leaves of trees as "true solar panels," marveling at the sophisticated technology that they represent, while also leading us to reconcile that with the Shaman's point of view: "A plant may not talk, but there is a spirit in it that is conscious, that sees everything, which is the soul of the plant, its essence, what makes it alive."

And somehow, as you travel his road step-by-step, very heavily footnoted and containing an extensive bibliography, it all seems very openly honest, fairly scientific and logical, but the Western brain shouts no and is not easily quieted—perhaps with good reason, perhaps not.

It would be helpful when reading this book to have on hand experts in several disciplines, including molecular biology and anthropology. One thing is for sure: You will never again look at snakes in quite the same way after reading *The Cosmic Serpent*.

—Patty Finch

[Finch, a former classroom teacher and later director of the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education, is now a teacher trainer in the greater Phoenix area, focusing on inner city educators, through a U.S. Dept. of Education grant.]

The New Wolves: the Return of the Mexican Wolf to the American Southwest by Rick Bass
The Lyons Press (123 W. 18th St., New York, NY 10011), 1998, paperback 2001.
165 pages. \$14.95 paperback.

The New Wolves, by Rick Bass, is a comparatively uncomplicated narrative of the beginning phase of reintroducing the extirpated Mexican gray wolf to New Mexico and Arizona. The reintroduction took wolves raised for generations in captivity, and reacclimated them to life in the wild.

As of 1998, when Bass wrote *The New Wolves*, success still seemed far from assured. The first of 11 packs comprising a total of 65 wolves released to date were just about to be freed. Bass accordingly focused on the cultural and physical environment the wolves were about to enter, rather than on the wolves themselves, producing a book which is really more about the sociology and biology of the southwest than about any single species other than humans.

Entering 2002, just 30 of the released Mexican gray wolves remained alive in the wild. The reintroduction is still much more tentative than the vastly more publicized and restoration of timber wolves to Yellowstone National Park and north-central Idaho—but only because of rancher opposition. Mortality has resulted mainly from illegal shooting and shootings to protect livestock. Some wolves have been recaptured to reduce the risk that they might be shot.

Yet, though the reintroduced wolves cannot outrun bullets, they have proven themselves able to find food and reproduce. There is no longer much biological doubt that they can re-establish themselves, if allowed to do so.

In hindsight, the most important part of *The New Wolves* may be the preface, in which Bass remembered, "the old geezers from my grandfather's and great-grandfather's era, sitting in rocking chairs, flapping their gums about the bygone days when they'd seen buffalo, or black bears in the Texas hill country, or mountain lions, or ocelots, or once, a jaguar. As a boy," Bass confesses, "there was for me some implicit judgement on my part that the old-timers had somehow not been worthy of such wild treasures, which was the reason they had all gone away: the old farts had not been appreciative enough. I believed they must either have taken such wonders for granted, or never cared, so that by the time it was realized those creatures were vanishing, it was too late."

"Then the oldsters followed them. I never intended, or believed, that one day I too would be telling such stories of loss. But already I have inherited my own stories. The last supposed Colorado grizzly was killed while I was in college. The last red wolf vanished from the Texas Gulf Coast around that same time."

Species are still disappearing, as Bass discusses, but the wolf restorations represent a turning point in public appreciation sufficient that public policy has begun to expand to predators the restoration efforts that began with deer, beavers, and bison more than one century ago.

—M.C.

Wolves At Our Door

by Jim & Jamie Dutcher, with James Manful

Pocket Books (c/o Simon & Schuster, 1230 Ave. of the Americas,

Emmy Award-winning documentary film maker Jim Dutcher began writing *Wolves At Our Door* as an intended "behind-the-scenes look at the making of a wildlife documentary," also called *Wolves at Our Door*, which he produced for the Discovery Channel. But just making the documentary took much longer than was originally planned. The Dutchers ended up spending six years on site, because making the film itself, complicated as that was, turned out to be less problematic than ethically placing the wolves that they raised in captivity—albeit very spacious captivity—in order to do the filming.

Jim Dutcher eventually had to found the Wolf Education and Research Center, a nonprofit organization separate from his for-profit film company, and set up his own wolf sanctuary. He did not want to become a fulltime sanctuarian,

however, and as he delegated duties to the board of directors, WERC slipped beyond his control.

Some of the people WERC brought aboard, meanwhile, were more interested in wolf advocacy than in the hands-on side of the job. As the time frame coincided with the long preliminaries to the 1996 reintroduction of wolves to nearby Yellowstone National Park, and the controversial aftermath, there was much opportunity for everyone involved to engage in politicized infighting—as occurred.

A separate complicating factor was the mid-project arrival of former National Zoo staffer Jamie Dutcher. Not initially involved at all, she became Dutcher's wife, and may have ended up spending more time with the wolves than any other project participant.

The book *Wolves At Our Door* ends up going far beyond the scope of the film, also telling the stories of Jim and Jamie Dutcher, and their side of what happened to WERC.

The latter, albeit seemingly much understated, is the part of the book containing the most important messages for animal advocates and rescuers.

LESSONS

The Dutchers learned the hard way why legitimate sanctuaries take a dim view of anyone breeding animals, especially large carnivores with expansive and costly habitat needs: there literally are no fit-and-ready places for them to go.

The Dutchers also learned the hard way that funding and staffing sanctuaries is even more difficult than raising the capital and hiring the staff needed to make a film. The competition for sanctuary funding is every bit as keen as the competition in the wildlife film making industry, with far less money available relative to the number of projects already started.

The Dutchers finally learned why no rational founder of an animal-related nonprofit organization should ever allow control of the board to pass to anyone else, no matter what some of the leading organizations monitoring nonprofit accountability say. In all other branches of charity, the intended beneficiaries have a voice, for example as students and faculty of a school, hospital patients and staff, or members of a church. In animal care and advocacy, the beneficiaries cannot speak for themselves, and charities are correspondingly easily hijacked when the founders' voices and vision no longer firmly guide the board.

Unfortunately, the Dutchers lacked sufficient overview of the animal-related nonprofit field to use their own experience to illustrate the trends that the whole field needs to be aware of. They did not mean to write a cautionary treatise on sanctuary-and-animal-advocacy group management, or to use themselves as Exhibit A of common failings. Neither do they seem to have realized the potential value of their experience as a warning to other people who are taking on animal-related projects with the idea that the sanctuary community can eventually bail them out of any jams—or to those who have the erroneous notion that they themselves can set up, fund, and run a sanctuary with less than fulltime commitment.

—M.C.



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The Pet Surplus:

What Every Dog and Cat Owner

Can Do to Help Reduce It

by Susan M. Seidman

Xlibris Corporation

(www.xlibris.com; 1-888-795-4274), 2001.

234 pages, paperback.

Written for average U.S. petkeepers, *The Pet Surplus* sums up the basics about pet overpopulation and other preventable causes of dog and cat killing by animal shelters. Susan Seidman emphasizes the need for pet sterilization, adopting animals from shelters, and correcting misbehavior that often leads to owner surrenders. She also discusses finding pet-friendly housing, finding lost pets, and how to return strays to their homes.

Seidman is more careful that most people who write about pet overpopulation for general audiences to use current data, so her statistics, while already slightly dated in some areas, are "close enough for government work." Public policy could be based on her numbers, in other words, without risk of major errors due to faulty data input. Her writing style is lucid, her experiences as a petkeeper for about 50 years are both typical and revealing, and her analysis is more-or-less what most reasonable people would tend to conclude from the data, falling about halfway between what average petkeepers already believe and what is revealed by the breaking edge of pet population demographic research and analysis.

Two kinds of participant in the evolving debate over pet population control will have arguments with her.

One kind are the self-interested know-nothings: puppy-millers, backyard breeders, and anyone who believes it is either fiscally prudent or morally acceptable to kill homeless animals in huge numbers.

The other kind are some of the people who are doing advanced demographic studies, and/or developing new techniques of promoting humane pet population control—who are often some of the same people whose insights and breakthroughs 10 and 20 years ago led to the advances in policy and public understanding that brought the cause to the point of awareness that Seidman succinctly shares.

The big yet-to-be-answered question about *The Pet Surplus* is whether Seidman can persuade average petkeepers to read it—especially community opinion-makers.

Timing may be on her side, as the hope of achieving no-kill animal control has thrust animal control issues into the mainstream of public policy discussion, debate, and news coverage as never before. More of the public than ever before may at last be ready to sit down and read an entire book about pet overpopulation.

—M.C.

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HUMAN OBITS

Chris Byrne, 52, manager of the Fund for Animals' Black Beauty Ranch sanctuary since 1990, was killed near dusk on September 2 when his off-road vehicle rolled over on rough terrain while he was doing his evening check of the animals and fences. Born in Wimbledon, England, Byrne previously handled animals in Hollywood films, tended horses for the DuPont family, fought forest fires in California, started an eco-tourism business on Kawai, Hawaii, and lived for a time in the Australian Outback. During his tenure, Black Beauty grew from 600 acres and 400 animals to 1,480 acres and more than 1,000 animals. "Chris knew and loved every animal at the ranch," said Fund president Marian Probst. "He was respected and admired by the local community, as well as the international animal protection community, and is very close to irreplaceable."

Somporn Saekow, 62, died from a sudden heart attack on August 20 at the Monkey Training School he founded in 1993 in southern Surat Thani province, Thailand, to teach monkeys to pick coconuts. He began teaching monkeys in 1957, and was honored by the Thai royal family after demonstrating that a monkey can pick more than five times as many coconuts per day as a human.

Russell Aitken, 92, died on August 11 at his home in Newport, Rhode Island. An associate editor of *Field & Stream* 1948-1952, Aitken was among the wealthy trophy hunters who created the World Wildlife Fund to encourage developing nations to fund their conservation programs through hunting revenues, rather than banning trophy hunting as both India and Kenya did soon after winning independence from Britain. The Bronx Zoo seabird colony is named for Aitken, who also donated heavily to the National Audubon Society.

Galen Rowell, 61, his wife Barbara Cushman Rowell, pilot Tom Reid, and friend Carol McAfee, all of Bishop, California, were killed in an August 11 light plane crash. A professional nature photographer since 1972, Rowell produced 16 books of photos, including a 1986 best seller.

Deborah Marie Krantz, 37, died on August 19 in Mt. Clemens, Michigan. Krantz volunteered for the Ingham County Humane Society and was wife of Michigan Federation of Humane Societies & Animal Advocates president Scott Harris. She left a daughter, Madison, and a son, Sawyer.

Betty Roy, a cofounder in 1992 of the Riverlands SPCA in La Place, Louisiana, and previously a longtime volunteer for the Jefferson SPCA, died on August 16.

Poehm, 64, assistant to Brigitte Gomm at the Dog Rescue Center Samui in Suratthani, Thailand, was killed on August 2 by a hit-and-run driver.

Michael Hoyle, 44, of Pinellas Park, Florida, and his dog of seven years, Bonnie, died together from smoke inhalation in an August 18 mobile home fire.

ANIMAL OBITS

Bird, a three-year-old cockatoo who lived in Dallas, Texas, with Christmas Eve 2001 murder victim Kevin Butler, 48, and three dogs, was killed in defending Butler from alleged knife-wielding assailants Daniel Torrez and his half-brother, Johnny Serna, but injured Torrez sufficiently that police made a DNA match with blood found at the scene and arresed both Torrez and Serna seven months later. Torrez reportedly confessed. Both men were charged with capital murder.

Ophelia, one of 18 older cats rescued by the Southern Animal Foundation of New Orleans who were in convalescent care with volunteer Richard O'Conner in his apartment above the newly remodeled SAF clinic, alerted O'Conner to an August 30 dawn arson just in time for him to escape with only his life. Ophelia and the other upstairs cats were killed, along with 19 cats at The Cat Practice clinic in the same building, but firefighters managed to save 58 of the 65 animals at SAF cofounder Anne Bell's first-floor cat and dog boarding and grooming kennel. Four feral cats apparently escaped and returned to the streets. "Anne and the SAF Board plan to begin rebuilding the shelter and clinic as soon as possible," said Paul Berry, another SAF cofounder who now works for the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah.

Kadira, 36, an Indian elephant bull who had appeared in several films, and **Gaston**, 12, a seal who swam more than 188 miles after high water enabled his escape, were the best-known animal fatalities at the Troja Zoo in Prague, the Czech Republic, after the Vitava River overflowedon August 13. Zoo director Petr Fejk euthanized Kadira, a hippo, a bear, and a lion, rather than leave them to drown, when the zoo staff were unable to get them out of their cages. An estimated 90 animals died in all, but more than 1,000 were saved. Gaston appeared to be among the survivors, after being recovered alive near Wittenberg, Germany, but died from apparent exhaustion and shock while being trucked back to Prague.

Little Moses, 5, star seal at the Bergen aquarium in Norway, died on July 19 from a stomach blockage caused by swallowing about 40 coins tossed to him by visitors.



Kerry, one of six light-bellied Brent geese tracked by satellite as part of an ongoing migration study by the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust and the National Geographic Society, was shot by an Inuit hunter on July 22 after landing on Bathurst Island *en route* from Northern Ireland to the Canadian Arctic.

Anna, 4, a German shepherd police dog who assisted rescuers in the wreckage of the World Trade Center for 10 days in September 2001 as part of the New Jersey Task Force One Urban Search & Rescue Team, died on August 2 at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine from a rare infection called recurring discospondylitis. The university is reportedly investigating whether the bone-damaging infection might have been triggered by the stress of her World Trade Center service.

Dreadnought, 44, the male American crocodile who was first inhabitant of the acclaimed rainforest exhibit at the Cleveland MetroPark Zoo, was euthanized on July 12 after a three-month illness. Born in the wild in 1957, Dreadnought was captured for the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago. He was transferred to the MetroPark Zoo in 1988, and moved into the rainforest exhibit in 1992.

Black Bart, a male black swan, died on August 10 at the Potawatomi Zoo in South Bend, Indiana, from injuries suffered in protecting his mate and five cygnets from a German shepherd and a male chow mix who also killed 13 wallabies and injured a kangaroo and an emu during a predawn rampage through the zoo. The German shepherd was captured and killed by South Bend Animal control. The chow escaped.

Missy, 15, the border col-lie/ Siberian husky mix who was subject of a \$3.7-million attempt by Texas A&M University geneticists to clone her, died on July 6 at the home of her person, Joan Hawthorne. The cloning effort continues, funded by Haw-thorne and Arizona investor John Sperling. The project produced a cloned cat, CC, in December 2001, but has not managed to raise clones of Missy to term.

Jodi, 25, a female chimpanzee known for the paintings she produced at the Wellington Zoo in New Zealand, died in late June from inoperable kidney tumors.

MEMORIALS

In memory of my mother, who died recently.
—Victoria Windsor

In memory of Ann Ross Selby,
who died on August 13.
—Marion Friedman

To Alan, our dear friend and fellow cat lover,
In memory of your beloved Daisy.
She found your arms three years ago.
She will wait for you at Rainbow Bridge.
You can both make up
for her lost time on earth.
With our love, Lindy & Marvin

In memory of Freya, Max, Tygar, & Oscar.
—Virginia Gillas

In memory of Purr Box (12/3/87),
Prometheus (3/21/81), Friendl (10/30/87),
Lizzie (5/8/84), Boy Cat (12/26/85),
Miss Penrose (11/18/98), Duke (11/1/98)
and Blackie (9/9/96).

Jake, 4, the youngest member of the much praised western lowland gorilla exhibit at the Dallas Zoo, died on July 29 from a form of encephalitis—but West Nile virus, which has killed numerous birds at the Audubon Park Zoo in New Orleans, Central Park Zoo in New York, and Topeka Zoo in Kansas, was ruled out.

Grizzly 001, 15, tracked by radio collar for more than 10 years as part of a study of ways and means of reconditioning bears to stay away from human food and garbage, was shot by Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologists on August 7 after leading three cubs in a series of building break-ins at the Prudhoe Bay oil field. The cubs, two males and a female, were taken to the Anchorage Zoo, and will eventually be relocated to the Denver Zoo and the South Carolina Zoo, Alaska DFG biologist Cathie Harms told Tim Mowry of the *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner*. "A lot of the photos you see of bears walking along pipelines was this bear," Harms continued. Grizzly 001 was taught to raid human food sources by her mother, who was the first bear radio-collared in connection with the study that she herself later was part of.

Goldie, 18, an orphaned California sea otter taken in by the Monterrey Bay Aquarium just as it opened in 1984, was euthanized at the aquarium in late June after months of declining health due to conditions of age. His longtime companions Hailey and Roscoe had died within the past year.

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SWM, 45, owner of a cockatiel and cares about how animals are treated, would like to correspond with and meet an intelligent and honest female. Not looking for perfect, but someone who is kind and caring. I live in Texas and my only bad habit is smoking. Respond to [<jay1062@excite.com>](mailto:jay1062@excite.com).

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