

Fund for Animals merging with Humane Society of the United States? (page 3)

Keeping elephants out of sanctuaries

DETROIT, SAN FRANCISCO—American Zoo Association director Sydney Butler has warned the Detroit Zoo and San Francisco Zoo that the AZA “fundamentally disagrees” with their decisions to retire two elderly elephants each to sanctuaries, and will “vigorously enforce our professional ethics and accreditation standards” if the elephants are moved contrary to the dictates of the AZA Species Survival Plan committee.

Detroit Zoo director Ron Kagan on May 19, 2000 announced that the elephants Winky, 51, and Wanda, 40-something, would be sent to the Elephant Sanctuary at Hohenwald, Tennessee, founded and directed by former circus performer Carol Buckley.

The elephants would go from their present one-acre enclosure to a 2,700-acre facility where they could live among a matriarchal herd almost as if wild.

The Elephant Sanctuary has nine elephants now: six Asians, three Africans.



(Robert L. Harrison)

“Kagan’s intent drew widespread public praise, but alarmed many in the zoo community who believe that zoos are fully capable of providing good lives for elephants,” understated *Detroit Free Press* writer Hugh McDiarmid Jr.

Transferring any elephants outside the AZA-accredited zoo network could become an influential argument for transferring any elephants whose situations are less than ideal—and elephants are perhaps the leading gate attractions at any zoo, but are in ever shorter supply.

The average lifespan of an AZA zoo elephant is 36 years, according to AZA spokesperson Jane Ballentine. Most elephants now in the U.S. were captured before the U.S. ratification of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in 1972 and passage of the Endangered Species Act in 1973 virtually cut off further imports. These elephants are now middle-aged to elderly, and have been dying at a rate far exceeding successful reproduction. Only a handful of zoo-born elephants have survived to maturity, and only 11 have been imported in the past 32 years, all of them in 2003.

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Thai crackdown on animal trafficking hits high officials as CITES nears



Gibbon rescued by the International Primate Protection League. (IPPL photo)

BANGKOK—Delegates arriving in Bangkok for the 2004 meeting of the parties of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, to start on October 1, will find the clandestine animal traffic thriving, despite a year-long crackdown.

The good news is that the crackdown is still underway, reaching higher and farther into the web of corrupt officials who have enabled Bangkok to persist as a global hub of illegal animal dealing.

Wildlife Conservation Office director Schwann Tunhikorn will head the Thai CITES delegation, replacing Manop Laohapraser, who was removed from his post in July 2004 for alleged misconduct in authorizing the export of 100 tigers to the Sunya Zoo in China two years earlier. The zoo is owned by the Si Racha Tiger Farm.

An investigation headed by National Intelligence Agency director Joompol Manmai concluded that the tiger sale was a commercial transaction, not a breeding and exhibition loan as defined by CITES.

“Some believe [the tigers] were des-

igned for human consumption,” London *Observer* correspondent Mark Townsend reported on September 13.

Townend alleged that Manop Laohapraser also arrived on the scene recently after notorious wildlife dealer Leuthai Tiewchareun was arrested near the Laotian border in possession of “the bloody carcass of a huge Bengal tiger sawn clean in half.”

Leuthai Tiewchareun “was well-known to the authorities,” wrote Townsend. “In November 2003, when police raided his home, more than 20 pairs of bear paws lay beside piles of fresh tiger meat. His deep-freeze contained the body of a baby orangutan from Indonesia.”

Arrested then, Leuthai Tiewchareun

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care

About Animals

September 2004
Volume XIII, #7



Bush & Kerry each seek an animal-friendly image, have contrasting records on animals

WASHINGTON D.C.—Animal issues historically have little resonance with voters, but the appearance of animal-friendliness is all-important for U.S. Presidential campaigns, conventional political wisdom holds.

Only three presidents have ever been elected without mention being made of their pets, and none since 1880, according to Claire McLean, curator of the Presidential Pet Museum in Lothian, Virginia.

Some analysts of image-making believe voters may have preferred Republican George W. Bush over Democrat Al Gore in 2000 because Bush fed his cats on camera, in his bathrobe, presenting a caring appearance, while Gore, in a business suit, only patted his dog while speaking of other things.

Alexandra Kerry, daughter of Democratic nominee John Kerry, opened her July 29 address to the Democratic National Convention in Boston with a pet story.

“It hasn’t been easy to sift through years of memories about my father and find those few that might best tell you who John Kerry really is,” Alexandra Kerry began.

“So, let me begin with one July day when [sister] Vanessa and I were kids. It’s a silly story, but it’s true, and it’s one of my favorite memories about my father.

“We were standing on a dock,” Alexandra Kerry recounted, “waiting for a boat to take us on a summer trip. Vanessa, the scientist, had packed all of her animals, including her favorite hamster. Our over-zealous golden retriever got tangled in his leash and knocked the hamster cage off the dock. We watched as Licorice, the unlucky hamster,

bubbled down into a watery doom.

“Now, that might have been the end of the story: A mock funeral at sea and some tears for a hamster lost. But my dad jumped in, grabbed an oar, fished the cage from the water, hunched over the soggy hamster, and began to administer CPR.

“There are still to this day some reports of mouth-to-mouth,” Alexandra Kerry said, “but I admit it’s probably a trick of memory. The hamster was never quite right after that, but he lived.

“It may sound silly, and we still laugh about it today, but it was serious to us. And that’s what mattered to my father.”

“The Bushes started out with three cats and one dog during the 2000 campaign and ended up with two dogs and one cat in the White House,” according to *New York Times* columnist Maureen Dowd.

The first dog, Spot, was born in the White House, a daughter of Millie, the spaniel kept by President George H. Bush and his wife Barbara. Their decision to breed Millie may have provoked more protest mail than the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

Spot died on February 21, 2004.

“The six-toed cat Ernie,” acquired as a stray whom Spot treed in Texas, “was sent to a friend in Los Angeles, deemed ‘too wild’ for the White House,” Dowd continued.

The friend, investment banker Brad Freeman, commenced a much publicized search for Ernie after he disappeared in March 2001. Ernie was found three weeks later, “reportedly in ragged shape and without his

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European wild boar—feral in Australia. (Kim Bartlett)

Governments push hunting the big bucks, boars, et al—for the price on their heads

CANBERRA, JOHANNESBURG, NAIROBI—Australian government agencies are missing the gravy train by hiring sharpshooters to kill non-native wildlife, University of Queensland faculty members Gordon Dryden and Stephen Craig-Smith reported in early September 2004 to the Rural Industries Research & Development Corporation.

The RIRDC is a federal think-tank formed to create jobs in the Outback. It envisions the Outback as a tourism draw rivaling Africa—for one type of tourist.

“Wealthy hunting enthusiasts around the world would be happy to cull these animals that nobody in Australia wants, and would pay for the privilege,” Craig-Smith said. “This would be a niche tourism market targeted at cashed-up hunters,” he added, “not a wholesale slaughter of animals.”

Translation: if the non-native target species were extirpated, as the present philosophy of the National Parks and Wildlife Service mandates, the proposed trophy hunting business would collapse.

Thus hunting Australian feral

species might save them, much as regulated hunting contributes to the survival of other trophy animals—even if they have to be raised in captivity to be kept abundant enough to shoot.

Recommended targets include wild horses, pigs, deer, camels, water buffalo, and goats, said Dryden and Craig-Smith.

They found that about 10 hunting safari operators in Queensland and the Northern Territory already escort approximately 150 hunters per year to kill non-native hooved stock. The hunters spend an average of about \$1,000 per day in the field.

Hunt Australia managing director Bob Penfold told *Daily Telegraph* reporter Lisa Miller that water buffalo hunting alone is worth \$7.2 million per year to Australia, and could become five times as lucrative if restrictions on hunting were relaxed.

Penfold’s estimate, however, suggests that water buffalo hunters spend an improbable 48 days apiece in the field to bag their slow-moving quarry.

The Dryden/Craig-Smith recommen-

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Reagan
was thrown
from a
pickup
truck in
broad day-
light
they didn't
even slow



September 2004

Dear Partner,

Reagan has so much joy and love in his heart, it's impossible to imagine anyone throwing him out of a moving pick-up truck at three o'clock in the afternoon in broad daylight . . .

. . . but that's exactly what happened to him, witnesses have told me.

Imagine a child loving his parents so much, expressing that love constantly, running and playing all day long . . . and then out of the blue one day, being told that no matter how much he loves . . .

. . . no matter how much he expresses his love and his joy of being alive . . .

. . . it's not enough. Then booting that child out the door to fend for himself in a world gone mad!

"What did I do wrong?" he asks. "What more could I have done?"

Short of becoming invisible, broken-spirited and hiding in a corner . . . nothing.

I want to tell Reagan that none of this was his fault. It's theirs. Theirs for not seeing who he is, for not accepting all that love.

But thanks to people like you, Reagan is safe now . . . and he's enjoying his new life at our Supershelter MORE than he enjoyed eating

my french fries while sitting next to me on the way up here. With us he can romp and play . . . and love . . . as much as he wants.

Nobody will ever hurt him again. Nobody will ever disappoint him again.

Reagan is the son of a German shepherd and an almost-German shepherd. Bred in someone's back yard and sold as a pup to a "macho dude" with a truck.

This pipsqueak on wheels thought he could express his manhood with a tough dog in tow. But when he wanted to show off his "Police dog," Reagan only jumped up and licked everyone! So that was it for him.

Reagan is huge and still growing. He's only about a year old. And his main problem is going to be another one that's not his fault . . . hip dysplasia.

He was born with the typical German shepherd problem of in-breeding . . . bad hips.

Already his rear end is visibly weak. But because I know I can count on you to help Reagan have a long and healthy life, we are already planning on his eventual hip replacement surgery.

This will be expensive. But I made each of our animals a promise 25 years ago when I began this work . . .

. . . "I will always ask what's right for the animals, and do that." Every decision is the answer to that question. Not what is convenient for us, or cheaper for us . . . but what is RIGHT for the animals.

What is right for Reagan is to fix his hips no matter what it costs. He is our child now, to love and to protect.

So please, along with your regular gift of support, send a little extra today for "Reagan's hips" and we will put it aside for later, when he's full grown, and able to benefit from hip replacements.

For the animals,

Leo Grillo, founder

D.E.L.T.A. Rescue
PO Box 9, Dept AP, Glendale, CA 91209

Attention: Rescuers and Shelters

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

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



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

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

Editorial feature

The Fund, HSUS, & merging packs

Rumors that the Fund for Animals and the Humane Society of the U.S. are holding merger talks reached **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on July 26. Confirmation came a few days later.

In the interim, on July 30, five closely spaced shotgun blasts followed by frantic yelping disturbed the woods about half a mile from our remote rural office. Someone apparently dumped two black Labrador retriever mixes, a mother and nearly grown son, and fired the shots to keep the dogs from following his truck.

Ignoring rabbits who boldly ran right in front of them, the dogs survived by scavenging for several days before stumbling upon the feeding station we set up for them.

For almost a month, we fed and watered them at the same spot—waiting more than a week for box traps to arrive, and then waiting for the dogs to get used to the traps enough to begin eating inside them. Finally the dogs were caught, first the mother and then the pup.

Now comes the even more difficult process of integrating the two new dogs into our pack of three older dogs.

Tasha, the eldest at 12 years, is a German shepherd adopted from the Bennington County Humane Society in southern Vermont, who rescued her and a Doberman after they were abandoned by a man who did not want to pay the shelter surrender fee. The Doberman was adopted before Tasha.

Francesca, now about 11, was dumped along the dirt road that led to our former headquarters in upstate New York. She had given birth to puppies not long before she was thrown out of the back of a pickup truck.

Simon, born on the streets of Taiwan, was hit by a Taipei taxi and luckily taken to Taiwan Abandoned Animal Rescue Foundation founder Mina Sharpe. We adopted Simon, while still a pup, in 1998. Simon greatly enjoys life, after extensive orthopedic surgery.

Amid the canine politics, our 15 cats—some feral, all rescue cases—are mostly unafraid of the dogs, but are discreetly keeping out of the way of any risk of trouble.

In effect, we are merging two established packs, of similar history but differing recent experience. They knew each other slightly, from twilight barks, when both packs exchanged insults with the local coyotes, but proximity demonstrates how superficial their acquaintance was.

Cleveland Amory’s legacy

“The Fund and HSUS are discussing the possibility of combining the resources, staffs, boards, and programs of both organizations. While nothing has yet been finalized, both boards of directors voted unanimously to explore this concept,” Fund president Mike Markarian confirmed on August 9.

By then, mid-level and senior personnel at both the Fund and HSUS already seemed to be circling nervously, marking territory, staking out strategic hallways, barking past each other, and in some cases anxiously seeking somewhere else to go.

Fund for Animals president emeritus Marion Probst informally briefed **ANIMAL PEOPLE** three days before Markarian provided detailed answers. Probst acknowledged the tension, but expressed confidence that it soon would settle.

“This is what Cleveland Amory would have wanted,” Probst said.

Both HSUS and the Fund are part of the Amory legacy.

Still working long hours from her New York City office, Probst remembered instantly that Amory hired her as his personal assistant on May 24, 1961. She has kept his affairs in order ever since—posthumously since October 1998.

As a U.S. Army intelligence officer and former *Saturday Evening Post* reporter, Amory in early 1945 witnessed a so-called “bunny bop,” or rabbit-killing contest, sponsored by the American Legion at Harmony, North Carolina. He exposed the event in a photo essay for the *Post*. For several weeks thereafter the *Post* reportedly received more letters about the rabbit killing than about World War II, then still raging.

Amory rose to fame as a best-selling humorist and broadcast commentator in the early days of television, but discovered in animal welfare a more compelling interest than his considerable career success.

In 1954 Amory joined former American Humane Association *National Humane Review* editor Fred Myers, former American SPCA secretary Helen Jones, and several others in forming the National Humane Society. Probst said Amory came aboard initially as a silent partner, whose popularity was expected to help attract support, but he did not remain silent for very long.

Founded to challenge the then-timidity of the AHA and ASPCA in fighting biomedical research use of animals, the new organization was renamed the Humane Society of the U.S. several years later.

By then it had already begun growth by division. While remaining on the HSUS

board, Amory in 1959 helped Jones to incorporate the National Catholic Humane Society, a far more militant voice for animals, which in 1977 became the International Society for Animal Rights.

Disappointed that HSUS refused to vigorously oppose sport hunting, Amory in 1968 started the Fund for Animals, with Probst handling the administration. Amory from the beginning made plain his hope that the Fund, as a rump caucus, could demonstrate humane opposition to hunting so convincingly that HSUS, the AHA, and the ASPCA would all adopt similar positions. They soon did, so long ago that generations of activists no longer recall that they ever did not.

Initially, Probst recalled, Amory expected that the Fund would reunite with HSUS after winning the hunting issue—but the Fund almost immediately took on an additional mission of providing hands-on care to rescued animals, first at the Black Beauty Ranch in Texas, and later also at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in California and the Rabbit Sanctuary in South Carolina.

HSUS until recently avoided becoming involved in hands-on care for animals, for reasons Amory himself articulated in early position statements: to focus on advocacy, to avoid any dilution of mission, and to escape philosophical compromises that might be driven by the need to raise money to feed and house animals.

By 1974, when Amory finally left the HSUS board, he had changed his mind. Amory had come to believe, as he told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in 1994, that taking on at least a limited mission of hands-on care helped to keep an organization honest; that if an organization rescues animals, it has an obligation to care for them; and that having sanctuaries helped him to avoid hiring anyone who felt above cleaning litter pans or shoveling out a stable.

While HSUS endured more than 30 years of administrative scandals and frequent conflicts with the emerging animal rights and no-kill sheltering movements, Amory and Probst ran the Fund as a model of fiscal accountability. They held far more money in reserve than the Wise Giving Alliance recommends, reflecting the fiscal conservatism of many people who lived through the Great Depression, but Probst’s hand-completed IRS Form 990 filings detailed the disposition of every penny. They welcomed and made common cause with animal rights organizations, and observed the no-kill philosophy at their sanctuaries.

Chances of reconciliation with HSUS receded after HSUS three times hired away senior Fund personnel—executive director Patricia Forkan, now the HSUS executive vice president; Lewis Regenstein, who is no longer with either organization; and national director Wayne Pacelle, who took several other members of the Fund staff with him to HSUS in 1994.

Annoyed, Amory expressed hope that the Fund might instead eventually merge with PETA. PETA cofounder Alex Pacheco, an Amory protégé, debuted in animal advocacy as a volunteer for the Fund at a Cincinnati branch office. In 1986-1988 Amory and Pacheco led a hostile takeover of the then grossly mismanaged New England Anti-Vivisection Society, whose former president, the late probate judge Robert Ford, was eventually stripped of his judgeship and convicted of related criminal offenses.

For almost a decade NEAVS operated under *de facto* Fund and PETA joint trusteeship. The arrangement was seen as a test of an eventual merger, but fell apart in disputed board elections and a lawsuit. Pacheco soon afterward left PETA.

“Talking points” memo & money

Pacelle, named HSUS president in May 2004, after 10 years as vice president for legislation, hypothetically proposed a three-way merger of HSUS, the Fund, and PETA as long ago as 1988. Pacelle appears to have been the primary author of an internal memo of “Talking points on the potential merger” recently circulated among Fund and HSUS senior staff and board members.

“The Fund and HSUS jointly publish the Humane Scorecard, which tracks the voting records of members of Congress,” the memo reminded. “The groups jointly publish Humanelines, a weekly electronic alert with subscribers drawn from both organizations. Together they operate the Humane Activist Network, which organizes thousands of volunteers and calls them to action on important issues. They have collaborated very meaningfully on ballot initiatives since 1992, and work cooperatively on state and federal legislation. They are co-plaintiffs on a long list of lawsuits. Both groups have strong urban wildlife programs...”

Pacelle put merger talks with The Fund on the fast track, encouraged by Probst and Markarian. Hand-picked by Amory to eventually head the Fund after Pacelle left, and groomed for the position for five years under Probst’s presidency, Markarian debuted in animal rights as an assistant to Pacelle in the Fund’s Washington D.C. office.

“A key component of the merger,” Markarian told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, quoting directly from the memo on talking points, “would be the launch of a new 501(c)(4) organization which could spend unlimited resources on lobbying. It would raise money specifically for lobbying.” The new entity might be named either, “The Humane Fund for Animals” or “The Humane Society Fund for Animals,” the memo indicated.

“As you know,” Markarian and the memo continued, “The Fund and HSUS are both [IRS classification] 501(c)(3) organizations, and both currently face lobbying limits that severely encumber their effectiveness. HSUS must limit its [political] spending to \$1 million per year—just 1.3 percent of total spending. The Fund must limit its expenditures to \$450,000—about 6% of total spending. These hard caps cannot be consistently exceeded without risking the loss of our charitable status.

“In short, as our organizations grow, our lobbying programs cannot grow commensurately because of the rigid formulas established by the IRS. The HSUS spending cap is frozen at \$1 million, no matter how much HSUS grows. The spending limit is the same whether an organization’s annual budget is \$20 million, \$80 million, or \$200 million. As wages, benefits, printing, postage, and other expenditures rise from inflationary pressures, we face shrinking ability to spend in the lobbying domain.”

Markarian and the memo pointed out that the National Rifle Association’s Political Victory Fund “distributes in excess of \$5 million per year, and its lobbying arm spends nearly \$20 million. Other political opponents, including the American Farm Bureau, National Pork Producers Council, Safari Club International, and Feld Entertainment, spend millions more on political activity. We are at a distinct and often insurmountable disadvantage,” Markarian and the memo contended, “when we attempt to push sweeping and meaningful reforms.

“Our hope,” Markarian and the memo said, “is that a single 501(c)(4), viewed as the political lobbying arm of both organizations, would appeal to donors from both The HSUS and The Fund. Within a few years, it is not unreasonable to think that the 501(c)(4) may be able to spend upward of \$10 to \$15 million on political activities—representing an increase in spending in this domain by a factor of 10.”

Mergers of animal advocacy organizations are not nearly as common as splits, but occur relatively often at the local or regional level, often as a matter of logical consolidation of programs and services.

An example may be the impending annexation of the Ozaukee Humane Society by the Wisconsin Humane Society, announced in late August. The Ozaukee Humane Society name will remain in use, and four board members will join the 13-member OHS board.

The Ozaukee Humane Society handles about 1,600 animals a year, with an annual budget of under \$500,000 and a paid staff of just six, but claims 450 volunteers. Wisconsin Humane handles 17,000 animals per year, with a paid staff of 85 and 750 volunteers.

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

LETTERS

Bali turtles

I appreciate **ANIMAL PEOPLE**'s June 2004 coverage of sea turtle conservation. I just returned from Bali, Indonesia, where the trade in endangered turtles is alive and well. Hundreds of turtles are caught off shore and brought into warehouses where, fins tied, they languish without water until they are sold for slaugh-

ter. All of this is against Indonesian law, but occurs anyway due to corrupt law enforcement and greed.

—Wayne Johnson, Ph.d
Honolulu, Hawaii
<Waynezorro@aol.com>

CHAMP International forum

Thank you for enabliing me to show the video of the Animal Balance work in the Galapagos at the international session of the recent Conference on Homeless Animal Management & Policy. You have helped me SO much and I will be forever grateful to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

I love meeting other folks from around the world and hearing about their amazing work and how they find solutions to such awful problems. We all become friends very quickly.

Thank you for providing us with a forum that gives us energy to keep going and save more lives.

—Emma Clifford
Animal Balance
135 Marlin Court
San Francisco, CA 94124
Phone: 415-671-0886
<clifford@animalbalance.org>
<www.animalbalance.org>

Thank you for facilitating so many inspirational presentations by international visitors at the Conference on Homeless Animal Management & Policy. Each made a memorable impression upon me and many others.

Bringing together animal advocates from remote places knits us together as the strong family we must be if we are to realize our dream of a cruelty-free world.

—Erika Abrams
Animal Aid Unlimited (India)
4508 SW Massachusetts St.
Seattle, WA 98116
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The CHAMP conference is a project of the North Shore Animal League America. The CHAMP International Forum is coordinated each year by ANIMAL PEOPLE publisher Kim Bartlett.

How to help animals in Darfur?

Warm greetings from Darfur, Sudan. Thanks so much for your concern about the situation here. We are faced with many problems. The janjweed militias have killed countless domestic animals and our wildlife has escaped to Chad and Libya. Warfare normally brings epidemics, and the remaining animals have not been spared. Most of the nongovernmental organizations working in Darfur are concerned only with trying to relieve the human suffering. Animals are not receiving consideration. We hope you will look into this. We need drugs and vehicles to distribute them. Thank you.

—Mustafa Bakrawi
Sudanese Animal Care
P.O. Box 227, El Obied
Kordufan State, Sudan
<sacepsks@hotmail.com>

ANIMAL PEOPLE met Mustafa Bakrawi at the All Africa Humane Education Summit in September 2003. We forwarded his e-mail to the World Society for the Protection of Animals, Humane Society International, and International Fund for Animal Welfare.

WSPA replies:

We have received a copy of your e-mail to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** concerning the situation affecting animals in Darfur and Sudan generally.

The World Society for the

Protection of Animals is monitoring the situation in Sudan both through our office based in Kenya and through the Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad, which is a WSPA member organisation operating throughout the Middle East and African regions.

SPANA has agreed to assess the needs of the animals caught up in the current crisis in Sudan and we are currently awaiting the results so that we may determine the most efficient and effective way in which we might assist.

Due to travelling restrictions and other operational difficulties, it is likely to be several weeks before we have that information.

WSPA has written to the ambassadors of both Sudan and Chad in London to register our concern about the animals, particularly farm animals and beasts of burden. When security has been re-established in Darfur. WSPA would be keen to deliver an intervention, either in person or through SPANA.

—Peter Davies, Chair
World Society for the Protection of Animals
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Parallel responses were later received from IFAW and HSI.

CORRECTIONS

The chart accompanying “Post-9/11 shelter killing hits 4.9 million a year,” on page 8 of the July/August edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** included two lines for Springfield, Missouri, received from conflicting sources. Neither line appears to have been correct. The best data we have been able to obtain indicates that the shelters serving Springfield and Greene County, population 242,000, killed 9,689 dogs and cats in 2002, for a rate of dogs and cats killed per 1,000 humans of 40.

The line for Flagstaff, Arizona, covered all of Coconino County, most of which is within the Navajo Nation. If Flagstaff is viewed in isolation, the shelter

killing rate drops to 30.7, still nearly twice the U.S. norm of 17.4, while the killing rate on the Navajo Nation jumps to 136, eight times the U.S. norm.

The line for Chattanooga stated a shelter killing rate of 36.1, based on 2001 data. Three weeks after going to press we received newer data showing a drop to 22.5 by June 30, 2004.

“The Terminator kills proposal to terminate animals sooner,” on page 13 of the July/August 2004 edition, concerned an abortive attempt by California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to repeal “the 1968 Hayden Act.” That was a typographical error. The Hayden Act was actually passed in 1998.

Dog rescuers are prosecuted

Our organization Sathva Mithra (Friends of Animals) has for the past 11 years defended the rights of animals in Sri Lanka. We have challenged in courts the actions of the authorities against animals including elephants, cattle, and dogs. We also carry out animal welfare work such as holding clinics to sterilize and vaccinate community dogs and cats.

With the unrelenting negative attitude of state and local authorities toward the rights of animals, we urgently require the help of international organizations.

For the first time in Sri Lanka, two animal rights activists, both women, have been charged by the Colombo Municipal Council before the Municipal Magistrate on allegations of letting dogs owned by them loose on the street, thereby causing a public nuisance.

The activists, Shyama Peries and Kumudhini Saravanamuttu, have entered pleas of “not guilty.” They have in fact been regularly rescuing animals from cruel death at the dog pound, sterilizing and vaccinating them against rabies, and re-homing them.

Shyama Peries and Kumudhini Saravanamuttu have not taken dogs who were impounded following allegations of being problematic. The dogs were impounded by the Colombo Municipal Council under a cruel blanket catch-and-kill policy.

Some were seized despite the presence and protests of their guardians. Dogs are seized whether or not they have been reported as troublesome by local merchants, residents or passers-by. The catchers even seize dogs who have been vaccinated against rabies, and carry tan identifying collar.

The CMC impounds dogs for three days. If their guardians do not claim the dogs and pay a fine, the dogs are gassed. Shyama Peries and Kumudhini Saravanamuttu have released some dogs on behalf of poor owners who could not pay the fines, but most have been re-homed at the Shelter for Dogs of the Animal Welfare & Protection Association, outside Colombo. Others have been re-homed with persons who are known to the dogs and care for them.

Animal rights activists in Sri Lanka believe that the CMC is attempting to intimidate and cause fear among all animal welfare and rights organizations and activists, to quell their criticism of the cruelty of the catch-and-kill program of the Colombo Municipal Council, and their efforts to introduce alternate ways of controlling dog populations and eradicating rabies.

Your support could be shown by writing letters of protest to the authorities, including Prasanna Gunawardana, Mayor of Colombo, fax 94-11-2698149, e-mail <gunaprs@lanka.ccom.lk>; Nimal

Volunteers

Enkosini has published a new web site to highlight the different wildlife volunteer placements in South Africa. We are already featuring ourselves, the Baboon Sanctuary, the Penguin Conservation Centre, the Shark Research Project, and the Vervet Monkey Sanctuary, and are adding new projects every day. Check us out!

—Kelcey Grimm
Executive director
Enkosini Wildlife Sanctuary/
The Lion Foundation
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Siripala de Silva, Minister of Health, Government of Sri Lanka, fax 94-11-2694227; and Udaya Nanayakkara, chair, Sri Lanka Tourist Board, fax 94-11-2437953.

—Sagarica Rajakarunanayake
Sathva Mithra
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PetCo urges “Think adoption first”

SAN DIEGO—Customers seeking any live animal at any of the 680 PetCo Animal Supplies Inc. stores will now be advised to “Think Adoption First,” the PetCo Foundation announced on August 20 at the 2004 Conference on Homeless Animal Management and Policy.

“PetCo does not sell dogs and cats, and for almost 40 years has worked with shelters to find homes for adoptable animals, but our stores offer small animals, reptiles, and birds,” spokesperson Shawn Underwood said. “As part of ‘Think Adoption First,’ PetCo—with the help of Petfinder.com—will reach out to shelters that offer these other animals for adoption. Although PetCo will continue to offer companion animals in their stores, they will encourage customers to seek adoptable animals in the community as a first option.”

“Working with more than 7,100 animal welfare organizations, Petfinder.com offers a searchable data base of adoptable

animals,” Underwood said.

Petfinder claims to have helped place more than 1.5 million animals in 2003.

As a separate but parallel test, four PetCo stores in the Minneapolis area in July 2004 began offering rabbits for adoption from the Minnesota House Rabbit Society.

Tami Myers, founder of The Angry Parrot campaign against selling live animals from pet stores, told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that she will continue to urge a boycott of PetCo, as well as other stores that sell live animals.

“The sale of animals is a mere 8% of their profit,” Myers said. “The animals do cause a public draw. We understand this, and asked PetCo to allow us to set up one store with birds in a ‘rainforest’ attraction in an existing bird room. We would supply the birds, and information would be available about where to go to adopt a parrot. We’d be responsible for the care of the birds.”

Myers said the offer was ignored.

BBB asks FTC to probe “animal care certified”

WASHINGTON D.C.—The Better Business Bureau on August 25, 2004 asked the U.S. Federal Trade Commission to investigate as a potential case of deceptive labeling the use of the phrase “Animal Care Certified” by members of the industry trade group United Egg Producers.

The BBB National Advertising Review Board on May 9 upheld a November 2003 ruling by a lower panel that the UEP use of “animal care certified” is misleading, and

should either be dropped or be significantly altered. The UEP board on May 10 voted to revamp their web site to give more information about what the label means, but the BBB found that this did not meet their objection.

The initial complaint about “animal care certified” was brought to the BBB by Compassion Over Killing, which earlier filed similar complaints with both the Federal Trade Commission and the Food & Drug Administration.

More letters

Bonny Shah

We never realized that the end was near for Bonny Shah, whose obituary appeared in your July/August 2004 edition.

Bonny and Rati Shah visited us in 2000. Their visit was cruelly shortened by Bonny’s complaint of fatigue after visiting Telenelipuram, an unprotected nearby resting, feeding, and nesting area for 43 migratory and native bird species. That was the first that we knew that she had leukemia.

Bonny gave the right meaning to being kind toward helpless living beings. She knew deep in her heart that the most underprivileged and least understood are children, and she extended this feeling to animals. She realized that animals benefit when children are educated and encouraged in their moral and intellectual development.

She most identified with donkeys. Her Dharma Donkey Sanctuary now conducts donkey camps twice a year in Sagoroli village, Nanded District, Maharashtra State. More than 8,000 donkeys have been helped there during the past three years.

Her dream of running the Dharma Donkey Sanctuary with the help of the children at the nearby school she sponsored will require more work to fully accomplish. It is most unfortunate that Bonny will not see it.

—Pradeep Kumar Nath
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Gun dogs

One area of animal use I have never seen described or commented upon in any animal welfare publication (nor can I find any reference to it on the Internet) is the use of live birds in training and competition involving field dogs. Since such events are sanctioned by the American Kennel Club and trained retrievers are actively sought by hunters, I know that such activities go on, but find it hard to locate any objective information about how they are conducted.

Presumably live waterfowl or upland game birds are used. What rules and regulations cover the treatment of these living decoys? Is cruelty an issue? Is anyone focusing attention on avian welfare? It would seem a major chink in the AKC’s public relations armor if they are indeed actively promoting animal abuse in training “gun dogs.”

—George Bates, DVM
<gbates@wilson.edu>

About 12 years have passed since the use of live birds in “gun dog” field trials last drew significant attention from animal welfare organizations. Specific practices vary with the type of event, but the captive-reared birds are usually shot. The most prominent relevant web site may be a subsection of the pro-hunting National Animal Interest Alliance site, posted in response to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service regulations of field trials held at National Wildlife Refuges, issued in 1992.

Hunting & the link to chaining dogs & women

Thank you for the mention in your July/August 2004 editorial about “Treating people like animals.”

I love how you tie everything together, and make a cohesive whole out of all the parts, from war to hunting to dog chaining. I found the hunting angle very interesting from a personal perspective. My father and my two brothers hunt.

My dad tried to strangle my mom when I was 16 because he thought she was having an affair. They are now divorced.

I remember a particular moment where he pointed his wrath at me. I was out sunbathing and thinking about having a great time at the prom, and of course my thoughts were all focused on me. He came home and was furious that I hadn’t made dinner. He told my mom that night that he had a new gun, and I was the first one he would use it on.

As a child we had a chained beagle, a “huntin’ dawg,” whom I pitied so much. None of our animals were allowed in the

house. One time my mom complained so much about the cats sitting outside the door of the house wanting to get in that my dad took all but one and shot them.

I have been anti-gun ever since. I feel that just having a gun is much too tempting for someone slightly off his rocker or feeling the anger of the moment.

When I spoke to my dad about all this a year or two ago, I told him that he needed to apologize to my mom for trying to kill her. He said, “She was having an affair.” I said, *if* she were having an affair, that gives you the right to divorce her or leave her. It does *not* give you the right to kill her. He looked surprised at that.

—Tammy Sneath Grimes, founder
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What happened to the circling vultures?

NEW DELHI—“The government is taking its own sweet time in phasing out a veterinary drug blamed for bringing vultures to the verge of extinction,” Chandrika Mago of the *Times of India* news network charged on September 8, 2004.

Washington State University microbiologist Lindsay Oaks in January 2003 identified the anti-inflammatory drug diclofenac as the cause of the loss over the past decade of more than 95% of the once common Oriental white-backed vulture. Also fast declining are long-billed and slender-billed vultures.

“Vultures have an important ecological role in Asia, where they have been relied upon for millennia to clean up and remove dead livestock and even human corpses,” explained Peregrine Fund biologist Munir Virani when the diclofenac link was disclosed.

“Their loss,” Virani continued, “has important economic, cultural, and human health consequences,” especially for millions of Parsees, about 1% of the Indian population, for whom exposing corpses to consumption by vultures is a religious mandate.

The Bombay Natural History Society warned in February that continued sale of



Indian vulture. (Bonny Shah)

diclofenac could cause the extinction of Indian vultures. A similar warning came in June from Samar Singh, presi-

dent of the Tourism & Wildlife Society of India. Yet diclofenac is still in unrestricted over-the-counter veterinary use.

The form of diclofenac used by humans is not at issue. Except in consuming arthritic Parsees, vultures rarely come into contact with residual diclofenac in human remains, and if that was the vultures’ only source of risk, the vulture population probably would not have fallen.

By far the greater risk comes from Indian and Pakistani farmers who use diclofenac to keep lame oxen, buffalo, and equines on the job pulling carts and plows. When the animals die, their carcasses are left for scavengers. Residual diclofenac does not seem to harm dogs or jackals, but cumulative exposure causes kidney failure in vultures.

“There can be a population fall of 30% a year if less than one in 200 carcasses available to vultures contain lethal amounts of diclofenac,” Ornithological Society of Pakistan expert Aleem Khan told Agence France-Presse. “Two hundred vultures can feed on the carcass of a single big buffalo.”

Taking diclofenac off the market will require replacing it with something equally effective and inexpensive.

To help vulture recovery, once diclofenac is banned from use in animals, the British-based Royal Society for the Protection of Birds in July 2004 agreed to fund captive breeding centers for vultures in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and West Bengal. The centers are to be managed by the Bombay Natural History Society.

Saved by taking her own pit bull advice

The hard data in the July/August 2004 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** about the rising numbers of pit bull terriers coming into animal shelters validates the impression that many of us have from the field.

Ironically, in view that I have been rescuing pit bulls for more than 15 years, I was almost attacked by two loose pit bulls recently. It sounded as if horses were coming up behind me, but I only heard one bark—enough to make me turn instantly. The dogs turned out to be two unneutered male “guard dogs” from a glass company, weighing at least 85 pounds each. They came in tandem down the sidewalk at full speed. I have never seen pit bulls run so fast.

There was no way to get to shelter, so I stepped off the sidewalk as smoothly as possible, so as not to seem like prey. I positioned myself against a telephone pole (you always want find some type of support that will keep you from going down) and turned sideways to look as non-challenging as possible, but still able to see them out of the corner of my eye, and completely stopped breathing.

The dog on my side stopped, barked, and started to lunge, but my motionlessness did not stimulate him. The other dog continued his race straight ahead. I don’t think he saw me. Left to decide whether to attack and get left behind or try to catch up, the closest dog decided on the latter and I stayed glued to the pole until they tried to attack a dog through a fence down the street. They then crossed the street and tried to attack a dog through a security screen.

By that time, a man came running down the street yelling “Lucky,” which neither dog acknowledged. The man got both dogs by their collars and pulled them home.

The Los Angeles Department of Animal Services sent an officer out almost immediately. The dogs tried to attack him through the gate. Animal Services encouraged the man to have both dogs neutered. This was done within two days.

While that is well and good, the dogs are still in a low-income neighborhood where children play in the streets and unfenced yards, and people walk to the stores. Had other people been on the streets at the time of this incident, we would have had a death or severe mauling.

As many times as I have contacted victims of dog attacks, set up bank accounts to help them, and taught people how to protect themselves, this was the first time I came so close to becoming a victim. The “hype” after an attack is usually somewhat like being raped. People insist that the victim must have done something to deserve it. Or that it is not the poor dog’s fault—the dog(s) must have had a terrible childhood.

These dogs had excellent care, a huge dog run, and a big area to run in after the business closed each day. The owner has three children who play with the dogs. They are well fed, never chained, and he raised them from puppies with every good intention. None of that prevented a rampage which included a threat to a pedestrian (me) and attempted attacks on two dogs and an animal control officer. None of that will console anxious neighbors who know a rampage could happen again with different consequences.

—Phyllis Daugherty, Director
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NJARA

Doctor fined up to \$70,000 for buying Cuban dolphins

MIAMI—Graham Simpson, M.D., 53, in late August 2004 told Miami Herald correspondent Charles D. Sherman that he is “negotiating a fine of up to \$70,000” for violating the U.S. trade embargo against Cuba by purchasing six wild-caught dolphins from Cuba to stock the Dolphin Fantaseas swim-with-dolphins facilities that he and his wife formerly owned in Antigua and Anguilla.

Originally from South Africa but now a naturalized U.S. citizen, Simpson said several years ago that he traveled to Cuba under a British passport, and paid \$45,000 each for the six dolphins.

Simpson and his wife recently sold Dolphin Fantaseas to Dolphin Discovery, of Cancun, Mexico.

Owned by U.S. citizens, Dolphin Discovery has purchased “at least 33, maybe 70” Cuban dolphins over the years, Dolphin Project founder Ric O’Barry told ANIMAL PEOPLE.

Having brought the Dolphin Fantaseas dolphin acquisition from Cuba to light, O’Barry and Gwen McKenna of Toronto are now targeting Dolphin Discovery.

“If they got even a \$1 million fine, it would not put a dent in that operation,” said O’Barry.

The Dolphin Project, now sponsored by the French group One Voice, is currently “campaigning in the Cayman Islands trying to keep Dolphin Discovery from expanding into that country,” said O’Barry, who has been trying to end dolphin captivity since 1970.

Hagan “misrepresented the events” and made “false allegations that our company and employees were withholding information from the USDA. Feld Entertainment always cooperates fully with USDA officials,” Andact insisted.

But Associated Press reporter Adam Goldman disclosed on August 24 that Feld Entertainment, also the producers of the now terminated Siegfried & Roy illusionist extravaganza at the Mirage hotel/casino in Las Vegas, has refused to share with USDA investigators a video of the October 3, 2003 mauling of performer Roy Horn by a 300-pound white tiger.

As of September 8, Goldman wrote, U.S. Senator Harry Reid (D-Nevada) was trying to persuade the USDA to settle for watching the video with Feld personnel, without actually obtaining a copy of it.

“Feld has declined to turn over the video, saying the performers wanted to ‘avoid images of this tragic accident being accessible to children and families all around the world,’” said Goldman.

Another explanation may be that if the USDA obtains the video, activists might be able to get copies via the Freedom of Information Act.

Keeping elephants out of sanctuaries (from page 1)

(See “Live elephant exports,” page 20.)

The San Antonio Zoo soon pointed out that it, not the Detroit Zoo, is Wanda’s legal owner, that she was sent to Detroit eight years ago on loan, not deeded over, and that she could be reclaimed.

The AZA Species Survival Plan committee eventually decided that Winky and Wanda should go to the Columbus Zoo, which now has five other elephants on four acres.

While the arrival of Windy and Wanda was indefinitely delayed and perhaps permanently forestalled, the Elephant Sanctuary expected to receive two retired performing elephants named Misty and Lota from the Hawthorn Corporation on July 28.

Hawthorn Corporation owner John Cuneo, 73, on March 7 signed a consent decree settlement of Animal Welfare Act charges that obliged him to divest of all 16 of his elephants by August 15.

But that didn’t happen either.

“Two days prior to Lota and Misty’s scheduled arrival at the Sanctuary,” Buckley said, and weeks after the Tennessee state veterinarian issued an import permit for both elephants, “he initiated an investigation to determine if Lota and Misty, both infected with the human strain of tuberculosis, pose a threat to the state’s wildlife or cattle industry.

“It should be noted that there is no documented case of deer or cattle contracting the strain of tuberculosis that these elephants have,” Bucky added.

As of mid-September, the results of the veterinary investigation were still pending. Cuneo meanwhile filed an appeal of the divestment order, so the remaining 14 elephants are also unlikely to go anywhere in the near future.

The San Francisco Zoo board of directors decided in late June to send Lula and Tinkerbelle, both 38 and imported in 1966, to the 2,300-acre Performing Animal Welfare Society sanctuary in San Andreas, California.

Lulu, from Africa, would share 75 acres and a lake with two other African elephants. Tinkerbelle, from Thailand, would share 40 acres with three other Asian elephants.

The AZA has not announced its preferred destinations for Lulu and Tinkerbelle.

The AZA Species Survival Plan committee in May 2003 ordained that the African elephant Ruby, 42, was to be separated from Geeta, her Asian elephant companion of 16 years, and relocated to the Knoxville Zoo in Tennessee to become matriarch of a herd of younger African elephants who have never had calves.

Ark Trust founder Gretchen Wyler, now heading the Hollywood office of the Humane Society of the U.S., unsuccessfully sued the Los Angeles Zoo to try to block the transfer.

After 14 months in Knoxville, Ruby has still not

integrated herself into the Knoxville Zoo herd. Los Angeles mayor James K. Hahn in July requested that she be returned to Los Angeles as soon as the trip can be arranged.

Ringling thumps 15-year-old

Circuses too are jealously guarding their possession and use of elephants and other animals against animal advocacy, as 15-year-old Heather Herman learned on August 10 in Denver. Herman, an Arvada High School freshman, shocked the circus world by collecting enough petition signatures to place a proposed ban on the use of performing animals on the Denver primary election ballot.

Winning support from primatologist Jane Goodall, the Humane Society of the U.S., and the Denver Dumb Friends League, Herman and friends raised and spent \$47,000 in their effort to push the ban through—but Feld Entertainment, owner of the Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus, reportedly spent \$175,000 to defeat it.

The pro-circus side won 71.6% of the vote, but didn’t really win the battle. Activists partially inspired by Herman’s effort won bans on animal acts in Burlington, Vermont, and Buenos Aires, Argentina during the first week of September.

...while young lion dies

Ringling spokespersons meanwhile found themselves having to explain at every stop why a two-year-old lion named Clyde died aboard the circus train on July 13 en route from Phoenix to Fresno by way of the the Mojave desert.

A necropsy was inconclusive about the cause of death, but veteran circus animal handler Frank Hagan told the USDA and PETA in affidavits that he warned his supervisor beginning at about 9:30 a.m. that the animals on the train were becoming overheated, and that the train should stop to water them down. By the time the train did stop, circa 2:45 p.m., Hagan said, Clyde was terminal.

“Hagan said he was interviewed the next day about the incident by lawyers from Feld Entertainment,” reported Marc Kaufman of the *Washington Post*.

“He said USDA inspectors arrived July 16 and that Ringling’s lawyers ‘kept those of us with knowledge of the lion’s death away from the USDA and instructed us not to speak to the inspectors.’ The day before federal inspectors arrived, Hagan said, the circus installed a system to spray cooling mist in the car where Clyde died.”

“Hagan said he was fired by the circus within a week after supervisors told him several times to keep quiet about the ‘Clyde incident,’” Kaufman added.

Feld Entertainment vice president of circus operations Jim Andacht wrote to the *Washington Post* on August 14 that

ASPCA

The Fund, HSUS talk merger (from page 3)

At the national level, mergers have been few. The most prominent examples have all involved HSUS:

* The World Society for the Protection of Animals was formed in 1981 by merging the International Society for the Protection of Animals with the World Federation for the Protection of Animals. ISPA was formed earlier by combining programs of the Massachusetts SPCA, Royal SPCA of Britain, and HSUS.

* The Free Willy/Keiko Foundation, initially funded by Earth Island Institute and HSUS, in 1999 merged with the Jean Michel Cousteau Institute to become Ocean Futures. HSUS assumed responsibility for looking after Keiko during the last two years of his life.

* HSUS in August 2002 absorbed the financially struggling Ark Trust, coordinators of the 17-year-old Genesis Awards program to honor animal advocacy in the mass media. Founded by actress Gretchen Wyler as a program of the Fund for Animals, the Ark Trust went independent in 1991. Pacelle is believed to have brokered the merger into HSUS.

Another recent example of merger at the national level was the formation of Oceana in 2000 by the Oak Foundation, Pew Charitable Trusts, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Surdna Foundation, and Turner Foundation. Oceana president Steve Roady previously headed the Ocean Law Project, begun by the Pew Charitable Trusts and incorporated into Oceana. In 2001 Oceana merged with the American Oceans Campaign, founded in 1997 by actor Ted Danson.

Although Oceana has enjoyed considerable success in litigation, it appears to be having difficulty capturing public support. In fairness, however, the post-9/11 economic climate has hurt the growth of most nonprofit organizations.

Job security

“Fund staff members obviously have questions about the merger and how it would affect their day-to-day work,” Markarian acknowledged to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “The structure is still being discussed.”

Outlined the memo on talking points, “Two of the Fund’s historically most important campaigns, the abolition of sport hunting and the fur trade, would be reflected in two of the four major campaigns of the new organization, along with [work for the benefit of] farmed animals and [opposition to] cruelty to animals and blood sports.

“The Fund’s flagship sanctuary, the Black Beauty Ranch, would continue as a permanent home for abused and abandoned animals, primarily hooved animals who can roam freely,” the memo said.

“The Fund’s three animal care facilities fit well with the three HSUS animal care programs, the Cape Wildlife Center in Massachusetts, Spay & Neuter Clinic in Dallas, and Rural Area Veterinary Services.”

All three of these programs were acquired within the past half dozen years through previous mergers and takeovers of existing organizations.

Other sources within both HSUS and the Fund indicated that the provisional operating plan would split the combined organization into five divisions: external affairs, operations, finance, the office of the general counsel, and a “special focus” team.

Current HSUS chief of staff Andrew Rowan would head the operations division, according to one draft leaked to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Markarian would become chief of external affairs. Current Fund national director Heidi Prescott would head the “special focus” team. The financial and legal teams would retain more-or-less the same composition that they now have within HSUS.

Rowan said it would be premature to comment on either the structural features or personnel assignments.

“My role would potentially be head of external affairs,” Markarian confirmed, “which would oversee communications, government affairs, litigation, fundraising, investigations, and campaigns.”

Markarian also anticipated that he would “head the new 501(c)(4) political arm. My guess,” Markarian said, “is that The Fund’s current staff and programs would be fairly evenly split between external affairs and operations such as sanctuaries, urban wildlife work, and international programs.”

Markarian described the Fund staff response as “incredibly enthusiastic,” but **ANIMAL PEOPLE** heard otherwise from both HSUS and Fund insiders.

“The staff at the Fund was caught totally by surprise when the merger was announced at a staff meeting,” one well-placed person said, noting an apparent discrepancy between what Fund and HSUS personnel were told by superiors.

“HSUS staffers claim nothing firm has been decided,” the source said, “yet Pacelle spoke to a Fund staff meeting on August 20 to quell their concerns about keeping their jobs.”

Reasons to worry

Fund personnel have three reasons to worry about their future employment.

First, a merger creates redundancy.

As Markarian told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “Melding our resources will allow for savings in management, accounting, publishing, auditing, and other functions.”

Such savings come through staff cutbacks.

Second, there are ideological conflicts.

“HSUS is not an animal rights organization,” summarized one source. “HSUS and the Fund have worked together on one level, but at a deeper level we don’t represent the same things. HSUS is unlikely to adopt Fund positions on everything, while for Fund people, retreating to the HSUS positions will involve unacceptable steps backward.”

“The basic issue,” said another source, “is that the Fund, having established itself as the pre-eminent anti-hunting organization, will cease to exist. Hunters all over the country will be raising a glass in celebration.”

Several well-placed people at both the Fund and HSUS perceive a continuing need for The Fund, appealing to a heavily overlapping donor base, to demonstrate the viability of more progressive positions than the HSUS board might otherwise endorse.

Third, mergers are economically awkward. The Fund currently raises about \$7.6 million per year. HSUS raises about \$65 million. When nonprofit organizations merge, they typically raise only slightly more than the wealthier organization raised before the merger, because donors who formerly gave to both organizations usually do not give the combined organizations as much as they gave when contributing to two.

A more promising model, favored by both Markarian and senior HSUS staff, is based on the outcome of institutional splits. When successful organizations divide, for whatever reason, usually they raise less money in their first years of separation than the components did as a single entity—but then they gradually attract new supporters, as the Fund did after splitting from HSUS. While HSUS has grown far more rapidly in recent years, both the Fund and HSUS were bigger by 1985 than either one was before the split.

The memo on talking points anticipates that merging the Fund with HSUS while forming a new 501(c)(4) political organization will produce the same donor behavior as a split.

With combined fiscal reserves exceeding \$100 million, the Fund and HSUS could ride out a short-term cash flow deficit without firing anyone—but only by actually drawing upon the reserve funds, which so far neither organization has often done (if ever).



Melantha & Bela, rescued from the woods. (Kim Bartlett)

“Movement unity”

“We believe that a merger of two of the nation’s highest profile animal protection organizations will give us new opportunities to attract and engage new members and donors,” Markarian asserted. “Throughout the country, rank-and-file animal advocates repeatedly ask, ‘Why don’t the groups get together?’, allowing us to spend a higher proportion of our dollars on programs, showing donors that we are serious about getting the most bang for our buck for animals.”

Indeed, animal advocates do often express a wish for “movement unity,” but as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has often pointed out, that concept tends to be naïve.

In the short run, a unified *ad hoc* coalition can often win specific objectives. In addition, as opposition organizations such as the NRA and Farm Bureau Federation demonstrate, a unified front can successfully defend an entrenched status quo, or even advance an agenda, if the agenda is sufficiently narrow.

Successful political movements, seeking cultural transformation, by contrast must practice multi-party politics. Instead of presenting a narrowly unified front—easily isolated, diverted, distracted, disrupted, and ultimately defeated—they stretch across the socio-political and economic spectrum, giving the public multiple points of entry and making successful use of their divisions to appeal to people who otherwise may have little in common.

The infighting, internal debate, and economic competition that animal advocates often decry are inevitable byproducts of building a broad base that can be politically mobilized from multiple directions.

Attempts to establish “movement unity” by suppressing real conflicts of outlook, tactics, and goals actually intensify the conflict behind the scenes by elevating the stakes of infighting—because whoever sets the public agenda “wins,” and everyone else must then support that approach or be accused of breaking unity, even if they think it is 100% dead wrong and counterproductive.

Trying to keep conflicts hidden helps the corrupt and incompetent to evade exposure, helps *agents provocateur* to hide, and allows foes to tar the whole cause with one brush—for example, by equating animal advocates with terrorists.

Most important, in seeking homogeneity the cause loses by default much potential public support, because instead of seeing a variety of views to choose from, the public sees only one, and often feels uncomfortable with all the baggage attached to it.

Retailers learned long ago that more choice means more sales, but the animal cause has yet to notice, even though

(continued on page 9)

Events

Sept. 25-26: Animal Rescue Conf., Marin Humane Society, Marin, Calif. Info: 415-506-6201; <www.MarinHumane-Society.org>.

Sept. 26-28: American Humane conf., Philadelphia. Info: <www.americanhumane.org>.

Sept. 26: World Vegetarian Day 2004. There is apparently no central coordinating address.

Sept. 28: Animal Welfare Services Recognition Day & Rally, Lansing, Michigan. Info: 1-866-M-HUMANE.

Oct.: Adopt-A-Shelter-Dog Month. Info: ASPCA National Shelter Outreach, <outreach@-aspca.org>.

October 1-3: 19th Intl. Compassionate Living Festival, Research Triangle Park, N.C. Info: <Tom_Regan@ncsu.edu>.

October 2: Dugan Fndtn. “1930s Cinema Glamour” Fur Ball for the Humane Soc. of Tacoma-Pierce Cnty, Tacoma,

SPAY/USA

Fund/HSUS merger talk, & the role of watchdogs (from page 8)

the most obvious feature of the rise of the humane movement in the 19th century, the animal welfare movement in the post-World War II era, the animal rights movement in the post-Vietnam War era, and the no-kill movement in the past decade has been the proliferation of successful new organizations.

Fundamentally, merging the Fund with HSUS reduces public choice.

A case can be made that the merger will serve both organizations' institutional interests, including the interests of the majority of present donors. Certainly the merger appears to have been part of Cleveland Amory's vision, from the debut of the Fund.

Whether the merger will equally serve the animals' cause, especially over time, is a much more complex question. If the Fund and HSUS are so much alike as to present no substantive choice to donors, or are apt to evolve to be the same, there is no reason not to merge. If other organizations are positioned to fill any ideological or tactical void created by the merger, nothing will be lost.

But is any other organization so positioned?

Donor expectations

Not to be overlooked is the question of what donors really want from organizations. Cleveland Amory helped to found HSUS and ISAR, and started the Fund for Animals, because he wanted to extend moral consideration to animals.

Animal protection donors typically state similar concerns, but hired-gun fundraisers long ago discerned that what donors most respond to is the promise of a short-term feel-good from the act of giving, not the prospect of contributing to attitudinal changes that will actually occur only over decades or generations.

Thus the typical fundraising approach consists of inducing pain with a gruesome description of an issue and perhaps an evocative photograph, and then offering immediate relief in exchange for a donation.

The success of organizations—and the leaders who

succeed the founders—has come to be measured by their ability to manipulate donors, not by their ability to win big issues.

"Wow! That certainly is interesting news about the possible corporate merger," wrote longtime New York City activist Irene Muschel a few days before **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press.

"They will certainly increase the power, money, and numbers of people behind their work," Muschel opined. "I hope they will be an open and receptive entity, interested in ideas and input from others and not unreachable and closed and inflexible. One issue I hope you will address [in covering the proposed merger] is how the fact sheets and literature of animal rights groups can be most successfully made available to the public. I think it is crucial that the leaders of these groups understand that individual activists can do only so much, and that permanent change can only come about with major funding from these wealthy groups.

"It is true that many people's lives have been changed by a pamphlet received from an animal activist," Muschel wrote, "but achieving broad, systemic change takes money. PETA, to its credit, often gives out free literature for activists to distribute," unlike many other groups that charge for literature. "Nevertheless, activist activity has limited effect, and activists come and go, and cannot always be there for the long fight," Muschel continued. "No volunteer, even the most committed, can possibly reach the numbers of people who must be reached if the situation for animals is to get any better.

"It is irresponsible for wealthy organizations to ask volunteer activists to do the major work on issues such as fur," Muschel argued. "People give money to these organizations so that they will do the major work. They should be spending money on advertising the facts everywhere.

"Make clear to the leaders," Muschel asked, "that they must lead by spending the millions they have received from donors on campaigns to promote animal welfare, rather than asking volunteers to do their work. On broad issues such as fur, it is these groups who must take the lead in spending

money on advertising," and other forms of public education.

Markarian, Probst, and the "talking points" memo all suggest that merging the Fund for Animals with HSUS and creating a 501(c)(4) political arm will better position them to do what Muschel expects them to do.

But Muschel had some further thoughts.

"This evening I called my my best friend, who is a psychoanalyst, to ask if there is some kind of fix for the problem that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** publisher Kim Bartlett described on the back cover of the 2004 **ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on Animal Protection Charities** as organizations which 'run on interest instead of having to justify their existence to supporters,'" Muschel wrote in a follow-up e-mail.

"We talked about how so many big groups basically attempt to sell themselves—'Look how much we are doing!'—as opposed to listening to committed activists and trying to work with them toward a shared goal.

"We also talked about how these groups often view people as objects who can be manipulated to give money and serve the needs of the organizations so that they will look great. We discussed how their style of relating to donors and activists is frequently similar in some ways to the narcissist who wears fur: such groups will listen and use their wealth for animals only if they see that it is in their own interest to do so.

"If you were to increase the distribution of the *Watchdog Report*," Muschel concluded, "you would increase the pressure on these groups to genuinely respond to donor expectations."

Whether the merger of the Fund with HSUS brings out the best or worst from either organization, or a new balance of both, the role of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** will be to provide an independent, observant, keenly interested external perspective.

Watchdogging is the role that all of our dogs recognize as theirs, regardless of their positions relative to each other. Whether working as one pack eventually, or continuing as two distinct packs, our newcomer dogs are already on the job for us, reminding us of the job we must do for you.

More events

WA. Info: 253-248-0004.

(continued on page 11)

October 2: All Creatures'

9th Anniversary Fundraiser, San Rafael,

Calif. Info: 415-456-1941, x4.

October 4: World Animal

Day. Info: <info@worldanimalday.org.uk>; <www.worldanimalday.org.uk>.

October 4-18: Friends of Roman Cats tour of Italy, \$3,495 from San Francisco, inc. \$400 tax-deductible donation for s/n in Italy. Info:

<www.friendsofroman-cats.org> or 415-334-8036.

October 5-6: Minnesota Animal Control Assn. fall conf., North Mankato. Info: Bill Forbes, 952-563-4940; <maca@minnesotaanimalcontrol.org>.

October 6-9: 10th Intl. Conf. on Human/Animal Interactions, Glasgow, Scotland. Info:

<www.glasgow2004ad.com>.

October 7: Humane USA book signing party, New York City. Info: 212-909-7412.

Oct. 8-10: Healthy Lifestyle Expo, Los Angeles. Info:

<www.healthylifestyle-expo.com>.

Oct. 10: Doggone Fun Run 5-K, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Info: <www.doggonefunrun.org>.

Oct. 11-15: Step Up The

TRIBUTES

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



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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.

Legislative Action Up-to-the-minute alerts on federal and state legislative issues that affect animals. Look up your legislators, and send them automatic messages. Find out how your federal representatives voted on animal protection issues. And join the Humane Activist Network to get more involved nationally and locally!

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

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

Multimedia View streaming video footage of The Fund's Public Service Announcements featuring celebrities such as Ed Asner and Jerry Orbach. See trailers and clips from award-winning documentaries and view educational videos about humane ways to solve urban wildlife problems.

News and Updates See photos and read current updates about the rescued residents at The Fund's world-famous animal sanctuaries. Link to news articles about The Fund, as well as to other animal protection organizations and resources, and subscribe to a weekly email alert telling you what's new at The Fund.

Online Store Use The Fund's secure online server to order merchandise such as t-shirts, mugs, and companion animal items, and activist resources such as bumper stickers, buttons, books, and videos.

Find out more at www.fund.org



International Primate Protection League claims victory— Labs of Virginia pleads guilty in monkey smuggling case

CHICAGO—Labs of Virginia Inc. on August 18, 2004 pleaded guilty to one felony count of submitting false records to U.S. government agencies pertaining to a shipment of 220 monkeys purchased from Indonesian animal dealer Agus Darmawan in 1997.

“According to a plea agreement between the defendant and the U.S. attorney’s office entered before U.S. district Judge Ruben Castillo, the company faces two years of probation, a fine of \$500,000, and forfeiture totaling \$64,675. Sentencing was scheduled for November 16,” reported Matt O’Connor of the *Chicago Tribune*,

All charges were dropped against individual defendants Charles J. Stern, 46, the former Labs of Virginia board chair; William Curtis Henley III, 45, a former board member; and former Labs of Virginia president David M. Taub, 61.

The case began in 1996, when Labs of Virginia bought a breeding colony of 1,312 macaques from Indonesian Aquatics Export CV, doing business as Inquatex.

In compliance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, Indonesian law forbade the export of the macaques if they were wild-caught, and U.S. law forbade importing them if wild-caught—but at least 327 of the 846 macaques who arrived at O’Hare Airport between mid-February and mid-May 1997 as part of the transaction were eventually found to have come from the wild.

“There was a lot of talk in the court documents about bribes paid to Indonesian officials to procure export permits stating that monkeys as old as 15-16 years were born at a breeding colony that had existed less than 10 years,” International Primate Protection League founder Shirley McGreal told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Alerted to the dealings before all of the macaques were shipped, McGreal pursued indictments for five years. Winning the guilty pleas took two more years.

Charles River charged

District attorney Scott Key, of Otero County, New Mexico, on September 7 filed three potentially precedent-set-

ting counts of misdemeanor cruelty to animals against Charles River Laboratoies, of Wilmington, Delaware, for allegedly causing the deaths of two chimpanzees at the Alamogordo Primate Facility and jeopardizing the life of a third through “institutional neglect.”

The Alamogordo Primate Facility, located at Holloman Air Force Base, was formerly managed for the National Institutes of Health by the now defunct Coulston Foundation. Repeatedly charged with violations of the Animal Welfare Act, and reportedly \$3.4 million in debt, the Coulston Foundation in May 2000 returned responsibility for the then 288 Alamogordo chimps to the NIH. The NIH in 2001 awarded a 10-year, \$42 million contract to Charles River Laboratories to take over the job.

Key alleged that on September 16, 2002, Charles River staff failed to provide veterinary care to a 16-year-old chimp named Ashley, who died overnight from a serious injury to her genitalia; on or about December 30, 2002 failed to provide veterinary care to a 16-year-old chimp named Rex, who died overnight from complications of anesthesia; and circa June 26, 2003 failed to provide veterinary care to a 26-year-old chimp named Topsy, who survived a life-imperiling injury.

Key named Charles River Laboratories president James C. Foster and Alamogordo Primate Facility chief veterinarian as co-defendants.

Deaths of lab animals from comparable incidents are relatively common. Examples include the February 2004 deaths of 13 monkeys and “dozens” of hamsters from excessive heat at Rocky Mountain Laboratories in Hamilton, Montana, after the computer that controlled the thermostat “locked up”; the July 2004 deaths of three marmosets at the Wisconsin National Primate Research Center, who were inadvertently left in their cage when the cage was immersed in a scalding sanitizing solution; and the August 2004 deaths of seven monkeys at the California National Primate Research Center at U.C. Davis, who became overheated due to a ventilation system failure.

Only a handful of “institutional neglect” cases involv-



ing biomedical research facilities have ever been prosecuted. Best known was the “Silver Spring monkeys” case filed against Institute for Behavioral Research director Edward Taub in September 1981 as result of an undercover investigation by PETA cofounder Alex Pacheco.

Taub was twice convicted of cruelty for neglect of the monkeys, but the convictions were reversed on jurisdictional technicalities. The case brought PETA to national prominence, and helped influence Congress to pass Animal Welfare Act amendments in 1985 that require labs to provide for the psychological health of dogs and nonhuman primates.

IDA blew whistle

Key reportedly built his case against Charles River Laboratories from documents obtained and relayed to him by In Defense of Animals. The organization has kept the former Coulston facilities under scrutiny for more than a decade.

A separate flap involving the Alamogordo Primate Facility broke in March 1994, four years after In Defense of Animals staff member Eric Kleiman in a written submission to a Congressional subcommittee hearing tried unsuccessfully to bring attention to the ominous deaths of three out of eight chimpanzees who were used to test a drug called TXU-PAP.

“The founder of the Parker Hughes Institute in Roseville, Minnesota, withheld information about the deadly effects of TXU-PAP, once touted as a ‘magic bullet’ for AIDS and cancer,” charged *Minneapolis Star Tribune* investigative reporters Glenn Howatt, Paul Mcenroe, and Maura Lerner.

Parker Hughes Institute founder Fatih Uckun did not mention the chimp deaths in an article touting the potential of TXU-PAP, published by the *Journal of Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics* in December 1999, and did not mention the deaths to the journal editors, the *Star Tribune* team reported. Two of the five listed co-authors also said they did not know about the deaths.

“At least 11 people, including a 7-year-old girl, got the drug after the chimps died,” the *Star Tribune* team found. “Uckun said all were warned about possible side effects. He halted the research on HIV patients in 2000 because of safety concerns, federal officials said. The drug has not made it to the market.”

The 7-year-old was terminal leukemia patient Sydney Hickman, given TXU-PAP as a last resort. She died several months later. Her mother told the *Star Tribune* that the family was not told about the chimp deaths, but that since TXU-PAP was their last hope, knowing of the deaths probably would have made no difference.

The TXU-PAP chimp deaths came to light six months after the *Star Tribune* and WCCO-TV in Minneapolis disclosed that the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice, the Federal Food and Drug Administration, and the FBI were investigating Uckun’s business practices. The outcome has not been reported.

No More Homeless Pets Conference

Best Friends Animal Society has several job openings for the national No More Homeless Pets campaign. Details: www.bestfriends.org/employment/employment.htm



Reducing the vehicular accident risk to dogs

CHAPEL HILL, N.C.—"Dear Abby" advice columnist Jeanne Phillips, a frequent defender of animals, on August 8, 2004 urged vehicular restraint—"the kind that buckles"—for dogs as well as children.

Phillips was responding to a letter entitled "Grieving In Lexington, Kentucky," from a man whose dog was killed by traffic after falling out of the bed of a pickup truck.

Phillips, daughter of column founder Pauline Phillips, previously urged vehicular restraint of dogs in December 1999 and January 2000.

University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center associate director Jane Stutts in 2001 reported that about 1% of all traffic accidents appear to be caused by an unrestrained dog distracting a driver.

"That's not piddly, because cell phones accounted for only 2%," Stutts told the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*.

According to Stutts' figures, based on 412 narrative accounts of accidents that occurred in 1998, unrestrained dogs in vehicles may be responsible for about 440 human deaths per year.

By comparison, only about 200 people per year are killed in accidents involving animals in the road, according to Ann Dellinger of the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention motor vehicle injury prevention team.

"In half of the animal-related road accidents surveyed in 2001 and 2002, motorists were injured by hitting the animal, while the other half involve animals who swerved to avoid hitting the animal," summarized Associated Press writer Daniel Yee.

"There were 247,000 crashes involving animals in 2000, the latest data available," said Yee.

A 2003 survey of 1,046 drivers by Response Insurance found that about 11% admitted to having been distracted by a dog jumping around in their vehicle, and 16% of them said the dog caused or nearly caused an accident.

The Massachusetts SPCA reported in 1997 that about 592 dogs per year are killed or badly injured in falls or jumps from open-bed trucks. A survey of 200 veterinarians found that 71% had treated dogs for injuries resulting from falls or jumps from trucks.

A 1999 survey from the West Australian Royal SPCA indicated that as many as 5,000 dogs are killed or injured per year in falls or jumps from vehicles in Australia, where letting dogs ride in open-bed trucks appears to be more common than in the U.S.

Within the U.S., carrying an unrestrained dog in an open vehicle appears to be specifically illegal only in Maine. In other states, police may ticket a driver whose dog is allegedly causing a road hazard, but actual cases are rare.

Legislation to specifically require vehicular restraint of dogs and other animals in personal vehicles has been proposed in many other states, several Canadian provinces, and Australia, but has consistently met fierce opposition from dog keepers.

At least one dog advocate, American Canine Foundation founder Glen Bui, of Belfair, Washington, is also outspokenly opposed to requiring humans to use vehicular restraint. Better known for fighting breed-specific dog dangerous dog laws, Bui lost a 2003 attempt to overturn the Washington state law requiring drivers to wear seat belts.

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Panic, not disease, killed Auburn raptors

AUBURN, Alabama—A purported deadly outbreak of the avian bacterial disease *mycoplasma galliseptum* in mid-2003 caused the Southeastern Raptor Rehabilitation Center at Auburn University to kill 17 rare birds after eight others died, halted the tradition of a golden eagle named Tiger flying at Auburn home football games, and led to the June 2003 firing of raptor center director Joe Shelnett—but there never were any actual cases of *mycoplasma galliseptum*. Associated Press writer Kyle Wingfield revealed

on August 24, 2004.

Wingfield obtained a copy of a report on the incident by University of Minnesota Raptor Center director Patrick Redig. The report was shared with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Auburn officials in January 2004 but was not previously made public.

"Instead of a microorganism, the report blames faulty laboratory techniques and poor decision-making," Wingfield disclosed.

Tiger is again going to football games, with two understudies.

More events

Save Rate, San Francisco SPCA conference. Info: 415-901-6652; <crosenblat@sfsPCA.org>.

October 15: Michigan Humane Society Animal Welfare Conf., Novi, MI. Inf: <www.michiganhumane.org>.

(continued on page 11)

Oct. 16: National Feral Cat Day. Info: Alley Cat Allies, 202-667-3630, x 1 0 2 ;

<www.alleycat.org>.

Oct. 26-27: Association of Dogs & Cats Homes conference, London, U.K. Info: 44-020-7627-9204.

Oct. 29-31: Natl. Student Animal Rights Conf., Berkeley, Calif. Info: <www.LiberationNow.com>.

October 29: Adoption Options, PetCo Fndtn./ASPCA/Petfinder.com workshop, Carolina, Puerto Rico. Info: <adoptionoptions@petfinder.com>.

October 30: Guardian Awards, presented by In Defense of Animals. Info: <www.guardianawards.org>.

Nov. 1: Application deadline, Morris Animal Fndn. grants for health studies in the areas of canine contraception and/or sterilization. Info: <www.morrisanimal-foundation.org/apply/?section=2.0>.

November 8-15: World Vegetarian Congress, Florianopolis, Brazil. Info: <www.ivu.org/congress/2004>.

Nov. 11-14: Spay/USA South. Reg. Leadership Conf., New Orleans. Info: 1-800-248-7729.

Nov. 19-21: Cat Fanciers' Association International Cat Show, Houston. Info: <www.cfainc.org/intl-show/index.html>.

December 4-5: Sowing Seeds Humane Education Workshop, Chicago. Info: Intl. Institute for Humane Ed., 207-785-2224, <sowingseeds@iihed.org>.

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.

THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING NEW AT www.maddiesfund.org

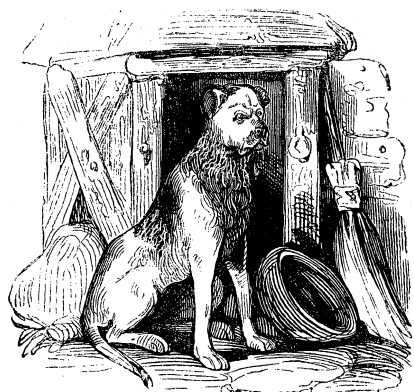
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- Current and back issues of the Maddie's Fund Newsletter



The Pet Rescue

Maddie's Fund® The Pet Rescue Foundation (www.maddiesfund.org) is a family foundation endowed through the generosity of Cheryl and Dave Duffield, PeopleSoft Founder and Board Chairman. The foundation is helping to fund the creation of a no-kill nation. The first step is to help create programs that guarantee loving homes for all healthy shelter dogs and cats through collaborations with rescue groups, traditional shelters, animal control agencies and veterinarians. The next step will be to save the sick and injured pets in animal shelters nationwide. Maddie's Fund is named after the family's beloved Miniature Schnauzer who passed away in 1997.

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



The

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.

AVMA strengthens position against forced molts

PHILADELPHIA—The American Veterinary Medical Association house of delegates on July 28, 2004 adopted a resolution against forced molting that resolves one of the major issues between the AVMA and the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights.

On June 21, AVAR co-sponsored a full-page ad in the *New York Times* asking “Has anyone betrayed more animals than the American Veterinary Medical Association?”

Similar to an ad published in April in **ANIMAL PEOPLE** by the Coalition for Nonviolent Food, the *New York Times* ad targeted the AVMA positions on forced molting, gestation crates for pregnant sows, veal crating, and “the inexplicable retention of Dr. Gregg Cutler on the AVMA Animal Welfare Committee,” explained AVAR vice president Holly Cheever, “despite the fact that he was shown in three separate affidavits, including his own sworn deposition, to have ordered the mass slaughter of 30,000 chickens in California by throwing them alive into a wood chipper.”

Furious over the ad, AVMA executive vice president Bruce Little on July 21 barred the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights from tabling at a booth it had already reserved and paid for during the five-day AVMA annual conference, July 24-28. This was reported in the July/August

2004 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, which went to press while the conference itself was just underway.

On July 23 the AVMA house of delegates installed new president Bonnie V. Beaver, DVM, a longtime member of the Texas A&M University veterinary faculty, past president of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists (1992-1996), and currently the ACVB executive director.

Beaver told the assembled delegates that the time has come for the AVMA to show leadership on animal welfare issues, as expected by the public, and that veterinarians must not allow animal use industry convention to taint their judgment of animal well-being. Beaver asked the AVMA to establish a Division of Animal Welfare.

AVAR had submitted a resolution against forced molting to the house of delegates that reportedly paralleled the position of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, but the delegates instead accepted a resolution offered by the American Association of Avian Pathologists.

The AVMA policy on forced molts to induce hens to begin a new egg-laying cycle formerly stated that “Intermittant feeding or diets of low nutrient density are recommended rather than total food withdrawal.” As amended, the policy states, “Neither water nor food should be withdrawn.”

Lance-Watson perjury case

SEATTLE—Federal perjury charges against Allison Lance-Watson, 45, wife of Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson, were dropped on September 9, 2004, said Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Bartlett, because the prosecution inadvertently shredded the transcripts of grand jury proceedings that were the evidence.

“In dropping the case,” wrote Seattle *Post-Intelligencer* reporter Paul Shukovsky, “the government agreed Lance-Watson will not be prosecuted for any crimes based on evidence now in possession of the U.S.,” and agreed not to subpoena her about any current investigation.

A related contempt of court case continues against activist Gina Lynn for refusing to testify to the grand jury.

The grand jury is investigating an arson in Olympia, Washington, and the theft of 228 chickens from a farm in Burlington, Washington, on the night of May 7, 2000. The FBI says a convenience store security camera caught Lynn and fellow activist Joshua Trenter as they dumped evidence, and puts them in a truck that Lance-Watson rented to help the Sea Shepherds relocate from Santa Monica, California, to Friday Harbor, Washington.

Jailed on August 26 for contempt of court, Lynn commenced a hunger strike that was apparently still underway as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press on September 15. She has engaged in hunger strikes of up to 22 days during previous jailings for refusing to testify before grand juries.

Standardizing microchips

ORLANDO—Iams company spokesperson Kelly Vanasse, addressing the 2004 Conference on Homeless Animal Management & Policy in Orlando, Florida, announced on August 22 that Iams is prepared to donate 30,000 microchip scanners to humane societies, animal control agencies, and veterinarians throughout the U.S.—if the makers will cooperate to produce a scanner that reads both the 125-kilohertz chips that are most used in the U.S. and the 134-kilohertz chips that are recommended by the International Standards Organization.

The 125-kv chips are made by Avid Identification Systems and Digital Angel Inc., and are used by the Schering Plough Animal Health “Home Again” program. The 134-kv ISO chips are distributed in the U.S. by PetHealth Services and Crystal Tag. The latter is the chip provider to Banfield, The Pet Hospital Inc., but Banfield has suspended microchipping pets until it is convinced that an adequate number of 134-kv scanners are in use in the U.S. to make the program effective.

Avid has sued PetHealth Services and Banfield, and has been countersued by PetHealth acting through the Coalition for Reuniting Pets & Families, over issues including alleged patent infringement, unfair competition, and false advertising.

Vanasse told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the Iams proposal could be worth about \$5 million in equipment costs to the humane community, and that the scanner purchases could be allocated among the various chip makers so that each gets a fair share of the income.

Judge upholds tuna/dolphin standard—again—and raps Bush cabinet “meddling”

SAN FRANCISCO—U.S. District Judge Thelton Henderson on August 10, 2004 upheld the “dolphin-safe” tuna labeling standard against government attempts to weaken or scrap it for the fifth time in 14 years.

Ordered Henderson, “Dolphin-safe shall continue to mean that ‘no tuna were caught...using a purse seine net intentionally deployed on or to encircle dolphins, and that no dolphins were killed or seriously injured,’” on the voyage that caught the tuna.

Henderson rapped Commerce Secretary Donald Evans and the George W. Bush administration for “a pattern of delay and inattention” in failing to enforce the dolphin-safe labeling standard.

“The record is replete with evidence that the secretary was influenced by policy concerns unrelated to the best available scientific evidence,” Henderson wrote.

“This court has never, in its 24 years, reviewed a record of agency action that contained such a compelling portrait of political meddling.”

Sanctuaries sue Powerball lottery winner over unpaid pledges

EPPING, N.H.—Mary Ellen Sanderson, co-winner of a \$66 million Powerball lottery in 1997, has been sued by a second animal charity to which she pledged annual funding. Sued earlier by the Oasis Sanctuary Foundation, a tropical bird sanctuary located at Cascabel, Arizona, Sanderson was also sued in July 2004 by Equine Protection of North America—which Sanderson helped to create, reported Manchester Union Leader correspondent Toby Henry.

The original EPONA directors, Henry indicated, were president Susan Fockler and director Ronald Levesque, both of Epping, New Hampshire, and Mary Ellen and James Sanderson, then a married couple. As with the Oasis Sanctuary, Mary Ellen Sanderson helped EPONA to obtain a sanctuary site. The EPONA facility, near Dover, New Hampshire, houses about 25 horses at a time, Hnery said.

According to Henry, the lawsuit alleges that Mary Ellen Sanderson agreed to give EPONA \$70,000 a year, amounting to more than 80% of the organization’s entire budget. The Oasis Sanctuary suit claims Mary Ellen Sanderson was to donate \$100,000 a year.

Both organizations were cut off at the end of 2003, after the Sandersons divorced.

ANIMAL PEOPLE

thanks you for your generous support

Honoring the parable of the widow's mite—in which a poor woman gives but one coin to charity, yet that is all she possesses—we do not list our donors by how much they give, but we greatly appreciate large gifts that help us do more for animals.

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Join the No More Homeless Pets Forum

Join us to spend a week with some of the leaders of this lifesaving, nationwide movement. They'll share an inside view of their thoughts and daily work and answer your questions about subjects that are near and dear to their hearts.

Coming topics—

Sept. 20-24: Boards: Can't live with 'em, can't live without 'em

How can you develop a truly effective board for your group? Head off problems before they start? Outi Flynn of BoardSource and Bonney Brown of Best Friends will answer your questions.

Sept. 27-Oct. 1: Feral Cats: Tips and strategies for success

How can you raise resources and develop a support network? How can you talk with others about what you're doing to help cats in your community? Susan Kilgore of Feral Friends and Dona Baker of the Feral Cat Caretakers' Coalition will offer their advice.

Oct. 4-8: Co-Existing With Wildlife

As we continue to develop open space, can we peacefully co-exist with wildlife? How can you handle calls from people asking for help with wildlife problems? Sharon St. Joan of Best Friends will offer insights.

Oct 11-15 Getting the Word Out

This week you are the guest: What successful promotions and creative strategies have you used to reach out to people in your community about your events and programs? Share your advice on the forum.

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***Bush & Kerry seek animal-friendly images, but have contrasting records* (from page 1)**

custom-fitted toe caps," according to Associated Press.

Barney, a Scotch terrier, took Ernie's place in the White House.

"Giving Tom Brokaw a tour, the president let slip that his remaining cat, India, is low pet on the totem pole," Dowd said. "Bush recalled the night of September 11, when Secret Service agents heard a plane and hustled the President and First Lady out of their bedroom and downstairs to the bunker. Guiding Laura, who was not wearing her contact lenses, he said, he was 'holding Barney, holding Laura, and Spot was chasing behind. Kitty was left to defend herself.'"

India, a.k.a. Kitty, became Willie in July 2001, after about 30 members of the Bharatiya Janata Party then ruling India protested outside the U.S. consulate in Mumbai, maintaining that her name was an insult because as one demonstrator put it, "Indians are lions, not cats."

Legislator Mangal Prhabhat Lodha told Ramola Talwar Badam of Associated Press that the BJP members did not ask that the cat should be renamed, only that she should not be called by the name India on the White House web site.

In her resume of the Bush family pet history, Dowd also mentioned a "wacky story going around about how Attorney General John Ashcroft," a Bush cabinet favorite, "wants calico cats shoed out of his sight because they're signs of the devil."

White House speechwriter Matthew Scully enjoyed commercial and critical success with a pro-animal book called *Dominion*, published in late 1992.

But the most recent pro-animal activity by any member of the Bush family not involving their own pets appears to have been a May 2002 appearance by Laura Bush at a vegetarian lunch benefit for the Utopia Animal Rescue Ranch, of Medina, Texas. The sanctuary was founded by songwriter and author Kinky Friedman.

Apparently taking her information from Bush publicists, Natalie Gott of Associated Press wrote that the \$1,000 per plate benefit raised \$125,000.

ANIMAL PEOPLE later learned from the Utopia Animal Rescue Ranch filing of IRS Form 990 that the benefit actually netted slightly less than half that amount, \$62,262, after meeting expenses of \$2,738.

The Bush family made another attempt to appear friendly toward animals in general in July 2003, but a photo-op at the Mokolodi Nature Reserve in Botswana went awry.

"Four elephants were pre-positioned for the benefit of the president, and of the cameras beaming pictures back home," recounted Associated Press writer Tom Raum. "As the yellow pickup truck carrying the President, the First Lady, and their daughter Barbara rolled up, two of the elephants engaged in some decidedly amorous activities."

Bush has signed two major pro-animal bills into law.

The Captive Wildlife Safety Act, signed in December 2003, regulates interstate commerce in exotic and dangerous cats. The co-sponsors were Representative John Ensign, DVM (R-Nevada), and Senator Jim Jeffords, of Vermont, a longtime Republican who became an independent in 2001.

In August 2004 Bush signed the Minor Use and Minor Species Animal Health Act, to ease the introduction of

veterinary drugs for treatment of species other than dogs, cats, cattle, horses, swine, chickens, and turkeys. The bill was pushed throughout the Bush tenure by the American Veterinary Medical Association and the American Pet Product Manufacturers Association.

Courting hunters

Both Bush and Kerry, and their running mates, Vice President Dick Cheney and North Carolina Senator John Edwards, have played up their histories as hunters in the 2004 campaign. The so-called "swing states," whose voting histories indicate that they could favor either candidate, and whose electoral votes will decide the election, include Florida, with 27 electoral votes; Ohio (20); North Carolina (15); Virginia (13); Missouri (11); Arizona (10); Colorado (9); Louisiana (9); Arkansas (6); Nevada (5); West Virginia (5); and New Hampshire (4).

Ten of those 12 states have more active hunters per capita than the U.S. norm, Florida has the largest sport fishing industry, and Ohio trails only Michigan and Pennsylvania in total numbers of hunters.

Bush and Cheney have by far the stronger hunting credentials. Both are life members of Safari Club International.

Bush while Texas governor was the Safari Club "Governor of the Year" in 1995 for vetoing legislation that would have curtailed game ranching.

Cheney is believed to have spent more days hunting during the past four years than any other member of a White House team. His reported victims have included more than 70 cage-reared pheasants and an unknown number of mallards killed in December 2003 at the Rolling Rock Club in Ligonier Township, Pennsylvania, and six ducks killed on January 5, 2004, on a controversial expedition with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia in southern Louisiana. Two actions of the Bush administration were at the time before the Supreme Court for review, and both were eventually approved.

"Since 2001, the Bush administration has added over 60 new hunting and fishing programs on 51 units of our National Wildlife System," National Wildlife Service director Steve Williams boasted to news media on August 30, announcing the opening to hunting of four more refuges and the expansion of season dates or hunting areas at 13 others.

At least 315 of the current 544 National Wildlife Refuges now allow hunting.

Kerry animal history

Kerry had little public record as a hunter, though he had long claimed to hunt, until he shot two pheasants in under five minutes at a Halloween 2003 photo-op near Colo, Iowa.

Edwards was not widely known as a hunter until July 2004, when he told *Newsweek* while endorsing renewal of the since lapsed federal restrictions on the sale of assault rifles, "I've been a hunter and a gun owner and user and a fisherman since I was a kid." Within another sentence Edwards changed the subject to health care.

Pointed out the Bush/Cheney campaign web site, "Kerry has the highest rating on the Humane Scorecards sponsored jointly by the Humane Society of the U.S. and the Fund

for Animals. Both are firmly committed to ending hunting."

HSUS president and Humane USA Political Action Committee chair Wayne Pacelle in June 2003 observed that, "Senator Kerry was the co-author with former Senator Bob Smith (R-NH) of the successful effort to halt an annual \$2 million subsidy for the mink industry. Kerry was also co-author, with Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA), of letters in recent years sent to the leaders of the Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture Appropriations to increase funding for [enforcement of] the Animal Welfare Act and the Humane Slaughter Act. Kerry has cosponsored almost every piece of [recent] animal protection legislation," Pacelle wrote, "including measures to combat cockfighting, bear baiting, canned hunts, puppy mills, the bear parts trade, the exotic pet trade, steel-jawed leghold traps, and the abuse of downed livestock."

Kerry, if elected, would bring to the White House "a German shepherd named Cym and a yellow parakeet," according to the M2 PressWire press release distribution service.

In addition to the current Kerry family pets and Winston, the golden retriever who nearly drowned Licorice the hamster, Kerry is known to have been fond of a dog named VC who was mascot of the swiftboat he commanded in Vietnam.

"We all took care of him, and he stayed with us and loved riding on the deck," M2 PressWire quoted Kerry as saying. "I think he provided us all with a link to home and a few moments of peace and tranquility during a dangerous time."

Once VC disappeared after a mine exploded under the swiftboat.

"After several minutes of frantic searching, the crew concluded that they had lost him," M2 PressWire recounted.

Said Kerry, "We were relieved when another boat called asking if we were missing a dog. It turns out VC was catapulted from the deck of our boat and landed confused, but unhurt, on the deck of another boat in our patrol."

Among Kerry's other past pets, M2 PressWire added, was a parakeet that he had in college named Dodi Faustus. Kerry remembered Dodi as 'a smart bird who learned a few words of French and Italian, but not smart enough to avoid having to be rescued from a tree once.'"

Bush is "friend of pork"

The National Pork Producers Council on August 27, 2004 gave George W. Bush a "Friend of the U.S. Pork Producer" award. He has received similar honors in the past from the National Cattleman's Beef Association.

Countered National Resources Defense Council senior attorney and Waterkeeper Alliance president Robert F. Kennedy, "The White House and its executive agencies are now racing to put radical policies in place that will let their corporate cronies poison our air, foul our water, and devastate our wildlands for decades to come."

Kennedy mentioned specifically "the oil, coal, logging, mining, and chemical industries," but in previous statements has made plain that he means factory farmers too.

"Large-scale hog producers are a greater threat to the U.S. and U.S. democracy than Osama bin Laden and his terrorist network," Kennedy said in April 2002.

"I lost my law offices in the 9/11 blast, and I lost many friends," Kennedy added, "so I don't say this lightly. I believe the threat offered by an outside terrorist like Osama bin Laden, who is clearly evil," is less than that of "an industry that is lawless in almost every respect."

(continued on page 14)

Judge rules against mining in Florida panther habitat

FORT MYERS—Ruling that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Army Corps of Engineers improperly issued a finding of "no jeopardy" to the endangered Florida panther, U.S. District Judge James Robertson on August 20, 2004 invalidated the federal permits issued to Florida Rock Industries Inc. to develop a 6,000-acre mine site in Lee County.

"In isolation, most individual projects would impact only small portions of potential panther habitat," Robertson wrote. "Multiplied by many projects over a long time, the cumulative impact on the panther might be significant."

The lawsuit against the mine was filed by the National Wildlife Federation, the Florida Wildlife Federation, and the Florida Panther Society.

Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel staff writer David Fleshler reported that the case "received support in May 2004 when Andrew Eller, a biologist for the Fish and Wildlife Service, filed a formal complaint accusing his own agency of knowingly using bad data on panther habitat, reproduction, and survival to approve eight construction projects."

Fleshler reported on July 21 that "Eller, a 17-year veteran of the wildlife service," had been

told in writing that he "would be fired in 30 days for repeatedly completing projects late and engaging in 'unprofessional' exchanges with the public."

Said Eller, "I believe it's retaliation."

The Florida Rock Industries permit application was supported by University of Kentucky biologist and reputed Florida panther expert Dave Maehr.

"For years Maehr's research went unquestioned, even though he represented development interests at the same time he was billing himself as an unbiased scientist," summarized Chad Gillis of the *Naples Daily News* in December 2003.

A peer review of Maehr's work commissioned by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Fish and Wildlife Service recently found that "some of Maehr's science and panther models are so faulty that government agencies using his work should stop immediately," Gillis wrote.

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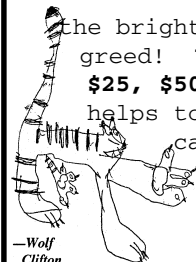
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The Bush administration has been moving rapidly to make industries that often violate environmental protection laws much less “lawless,” by changing the rules governing enforcement. This bypasses having to alter legislation, which might meet political opposition, even with Republican majorities dominating both houses of Congress.

Many of the rule amendments come at the expense of wildlife.

Among the examples riling Kennedy, the Bush administration in July 2004 authorized the Environmental Protection Agency to approve pesticides without consulting with the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service about possible impact on endangered species.

Required by the 1973 Endangered Species Act, when there were just a few dozen protected species, the consultation process became so complex as the number of protected species rose to about 1,200 that only 30 consultations were initiated within the past decade and only 12 were completed.

The rule change is expected to sharply reduce the number of lawsuits filed against the federal government on behalf of endangered species—such as a case filed in mid-2003 by the Natural Resources Defense Council against the use of atrazine, an herbicide that allegedly alters the gender characteristics and fecundity of reptiles, amphibians, birds, and possibly mammals.

The American Bird Conservancy in mid-2004 used the threat of a similar lawsuit to persuade the maker of the insecticide fenthion to withdraw it from the U.S. market. Fenthion was implicated in killing birds in connection with mosquito control in Florida.

The Center for Biological Diversity, a frequent litigant, estimates that pesticides are contributing to the endangerment of about a third of all listed species.

With the threat of lawsuits lessened,



Frigate bird: bombing target. (Carroll Cox)

the Bush administration then authorized cattle ranchers who lease grazing rights on the Buffalo Gap National Grassland in South Dakota to poison prairie dogs.

The most aggressive Bush administration rule-changing, however, has benefited the timber industry.

In March 2004, for example, the Bush administration scrapped a rule adopted as part of the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan that required the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to survey their holdings for 296 endangered or threatened species before authorizing logging, prescribed burns, trail-building, or campground construction.

The change affects 5.5 million acres of old-growth woods. The species assays are blamed by the timber industry for slowing the pace of old-growth logging to about half of the rate it projected when it agreed to the plan.

In July 2004 the Bush administration pledged to reverse the Roadless Area Conservation Rule, adopted in 2001 by former President Bill Clinton. After this proved more controversial than Bush strategists anticipated, Agriculture Undersecretary Mark Rey on September 7 announced that the final decision will be delayed until after the election.

On September 1 the Bush administration handed the timber industry an immediate gift, ruling that the marbled murrelets of California, Oregon, and Washington will now be considered part of the larger population inhabiting Alaska and British Columbia. This may mean that marbled murrelets will lose Endangered Species Act protection.

Southern marbled murrelets have been considered a genetically distinct subspecies. The Pacific office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommended in April 2004 that they should retain that status.

Only salmon and spotted owls have been involved in more restrictions on logging and more lawsuits. The Bush administration has also moved to count hatchery-reared salmon along with wild stocks in determining whether salmon runs are endangered, and to consolidate for regulatory purposes some spotted owl populations which have been considered subspecies, but may not be fully distinct.

Rule-changing on behalf of loggers and the oil and gas industry has prompted objections since 2002 from the National Wildlife Federation, among the most conservative of the major U.S. environmental groups. More than 500 local hunting clubs signed onto a letter protesting the 2003 Bush administration to open the Tongass National Forest of



Laysan albatross and chick: bombed at Farallon de Medinilla. (Carroll Cox)

southern Alaska to old-growth logging.

But Bush strategists seem to have judged rightly that gun issues will trump environmental concerns when hunters vote.

Birders are another historically conservative constituency, whose largest collective voice, the National Audubon Society, was begun in 1905 by George Bird Grinnell to regulate competitive bird-shooting. Eighteen years earlier, Grinnell and Theodore Roosevelt founded the Boone & Crockett Club to regulate trophy hunting of mammals. Ninety-nine years later, the National Audubon Society has kept birders mostly politically aligned with hunters—but bird photographer Theodore Cross, of Princeton, New Jersey, recently formed Birders United to Defeat Bush to try to break that pattern.

“America’s 15 million adult bird enthusiasts have been passive bystanders to the severe destruction of bird habitats caused by the Bush administration,” Cross charges at www.BirdersUnitedtoDefeatBush.com.

“In the past few years,” Cross continues, “the Bush administration has engaged in a systematic campaign to remove federal protection of a third of America’s wetlands, vital for 50% or more of our nesting birds, and to undermine legislation protecting endangered and threatened birds.

“One of America’s most charming and delicate shorebirds, the piping plover, is close to extinction,” Cross cites by way of example. “The Bush administration has permitted the reduction of critical habitat for this bird by 92%,” as sought by BNP Petroleum, in connection with drilling near the South Padre Island National Seashore in Texas.

In 2001, Cross recalls, then-Alabama attorney general William H. Pryor Jr. argued before the U.S. Supreme Court that the federal government “invaded the province of the states” by invoking the Clean Air Act to protect wetlands used by migratory birds.

In December 2003, while Congress was recessed, Bush appointed Pryor to the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals. The recess appointment enabled Bush to evade a Senate review of Pryor's credentials and potential conflicts of interest.

“The appointment is in effect until a new Congress convenes in January,” Cross notes. “Should Bush be reelected, it can be expected that Pryor will be renominated for a seat on the court,” which “has jurisdiction over Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. Pryor will sit in judgment,” Cross reminds, “over any key environmental case affecting the Everglades and other wetlands in Florida.”

But even that was not the Bush action most motivating Cross.

In September 2003, Cross recounts, “Bush nominated William J. Haynes II to the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals. As a Defense Department lawyer, Haynes argued that bombing Farallon de Medinilla, an important haven for many rare birds, would actually be beneficial for bird watchers,” because it “would disperse the birds to other islands, so many more people would be able to see them.”

Cross calculates that in all the so-called swing states “the number of adult bird enthusiasts is so large that an organized bird watcher vote could control the outcome. If only 270 Republican bird watchers in Florida had shifted their votes,” Cross concludes, “Bush would not now be in the Oval Office.”

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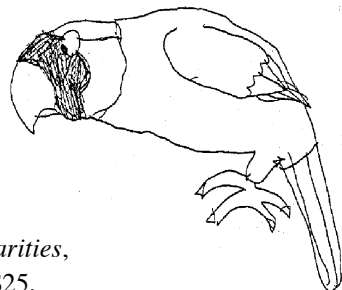
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jumped bail—but despite that history, he was released on bail again just two hours after he was apprehended.

The tiger exports to China earlier brought the demotions of Plodprasop Suraswadi, former permanent secretary of the Thai federal ministry of natural resources and the environment, and Bhadharajaya Rajani, former deputy chief of the forestry department.

Plodprasop Suraswadi, previously head of the fisheries department, tried to defend his honor by suing former fisheries department director general Thamrong Prakobbon for libel, over remarks Thamrong reportedly made about earlier “fishy” dealings. The case was promptly dismissed.

WildAid wins case

The quick judicial response was encouraging, as was the August 16 ruling by Bangkok southern civil court judge Chayan Tempiumof that the San Francisco-based group WildAid did not commit libel in 2001 by publicizing the mercury content of sharks’ fins, as discovered by the Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technical Research.

WildAid was enjoined from campaigning against eating sharks’ fins for three years after the Bangkok Association of Shark Fin Restaurants filed the case in 2001. Following the verdict, WildAid mounted a campaign against all wildlife consumption.

WildAid cofounder Stephen Galster hailed the verdict as a victory for all nonprofit organizations working in Thailand.

Thai courts have not always been so friendly toward animal and habitat advocates.

“Seeming co-operation between criminals and officials continues to infuriate the country’s fledgling environmental movement,” wrote Townsend. “A common complaint involves the practice of raids on suspect smugglers being called off at the last minute after a tip-off,” which could only come from someone aware of the issuance of a warrant.

“Equally important,” Townsend reported, “is wildlife dealers’ ability to operate with impunity. Hundreds have been arrested, but all, like Leuthai, remain free. No one has received the maximum four years in jail.”

The bad guys are fighting back, with both continuing influence and violence.

“Attempts were even made to discredit Edwin Wiek, who runs the acclaimed Wildlife Rescue Centre in Petchaburi, north of Bangkok,” Townsend wrote. “Despite nursing 115 previously sickly and malnourished animals, he has been arrested and charged on

grounds that have left supporters baffled. Other campaigners have fared far worse.”

Townend mentioned two recent murders in Thailand and eight in Cambodia that he believes may have involved attempts to stop wildlife trafficking..

Kickboxing oranges

Thirty years after then-Thailand resident Shirley McGreal founded the International Primate Protection League to expose wildlife traffickers, King Bhumibol Aduladej, 77, and Queen Sirikit, 74, in their 2002 and 2003 birthday speeches asked Thailand to live up to pro-animal Buddhist traditions. Queen Sirikit specifically asked that the illegal wildlife trade be ended.

A four-month amnesty that allowed people to register possession of wildlife and wildlife products obtained without permits expired in September 2003. Police Major General Sawake Pinsinchai initiated the ongoing series of wildlife trafficking searches, seizures, and arrests a few days later.

A parallel team was already hitting dog meat dealers. Dog meat dealing, though illegal, had been tolerated among the Vietnamese refugees of ethnic Cantonese background who introduced dog-eating to Thailand in the 1970s. Near the Laotian border a substantial illicit commerce had developed, exporting both dogs and wildlife for resale mainly in Vietnam and southern China.

Raids on animal entertainment venues began in November 2003. At Safari World in Min Buri police found 115 orangutans, but Safari World had reported having only 44. As orangutans are not native to Thailand, some were believed to have been smuggled from Malaysia and Indonesia.

Malaysian and Indonesian authorities in July 2004 requested DNA testing to try to determine where the orangutans came from. Safari World veterinarian Chatmongkol Pratcharoenwanich responded that 41 of the 110 orangutans that the facility was then supposed to have had died from pneumonia and had been cremated.

But only five had died. Three more were ill and later died. Police found the other five adult orangutans and 32 babies crammed into just five cages at the back of the property.

Further investigation determined that the orangutans were being trained to participate in kickboxing exhibitions.

“Chimpanzees in bikinis announce the kickboxing bouts with placards, and have been performing at the park for at least 20

years,” wrote London *Independent* correspondent Jan McGirk.

Under pressure from IPPL, Indonesian animal advocates, and quite a few shocked Thais, the kickboxing matches were banned.

Cockfighting

Initially the motivation behind the Thai animal trafficking crackdown might just have been trying to improve the image of the nation in preparation for the CITES meeting, as some commentators have alleged. Maybe the attribution of the motivation to King Bhumibol Aduladej and Queen Sirikit was only good manners.

By the end of 2003, however, the world began to recognize that animal trafficking was deeply implicated in a deadly outbreak of the H5N1 strain of avian flu.

The traffic was in gamecocks.

Cockfighting, technically illegal in most of Thailand, is widely practiced throughout Southeast Asia. H5N1 apparently passed from migratory waterfowl to ducks raised in dense outdoor confinement in southern China and South Korea, then spread to chickens and indoor-reared poultry of all kinds with movements of gamecocks as a key mechanism in transmitting the virus.

H5N1 subsided in early 2004 only after more than 100 million chickens were either culled or died from the disease, which hit 10 nations and was linked to cockfighting in nine of them. At least 27 humans died, including 16 Vietnamese and eight Thais.

Vietnam declared itself free of H5N1 on March 30. But more outbreaks occurred. Another 60,200 birds were killed or died in Vietnam due to H5N1 by September 1. Two human babies and an adult were fatally infected in August. Another baby died in the first week of September.

Outbreaks also occurred in 27 of the 76 Thai provinces during July. The Thai government made desultory efforts to require cockfighters to register their birds before transporting them to fights in other regions. Malaysian border guards in July intercepted and killed 411 birds of various species who were being smuggled out of Thailand, but in mid-August H5N1 reappeared among fighting cocks and free-roaming hens at two villages in Pasir Pekan, Malaysia, near the Thai border.

Officials moved quickly to contain the outbreak by killing the host birds. On August 23 Malaysian government veterinarians caught two people in the act of trying to haul about 30,000 chickens into Thailand to escape the cull. Malaysian inspectors also interdicted attempts to smuggle 29 birds, including 13 fighting cocks, from Indonesia, where yet another H5N1 outbreak occurred.

Cockfighter Komsan Fukhom, 18, of Prachin Buri province, on September 8 became the first Thai fatality from the second round of H5N1. Three children from chicken-breeding families in the same vicinity were

Avian flu updates

- **The Hong Kong Food and Environmental Hygiene Department** announced in August 2004 that nearly a fifth of the city’s live poultry vendors have agreed to sell their licenses back to the Hong Kong government, in cooperation with a plan to reduce the risk from H5N1, SARS, and other market-transmitted zoonotic diseases. The city hopes to phase out live markets.

- **Wildlife Reserves Singapore** culled chickens, ducks, geese, crows, and mynahs at the **Jurong BirdPark, Singapore Zoo and Night Safari**, and announced that it would no longer hatch chicks at the **Children’s World** petting zoo.

- **South African agriculture officials** in August supervised the slaughter of more than 15,000 ostriches and 1,000 chickens at five farms in Eastern Cape Province, to prevent the spread of an outbreak of H5N2, a milder cousin of H5N1, not known to harm humans.

hospitalized with H5N1 symptoms during the next two days.

Thai prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra on September 10 promised that cockfighters and gamecock breeders would be allowed to vaccinate their birds against H5N1, but Japanese officials immediately pointed out that permitting vaccination could cause Japan to refuse imports of Thai poultry products.

The problem is that it is difficult to tell birds who have been vaccinated against H5N1 from birds who may be carrying it.

H5N1, pigs, cats

Recent scientific findings about H5N1 have heightened anxiety that it might mutate into a form capable of spreading from person to person, not just bird-to-person.

Chinese H5N1 researcher Chen Hualan reported in separate articles in the January and May 2004 editions of the Chinese Journal of Preventive Veterinary Science that H5N1 crossed into pigs in at least four different locations in China during April 2003. It did not, however, spread pig-to-pig. The 1918-19, 1957-58, and 1968-69 flu pandemics that killed upward of 30 million people among them are all believed to originated as avian flu variants that spread to pigs, then mutated and spread from pigs to people before moving person-to-person.

Dutch researcher Thijs Kuiken reported in *Science* in mid-August, based on laboratory tests involving 12 cats that H5N1 can be transmitted cat-to-cat.

Kuiken and team called the finding “extraordinary, because domestic cats are generally considered to be resistant to disease from influenza A virus infection,” the virus family to which H5N1 belongs.

Kuiken investigated cat-to-cat transmission after 14 of 15 cats in one Thai household apparently died from H5N1, along with a clouded leopard in a Thai zoo, while a white

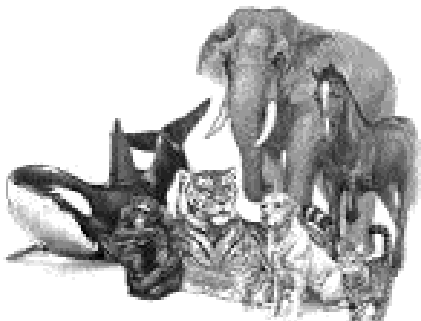
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Hunting the big bucks (from page 1)

dation followed an agreement reached in July 2004 between Parks Victoria and the Australian Deer Association to use deer hunters to cull deer, pigs, and goats.

The Dryden/Craig-Smith report also came parallel to a year-long still unresolved controversy over a Northern Territory Parks & Wildlife proposal to promote safari hunting for saltwater crocodiles.

The Northern Territory banned commercial crocodile hunting in 1971, after the population fell to about 3,000, but it has now recovered to an estimated 75,000. Aboriginal residents are presently allowed to kill a cumulative total of 600 crocs per year for their hides, sold for about \$350 apiece. The Northern Territory Parks & Wildlife proposal would authorize each aboriginal band to sell up to 25 of their crocodile hunting permits to paying visitors. The hunting permits are expected to fetch prices of up to \$3,500 apiece.

The proposal was endorsed in May 2004 by the U.S.-based Crocodile Specialist Group, including about 350 wildlife managers from nations with crocs around the world. Many of them are also eager to secure Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species permission to allow exports of crocodile trophies.

Cuba, Namibia, and Zambia are seeking crocodile trophy export quotas at the October 2004 CITES meeting in Bangkok.

Seeking new thrills

Nations whose wildlife management is funded by the sale or lease of hunting privileges, or hope that it can be, as in the case of Cuba, are engaged an increasingly frantic competition to attract declining numbers of high-spending trophy hunters.

The Safari Club International and allied pro-hunting organizations are at peaks of wealth and influence because their constituencies of mostly middle-aged and elderly men are at or near their peak earning years, but as the post-World War II “baby boom” generation reaches their fifties, when hunters typically participate less and less, there is no large

new wave of hunters coming to replace them.

Hunting recruitment has lagged far below attrition for more than 25 years now, while the number of active hunters in the U.S. has declined by 40%.

That makes wildlife managers desperate not only to recruit, but to get more money out of the present hunting population, before the entire system of “sustainable consumptive use” collapses.

Getting more hunting days out of the remaining hunters is the motivation behind a pending federal bill introduced by U.S. Senator Charles Schumer (D-New York) late in the current Congressional session, which would apportion \$50 million in USDA funds to subsidize liability insurance for farmers who allow hunting. This would enable hunters to find places to hunt more easily.

State bills to expand hunting opportunities, introduced with the fall elections looming, would open Sunday hunting in Pennsylvania, and liberalize hunting regulations in Alabama, including by allowing the use of turkey decoys, crossbows, and sights on muzzleloaders.

The most prized lure for hunters, however, is a new target species.

Thus the legislatures of Michigan and Minnesota in mid-2004 reinstituted dove hunting, after suspensions of 99 and 58 years. The chief argument used to pass the enabling bills was that opening dove seasons would help to keep hunters and their money home.

They like ‘em rare

Some Michigan and Minnesota hunters have been known to drive to nearby states to kill doves, but the real money is in trophy species: big animals and rare animals.

Thus the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks in June 2004 proposed a hunting season on bison who wander out of Yellowstone National Park.

“Bison from the park have been hunted before,” recalled Associated Press writer Becky Bohrer. “During the winter of 1988-1989, hunters killed 569 bison on the



Eland. (Elissa Free)

park’s northern boundary. But the hunt was ended by the legislature after a storm of protest. Yellowstone bison are accustomed to seeing humans, and game wardens led each hunter directly to the animal to be killed.”

The proposed new bison hunting rules would increase the illusion of challenge while continuing to enforce the Montana policy that no Yellowstone bison are allowed to escape alive to dwell in cattle country, lest they carry the livestock disease brucellosis, endemic among Yellowstone elk.

Hunters have been aggressively culling elk who wander north for decades. Blaming the wolves who were reintroduced to the Yellowstone region in 1996 for a recent paucity of bull elk with trophy-sized antlers, hunting outfitters now want to cull wolves as well—emulating counterparts in Alaska.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game on August 29 announced an expansion of aerial wolf-hunting, from the Nelchina Basin and McGrath areas, where 144 wolves were killed last winter, to the regions west of Cook Inlet, near Anchorage, and in the central Kuskokwim River region.

The 2004-2005 goal will be to kill upward of 500 wolves, partly for their pelt and trophy value, but mostly to make moose and caribou hunting easier by making the target animals more abundant and less wary.

Wolves have always been legally hunted in Alaska, and may soon be legally hunted in parts of the Lower 48, since Interior Secretary Gail Norton proposed in July 2004 that they should be removed from Endangered Species Act protection by January 2005.

The tiny Columbian whitetailed deer, on the other hand, has not been legally hunted anywhere since 1973. There are only two populations of the deer, one in the vicinity of Roseburg, Oregon, and the other at the Julia Butler Hansen National Wildlife Refuge in southern Washington.

After 30 years on the federal endangered species list, the Columbian whitetailed deer was declared “recovered” in 2003, only six years after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service hired USDA Wildlife Services to kill coyotes at the Julia Butler Hansen National Wildlife Refuge on the pretext that the coyotes might extirpate the deer.

In June 2004 the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission tentatively approved a hunting season on Columbian whitetailed deer.

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department is offering an even scarcer target this year, having authorized the first prairie chicken hunt in the state since 1945.

Whether or not hunting a new or unusual trophy species actually poses any sort of challenge does not seem to enter into the promotional consideration.

In June 2004 the Norwegian parliament even approved a three-year-old proposal by fisheries minister Svein Ludvigsen to allow paid guests to participate in commercial sealing. Norwegian sealers rarely fill their governmentally assigned quota of about 2,000 seals per year, Ludvigsen pointed out, and hunters would pay much more to kill seals than the hunters make from pelt sales.

Targeting refuges

There are two ways for wildlife agencies, anywhere, to boost trophy hunting.

One is by authorizing hunting in and around nature reserves. This is usually done on the pretexts that the target species are overabundant, and/or that rogue individuals must be culled.

Such arguments are easily made wherever either expanding suburbs or communities founded on tourism have hemmed in or even encroached upon wildlife habitat.

U.S. parks and wildlife refuges overtaken by urban sprawl are typically the home range for deer herds who spread into nearby

yards and disrupt traffic. Most of the deer are doe and spike buck, the legacy of decades of “buck laws” that encourage hunters to kill the majority of mature males each year, sparing most females and fawns.

Hunter mythology holds that some big bucks survive the annual onslaught by hiding wherever the hunters cannot go. Bucks with larger antlers than have ever been seen much outside of game ranches are said to lurk within the least accessible parts of even suburban refuges. This in turn underlies much pressure to open refuges to hunting.

Officials eager to boost hunting sometimes in turn encourage the legends, perhaps most notoriously when the Illinois Department of Natural Resources opened the Rend Lake Wildlife Refuge to hunting in 1996. Several big bucks were killed there in the first years that the refuge allowed hunting—and web sites promote the notion that more remain.

Expanding trophy hunting opportunities in the name of controlling herd size and preventing harm to refuge neighbors are equally common ploys in Africa, building upon local tension wherever residents of pastoral background have brought their herds of cattle, sheep, or goats with them.

As grazing land is exhausted, herders tend to cut fences to allow their livestock to exploit the grass and water inside nearby wildlife reserves. Competition from livestock and introduced livestock diseases soon reduce the populations of prey species for lions, leopards, hyenas, jackals, and wild dogs, who turn to killing livestock and sometimes people. The herders retaliate.

Thus roan antelope, oryx, Bright’s gazelles, and Derby’s elands were extirpated from northeastern Uganda during the past 10-20 years. Now similar damage is occurring in the southern half of the country. A virus believed to have been introduced by livestock killed more than 100 hippos in late summer 2004 at Queen Elizabeth National Park.

Predators took a deliberate hit.

“Lake Mburo National Park may soon be deprived of carnivorous animals, as leopards follow lions into extinction,” warned Kampala *New Vision* reporter Gerald Tenywa on July 31, 2004. Tenywa cited recent reports from Uganda Wildlife Authority chief Arthur Mugisha and hunting safari promoter Kaka Matama that Lake Mburo region pastoralists are poisoning leopards at the rate of at least one per month.

Uganda Wildlife Authority board chair John Nagenda in late August 2004 reportedly warned poachers that they “risk death” if caught in the act. Kenya and Zimbabwe both pursued shoot-to-kill policies against elephant and rhino poachers during the late 1980s, while private militias funded by international conservation organizations took up the pursuit of poachers in other nations, but by the mid-1990s such tactics were largely discredited and abandoned.

In fairness, pastoralists who poison predators are only emulating the practices of the descendants of colonialists, who still own and operate most of the biggest ranches in Africa, raising cattle primarily for the export beef industry. The difference is that while the pastoralists often poison predators on nominally protected land, the ranchers mostly confine their poisoning to private property.

Namibian ranchers are reportedly killing 200 to 300 cheetahs per year, prompting the Cheetah Conservation Fund to initiate a Predator Friendly beef certification program in July 2004. CCF founder Laurie Marker told Wezi Tjaronda of the Windhoek *New Era* that European consumers will pay premium prices for Namibian beef if assured that it is raised without killing wildlife.

Tjaronda wrote that Marker believes about two-thirds of Namibian beef producers (continued on page 17)



Cheetah. (Elissa Free)

Who killed hunting profits in Zimbabwe?

HARARE—The search for someone to blame is underway in Zimbabwe.

“We have a situation where the previous hunting season earned \$24 million U.S. and then suddenly the last hunting season earned only \$13 million,” fumed National Parks and Wildlife Management Authority chief executive Morris Mtsambiwa to Isadore Guvamombe of the government-controlled *Harare Herald* in mid-August 2004.

“Our question is, what happened to the other \$11 million? Investigations are in progress,” Mtsambiwa continued.

Mtsambiwa said nothing of land occupations by mobs of “war veterans,” confiscations of especially attractive properties by corrupt public officials, uncontrolled poaching, and the near complete destruction of many of Zimbabwe’s renowned private wildlife conservancies. His remarks, however, hinted at a pretext for further seizures.

“Hunting proceeds are paid in advance to the safari operators,” Guvamombe wrote, “but last year many operators, working in cahoots with white former farmers, devised methods of circumventing foreign currency declaration procedures.”

Hwange safari operator Headman Sibanda meanwhile sued Zimbabwean environment and tourism minister Francis Nhema for allegedly improperly awarding a hunting concession to a company headed by a Nhema associate named Marble Dete.

Sibanda may have felt encouraged by political history: Nhema is married to a daughter of the late Joshua Nkomo, who with Robert Mugabe led the struggle that in 1980 overturned apartheid rule in the nation then called Rhodesia. Nkomo and Mugabe then fought each other from 1982 until 1990, when they formed a mutually mistrustful coalition government. Nkomo died in 1999.

While Sibanda pressed charges against Nhema, Nhema suspended and ordered an investigation of Vitalis Chadenga, identified by *Financial Gazette* of Harare writer Njabulo Ncube as “a director at the Parks and Wildlife Management Authority,” accused of “corruptly capturing wild animals for sale at the country’s major wildlife parks.”

On August 20, *Zimbabwe Independent* writer Godfrey Marawanyika detailed the case actually brought against Chadenga: he was allegedly given a travel allowance of \$500 U.S. to visit South Africa, but visited Mozambique instead, and “is also accused of writing a letter to a warden of the Nyaman-eche sanctuary, instructing him to capture stray animals that were destroying crops and disrupting resettled people.”

Amid that fracas, London *Daily Telegraph* correspondent Peta Thorneycroft revealed that Zimbabwean information minister Jonathan Moyo in 2003 seized the Sikumi Tree Lodge and 45,000 surrounding acres, described as “a showpiece of eco-tourism,” and turned it into a hunting ranch.

Moyo acted after legal owner Thys de Vries, 44, and his wife, three children, and staff, fled an armed gang.

Moyo also recently bought rights to a confiscated farm from the Zimbabwean government, Thorneycroft wrote.

“The farm is still legally owned by the estate of Tom Bayley, a Briton,” said Thorneycroft. “Bayley, 88, was under siege for 35 days before he fell and broke a leg and abandoned the farm he had worked for 66 years. He died a week later.

“Moyo,” Thorneycroft recounted, “was appointed to [Zimbabwean president] Robert Mugabe’s cabinet in 2000, and drafted media laws widely regarded as among the world’s most repressive.”

Hunting (from 16)

are already able to meet the Predator Friendly certification standard.

Beef exports to Europe are the largest Namibian industry.

If wildlife goes wild...

While incursion, encroachment, pastoralist predator control, and poaching for profit all menace wildlife within African reserves, and Asian reserves too, many animals in turn take advantage of cut fences to leave the reserves, raiding crops and attacking humans who try to stop them. Elephants and baboons leave reserves to run amok somewhere almost every day.

As the September 2004 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, elephant rampages had recently occurred in Bangladesh, Botswana, India, Kenya, Lagos, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Sri Lanka—and those were just the reported cases.

Crop-raiding by baboons is so frequent as to rarely receive media notice.

Hippos, on the other hand, can hardly be ignored.

“Hippos eat the grass where people farm, live in the water where people fish and eat the rice the farmers grow, too,” Burkina Faso environmental official Joseph Bono fumed in June 2004, alleging that the national hippo population has increased from fewer than 100 to more than 1,400 since hippo hunting was banned and hippo reserves were established in 1991.

Within two days Burkina Faso reauthorized a hippo hunting season.

Kenya heat rises

Increasing pressure to lift the ban on sport hunting in effect in Kenya since 1977 comes from four sources: large landowners, mostly in the Laikipia district, eager to emulate the South African hunting industry; pro-hunting organizations including the World Wildlife Fund, African Wildlife Foundation, and Safari Club International; USAid, backing the pro-hunting policies of the George W. Bush administration; and subsistence farmers and villagers, whose resentment of predators and crop-damaging wildlife is whetted by politicians looking toward grabbing some of the loot from trophy hunting.

Among the landowner faction are some who fled to Kenya from the former apartheid nation of Rhodesia, now renamed Zimbabwe. They see opportunity in the present Zimbabwean troubles, which have scared away about half the hunters who formerly went there. The irony of the Rhodesians winning political support from some of the poorest black Kenyans has mostly eluded notice, while the politics of hate have had an effect.

Populist president Mwai Kibaki all but declared open season on wildlife in a pair of August 14 speeches at the Kinamba and Kwa Wanjiku marketplaces in Laikipia.

Blaming the desperately underfunded Kenya Wildlife Service for animals wandering outside the national parks, Kibaki told the crowds that, “If wild animals invade farms, do not blame farmers for their deaths.”

Nine days later the KWS responded to a five a.m. call complaining that three sub-adult bull elephants from Aberdares National Park were running amok in the villages of Kinyogoori, Ngarariga, and Gitogothi.

Initially the rangers tried to coax the elephants back into the reserve, but “Attempts by KWS rangers to dissuade the villagers from following the animals,” further upsetting them, “were unheeded,” wrote Cyrus Kinyungu of *The Nation*.

The rangers finally shot the elephants, but “They did not have the right guns for the job,” a KWS spokesperson told Nixon Ng’ang’a of the *East African Standard*.

Then the mob struck.

“The human hounds decided not to wait,” Ng’ang’a wrote. “By the time the elephants breathed their last, little of their bodies had flesh. Rapacious villagers cruelly parceled out chunks of meat into plastic bags from whatever quarter their knives and pangas could cut from creatures still resisting death from a hail of police bullets...It was a macabre feast that would send the average animal rights crusader into prolonged mourning.”

One elephant was butchered alive after falling into an open-pit latrine.

Eventually, reported Thuo Gitu of the *East African Standard*, members of the mob fell to fighting each other for the spoils.

The hue-and-cry for hunting briefly subsided, but resumed in early September after six buffalo pursued by five lions crushed



Lions and elephants. (Elissa Free)

crops outside Tsavo East National Park.

“The lions and buffaloes have destroyed hundreds of acres of cow peas, bananas and cassava,” and killed six goats, local councillor Christopher Menza Tongoi told Walker Mwandoto of *The Nation*.

Fellow councillor Ndigiria Karisa Nyiro hinted, however, that the wildlife were only scapegoats for a local famine caused chiefly by political corruption. He alleged that unnamed government officials had stolen and sold some relief supplies, and unfairly distributed the rest.

“Some of the proceeds [of the illegal sales] were allegedly spent on a dais for a minister’s entourage,” Mwandoto wrote.

Ranching beats limits

Hunting wildlife from reserves has limits, since hunting rapidly reduces the alleged overpopulation of most large animals, and even more rapidly exhausts the supply of purported rogues.

The most lucrative form of trophy hunting, long established in South Africa and Zimbabwe, fast spreading elsewhere, is to raise target animals like livestock, to be hunted in more-or-less natural-looking but nonetheless securely fenced enclosures.

This is called “canned hunting,” because the hunter is as assured of success as if he had opened a tin to find meat. Wildlife agencies collect permit fees and provide breeding stock from the reserves, but otherwise have little management responsibility.

Traditional wildlife managers and outfitters who escort hunters into wild habitat typically disapprove of “canned hunts,” not least because they are economic competition.

Many jurisdictions where traditional hunting still has a strong constituency have banned canned hunts, including Montana, where challenges to an anti-canned hunt initiative approved by the voters in November 2000 are still coming before the courts.

Ontario natural resources minister David Ramsay on August 16 pledged to follow the lead of British Columbia and Manitoba in prohibiting canned hunts, but immediately ran into unexpectedly strong opposition.

“The ministry says there are 10 to 25 such operations across the province, and that between 200 and 400 animals are killed annually, but one operator says it is more like 2,000 to 5,000,” reported Richard Brennan of the *Toronto Star*.

Crowded market

In the U.S., the Competitive Enterprise Institute, a far-right group with strong influence on George W. Bush administration policies, has long urged through the subsidiary Center for Private Conservation that wildlife management should follow the now catastrophically collapsed Zimbabwean model—meaning, in effect, that wildlife agencies should exist to facilitate canned hunts and

made-for-tourism wildlife parks, much as the USDA exists to facilitate agriculture.

Proponents of trophy hunting as the economic mainstay for wildlife conservation have long sold African governments on the idea that revenue from culling problematic animals and raising more to shoot can buy peace from the refuge neighbors whose livestock, crops, homes, and families may be at risk.

The “sustainable use” theory, however, has tended to break down in practice, as relatively little money actually reaches the pastoralists and villagers, whose main interest remains producing more food, for themselves and to sell.

Thandee N’wa Mhangwana of *BuaNews* in Pretoria reported in June 2004 that while the Limpopo region of South Africa attracts 63% of the hunters who visit South Africa, “At the moment there are less than 20 professional black hunters (guides) in Limpopo, and no black hunting outfitters, safari operators, or game farmers.”

Limpopo recently secured CITES permission to sell permits to kill 35 leopards. Seven permits—20%—were allocated to poor and mostly black communities. That left 80% still going to outposts of the mostly Dutch-descended Afrikaner hunting establishment.

“If black people see how big the hunting industry is, and how much they can benefit from it, then maybe they will join in,” opined Limpopo hunting regulations manager Abraham Matsila.

Other such efforts to expand the economic base of hunting in South Africa are officially encouraged. Much of the “unused” property obtained from ranchers and redistributed to tribes under land ownership reform schemes has proved unsuitable for agriculture. This is typically why the land was “unused” and available.

After about a decade of trying to farm on a 600-hectare former game ranch at Bambathaskraal, the Negome Community Trust recently “signed a four-year control with the KwaZulu-Natal Hunting and Conservation Association,” Craig Elyot of *BuaNews* reported in June 2004. The hunting organization guaranteed the Negome trust a basic level of income plus 80% of the accommodation revenue and 85% of the hunting fees.

Ngome Community Trust chair Thembinkosi Lathe anticipated that “Hunting will create training and jobs,” plus “income from hunting and the byproducts of hunting, such as taxidermy and the sale of meat.”

But whether the anticipated revenue will develop remains to be seen.

There are now as many as 10,000 game ranches in South Africa, according to University of Pretoria Centre for Wildlife Management professor Kobus Bothma. Many more facilities are raising animals to be sold to hunting venues than actually offer opportunities to shoot them.

As of 2002, 14.6%

of Eastern Cape province was fenced to keep wildlife, and the amount of land reserved for hunting was increasing at about 10% per year. Port Elizabeth Technikon agriculture and game management department chief Pieter van Niekirk recently told Nicky Padayachee of the Johannesburg *Sunday Times*.

Kobus Bothma in March 2004 reported that 19,576 wild animals were sold at 58 auctions in 2003, and that 8,900 animals were shot by hunters in 2001.

Critics of “canned hunting” believe that there are as many as 3,500 captive-bred lions in South Africa available for shooting at any given time.

But fewer than 3,000 foreign hunters per year visit South Africa—and no other nation attracts more.

Exactly 876 Americans and 115 Spaniards hunted on the Eastern Cape in 2002, van Niekirk said.

About 2,000 hunted in Limpopo, *BuaNews* added.

The Eastern Cape and Limpopo provinces together generate about half of the total hunting revenue in South Africa. Many hunters visit both, to be sure of bagging all the “big five”: elephant, lion, leopard, rhino, and Cape buffalo. But this is a matter of lingering custom, from the days when animals were chiefly hunted in the wild. These days, many hunting venues offer the chance to kill them all—in one day, if the price is right.

Income down

South African hunting revenue peaked in 2000, and has fallen off since, but South African officials blame the slump on economic conditions rather than declining numbers of hunters.

“Fifty-five percent of our clients come from the U.S.,” Professional Hunters Association of South Africa chief executive Gary Davies told Padayachee. “The rest come from Europe.”

Recent auction prices hint that the canned hunting industry may have reached the saturation point, especially with intensifying competition from other nations.

Two hand-reared common duiker and 10 dassies (the South African rock hyrax subspecies) sold for record prices at the 16th annual Ezemvelo ZwaZulu-Natal Wildlife Authority auction on June 11, 2004, but those are species kept mainly for show.

As in most years, “The majority of the animals were sold to private reserves for dollar-denominated hunting,” *Business Day* correspondent Nicola Jenvey affirmed. But hunting demand was weak. Auction revenues were down 42% overall.

“Several of the 30 white rhinos on auction were withdrawn, as bidders missed the reserve price,” Jenvey wrote.

(continued on page 18)



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Kenya leads opposition to lifting CITES ivory trade ban, seeks lion trophy trade ban

NAIROBI—Kenya will again lead the opposition to lifting the global embargo on ivory and rhino horn trafficking at the October 2004 conference of the 166 parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in Bangkok, Thailand, Kenyan assistant minister for the environment and natural resources George Khaniri announced on August 26.

Kenya is also proposing to ban international traffic in African lion trophies, but the Kenyan recommendation is opposed by the U.S. and Britain, two of the nations with the most lion hunters.

The wild African lion population is believed to have fallen 70% since 1996, to just 23,000, distributed among 89 locations. Half live in the Masai Mara and Serengeti region of Kenya and Tanzania, the Selous game reserve in Tanzania, Kruger National Park in South Africa, and the Okavango Delta of Botswana.

Khaneri told *The Nation* that Kenya now has 28,000 elephants and 500 rhinos, up from 16,000 and 250 since CITES imposed the ivory and rhino horn trade bans in 1989.

Anticipating that the ivory and rhino horn embargoes might soon be eased or lifted, poachers typically raiding from Somalia have recently escalated their activity, as often occurs on the eve of a CITES meeting.

Khaniri said that poachers had killed at least 108 Kenyan elephants and 33 black rhinos in 2003-2004.

“Law enforcement officers have also

seized 253 pieces of ivory totaling 1,223 kilograms in 53 incidents across the country,” Khaniri continued.

Two Somali poachers were killed and a third escaped with multiple wounds after a dawn firefight on August 3 near Thambanguchi, in Tsavo East National Park. The Somali poaching gangs are typically associated with warlord militias, often aligned or associated with Al Qaida.

Namibian permanent secretary for environment and tourism Malan Lindeque announced back in May 2004 that Nambia will seek CITES authorization to export 2,000 kilos of ivory per year, and to permit Nile crocodile hunting. Namibia claims 11,000 elephants, up from 5,400 before the ivory embargo, and has stockpiles of about 40 metric tons of tusks. About 75% were seized from poachers.

Repeatedly failing to convince CITES that it has elephant poaching and illegal ivory trafficking under control, and therefore able to sell only 20 metric tons of stockpiled ivory in the past decade, the Zimbabwe Parks & Wildlife Management Authority in August sold 554 kilos of ivory to local merchants for just \$3,214—about 3% of the pre-embargo price, and also substantially less than the going rate for ivory in legal sales of stockpiles taken from culled “rogue” elephants or confiscated from poachers.

Occurring amid a series of scandals involving Zimbabwean wildlife management, the deal raised immediate suspicion.

“We still have stockpiles of ivory, and we need to continue selling to avoid expenses of storage,” Zimbabwe Parks & Wildlife Management Authority director-general Morris Mutsambiwa told the government-controlled *Harare Herald*.

The European Commission in early August 2004 stated that it cannot agree to resuming the commercial ivory trade “unless it is clear that this will not lead to increased

poaching. Some southern African countries have been very successful in protecting their elephant populations,” the EC document continued, noting the claims of South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe that they have too many elephants.

“The need to prevent any ivory from entering the market generates stockpiles that impose a big security burden on these countries,” the EC concluded.



(Elissa Free)

Hunting the big bucks (from page 17)

Instead of selling whole black rhino families, the Ezemvelo auction management offered only three individual males. They fetched just 13% of the record price paid several years ago for a six-member family.

But more getting in

Despite the slumping South African market, the Namibian cabinet in late June ratified a June 8 preliminary decision to start a wildlife auction. Pauline Lindeque, director of scientific services for the Nambian Ministry of Environment and Tourism, is to establish criteria for making loans to encourage freeholders and newly resettled farmers to go into wildlife ranching.

The Uganda Wildlife Authority in 2001 created an exemption from a 1979 national ban on hunting to allow a local firm called Game Trails to promote hunting around the edges of Lake Mburo National Park.

“The UWA got 25% of the money, county authorities shared 5%, and community protected areas took 5%. It is not clear how much Game Trails got,” wrote Alfred Wasike and Gerald Tenya of the Kampala *New Vision*.

The proceeds encouraged the UWA to enter into a parallel contract with an Austrian firm called Zwilling Safaris, to promote hunting near the Kabwoya Wildlife Reserve in Hoima.

In April 2004 Zwilling Safaris suddenly withdrew.

“Zwilling says they have gotten a better deal with the Congolese,” UWA executive director Arthur Mugisha said.

But that claim came coincidental with reports from Garamba National Park in the Democratic Republic of the Congo that at least a thousand of the park’s estimated 7,000 elephants have been poached recently, while the northern white rhino population, the last in the wild, has been reduced to two dozen.

Garamba National Park conservation coordinator Kes Hillman-Smith told members of the London Zoological Society in May 2004 that animals who have survived heavy poaching during seven years of civil war are now further jeopardized by the same Janjaweed militias now terrorizing the Darfur region of Sudan. Two forest guards and three poachers were reportedly killed in a shootout just a few days before Hillman-Smith spoke.

Machine-gun-wielding Janjaweed have also killed 90% of the Swayne hartebeests in Ethiopia, Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority group leader Minase Gashaw charged in an August 19 interview with the *Addis Tribune*.

Tourists normally will not visit a war zone. Trophy hunters might, if the targets are sufficiently prestigious.

Thus the government of Nepal recently served notice that it intends to vigorously encourage whatever market can be developed for hunting captive-reared Himalayan species. A new Nepalese Wildlife Farming, Reproduction and Research policy

issued in May 2004 authorizes ranching barking deer, spotted deer, black buck, sambar, hog deer, wild boar, antelope, gharial crocodiles, and five species of pheasant, including the Impeyan pheasant—the national bird.

Permits for commercially breeding rhesus macaques, snakes, and vultures had already been issued. The macaques are being raised for export to laboratories, in collaboration with the University of Washington Regional Primate Research Center.

The snakes are raised for medicinal use, including both the production of antivenins and traditional remedies made from snake remains.

The vultures are apparently being bred in anticipation of a market for captive birds to facilitate “sky burial” by Parsees and others whose traditional disposal of human remains has been jeopardized by the declining Indian vulture population.

The government of King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Dev, an enthusiastic hunter and practitioner of animal sacrifice, rushed the Wildlife Farming, Reproduction and Research policy into effect by ordinance decree.

“Parliament is dissolved and the country is reeling under political uncertainty,” noted Environmental News Service correspondent Deepak Gajurel.

Nepal has been battling a Maoist insurrection since 1996. The fighting has recently displaced between 100,000 and 200,000 people, according to the Norwegian Refugee Council.

Developing ecotourism

Non-consumptive wildlife tourism provides more employment to host communities than hunting, where well-developed, but the profits come from attracting and accommodating relatively large numbers of visitors.

The economic attraction of hunting is that it provides quick infusions of cash with relatively little investment required in infrastructure. Building a profitable eco-tourism venue, by contrast, can be slow.

The Khama Rhino Sanctuary at Paje village in Serowe, Botswana, began restoring rhinos and other species to former ranch land in 1999. Starting with four rhinos, it now has 29, 16 of them born on site. It employs 23 people from nearby villages, sanctuary manager Moremi Tjibae recently told Meekaeel M. Siphambili of *The Reporter* in Gaborone.

Like many attempts to develop ecotourism, the Khama Rhino Sanctuary has relied for start-up capital on nonprofit support.

“Donors cannot fund the project forever,” Tjibae said. “We are living from hand to mouth, but we manage to pay our staff even though we are left with nothing afterward. Since 2000 we have been paying our staff from tourist fees,” Tjibae added.

The open question for eco-tourism promoters is whether their market, like the hunting market, will become saturated.

Opportunities to view rhinos in the

semi-wild have rapidly increased in recent years, for example, even as authentic wilderness has diminished.

Nigeria joined the already intense competition for rhino-watchers in late August 2004 by agreeing to purchase black rhinos, giraffes, zebras, kuku, impalas, and kori bustards from Namibia to replenish the depleted Yankari Game Reserve.

South African National Parks meanwhile expanded its attractions by releasing four white rhinos into Mapungubwe National Park. Mapungubwe has not been rhino habitat within recent memory, but archaeological diggings in the area have turned up a 2,000-year-old gold rhino and various other indications that rhinos were nearby as long as 15,000 years ago, according to Dirk Nel of BuaNews.

The park is a component of the Greater Limpopo/Shashe Transfrontier Park, also including Kruger National Park, Limpopo National Park in Mozambique, the Tuli Block of Botswana, and the Tuli Safari region of Zimbabwe and South Africa.


Almost simultaneous with the Mapungubwe rhino introduction, Limpopo National Park administrator Gilberto Vicente declared that formerly flagrant poaching in the Mozambiquan part of the Transfrontier Park is now under control, and authorized the release of 10 white rhino.

More than 3,000 animals imported from South Africa have been introduced to Limpopo National Park altogether, according to the Mozambique Information Agency, and another 3,000 are to be added by 2008.

Vicente called the poaching problem history only five weeks after another Limpopo National Park senior official, Zenio Macamero, charged that police corruption has undercut wildlife law enforcement.

Macamero accused local police of releasing poachers caught in the act due to an alleged lack of evidence, even when wildlife wardens have seized weapons, rhino horn, and the meat from endangered animals.

The Mozambique Information Agency press release about the rhino introduction concluded with a hint of a further problem looming: “Plans are also underway to remove the people living in the park and resettle them. Resettlement is due to begin in 2005, and last for about five years.”



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Kenya rejects bid to privatize parts of Kenya Wildlife Service

NAIROBI—Swiss-born horticulturalist Rene Haller, founder of the Baobab Trust, was on August 18 appointed acting chair of the Kenya Wildlife Service.

Haller succeeds Rhino Ark founder Colin Church. Church was indefinitely suspended and KWS chief executive officer Evans Mukolwe was reprimanded after 11 days of furor over a plan advanced by Church associate Andrew Hind to privatize the money-making KWS activities.

As in several other recent flaps involving the KWS, much of the uproar appeared to result from the manner in which the plan was made public.

“The proposed deal to turn KWS into a commercial company was allegedly made without Cabinet approval,” and for that matter without the knowledge of most of the KWS board, wrote Biketi Kikechi of the *East African Standard*.

Hind, at invitation of Church, drafted the proposal on July 8. Entitled *The Commercialization of the Kenya Wildlife Service: Concept Document*, it came to public notice after almost a month of quiet discussion.

When it finally came to light, it appears to have been much misunderstood.

“If the deal goes ahead, it is possible that Kenya’s prized wildlife could be shot for sport,” wrote John Mbaria of *The Nation* on August 7. “Behind the deal are believed to be

some of the people who recently drafted a bill that is now before Parliament asking for the 1977 act banning sport shooting in the reserves to be repealed.

“The shooting lobby is composed mainly of big-time ranchers in Laikipia, Machakos, and Nakuru,” Mbaria continued.

Oscar Obonyo of *The Nation* later set the record straight about Hind’s position.

“Mr. Hind, a director of Bill Jordan’s Wildlife Defence Fund, said his proposals would never involve harming any animal,” Obonyo wrote.

“Enumerating his wildlife conservation activities, which include donating 50% of the profits of his restaurant, The Wildlife Café, and sponsoring several projects in Kenya and other countries, Mr. Hind maintained that he is a conservationist who believes that wildlife can raise revenue from tourism without having its life threatened,” Obonyo continued. “His idea is the introduction of commercial policies which make money from tourism, merchandise sales, memberships, hotels, and safari camps.”

Said Hind, “I do not now, nor have I ever, nor shall I ever support in public or private any actions which harm wildlife.”

Mbaria noted in his initial report that the privatization plan was “silent on both the shooting of wildlife for sport, and the name of the man who would head the wildlife

body...One name being suggested in KWS corridors,” Mbaria said, “is that of former KWS director Richard Leakey.”

Leakey has vigorously defended the ban on sport hunting.

Leakey fell under suspicion, Mbaria explained, because “Early in 2003, a scheme to set up a trust fund to finance some KWS operations was nipped in the bud by the government, who suspected the fund was meant to control conservation in Kenya. The fund’s architects were Dr. Leakey and retired World Bank director Harold Wackman.”

That controversy led to the firing of then-KWS director Michael Wamithi, who previously headed the Nairobi office of the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

Both the trust fund proposed by Leakey and the privatization scheme proposed by Hind were to have drawn heavily upon foreign capital. This left both proposals vulnerable to attack as “neo-colonialism,” especially after they were advanced for some time in virtual secrecy.

The underlying economic issue is that KWS, organized as a wildlife police force, has usually operated at a substantial loss, and has been heavily dependent upon foreign grants, which also jeopardize national control of wildlife policy.

Under the George W. Bush administration, USAid in particular has applied lever-



Mother & baby. (Elissa Free)

age toward opening Kenya to sport hunting.

KWS came closest to self-sufficiency under Nehemiah Rotich, who reduced the agency budget deficit from 588 million Kenya shillings when he was appointed in July 1999 to just 30 million Kenya shillings when he was fired under unexplained circumstances in December 2001.

Rotich on August 13 detailed to Nixon Ng’anga’a of the *East African Standard* a series of transactions that Rotich charged were “done in order to weaken the KWS financially. It has now been so run down,” Rotich charged, “that privatization appears to be the only viable option.”

Rotich argued that KWS, if properly managed, could itself develop all of the viable economic opportunities envisioned by Hind and others, without surrendering any control of natural resources, and without subjecting Kenyan wildlife to consumptive use.

Norway hits cruelty to fish but not whales

OSLO—The Norwegian Food Safety Authority on July 27, 2004 “revealed rampant violations of animal protection laws after an inspection of a plant that stores live wild cod. The NFSA says fish are being tortured,” wrote Frodis Braathen and Jonathan Tisdall of *Aftenposten*.

The crackdown on cruelty to fish came three days after Norway and Japan failed once again to lift the global moratorium on commercial whaling in effect since 1986.

Norway has permitted coastal whaling since 1994 in defiance of the moratorium, but has not been able to develop the commerce in whale meat to Japan that was expected to make whaling profitable.

Before the annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission, held this year in Sorrento, Italy, the Norwegian parliament considered raising the self-set national minke whale quota to 1,800, from 655, before settling on 745.

After the IWC meeting, when Norwegian whalers had killed only 543 whales at season’s end in early August, the season was extended into September—but the pro-whaling High North Alliance told Agence France-Presse that Norwegian whalers had already “stored away their harpoons weeks ago...due to dwindling demand” for whale meat

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THE PHILOSOPHER’S DOG BY RAIMOND GAITA

Random House (1745 Broadway MD 18-2, New York, NY 10019), 2004. 220 pages, paperback. \$23.95.

The Philosopher’s Dog is a collection of philosophical arguments loosely drawn together by events that involve author Raymond Gaita’s pets. Many non-animal subjects are covered, and there is more philosophy than dog in the book.

Gaita specifically declines to philosophize about vegetarianism, other than to assert that the slogan ‘meat is murder’ does not bear close analysis. He steadfastly distinguishes between morality applied to humans and morality applied to animals. Allowing comparisons between the Holocaust and factory farming, he points out that seeking to equate the two would not find general acceptance, and would rather indicate “a sentimentality that is wicked and offensive.”

Gaita believes it is foolish to talk about animal rights, he says, adding that this “is partly because I think it is mistaken to talk of rights in the case of human beings. To say that an action is unjust because it violates someone’s rights adds nothing, I believe, to saying that it is unjust.”

Gaita argues that attempting to bestow dignity upon the powerless by creating the impression that rights are a moral force field is to seek to create an illusion, unless the appeal to rights has force to back it up. Gaita agrees there is a need to set limits to human arrogance, but does not think that a concept of rights is the way to go.

Rather, Gaita says, what is needed is an evolution in human attitudes towards animals, based upon love and respect. This conclusion is reached almost by a process of elimination.

It begs the question of why he is a meat-eater.

We are not convinced that Gaita’s understanding of animal rights is conceptually correct.

“Animal rights” may be an illusion if one defines the term narrowly to mean legal rights, or a kind of moral force-field, as he puts it, but even at that, some animals in some places are already protected to some extent by the cultural perception that they should not be harmed.

Household pets, endangered species, and “game,” for example, tend to have at least the shadow of “rights” not possessed by livestock and other wildlife. Though “game” species may be hunted in season, with a permit, the requirement of such special conditions creates a widely recognized implied right to otherwise live free from human intervention.

Further, the concept of animal rights as pursued by Tom Regan in *Empty Cages* appears to be exactly what Gaita wants to see, namely an attitudinal change on the part of humans toward the treatment of all animals, based upon recognition of the ability of sentient beings to suffer much as we do. (Only at the end of his book does Regan list concrete proposals to better the lives of animals.)

Andrew Rowan in *The Animal Research Controversy Report* (1995) described at least six different concepts of “animal rights” that surface in common use of the phrase. The uses differ in scope of meaning, but have in common that they imply awareness of cruelty toward animals and recognition of a

duty to prevent it and avoid participating in it, even indirectly.

Adopting any concept of animal rights requires making real changes in lifestyle. If enough people embrace any version of “animal rights,” society will be profoundly changed.

That this is not illusory is evident from the recent frantic efforts of agribusiness to win consumer approval with “good husbandry” labeling while new lines of vegetarian prepared foods fill shelves in most major supermarkets.

Gaita praises J.M. Coetzee’s book *The Lives of Animals* and quotes extensively from it. But Gaita is critical of recent books by Jeffrey Masson and Eugene Linden, which he describes as piling anecdote upon anecdote “with unrelenting polemic intent” to show that animals are capable of cognitive thought. Gaita sympathizes with Linden and Masson for seeking to escape from “scientistic skepticism,” with its neurotic fear of anthropomorphising. However, Gaita feels that Linden and Masson confuse the realm of fact with the realm of meaning, which depends upon interpretation, and thereby make the same mistake as the “scientistic skeptics” whom they criticise, except that their standards of evidence are less stringent.

This is not a book for the general reader. Gaita had us reaching for the dictionary and rereading some passages several times. However, *The Philosopher’s Dog* is intellectually stimulating, and has deepened our conceptual approach to animal rights and the relationship between humans and animals.

—Chris Mercer & Beverly Pervan



Animal Voices: TELEPATHIC COMMUNICATION IN THE WEB OF LIFE by Dawn Bauman Brunke

Bear & Company (1 Park Street, Rochester, VT 05767), 2004. 278 pages, paperback. \$15.00.

All My Relations by Susan Chernak McElroy

New World Library (14 Pamaron Way, Novato, CA 94949), 2004. 240 pages, paperback, \$14.95.



“Oh no! Don’t put me in there! I’ve seen those things before. They eat people and then spit them out. I’ve tried to talk to them and there’s nobody there. They have no decent migratory pattern, and they make no sense at all. Oh no, I’m not going to be eaten by a plane!”

These thoughts Dawn Baumann Brunke attributes to a parrot. Living in Wasila, Alaska, Brunke describes herself as “a freelance writer and editor who specializes in the areas of bodywork, healing, metaphysics, and spirituality.

I have worked and lived closely with birds and animals now for many years. Rehabbing the orphaned, sick and injured. I feel close to them. But I have never heard voices in my head or any other form of telepathy.

For example: I recently rehabbed four rock kestrels who came to me as chicks. After their release they disappeared for a couple of months. The day they returned they found me up a ladder doing repairs to my eagle aviaries. Three kestrels hovered above my head and called down to me. I know that they sought me out to let me know they were home, but they certainly didn’t spell it out in complex language.

I know that cross communication can happen among humans and animals, including birds, because I have seen it.

But I do not think that a parrot could tell me that she was once a Buddhist monk living in Tibet, as Brunke does on page 24.

By the time I reached page 47 and read a full conversation with the parrot, my skepticism was in overload. Then a dog explained that in previous lives he was a bear, a horse, and a seal. I read a little further. Violet the cat “spoke of past lives, her fondness for the feline form, and the series of events that led her to find Nedda [her human partner], all with the artistic flourish of a storyteller.”

Eventually a horse put it in a nutshell: “Those who think (this book) is too strange are not ready and won’t read it. And that’s okay. This book is not for them.”

I tried a little further but when the mosquito told Brunke that “Perhaps we will move to another planet or dimension,” I realized that this book was not for me.

Putting down *Animal Voices*, I picked up *All My Relations*, by Susan Chernak McElroy, a somewhat better known self-described “facilitator” of communication with animals who resides in Idaho.

Her publicity materials inform us that her book will explain, among other things, “what bugs have to teach us about romance.”

I wondered whether McElroy’s bugs would be more mosquitoes, the bees of the birds-and-the-bees, or black widow spiders and crab lice. But I didn’t get that far.

After the moose came off the wall to tiptoe around the house, and the illusional wolf cured McElroy of cancer, I decided that this book was just too much like *Animal Voices* to hold my interest.

Brunke and McElroy argue that animals are sentient, should be treated in a loving and caring way, and in Brunke’s words, “have a birthright to be on the Earth and the Earth and humans and other animals need their presence here.”

Many readers will agree. But Brunke and McElroy build their cases on claims so shaky as to invite rejection by any critical reader. Those who oppose moral consideration of animals, including the hunters of their own home towns, will find much to use in ridiculing the whole pro-animal cause.

I do not wish to debunk paranormal experiences, such as telepathy between humans and animals, simply because they are outside my own experience, or because reincarnation into chosen forms is a paradigm outside my own. These books are for those who believe such things are possible.

—Beverly Pervan

Live elephant exports from Thailand and South Africa will be on the CITES agenda

BANGKOK, JOHAN-NESBURG—Live elephant exports as well as ivory sales may come under heated discussion at the 2004 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species conference in Bangkok, opening on October 1.

CITES host nations often win special concessions, and would-be Thai elephant merchants have been lobbying the Thai government to seek looser elephant export restrictions, Friends of the Asian Elephant foundation secretary-general Soraida Salwada recently warned Somask Sukjai of the *Bangkok Post*.

“Some private firms want the government to agree on free trade in elephants, particularly

those in the care of the Forest Industry Organization,” Soraida Salwada said. “The private firms have tried to convince the government that many elephants can be used for commercial purposes.”

Soraida Salwada said there are now 2,600 Thai elephants in captivity, and about 2,000 in the wild.

South African elephant exports have escalated over the past two years, after a five-year hiatus from July 1998 until July 2003 while the notorious “Tuli elephants” case was before the courts. African Game Services owner Riccardo Ghiazza and one of his staff were convicted of cruelty to the 30 young elephants, captured in the Tuli district of Botswana for sale to zoos.

The case was barely concluded when three young elephants were sold to a zoo in the Czech Republic, four were sold to Mexico, seven were sent to the San Diego Zoo, and four went to the Lowry Park Zoo in Florida.

In January 2004 Johannesburg *Mail & Guardian* writer Fiona Macleod charged that, “Six adult members of a herd were gunned

down in Mpumalanga and their eight babies were kidnapped for sale to exhibition parks,” in a reprise of the practices that were supposedly abolished as inhumane due to the outcry resulting from the Tuli case.

Four of the baby elephants were sent to the Knysna Elephant Park in the Western Cape region, while the other four were to go to the Elephant Sanctuary, owned by Craig Saunders, Macleod reported. Saunders was a defendant in the Tuli case, but all charges against him were eventually dismissed.

In May 2004 South African National Park Service chief David Mabunda reiterated that SANParks is still observing a nine-year-old policy of not engaging in lethal elephant culls, but live exports continued with the August 2004 sale of four young elephants to China and three to Poland.

In the interim, SANParks ordered rangers at the Hluhluwe-Imfolozi National Park in KwaZulu-Natal to immediately shoot young elephant bulls who consistently display aggressive behavior. Three young elephant bulls were shot dur-

ing July for attacking rhinos, tourists’ cars, and wildlife staff.

Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife agency spokesperson Jeff Gaisford told Johannesburg *Saturday Star* reporter Tony Carnie that about 180 elephants orphaned by culling at Kruger National Park in the 1980s were taken to Hluhluwe-Imfolozi, where at the time there were no older bulls to teach them proper behavior. Many of the young bulls became abnormally aggressive, killing nearly 60 white rhinos within the past 10 years. This behavior has rarely been seen anywhere else.

Controversy over alleged culling by covert means erupted on a second front in July 2004 when Fiona Macleod disclosed that “Police and conservation officials are investigating the ‘hunting’ of a Kruger elephant bull within hours of his delivery” to hunting outfitter Hugo Ras of the Orion Safari Lodge near Rustenberg.

“Sedated and disoriented, after being plucked from the wild and transported, the bull was reportedly shot by a Texas oil magnate,” Mcleod wrote.

The bull was one of four who were sold to Ras by the Sabi Sands game reserve on the western edge of Kruger, Mcleod said.

“The reserve says it has an overpopulation of elephants coming from Kruger,” Macleod explained. “Sabi Sands has sold about 80 elephants to private buyers in the past two years, and plans to sell more.”

Ras insisted that the elephant was shot, in apparent contravention of the Sabi Sands terms of sale, after breaking out of confinement and “causing mayhem.”

Noted Macleod, “Ras has faced a number of charges of illegal hunting in Limpopo and KwaKullu-Natal. Limpopo officials say they are investigating him in connection with further irregularities.”

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PROVIDENCE OF A SPARROW: *LESSONS FROM A LIFE GONE TO THE BIRDS* by Chris Chester
Anchor Books (a division of Random House, Inc., 1745 Broadway MD 18-2, New York, NY 10019), 2004. 289 pages, paperback. \$13.95.

“One popular theory.” Chris Chester writes of bird rescue and rehabilitation with his wife Rebecca, “has us lavishing on our sparrows a virtual Niagara of misplaced parenting impulses that could be directed more profitably toward rearing offspring. Both Rebecca and I admit to an occasional twinge of regret at not having a child, someone to park us in a low-budget nursing home when we finally become incontinent.”

The Chesters’ work began when Chris Chester found an unfledged sparrow chick in his garden, and decided to save the chick if he could. Calling the sparrow “Birdbrain,” or just “B” for short, was not only therapeutic for Chester’s tendency toward melancholy, but profoundly impressed his fiancée. She too became awakened to the joy of caring for birds in need. They turned part of their home into an aviary, adjusting their entire working and social lives around the needs of their birds.

By assuming responsibility for the tiny featherless sparrow chick, Chester unwittingly set himself free from the confines of a conventional, inhibited existence, and became, in Zen terms, a source of love and comfort to all around him.

Scientistic dogmatists have a rigid antagonism toward acknowledging human-like emotions in other sentient beings. Provoking such idealogues to reach for their smelling salts, Chester draws some startling conclusions about the personality (avianality?) of his little friend, describing moods, cognitive reasoning, and behavior which leaves little doubt that the humble sparrow is a “riot of sophisticated emotions.”

When Chester describes his bereavement at the death of his sparrow in terms appropriate to that of a member of the family, Descartes would turn in his grave and Raimond Gaita, whose book *The Philosopher’s Dog* is reviewed on page 20, would reach for the thesaurus and fumble for synonyms to words like “sentimental” and “polemical.” Unashamedly anthropomorphic, Chester simply tells it as he saw it.

Chester’s actions in regard to B raise crisply the distinction between animal welfare and the animal rights philosophy. From a welfare point of view Chester cannot be faulted. He acted as a Good Samaritan in rescuing the moribund chick. Thereafter, he gave B a life of security, comfort and love in surroundings as spacious as were practicable. So what if B was deprived of his freedom?

But the animal rightist asks: Was it morally right to place B under house arrest for all ten years of his life?

The Great Compassion: *Buddhism & Animal Rights* by Norm Phelps
Holy Cow: *The Hare Krishna Contribution to Vegetarianism & Animal Rights* by Steven J. Rosen
Both from Lantern Books (1 Union Square West, Suite 201, New York, NY 10003), 2004. 169 pages, paperback. \$16.00.

Norm Phelps, spiritual outreach director for the Fund for Animals, is an angry Buddhist and animal rights activist.

Phelps’s righteous anger is primarily directed at the many Buddhists—he estimates about half—who eat meat. Phelps regards meat eating by Buddhists as both hypocrisy and as much a heresy as can be committed within a religion whose teachings emphasize tolerance. Phelps contends that western Buddhists who continue to eat meat, when they must know of the horrors of factory farming, offend the fundamental principle of their ancient religion, which requires compassion for all sentient beings and preparedness to make personal sacrifices in order to reduce others’ suffering.

Phelps marshals all the arguments he has heard from Buddhists who rationalize eating meat, attacking their special pleading, selfishness and prevarications with ruthless analysis and scathing logic.

Many Tibetan as well as western Buddhists eat meat. The Tibetans excuse is that the high plateaux of Tibet are not suitable for plant farming and so meat eating was a necessity of life. Phelps is not impressed, pointing out that many meat-eating Tibetans have lived for decades in fertile India, after fleeing the Chinese invasion of 1950 and repression following the uprising of 1959.

Even his Holiness the Dalai Lama eats meat, despite having briefly become a vegetarian in 1965 after seeing chicken slaughter. Many Buddhists share Phelps’s sense of betrayal and disappointment with his excuse: that doctors advised him to eat meat after he suffered from hepatitis.

On page 115 of the Dalai Lama’s book *A Simple Path*, his Holiness confirms that the scriptures say that even animals have a natural desire to avoid suffering.

On pages 154-155 he stresses that compassion alone is not enough and that Buddhists have a responsibility to take upon themselves the task of helping all sentient beings. In fact, the Dalai Lama goes so far as to allude to scriptures that require Buddhists to imagine that all beings are their mothers and to treat them accordingly.

He acknowledges on page 168 that “my own practice is very poor, very poor indeed.”

Analogies between Buddhism and animal rights philosophy are highlighted throughout Phelps’s fascinating book. Vivisection is compared to pagan animal sacrifice. As Phelps

It boils down to this: do we accept the animal welfare position which allows us to use animals for our own selfish needs, so long as we do so humanely, or do we grant sparrows “equal inherent value” and therefore refrain from treating them like our property. In short, are we content with bigger cages, or do we want empty cages?

To our minds the weakness in the welfare-based morality lies in Chester’s own appreciation that the bird was completely self-aware and had a full complement of moods and emotions. To such a persona, we can infer that B would have had a richer life had he been freed to forage and mingle with his own kind. We may be accused of anthropomorphism if we say that B must inevitably have suffered some kind of captivity depression, but we are on safer ground when we say that B ought morally be given the choice between freedom and captivity—*because he was capable of making the choice.*

In addition to believing that B would live longer in captivity, Chester explains why he did not release him: “Having altered the natural course of events by saving B, we could even things out by letting him go. The rationalist in me favoured releasing him but my emotional side called the shots,” Chester admits.

“We never formally agreed to keep B, just made incremental adjustments furthering that end while tacitly maintaining we’d release him soon as he was ready to fend for himself,” Chester adds. “In any event it is unlikely that B would

Kostro’s journey starts when he is a three-year-old living in the inner city with his Polish immigrant parents and grandparents. As a boy he often rescued animals; as a teenager he found summer camp a place of untold discovery; and his relationships with animals, especially his little dog Pepper, fared better than his marriage, which ended in divorce.

“I truly believe that my encounters with all sorts of animals have been an integral part of making me who I am today—an avowed ‘animal person,’” Kostro writes.

There are plenty of amusing stories. For example, he finds a baby robin who has fallen out of her nest. Up goes a huge ladder and the baby is returned to a full nest of robin

puts it so neatly: “Vivisection is the modern equivalent of religious animal sacrifice; both attempt to purchase our own well being with the lives of animals.”

Concerning hunting and conservation, Phelps points out that Buddhism regards animals, along with humans, as the “contents” of the environmental “container,” whereas the conservation philosophy lumps animals in with trees and rocks as part of the environment. This has important consequences. Conservationists cull animals supposedly to protect the environment, whereas Buddhism would require protection of the environment for the benefit of all living beings.

Although the 18th century philosopher Jeremy Bentham and contemporary philosopher Peter Singer have gone some way toward Buddhism in stressing the need to include all sentient animals within the scope of our ethics, Buddhism goes further by precluding exceptions based on lack of mental capacity. There is no hierarchy of sentience in Buddhism: even crabs and earthworms are entitled to compassion.

Whether or not animal rights activists believe in rebirth, the law of Karma, and other more esoteric aspects of Buddhism, Phelps’ comparisons show that the “great compassion” principle ought to be shared by dedicated activists.

Buddhism, Phelps emphasizes, is much more than a selfish form of spiritual practice designed to reduce stress and lower anxiety through meditation. The “great compassion” must go to the very depth of our existence: we cannot achieve our own happiness until we are prepared to sacrifice it for the happiness of other beings.

Holy Cow: Hare Krishnas!
Holy Cow purports to describe the Hare Krishna contribution to vegetarianism and animal rights. However, author Steven Rosen, editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Vaishnava Studies*, makes little effort to analyse the main schools of thought within animal rights philosophy, and draws comparisons between them and Hindu principles. His main concern is vegetarianism, and the concluding chapter contains some delicious-looking recipes.

There can be no argument that the Hare Krishna movement has contributed much to the spreading popularity of vegetarian food. Once associated primarily with flower-selling at airports, the Hare Krishna sect rose to respectability and cultural influence through worldwide outreach programs such as Food For Life, and through the commercial success of vegetarian cookbooks and restaurants.

The Hare Krishna success has been achieved against considerable odds. It began in 1965, when Srila A.C. Bhaktivedante Swami Prabhupada, dressed in robes and rubber sandals, 70 years old and penniless, arrived in New York from India and set about establishing a western branch of the Hindu sect called Gaudiya Vaishnavism. He died in 1977, long before the major growth phase of the Hare Krishna movement, but had built momentum that has continued through further generations of leadership.

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

have left me had I tried to release him, our bond being too well established by the time he returned to his original room.”

Rehabbers face Chester’s dilemma daily. Caring as we do for a large collection of orphaned and injured birds of prey, and after years of working to rehabilitate wildlife in South Africa, we understand his reluctance to surrender a captive-bred bird into the cruel, hard world. And yes, a release is often a tearful event, full of tortured imaginings of culpable aviicide. Yet it should for obvious moral reasons be done wherever possible, as a matter of policy.

Chester could have done a soft release by leaving the room window ajar. B could have explored the garden and returned to the security of his room at will. Had the bird chosen to remain with Chester then, as B may well have done—many of our own bird and animal releases choose to remain—it would have been of his own free will.

This book is much more than a cute story about a rescued sparrow. It is really about the power of love, and as such should be read by everybody.

—Chris Mercer & Beverley Pervan

[Mercer and Pervan are co-directors of the Kalahari Raptor Centre, P.O. Box 1386, Kathu, Northern Cape ZA 8446, South Africa; telephone 27-53-712-3576; <krc@spg.co.za>; <www.raptor.co.za>.]

Curious creatures, wonderous waifs: *My life with Animals* by Ed Kostro
PublishAmerica, (www.publishamerica.com), 2004. 217 pages, paperback. \$16.95.

chicks. As one chick is replaced and Kostro climbs down, another is pushed out and there begins a procession of returning robin chicks to the rather inadequate nest. A large crowd of neighbors gathers to watch. Eventually an onlooker yells out to Kostro to enlarge the nest. Thus the see-saw of rescuer and robins came to a happy ending for all.

Kostro describes the desolation resulting from urban decay and suburban sprawl, which kills the natural beauty of a city’s surroundings, and the impact that this has upon family values. He emphasizes simple values that seem to have been lost in the hustle and bustle of everyday living. Each chapter is an excellent bedtime story.

—Beverley Pervan

roots in the Vedic scriptures of ancient India. Both believe in the transmigration and rebirth of souls, so that devotees might believe that they should avoid meat-eating, for fear of consuming the new body of an old relative.

But Hare Krishna splits from Buddhism in its enthusiastic use and promotion of dairy products. Perhaps this is one reason why Hare Krishna has had so little direct impact within the animal rights movement: despite the animal welfare benefits of eliminating meat consumption, participants in a secular movement emphasizing veganism rarely identify with either the practice of lacto-vegetarianism or the Vedic spiritual teachings associated with it.

Unfortunately, the author lapses at times into Hare Krishna movement self-congratulation—for example, listing at some length the achievements of various Hare Krishna cooks.

Further, delving into esoteric aspects of the faith that non-believers might consider mumbo-jumbo, Rosen makes his book much less attractive than it could be to non-Hindus.

Rosen stresses the religious rituals associated with food. First pure food must be offered to God (Lord Krishna, a vegetarian). Only then may it be eaten by the devotee, for once the love of the Deity has been shown, the food can tnourish not only the body, but the spirit as well.

Rosen notes that vegetarianism is rapidly growing in popularity in the developed nations, whereas surveys show that Indians are consuming more meat than ever before, contrary to the teachings of all of the major religions founded in India and many “minor” branches, little known elsewhere, which nonetheless claim millions of Indian adherents.

As India modernizes and emulates western ways, meat consumption—and the cruelty inherent in raising animals for slaughter—seem certain to increase.

Swami Prabhupada taught that, “Real philosophy is nothing more than this: ‘friendliness to all living entities.’”

Such sayings have taken root in the west, which may eventually help them to regain currency where they started.

—Chris Mercer & Beverley Pervan



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Are Ford Crown Victorias high-risk for police dogs?

MURPHY, N.C.—A Ford Motor Company spokesperson told Asheville *Citizen-Times* staff writer Jon Ostendorff on September 2, 2004 that the company is unaware of any problem with the air conditioning system of Crown Victoria Interceptor police cruisers that might pose an inordinate risk to police dogs left temporarily unattended in the vehicles, but Ostendorff quickly identified three recent deaths of police dogs in recent-model Crown Victorias, and ANIMAL PEOPLE identified two more.

Ostendorff was aware of the deaths of overheated police dogs on July 15 in Muleshoe, Texas; August 4 in New Bern, North Carolina; and August 19 in Murphy, North Carolina.

Queno, an 8-year-old German shepherd trained to detect explosives for the Dallas police department, died on July 30 when senior corporal Alex Garcia, his handler of seven years, left the dog alone for four hours in a Crown Victoria at the end of his shift.

Gino, an 11-year-old German shepherd, died along with Calgary police constable Darren Leggett's own pet German shepherd on September 1. Koko, a six-year-old German shepherd police dog, survived. A police investigation attributed the incident to a plugged radiator.

In September 2002 ANIMAL PEOPLE noted five other deaths of dogs in police cars, but the only vehicle identified by make in file information about those cases was a Chevrolet Tahoe.

ANIMAL OBITS

Sodade, a loggerhead sea turtle tagged with a radio transmitter and tracked via satellite by the Marine Turtle Research Group at the University of Exeter in Cornwall, U.K., was apparently poached on August 25, 2004 off Cape Verde, an archipelago west of Africa. "We started to receive an unusually large number of very high quality location signals from Sodade," researcher Brendan Godley explained. "Such signals are received when a turtle spends large amounts of time at the surface, suggesting she was likely on the deck of a boat. Then the transmissions ceased, suggesting that her transmitter was removed and dumped. Given the large number of turtles captured for food in Cape Verde and the presence of fishing boats in the area at the time, we think we know her fate."

Peipei, 33, the oldest known panda in the world, died on August 13 at the Hangzhou City Zoo in eastern China.

HUMAN OBITUARIES

Dan Knapp, 49, died unexpectedly on August 1, 2004. Longtime friend Warren Cox told ANIMAL PEOPLE that he understood Knapp suffered a heart attack while mowing his lawn. An ordained minister, Knapp led churches in Piedmont, San Jose, Santa Monica, and Huntington Park, California, and handled inventory control for a Silicon Valley maker of mass spectrometers, before finding his calling in 1988-1989 as executive director of the Humane Society of Humboldt County. Moving to the somewhat larger Humane Society of Sonoma County in 1990, Knapp achieved an economic turnaround, markedly reduced animal control killing, and formed effective alliances with cat rescuers, dog breed rescue clubs, local children's services, and animal rights groups. Knapp was recruited in July 1998 to become general manager of the Los Angeles Department of Animal Regulation. Knapp in March 2000 persuaded the Los Angeles city council to adopt one of the widest differentials on record in the cost of licensing sterilized v.s. unsterilized pets. A favorite of animal rights activists, Knapp otherwise ran into conflict and controversy in Los Angeles, most memorably when he attributed a controversial mid-2000 roundup of free-roaming dogs to preparation for the Democratic National Convention, and was rebuked by Mayor Richard Riordan. An epileptic since 1996, Knapp was fired by Riordan's successor, James K. Hahn, in October 2001, after a prolonged medical absence. He subsequently sued Los Angeles for alleged discrimination based on his epileptic condition. In January 2002 he became executive director of the Capital Area Humane Society in Columbus, Ohio, where—as in Sonoma County—he won praise from all quarters. "Dan was an important advocate for animals and people in our community," said CAHS board president Becky Johnson. "He was committed to preventing animal and human violence through intervention and community education. Dan provided exemplary leadership, and will be difficult to replace."

Nafisa Joseph, 26, hanged herself in her Mumbai apartment on July 29, 2004, leaving no note of explanation. Born and raised in Bangalore, Joseph won the Miss India pageant in 1997. She used the position and her subsequent popularity as a fashion model and MTV video host to promote animal welfare at every opportunity. People for Animals, PETA, the Blue Cross of India, and the Animal Rights Fund of Bangalore were among the recipients of her generosity with both time and money. "She was a very balanced person, and her death has come as a shock to us," said Animal Rights Fund spokesperson Dilip Bafna. "Nafisa may have felt jilted in love," wrote Meenakshi Sinha of the Mumbai publication *Enlarge*. She was set to marry auto parts dealer Gautam Khanduja on August 7," but Khanduja broke the engagement on July 27 for unknown reasons. "Nafisa had a medical problem. She was suffering from epilepsy, and that could be a reason why the engagement was called off, though she was receiving treatment," speculated her friend and fellow model Marc Robinson. Long recognized as treatable and controllable in the developed world, epilepsy is still much feared in Asia.

Barbara Ann Bumgarner, 45, shot herself on August 10, 2004, a close friend told ANIMAL PEOPLE. A longtime employee of the Newport Animal Shelter in Newport, Tennessee, well-regarded by animal control colleagues, Bumgarner was promoted to shelter director in July 1999 after the death of previous director Sherry Cobb. Bumgarner was demoted back to humane officer in September 2003 after a nine-month dispute with the Newport city council over whether she was entitled to a pay raise as a department head. She had increased her annual salary to \$31,138, but the council ordered that it be reduced back to circa \$20,000, about half the salary paid to male city department heads. Bumgarner unsuccessfully pursued a gender discrimination lawsuit against the city.

Bairron, a 7-year-old pony, was killed by a car on July 22 after he and 19 other equines were released from Lear Stables in rural Dakota County, Minnesota, by a vandal of unidentified motive.

Nina, 10, a Komodo dragon who came to the London Zoo from the Canary Islands in July 2004, fell to her death on August 18 after scaling a wall to meet her intended mate, Raja, 6, brought from Miami.

Arusha, 52, a Nile hippopotamus who had lived at the National Zoo in Washington D.C. since 1955, died quietly in her pool on August 26. Arusha had 19 calves, including a son who still lives at the National Zoo.

Gertrude, 22, a hippo resident of the Greater Vancouver Zoo in Aldergrove, British Columbia, died suddenly on August 13 from no evident cause.

Picabo, 10, a bottlenose dolphin born at Siegfried & Roy's Secret Garden at the Mirage hotel and casino in Las Vegas, died there on July 9 from an unidentified illness.

Lilian Moore, 95, died on July 20, 2004, at home in Seattle. Highlights of her career included editing a newspaper called *The Unemployed Teacher* for the Unemployed Teacher's Council during the Great Depression, founding the Scholastic Arrow Book Club and Lucky Book Club in 1957 to encourage children to read, and founding the Council on Interracial Books for Children in 1964, but she was best known for her *Little Raccoon* children's book series, a hit in both English and Russian, and other children's books about animals, including *Old Rosie, the Horse Nobody Understood* (1960).

James Stephen Watts, 64, a noted longtime local dog and cat rescuer who found adoptive homes among a wide circle of friends, was beaten to death in his Oak Cliff, Texas home circa March 11, 2004. Details were withheld until July while police tried unsuccessfully to identify the killer.

Hewitt B. Cabirac Sr. died on July 19, 2004 in Covington, Louisiana, his home for 41 years. A lab technician for 25 years at the Tulane Regional Primate Research Center, an institution often at odds with animal advocates, Cabirac asked that memorials be made to the St. Tammany Humane Society.

Wabbi Leonard, Ph.D., founder of Humane Uganda, an outspoken opponent of meat-eating and hunting, died on July 1, 2004 after a prolonged bout with heart disease and pneumonia. As a delegate to the All Africa Humane Education Summit held in Cape Town in 2003, Leonard was conspicuous for his indefatigable good humor. Leadership of Humane Uganda passed to colleague Tuliraba Prima.

Jack Nicholas, 71, notorious as the farmer who covertly released rabbit calicivirus smuggled from Australia to the North Island of New Zealand in late 1997, was mysteriously shot three times on August 26 as he fed his pet sheep circa 7 a.m. The introduced disease killed millions of rabbits during the next few years, but gradually lost potency as the surviving rabbits developed immunity.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Barbara Bumgarner.
—Vicky Crosetti

In memory of Tubby, 1986-1994, last of the cats rescued by Lake Superior Humane Society director Todd Stoehr in Izmir, Turkey, during 1988-1989.

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), Purr Box, Jr. (5/1/04) and Blackie (9/9/96).

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Attached is a recent news report in Chinese that appeared on the front page of the local daily newspaper on July 16, 2004 that describes how some people were arrested for allegedly eating parts of the brain of a live monkey. Local television reported similar news the same day. Despite legal protection, monkeys are still being captured from the wild and killed.

Now the Kaohsiung City mayor has ordered that 300 wild Formosan macaques must be removed from the Mount Longevity municipal nature reserve. Local aborigines will be hired to capture the macaques. Many monkeys may die during the process! The city wants to control the monkey population, but these smart creatures, the only non-human primates found in Taiwan, are not over-populated. They are shy and seldom go out of the forest to disturb people and property.

Those who are concerned about saving the lives of these poor monkeys can write directly to Kaohsiung City mayor Frank Chang-ting Hsieh, c/o Kaohsiung City Government #2, Swei 3rd Rd., Lingya District, Kaohsiung 802, Taiwan, Republic of China; fax 886-7-3373761; e-mail <mayor@mail.kcg.gov.tw>.

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tiger caged near the leopard became ill but survived. All of the felines had been fed meat from diseased chickens.

the political struggle. —*Merritt Clifton*

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April 6-9: *HSUS Animal Care Expo*, Atlanta. Info: <www.animalsheltering.org/expo>; 1-800-248-EXPO.
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