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Latham Letter

VOLUME XXII, NUMBER 1

WINTER 2001

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

Single Issue Price: \$4.00

More Homes = Less Killing



Saving pets' lives through animal-affirmative rental housing

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The Latham Letter

Vol. XXII, No. 1, Winter 2001

Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities



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ABOUT THE LATHAM FOUNDATION:

The Latham Foundation is a 501(c)(3) private operating foundation founded in 1918 to promote respect for all life through education. The Foundation makes grants-in-kind rather than monetary grants. Latham welcomes partnerships with other institutions and individuals who share its commitment to furthering humane education.

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Edith Latham's Mandate

"To promote, foster, encourage and further
the principles of humaneness, kindness and
benevolence to all living creatures."



Editorial

Expectations

Hugh H. Tebault, III, President

Welcome to the first edition of the *Latham Letter* for the new millennium!

The very different election season that we've just been through is a good example of how no one succeeds if we let differences in our opinions stop us from working together. This applies to all aspects of life – from politics to our work in humane education.

In the political arena, the election normally resolves the campaign. Voting Day puts an end to all the campaign ads that we grow tired of hearing. But this year I lost track of the candidates behind all the lawyers and media experts telling me about the ultra-conservatives doing this, and ultra-liberals doing that, and everyone battling the meaning of a vote in the courts. Wasn't it simpler before?

In humane education, Latham has often been on the forefront of new and important ideas. We like to think that throughout our 83-year history, we have helped articulate and put into action some of the thoughts that were just beginning in the minds of others. For example, when we were creating the previous *Latham*

Letter, we did not realize just how timely a subject we were addressing. I hope you had reason to read your copy of and get reintroduced to the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Now that most of the election dust has settled, I can look back and believe that we have considerable work to do in our towns and counties to ensure improvement in the next election's process.

This election also made me think about labels. Labels are strong tools. When you hear someone called a liberal, what do you think they represent? What about someone identified as a conservative? What does the term diversity mean to you? What about discrimination? Terms like these are in the news I read and watch daily. Terms don't present any facts; they only push my buttons and impact how I hear what follows. What about you?

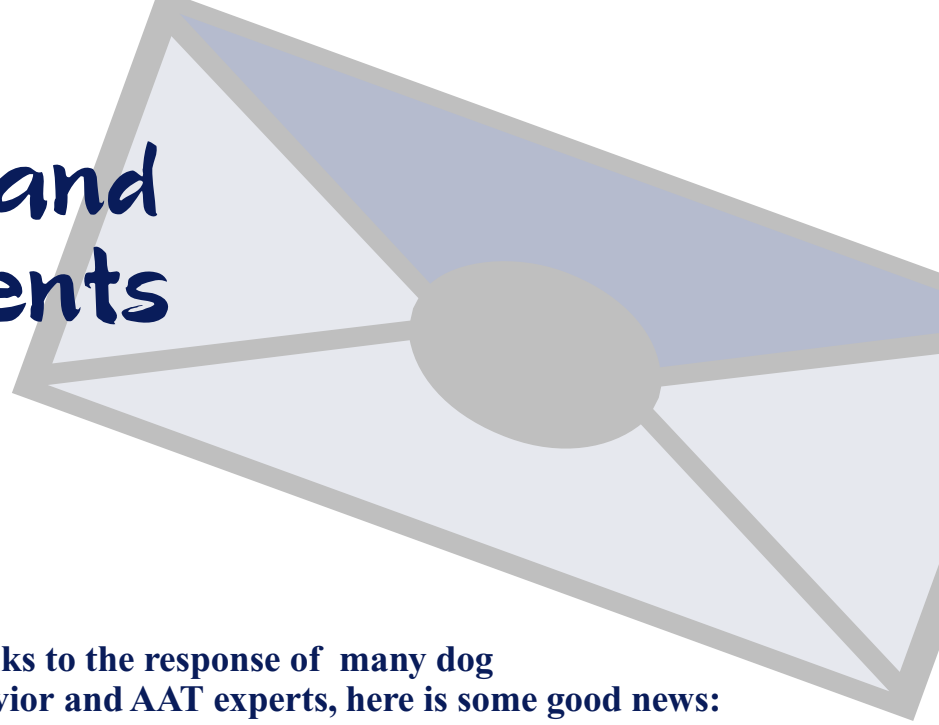
Our country has long regarded its strength – both past and present – in part from the “melting pot” created by so many nationalities being together. This strength comes not just from being different, but by combining those differences into one mix. New citizens often understand this fact better than those of us who were born here do.

We may hold divergent opinions because of varied backgrounds, but if we agree to the First Amendment right to have free speech, then we must support each other's right to express differing opinions. Reporters that denounce someone's right to hold an opinion, or imply that their opinion is automatically wrong just because it is “the other side” do not have a legitimate place in our society.

At Latham and in the field of humane education, we seek to teach the benefits of being kind toward animals and people. In this work there are others who hold strong beliefs about how animals should be treated and the environment used. Some of these persons want society to immediately change its behaviors. Let us agree to disagree on the methods for change, while working together on the fundamentals of kindness. As a team, our working, teaching, and improving the field of Humane Education is key to bettering society for everyone. Together we stand but if we are divided, we fall.



Letters and Comments



From a concerned volunteer via the internet:

Dear Friends:

I volunteer at a residential treatment center for children. The center is starting a pet therapy program. They have built a fenced outdoor area and purchased one dog. The dog interacts with the children an hour in the morning and perhaps two hours in the afternoon Monday through Thursday. Friday through Sunday it receives attention only for an hour in the morning. It is then left in the fence in the middle of an isolated field for the remaining 21 to 23 hours of the day. The children-dog interactions are supervised by volunteers and school teachers, but there is no formal therapy or an actual pet therapist. The dog has a dog house (without a flap over the door) and is fed and watered once a day. The dog is not eating well and barks a large portion of the time. I am concerned that the social and psychological needs of the dog are not being met and that the dog has or will soon develop separation anxiety. Do you have any material on the effects of this kind of isolation on dogs? Is this the proper way to run an AAT program? I am concerned about the dog and I'm trying to find information that I can present. Please give me your thoughts on this.

Thank you for your help.

Thanks to the response of many dog behavior and AAT experts, here is some good news:

Thank you all so very much for your responses, support and concern. Thursday I had a meeting with management at the residential treatment center and they agreed that the pet therapy program needs to be changed. They will be instructing the pet therapy director to find the dog a permanent home and bring him on campus only when he is actually needed for therapy activities. There are several staff members more than eager to give provide a permanent home with lots of love. If this change fails to happen or should I need any additional help, I will certainly let you all know. I could not have gotten this resolved without your help. The dog and I both thank you immensely.

My faith in the power of goodness and group effort has been renewed.

Thank you again.

STATE



**HUMANE
ASSOCIATION
OF CALIFORNIA**

Dear Latham:

I am writing to thank you for reviewing our Handbook. It even resulted in orders from outside the state of California.

I also want to say how impressed I was with the quality of the Latham Letter. Great job!

*Richard Ward
Administrative Director
State Humane Association
of California*



More Homes = Less Killing



Saving pets' lives through animal-affirmative rental housing

By Ruth Smiler

"I'm moving and I can't find a landlord who will allow pets."

Shelter workers hear these awful words every week. The shortage of pet-friendly rental housing is both a major cause of animals entering shelters and a major obstacle to their leaving alive to new adoptive homes. If more rental units were available to pet families, fewer animals would be brought into shelters. On the demand side, greater availability will mean

"Landlords' bias against large dogs is not rational."

more can be adopted. Fewer will have to die. In fact, by creating even a modest increase in the supply of "Pets Welcome" = ANIMAL-AFFIRMATIVE – rental housing, no

adoptable dogs or cats need be killed at all.

Accomplishing this goal will require more than mere advocacy and general public education on the part of animal welfare organizations. Hands-on services to owners and managers of rental housing can enable them to be partners in the solution of what has long seemed an intractable problem. Greater emphasis on responsible pet stewardship, care, and training is the other essential ingredient for success.

Of the estimated twenty million animals a year that enter shelters, it's a conservative guess that 3.6 million are relinquished because their people are moving and can't find a pet-friendly landlord. When I closed my antiques shop and left my longtime home in Vermont in 1997 to go to California in search of a snow-free life, I did not intend to become an expert on homelessness, either human or quadruped. Nevertheless, when my temporary rental in Oakland was sold, despite my diligent efforts, I was unable to find another apartment for me and my dogs. The three of us became homeless. We lived in my campervan, stayed with friends a few days here and there, and took

a four-week house-sitting position. I ended up leaving the Bay Area. Since then I have experienced apartment hunting in Miami, San Diego, Boston, and suburban New York. Renting with pets is tough.

Owner relinquishments account for nearly thirty percent of all animals entering shelters. Moving is reason number one for dogs, and reason number three for cats, according to the National Council on Pet Population Study and Policy. At some shelters, as many as half the surrendered animals come from people facing restrictions in rental housing. Research conducted in 1998 at the Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine Center for Animals and Public Policy puts the number at about 18 percent. Housing-related problems may account for as many as two-thirds of the "adoptable" dogs in shelters. Whatever the precise numbers, the trauma of animals being separated from loving families who can't keep them is a vast tragedy for both people and animals in cities large and small throughout the country. Not everyone will choose to be homeless even temporarily as I did, rather than give up her pets. This unhappy situation need not continue.

One-third of all US households are renters according to the Census Bureau's 1997 American Housing Survey. American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Center for Information Management data tells us that approximately 21 percent of rental households have cats and/or dogs, compared to a rate of 59 percent for homeowners and 46 percent for the population as a whole. (Sixty percent, often quoted as the proportion of US households with pets, includes ALL companion animals – fish, birds, reptiles, rodents, horses, etc. Because the millions of shelter animals facing potential euthanasia are mostly cats and dogs, for purposes of this discussion, "pets" refers to them only.) Since more than one-third of all renters move each year, compared to only 8 percent of homeowners, animals in rental housing are at far greater risk of abandonment. Furthermore, in cities where the economy is booming and vacancy rates are low, the odds of finding rentals are especially bad for households that include an animal.

It's even worse for dogs, particularly larger ones, than for cats. "Pets Welcome" or "Pets Negotiable" often does not extend to dogs, or limits them to twenty pounds. The bias of landlords against large dogs is not rational. MarkeTactics Consulting Group of Indianapolis, an apartment management consulting firm, surveyed nearly 500 veterinarians and animal behaviorists in order to compile a list of the "Ten Best" and "Ten Worst" breeds for apartment living. Of the ten best, eight were larger than 25 lbs., and of the ten worst, seven were under 25 lbs. While assessing dogs' suitability for apartment living by breed makes no more sense than using weight as the sole criterion, this study does turn upside down the common landlord bias against all but the smallest dogs.

There is good news. Renters represent an untapped reservoir of

potential pet homes. Opening up more rental housing to pets can make a significant difference. Let's return to the numbers. Assume a conservative target of increasing petkeeping rental households from the current 21 percent to one-third (still well below the 59 percent rate for homeowners).

Achieving this modest but realistic goal would create 4.3 million NEW HOMES for cats and dogs. Compare this number to the 4.85 - 5.2 million destroyed annually: 85 percent would be saved! Because this assumes one cat or dog in each additional home, it's possible the results could be even better. According to the AVMA, the average number of animals per petkeeping household in 1996 was 1.69 for dogs, and 2.19 for cats. Since renters are likely to live in smaller quarters than homeowners, we'll assume they have fewer pets. Still, as many as 6.5 million animals might be accommodated in those 4.3 million homes. Euthanasia of adoptable animals could end. Might this really happen? I truly believe so.

Here's how we can make this dream come true. We are at a unique moment to effect significant change. Beginning in 2001, the privilege of keeping companion animals that until now applied only to the handicapped and elderly will be extended to nearly all federally subsidized family housing. A total of 1.3 million additional housing units throughout the country will allow pets. It is imperative that the integration of companion animals into HUD-subsidized buildings under this mandate be successful. Alone, local housing officials and property managers are unlikely to have the animal knowledge, skills, time, or interest, to do what is necessary.



Animal advocates should view this as an opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of pets and people in their communities. We must establish positive, mutually-agreeable working relationships to assist public housing residents and managers in providing safe, caring, permanent

“Increasing petkeeping rental households from the current 21 percent to 33 percent would create 4.3 million new homes for dogs and cats.”

homes for animals. The stakes are high indeed. The HUD program is arguably a huge nationwide pilot project for pets in multi-family housing. Perceived failures could have severe negative consequences not only for the ongoing presence of



pets in HUD housing, but also in the much larger 37 million unit market-rate housing sector. A positive experience in the public sector can be used to help convince private, market-rate property owners to cater to responsible petkeepers. Massachusetts extended pets-permitted policies to state-subsidized family housing five years ago. The

“Some property owners go beyond being ‘pet-friendly’ to marketing actively to petkeeping tenants.”

fact that no problems have yet required resolution by the Pet Grievance Panel must be attributed in part to the assistance available from the MSPCA and the Pet Ombudsman on staff at the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

There will be a critical need to help project managers develop reasonable pet policies. Unless an ombudsman assumes ongoing responsibility for interviewing or

screening prospective animal tenants, the managers will need to be trained to do so. The establishment of a Pet Committee, a key component of the Massachusetts Pet Policy, relieves the property manager of the responsibility for dealing with routine pet/tenant issues. Model documents including pet applications, lease riders, identification records, and policy statements should be supplied. In addition to the Massachusetts model, several animal welfare organizations have excellent materials which can be used and adapted as appropriate to specific properties.

Whether in subsidized or market-rate properties, services must be delivered to both tenants and landlords. Educating tenants, preferably on-site, about responsible pet guardianship and care is one side of the equation. Most dogs given to shelters have had no obedience training. Even a little training is a prophylactic against relinquishment. Basic obedience and socialization classes offered at multi-unit sites will benefit not only the dogs and their people, but the community as a whole. Where there are elderly or disabled residents, services which assist in animal care, including dog-walking and litterbox maintenance, should be considered. At market-rent properties, many of these services might be offered on a user fee basis. In a large rental community with many animals, a pet ombudsman might organize a variety of services that will contribute to the quality of life and convenience of both the pet families and their non-pet neighbors, including:

- *a Pet Committee to mediate disputes, enforce regulations and*

develop protocols in case of infractions of the Pet Policy;

- *ongoing or ad hoc support and liaison between tenants and management if necessary;*



- *obedience classes for dogs;*
- *tenant cooperative pet-sitting and dog-walking exchanges;*
- *shared maintenance of a common off-leash dog yard;*
- *on-site pet daycare;*
- *bulk buying of cat litter, other supplies.*

The goal is to increase the number of permanent loving homes for animals. Persuading owners and managers of market-rate properties to offer more “Animal Affirmative” housing has enormous potential for breaking the continuing displacement cycle that results from the acute shortage of rentals available to petkeepers. Landlord biases against animals are sometimes rooted in outdated lease agreements from decades ago when neutering companion animals and treating them as family members were not the norm. In some cases, prejudices are traceable to a single negative experience with an irresponsible tenant, or even a hearsay incident. To help overcome their reservations, market-rate landlords and property managers should be offered the

implementation and support services already described so as to attract and select responsible animal guardians.

Many property owners have learned they can do very well by doing good. Some go beyond being “pet-friendly” to marketing actively to petkeeping tenants. The Market-Tactics report previously mentioned concluded that, “Apartment operators who cater to residents with big dogs outperform their competitors.” I met a landlady in Oakland, CA, who buys and rehabs houses to rent at market rates exclusively to people with dogs. She has been so successful that she can’t acquire and renovate fast enough to satisfy the demand. “I have the best tenants in the world,” she told me, “and I never have any vacancies.” One must wait for new units to be completed to get into one of her buildings. Mary Randolph, in her book, *DOG LAW* (Nolo Press), describes a 40-unit apartment

amply demonstrated by experience, including:

- *lower vacancy rates and longer tenancies;*
- *a larger pool of prospective tenants;*
- *higher rents;*
- *more responsible tenants. Responsible pet-keepers are responsible people. They tend to be more reliable and home-centered, making them exemplary tenants;*
- *a higher level of commitment to the property, the community, and the neighborhood;*
- *decreased legal liability and decreased time and effort enforcing a “No Pets” policy. “Pets Welcome” policies actually confer to the landlord more control over the animals in the property.*
- *increased security. The presence of dogs, as well as people who spend more time at home, contribute to fewer break-ins and less vandalism. All residents benefit, as well as the property owner.*



complex in San Jose, CA, whose profit-oriented landlord believes that targeting families with dogs attracts higher-quality tenants. His buildings have fenced kennel runs attached to each apartment. He also subsidizes dog obedience lessons for his residents.

The profitability of “Pets Welcome” properties has been

intends to develop a 200-home “village” in Florida that will include, among other features, a community veterinarian, a pet training school, pet daycare, group pet insurance, dog runs, petwash facilities, and a pet hotel. Homes will have pet doors, hair and odor filters, and architecturally compatible doghouses. Kates has specialized in what they call “lifestyle

enhancement” projects and this is planned as a prototype for future developments in the US and Canada. “Harmony” will be an even larger

“There are too many people who are forced to give up their animal companions because, as renters, they can’t find housing.”

community of 1700 upscale townhouses and single-family detached homes near Orlando. Schools, an environmentally friendly golf course, and a full range of recreational facilities for both people and pets are all part of the plan, as well as an array of pet services. These are projects aimed at the homeowner market, which is fully open to petkeepers anyway, but the same ideas could as well be applied to rental communities.

As a society, we have long struggled with the problem of homeless animals. Our so-called solutions have usually focused on the supply, or over-supply of animals seen as “unwanted surplus.” Huge scale killing, the common response, has been justified as an evil necessity. Spay/neuter programs, a far better approach, also aim at reducing supply. Effective as they are, alone they will never entirely eliminate the problem. Because their success in the last

twenty years has dramatically reduced the national kill, we can now broaden our attention from the notion of surplus to include the fact of shortage. It's not that we have surplus animals. We have a shortage of homes. There are too many people who are forced to give up their animal companions because as renters they can't find housing. We also have pent-up demand: people who would dearly love to have cats or dogs if only they could find a place to live with them. Homeowners have no such barriers. The problem – and, thus, the solution – lies in the rental market. Loving, beautiful, healthy animals are still being killed in unconscionably high numbers. The answer is amazingly simple and is all around us, in every city and town, in every neighborhood. “Animal-Affirmative” housing is a win-win situation for both the real estate industry and the animal welfare community. More homes equal less

killing. Animal-affirmative rental housing will make this a reality.

For a bibliography, more information, or to explore possible collaborations based on this promising initiative, please e-mail the author at: GladragsR@aol.com.

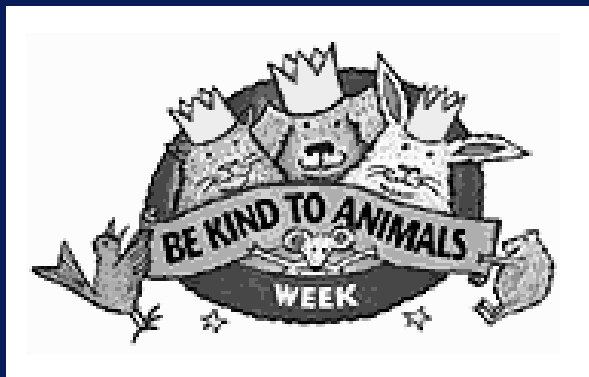
Ruth Smiler grew up in Kansas and New York, and is a graduate of Harvard University in urban design and planning. She was an artist, business owner and antiques dealer in Vermont for 25 years. Since 1997, she has crossed the country in her campervan four times with her dogs Daisy and Mick, both shelter adoptees, and has discussed the rental housing problem with countless pet people and landlords. She is currently working with the housing authority and animal protection groups in New Bedford, MA to prepare for implementation of the HUD pets mandate.

A version of this article, *Five Million More Homes Are Waiting*, appeared in *Animal People*, Vol. IX, #2, March 2000. Shorter coverage of this material, *More Homes for Animals: The Promise of “Animal Affirmative” Rental Housing*, was published in the Winter 2000 edition of *No-Kill News*.

The cover photo appears courtesy of the author and Doing Things for Animals, 59 South Bayles Ave, Port Washington, NY 11050-3728. Phone 516-883-7900 ext. 400.
www.dtfa.org



American Humane Association's Be kind to Animals Week: May 6-12, 2001



**Be Kind to Animals
Kid Contest
Deadline for nominations is
March 15, 2001.**

**Visit AHA's website at
www.americanhumane.org
for access to the
Be Kind to Animals 2001
materials.**



FEBRUARY

February 1-3 – Annual Conference: Association of Professional Humane Educators (APHE formerly WHEEA), Pasadena, CA. For information contact Liz Baronowski 626-792-7151 x114 or Liz@PHSSPCA.org

February 2-3 – An Advanced Workshop for Management, Staff, Teachers, Therapists, and Volunteers of Humane Societies, Animal Care and Control Agencies, San Francisco.

February 4-6 – SAWA Conference, Embassy Suites, Las Vegas.

February 11 – Davis, California. The third of UC Davis's Winter Symposia: Feline Medicine. For further information contact Janet Alviar at jkalviar@ucdavis.edu

February 12-14 – The 4th Annual Community Animal Health Program held in association with the 73rd Annual Western Veterinary Conference, MGM Grand EFX Theater. Speakers include Lynn Loar, Ph.D. on Feb 12: "Identifying and Responding to Abuse Allegations and Reducing the Risks of Abuse or Neglect." E-mail: info@westernveterinary.org

February 21-25 – Midwest Veterinary Conference, presented by the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association. Hyatt Regency at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio. For questions call: 614-486-7253 or 800-662-6862.

February 27 – SPAY DAY USA The Doris Day Animal League has partnered with Pets 911 to enable all animal welfare organizations across the country to register their local SPAY DAY USA events directly through the Pets 911 web site and phone system. As of February 1, 2001, the public can visit or call Pets 911 and access their nearest event. To register your event, go to www.1888pets911.org/spayday or call toll-free 1-888-Pets911.

MARCH

March 7-10 – 2001 Animal Care Expo sponsored by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), Hyatt Regency Reunion Hotel, Dallas, TX. Lynn Loar, Ph.D. and Karen Pryor will speak at a special day-long pre-conference session, "1st Strike: Violence Prevention and Intervention through Humane Education" on March 7th. For more information call 800-248-EXPO or go to www.animalsheltering.org and click on the Animal Care Expo icon.

March 19-23 – Portland, Oregon. The Humane Society of the United States, National Cruelty Investigations School, Level II. 1-800-825-6505 or 573-882-3771.

March 31 – Deadline for entries in the American Humane Association's Humane Images Photo Contest. For more information and a complete list of rules, visit www.americanhumane.org or call 800-227-4645.

APRIL

April 4-7 – Prairie States Conference (Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin). Sponsored by the Wisconsin Federated Humane Society and regional representatives from the HSUS, ASPCA, and AHA. For further information, Contact Jeff Davis at the Coulee Region Humane Society 608-781-4014.

April 7 – Innovative Approaches to Humane Education. Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center, Urbana, Illinois. Visit their web site at <http://www.ansci.uiuc.edu/humane/> or contact Susan Helmink at susanh@uiuc.edu for more information. Sponsored by The Department of Animal Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

April 19-22 – Cleveland, OH, The Annual Conference of the Alliance for Nonprofit Management. Questions: Wendy Reed at 202-955-8406 or www.allianceonline.org/conf2001/index.html

April 23-28 – "Faces of Change: Embracing Diverse Cultures and Alternative Approaches" the 13th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect. Albuquerque, NM. Frank Ascione, Ph.D. is among the speakers. For more information contact Kim Amous at 703-528-0435.

MAY

May 10-11 – The Fourth International Companion Animal Welfare Conference, Sponsored by North Shore Animal League America and the National Canine Defense League. Dorint Park Plaza Hotel, Istanbul, Turkey. For registration information contact:

In Europe: NCDL Phone +44 (0) 20 7837-0006, Fax +44 (0) 20 7833-2701, Helen.fulkes@ncdl.org.uk

All other: Pet Savers Foundation, Phone 516-883-3738, Fax 516-944-5035, e-mail petsavfnd@aol.com

May 17-19 – NACA (National Animal Control Association) Training Conference. Daytona Beach, FL. 800-828-6474. naca@interserv.com or www.nacanet.org

AUGUST

August 16-19 – Doing Things for Animals Seventh Annual No-Kill Conference, Hartford, Connecticut. For sponsorship, exhibitor, and all other information, contact DTFA, 59 So. Bayles Avenue, Port Washington, NY 11050-3728. Phone: 516-883-7767, Fax 516-944-5035 or www.dtfa.org

SEPTEMBER

September 13-15 – The 9th International Conference on Human-Animal Interactions, "People and Animals: A global perspective for the 21st Century." Contact Conference Secretary at www.iahaio.org or www.afirac.org

A Year in the Life of Latham



Promoting Respect for all Life Through Education Since 1918

INTRODUCTION

In the new millennium, Latham continues in its role as respected publisher, producer, facilitator, sponsor, colleague, and catalyst for responsible action. At the same time it remained true to the guiding principles set forth by Edith Latham in 1918 – principles that remain relevant today:

- ✱ *To inculcate the higher principles of humaneness upon which the unity and happiness of the world depend,*
- ✱ *To foster a deeper understanding of and sympathy with animals, who cannot speak for themselves,*
- ✱ *To emphasize the spiritual fundamentals that lead to world friendship, and*
- ✱ *To promote character-building through an understanding of universal kinship.*

Latham as Publisher

The *Latham Letter*, which presents balanced perspectives on national humane issues and activities is in its twenty-first year of publication. Subscribers include child welfare, domestic violence prevention and human service professionals, persons in law enforcement and the judiciary, teachers at all levels (pre-school through post-graduate), members of

the media, and persons interested in humane education, the human companion animal bond, and animal assisted therapy.

Sales continue strong for *Breaking the Cycles of Violence and Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Animal Abuse: Linking the Circles of Compassion for Prevention and Intervention*. Approximately 388 copies of “Cycles” have been sold this year and 794 copies of “Links” are in circulation.

“Links’s” premise is that a multi-disciplinary intervention strategy holds great promise for reducing community violence and achieving systemic change.

Teaching Compassion: A Guide for Humane Educators, Teachers, and Parents is a teacher’s narrative and series of lesson plans to encourage respect, responsibility, and compassion in elementary-age children. Sales, which have been focused on direct opportunities such as conferences and specialized bookstores, are brisk. To date, 612 copies are in circulation.

Latham as Facilitator

Latham completed two videos: “*Jenni: Diary of a Therapy Dog*,” and

“*Mona’s Ark*,” a description of Mona Sams’ unique animal-assisted therapy program that features llamas.

Latham as Sponsor

Latham’s Search for Excellence Video Contest is held every two years. Its purpose is to locate, honor, publicize, and encourage videos promoting respect for all life. Winners of the 1999-2000 contest include:

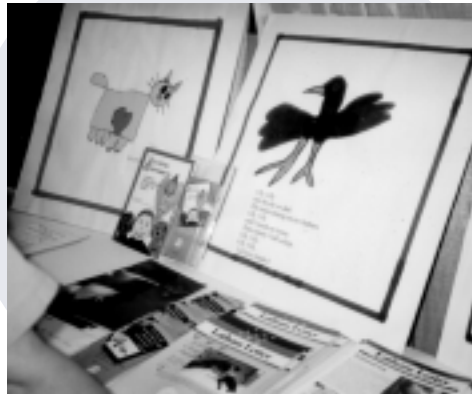
- ✱ The Edith Latham Award for Excellence in Video Productions Promoting Respect for all Life: (\$500) “*Patterns of Abuse: Exploding the Cycle*,” Produced by the Chicago Anti-Cruelty Society in association with filmmaker Erik Friedl.
- ✱ The Gwyn Tebault Award (\$300): “*Kids and Animals – A Healing Partnership*” produced by Axis Gears, Burbank, CA 91502, 818-840-9333.
- ✱ The de Lemos Award for Artistic Achievement (\$300): “*The Humane Campaign*” describes the many services that Nebraska Humane provides.

- * Humane Education/Responsible Pet Care Category: A tie for first place between “*Center of Hope*,” which describes the Animal Cancer Center at Colorado State University, and “*Someone’s Watching; Someone Cares*,” which is a description of the multitude of services performed by the Alberta (Canada) SPCA.
- * Advocacy/Public Policy and Awareness Category: “*A Cow at My Table*,” a feature documentary about animals, meat, and culture produced by Jennifer Abbott of Vancouver, B.C.
- * Science & Nature/Natural History/Animal Behavior: “*Baboon Tales*” produced by Tamarin Productions and distributed by Bullfrog Films, Oley, PA.
- * Innovative Programs Worthy of Replication: “*A Voice to Sing*” describes a cooperative program between Mexico and the US to preserve an important way station for migrating songbirds along the Rio Laja River in Central Mexico. Produced for the Sociedad Audubon de Mexico by Bob Johnson.
- * Public Service Announcements (PSAs): “*Make Sure They Return*,” three TV spots about the importance of having ID on your pet. Produced by the Nebraska Humane Society.

Latham as Colleague

Latham sent representatives to various conferences and sponsored exhibits at national meetings in 1999-2000.

Phil Arkow, Chair of Latham’s Child and Animal Abuse Prevention (CAAP) Committee, spoke at a multitude of workshops through the United States, in Canada, and in South Africa highlighting the need for cross training and collaborative approaches to violence prevention.



Strategies for Mandated Assessment and Treatment of Perpetrators of Animal Cruelty. The course is designed to assist clinicians in understanding the dynamics of animal abuse in the violent behavior of children, adolescents, and adults.

Latham as Clearinghouse for Information

Latham responded to hundreds of requests from university-level students, researchers, the media, like-minded organizations, and individuals interested in the benefits of the human animal bond, humane education, and violence reduction and prevention in 1999-2000.

Latham is respected as a neutral or non-partisan organization – a respected, non-threatening leader – and this gives the Foundation a unique and valuable niche in its field.

Latham as Catalyst for Responsible Action

Latham is a private operating foundation that does not make grants; rather, it uses its resources to highlight the importance of universal kinship and respect for all life through publications, projects, and as a catalyst for responsible action.



Canadian and Florida Groups Actively Working on the Link

By Phil Arkow

The Ontario SPCA's Violence Prevention Institute

According to Phil Arkow, "An increasing number of humane organizations are recognizing that their traditional work to prevent animal abuse has wider implications to prevent other forms of family violence. But perhaps no organization has undertaken such an organized campaign to 'put the Link all together' as the Ontario SPCA, whose Violence Prevention Initiative is having a tremendous impact throughout Canada's most populous province.

The Initiative's goals are to increase awareness of the connections between animal and human violence, to develop a clearer understanding of community violence, and to help social service, health, education, legal and law enforcement professionals develop effective prevention and intervention programs.

The Ontario SPCA may be the only animal protection organization in North America to have a full-time violence prevention coordinator on staff."

"Our goal is to take action and work together to create a kinder, more compassionate Ontario for both animals and humans," says Vicky Earle, CEO of the SPCA, whose 24 branches and 35 affiliates cover a province that is 1-1/2 times larger than Texas.

Phil Arkow

The Spring Latham Letter will feature an article by Vicky Earle describing what the Ontario SPCA is doing to accomplish this goal.

Okaloosa and Walton Counties, FL, and the province of New Brunswick, Canada, are the newest regions where human services providers are joining forces with animal protection personnel to coordinate interdisciplinary efforts to end family violence in its many forms.

In Ft. Walton Beach, FL, some 275 military and civilian personnel attended an all-day seminar, "*The Broken Bond: People, Pets & Family Violence*." The event, sponsored by the Hurlburt Field Family Advocacy Program and the Okaloosa-Walton Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, is believed to be the first time the "Link" between animal abuse and family violence has been introduced to the military.

Hurlburt Field is headquarters of the 16th Special Operations Wing, a commando Air Force unit that is sent world-wide for special, often covert, missions. Like all military bases, it is responding to the Department of Defense's new initiative to decrease domestic violence among military families. The initiative is an outgrowth of a "*60 Minutes*" program on January 17, 1999. A Congressionally mandated task force is assessing domestic violence programs and policies within the military. In 1999 there were 17 substantiated reports of spouse abuse per 1,000 military couples, and 6.5 cases of substantiated child abuse per 1,000 military family children.

Cathy Holmes of Hurlburt Field's Family Advocacy Program, who attended a Latham program in Tallahassee in 1998, organized the most recent seminar. The result was the largest turnout to ever hear such a program and the first one in which human services workers outnumbered – by a huge margin – animal protection personnel. Phil Arkow provided the keynote presentation and described the "Link" and Latham's work in this area. The event also included the University of Cincinnati's Barbara Boat, and Claire Ponder of HSUS' First Strike campaign.

The Family Advocacy Program has initiated a "Safe People, Safe Pets" program that includes cross-reporting, interdisciplinary assessments, and interagency referrals when reports of animal abuse, child abuse or domes-


tic violence are made. It's just part of the total "Link" program picture in the region.

The Panhandle Animal Welfare Society has established a foster care program with Shelter House, the regional safehouse, to care for pets belonging to battered women. PAWS has sheltered 38 pets since the program started. "That's 38 families that have gotten out of desperate situations, so we're pretty proud," said executive director Dee Thompson. The local office of the Florida Department of Children and Families is also looking at the link between animal abuse and interpersonal violence. The way to stop the violence is to look at all the violence in the family, to look past the child and see the entire picture, said Pat Franklin, operations administrator.

Capt. Matt Takara, DVM, an Army veterinarian attached to nearby Eglin AFB, described the challenges of trying to diagnose an abused animal, the likelihood that cats may be favored targets for abuse, and the need to include "pocket pets" such as hamsters and guinea pigs in guidelines for proper care. He also described the frustration of trying to work with a splintered animal rights community. "There's a lot of hissing and spitting between factions," he said.

Meanwhile, north of the border, the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies invited Arkow to be the keynoter at an all-day violence prevention seminar in Moncton, New Brunswick. Ann Gearhart of the William Snyder Foundation for Animals also described the power of humane education to effect positive change in at-risk youth.

The Moncton Boys & Girls Club has a new program, Project Pawsitive for Kids, the first of its kind in the Maritime Provinces. This unique 12-week pet therapy program teaches at-risk youth and first-time offenders to train homeless dogs from animal shelters to make them more adoptable.

Project Pawsitive coordinator Shelley Hunter described the program as an innovative violence prevention program that uses behavior modification for both youth and dogs. "The dog/youth partnership works a special magic – it helps these young people start to care about themselves, the dogs and others," she said. 

Friendship Farm: A Special Place and the Chemistry of Caring



Irene Mehnert, executive director of Fellowship Farm, relaxes for a tranquil moment with Oliver the resident llama.

Photo: Phil Arkow

By Phil Arkow

The Latham Foundation believes that respect for animals can lead to interpersonal respect and international peace. In one small corner of Pennsylvania, animals are helping multicultural groups of people learn harmony and intergroup understanding.

Fellowship Farm is nestled on 120 wooded acres near Pottstown, a few miles from Philadelphia. The site was a sacred worshiping ground for the Lenni Lenape tribe of Native Americans. It is believed to have been a stop on the “Underground Railroad” where slaves escaping from the South could find sanctuaries on their long journey to freedom.

In 1931, a group of Philadelphia Quakers believed that the future peace of the world lay not in the hands of politicians, but rather in the ability of everyday people to live together in understanding. Philadelphia had been settled in the 1680s by Quakers, who even today remain a potent force in local pacifism and politics.

The Philadelphia of 1931 was gripped by racial separation. The

Quakers, created a Fellowship to bridge the gaps between blacks and whites and to challenge racial discrimination. They believed that no human problem can be solved until we solve it together. By 1938, with World War II beginning to rage, Philadelphia was experiencing anti-Semitism. The Quakers opened Fellowship House as an urban study center to bring blacks and whites, Christians and Jews, together in harmony.

Over the years, 28 projects promoted peace and understanding of individual rights and human dignity. As Fellowship House grew there was a need for a conference center. So Fellowship Farm was founded in 1951 in the tranquil countryside.

A chicken coop was remodeled into dorms. A barn was converted into a meeting hall. Many famous people came to share and learn. Margaret Mead called the Farm a “center of illumination.” The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. studied non-violence there. Civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks, Bishop Desmond Tutu, and Gray

Panthers founder Maggie Kuhn were honored speakers.

Political refugees from Cuba, Haiti and El Salvador received assistance. Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu and Native American groups held interfaith conferences. Arab/Jewish mediating teams have stayed there. The Farm has brought together multicultural community task forces, educators for social responsibility, commissions on human relations, and anti-drug programs for youth. They receive experiential learning programs in leadership development, team building and conflict resolution.

“What makes the Farm unique is taking people out of their familiar environment and putting them in a new culture in a natural setting. It can make a significant difference,” says Irene Mehnert, Fellowship Farm’s energetic executive director. Today, the Farm can accommodate 130 overnight guests. A “peace pole” totem wishes guests harmony in eight languages; the bakery features a blessing of bread in seven languages. Hex signs on the former

FARM, continued on page 18

Reducing Canine Aggression Using Clicker Training

By Emma Parsons

It is easy to spot an aggressive dog – the dog barks, lunges, growls or snaps, scaring both people and dogs. It is harder to know what to do about the dog's aggression, how to manage the behavior, and provide safe and enjoyable experiences for the dog at home and on walks in the community.

In their best efforts to contain their dog's aggressive behavior, people often restrict their dog's contact with other dogs. Ironically, this well-intentioned restriction may make things worse. Rather than being given planned and carefully structured opportunities for desensitization and socialization, the dog now has only unexpected run-ins fraught with fear and stress. Desperate owners may see few choices other than keeping the dog confined, surrendering or euthanizing it.

Traditional training rarely provides much help to owners of aggressive dogs. It relies on beatings, and electronic, choke or prong collars to outdo the dog with aggressive displays. These tactics are both inhumane and counter-productive. Aggression begets aggression, and non-compliance causes escalation, increasing the severity of the punishment inflicted on the dog and the level of anger of the trainer. Fortunately, an increasing number of dog owners want to manage their dog's behavioral problems humanely.

This article will take a closer look at a few ways to reduce aggression in dogs who react aggressively to other



Ben looks and listens for that "click."

dogs but are relatively benign around people. Interested readers can find more detailed information in Pat Miller's article, "Plays Well With Others," and Patricia McConnell's book, *Cautious Canine*. Humane and enjoyable approaches to shaping good behavior and reshaping bad behavior are clearly and wittily presented in Karen Pryor's *Don't Shoot the Dog! The New Art of Teaching and Training*. Pryor's article, "A Transformation Devoutly to be Wished: What we are beginning to discover from the clicker training revolution," published in the spring 2000 issue of the *Latham Letter*, and the web sites www.clickertraining.com and also www.pryorfoundation.com offer more information and resources.

Setting the Stage for Success: Safety First

First, find a safe place to work with your dog. You will need some place where you can control the surroundings and stimulation, a place where dogs are allowed but are never off leash. A well-maintained park that permits dogs and strictly enforces leash laws would provide a good setting. Ideally, you would work with a behaviorist or trainer and his or her dog. In a pinch a friend and a mellow dog will do.

Preparing the Dog

Buy a Gentle Leader Head Collar (see reference section) for your dog. There are several kinds; many people prefer the one with the metal buckle for its ease of fastening and adjusting. Make sure the collar fits correctly. A video is available that shows proper fit and use. Designed like a halter for a horse, it lets the owner control and steer the dog's head without force. It discourages pulling on a leash and encourages looking at the owner. If the dog pulls on the leash while wearing the Gentle Leader, his head is turned toward the person holding the leash. Thus, the person can readily turn the dog's head away from external stimuli and lead both of them to safety. The dog learns to count on the owner to protect him from challenging situations.

Learning the Dog's Threshold

Most aggressive dogs retain their composure until they get relatively close to another dog. Many owners of aggressive dogs know this limit from unfortunate experience. Start with your dog (on leash and wearing his Gentle Leader) at a comfortable distance from the other leashed dog and your colleague.

Gauging the Dog's Arousal

Some dogs can respond to their owner and eat treats even though they are in the presence of another dog. Others are too aroused. Can your dog enjoy a treat 20' from another dog? 10'? 5'?

Replacing Aggression with Calmness

Learn and teach your dog the basics of clicker training (see the clicker training resources below) with easy tasks at home in safe and calm



A "click/treat" session.

surroundings. Get him to learn that the click means "treat's coming" because he behaved in desired ways. A clicker-savvy dog will approach new tasks and challenges confidently.

Then, take your dog outside to the safe and quiet place you have chosen, and click and treat all non-aggressive behaviors. Have your colleague and

his/her leashed dog walk casually back and forth comfortably beyond your dog's threshold. Click and treat fast and furiously all non-aggressive behaviors. Keep the session short and successful. End with a jackpot, a huge reward of delicious treats!

In subsequent sessions, always brief and successful, repeat the activity while gradually reducing the distance between the two dogs. Click and treat generously for signs of calmness in proximity to the other dog: turning his head away, licking his lips, play bowing, or yawning, for example. Let your dog's growing confidence and

calmness set the pace and the space between the two dogs. Once the dog can remain calm around the other dog, gradually allow sniffing and other positive behaviors. Go slowly and let the dog's new skills determine the pace. Raise your expectations to include a request for your dog to sit or heel. Click and treat for compliance.

Click and treat whenever the dog makes eye contact with you. That increases his trust in



Ben gladly sits while Emma puts the Gentle Leader on.

you and your ability to keep things safe.

Occasionally, things will go wrong. Usually this means you went too far too fast. The Gentle Leader will allow you to turn the dog away from the provocation easily and safely. Walk beyond the dog's current threshold, but not away from the area. You want the dog to learn that calmness allows him to leave the threatening situation.

Clicker training lets you elicit and strengthen calm and desirable behaviors in your dog. It enables you to desensitize and socialize your dog. For many, the aggressive impulses will yield to the new skills and your dog will be able to enjoy canine companionship without fear or aggression. For other dogs, some caution will always be necessary. Either way, you and your dog can learn to manage aggressive tendencies with a click and a treat, and enjoy each other's company out of doors safely and calmly.

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- McConnell, Patricia, *Cautious Canine*, Black Earth, WI: Dog's Best Friend, Ltd., 1998.
- Miller, Pat, "Plays Well With Others," *Whole Dog Journal*, March, 2000; reprinted in the *APDT Newsletter*, July/August 2000.
- Pryor, Karen, *Don't Shoot the Dog! The New Art of Teaching and Training*, Revised edition, New York: Bantam Books, 1999.
- Pryor, Karen, *Clicker Training for Dogs*, Waltham, MA: Sunshine Books, 1999.

Resources:

- www.clickertraining.com
1-800-47-CLICK
- www.pryorfoundation.com
Gentle Leader Head Collar
and video: Premier Pet Products
1-800-933-5595
www.gentleleader.com

Emma Parsons, founder of The Creative Canine, specializes in treating serious canine behavioral issues such as aggression and separation anxiety. She is also the Training Director of Karen Pryor's Sunshine Books located in Waltham, MA, the President of the New England Dog Training Club, and the Adoption Coordinator for the Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue.



FARM, continued from page 15

barn are painted in a multiracial mix of black, white, yellow and red. The Farm includes many ambassadors from the natural world. Oliver the llama, Grace the donkey, four Nubian goats, and a multicultural group of Chinese, white and African geese live together and are part of many Farm programs. They help anchor the natural milieu. Teaching respect for the natural world helps visitors learn to respect themselves and others. One facilitator calls the human-animal bond "the chemistry of caring."

A nature trail borders a lush pond. A greenhouse and potting shed are being built for horticulture therapy, butterfly garden and environmental education programs for develop-


mentally disabled students.

On a warm Friday afternoon, seniors from a local high school are challenging themselves and learning trust and self-confidence on the Farm's Ropes Course. The teens are part of Project Change, a student-led initiative formed after the Columbine High School shootings. The students realized that Columbine-type violence could happen anywhere, so they set out to reduce harassment and improve respect among the cliques that are inevitable in school.

The course develops intergroup communications, builds self-esteem, and teaches them how to apply teamwork and respect to their school environment.

"It gives people the opportunity to confront the limitations we impose upon ourselves, and to learn what we can accomplish as a group," says Mehnert.

"Fellowship Farm's approach to reducing school violence involves the development of youth to move beyond tolerating diversity to becoming activists for a society where they play a role in helping to appreciate and support differences."

The students agree. "I don't think I have ever seen so much idealism and optimism in one place," wrote one. "Suddenly everyone felt empowered, like we really could make a difference. We felt that we could honestly change the whole school and turn it into a better place for us and future students." 

John Muir: Rediscovering America

By Frederick Turner

Reviewed by Dezsoe "Steve" Nagy

The book *John Muir, Rediscovering America* is a good read, particularly if you are interested in life, nature, and religion. More importantly, if you are interested in preserving open spaces and resources for future generations, then it is an absolute "must read."

In that respect we are fortunate that there was a John Muir – a passionate, religious Scotsman. He went through the roughness of childhood in the old country where teachers believed that punishment enhanced children's learning and retention abilities and the same theories were practiced at home. The Muir family ate their meals in silence and the only book allowed in the house was the Bible. That did not change in the New World. Father Muir was a preacher and a stern and rigid disciplinarian. While he freely shared the teachings of the Bible, he often forgot the spirit of those words.

John Muir had a life-long conflict in his Christian beliefs, which he abided and lived by, but as his interest in nature grew, so did his doubts concerning animals. By his teenage years, he wrote that his attitude toward birds, beasts and plants was radically different from the teachings of "churches and schools, where too often the mean, blinding, loveless doctrine that taught that animals have neither mind nor soul, have no rights that we are bound to respect, and are

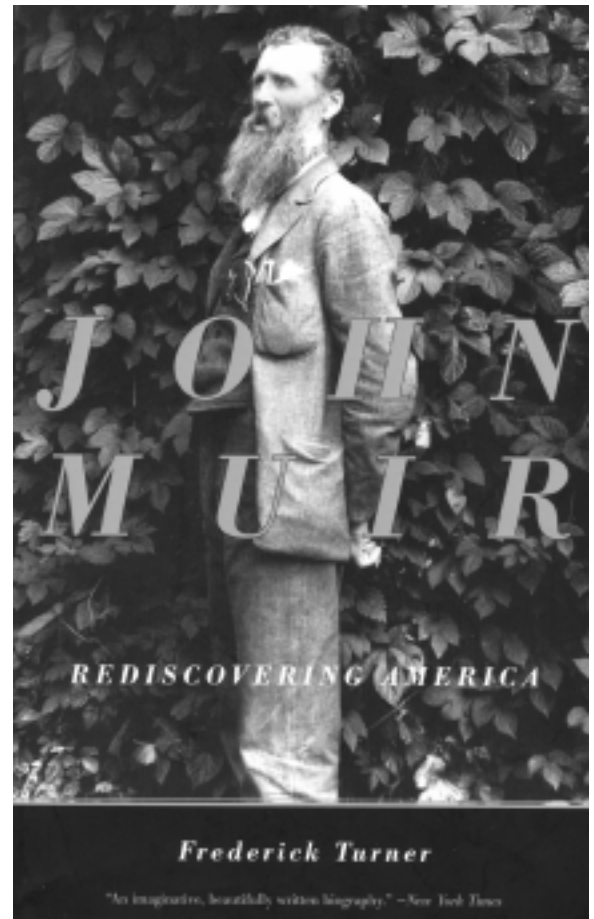
made only for men."

In this book we learn about life in the old country, about the hazards and pitfalls of immigration, about the harsh lives of the settlers, and about their total disregard of the land and its inhabitants, i.e. the Indians.

Possibly the Civil War was the beginning of John Muir's travels and discoveries because he moved to Canada to avoid military service. Once on the road after some college work, he became a collector of plants and a student of geology. He became an inventor and built many useful "gadgets" but his interest remained with the land and the animals. In many ways he lived as a loner but his thoughts were filled with discoveries and he always had a keen eye for the destruction of the grazing lands by overuse, clear cutting of trees, or miners polluting rivers and streams.

Muir made his first major journey on foot to Florida where he hoped to ship out to South America. That trek opened his eyes to many new discoveries. When he didn't find a ship, he changed direction and headed for California where he explored Yosemite and most of the state. That was when his real work began.

As his knowledge and experiences grew, so did his contacts. This ultimately led to acquaintances with political influence. By the time he became one of the co-founders of the Sierra Club, he was recognized as one of the most influential con-



servationists in the United States.

Muir became an inspiration to environmentalists world-wide through his passionate voice in his writings and in his personal appearances. This book recounts a life dedicated to nature, to its beauty and to its unpredictability. It also gives insight into what makes a great man truly notable.

John Muir: Rediscovering America
by Frederick Turner

US \$17,00/25.95 Canada
A Merloyd Lawrence Book
Perseus Publications
Cambridge, MA
ISBN 0-7382-0375-0

The Truth About Dogs

By Stephen Budiansky

Reviewed by Phil Arkow

Probably the best tribute one writer can pay to another is to read his book and then sigh, "Gee, I wish I'd written that." And so I'd like to introduce you to a remarkable little book.

In 1991, Stephen Budiansky, a reporter at U.S. News & World Report, wrote an odd little article about how pets came to live with people. He expanded it into a major feature in the New York Times and, later, a controversial book, *The Covenant of the Wild: Why Animals Chose Domestication* (Morrow, 1992).

The title said it all. Budiansky's premise is that fur-friendly cave people did not, as is commonly thought, take in small cuddly animals and say, "Oh, look, Ogg, I've just taught this wolf to fetch: I'll name him Thor and make him my pet."

Instead, Budiansky eloquently argued, pets in general, and dogs in particular, were remarkably astute in recognizing a good thing when they saw, or rather smelled, it. They chose domestication as an evolutionary adaptation that helped them survive.

The evidence is convincing. Today there are less than 100,000 wolves left in the wild; in the U.S. alone, there are 52 million of Thor's domesticated descendants. Those animals who modified their behaviors and biologies to meet humans' physical and emotional needs have done very well in the evolutionary Olympics.

I met Budiansky at a conference a few years later and he's just as convincing in person. Unfortunately, his book

didn't meet with the wide acclaim I thought it deserved, and the last time I saw it was in the three-for-\$10 bargain bin. And the only thing worse than seeing your favorite author in the trash-and-treasure pile is seeing your own book so humbly dissed.

Undaunted, Budiansky plodded on and he's just published an expanded book. *The Truth About Dogs* is subtitled "An Inquiry into the Ancestry, Social Conventions, Mental Habits, and Moral Fiber of *Canis familiaris*."

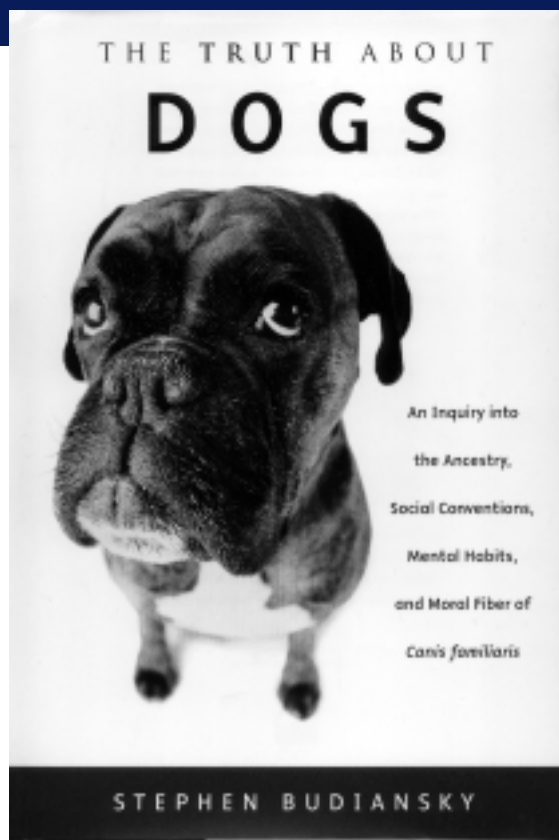
Once again, the title says it all. The truth, though, is that our dear friend *Canis* is not as *familiaris* as we've been led to believe.

Budiansky argues that dogs are not symbionts, but rather social parasites, "con artists at the pinnacle of their profession." Our furry friends are "biological freeloaders," "party crashers who wouldn't leave" who "play us like an accordion."

Dogs are complex, original and creative. Their ancestors isolated themselves from wolves some 135,000 years ago when they realized that humans were "compulsive anthropomorphizers."

Domestication has changed dogs from hunters into gatherers, and from specialists into remarkable generalists. No other species on the planet shows such a wide range of physical and behavioral diversity.

In the process, "dog society has fragmented from a group of fiefdoms to a rather more democratic polity, or perhaps more accurately a world in which every citizen is a slightly delusional lordling. But they are a happy band of lunatics," he writes.



"Each imagines himself a potentate, and is untroubled by his neighbors imagining the same."

Budiansky explains with good humor the pressing questions most often asked about dogs, such as why they bark (because they can), how they see colors (in grey and yellow-green), why they sniff each others' rears (it's like putting a face to a name), and their non-verbal language ("canine kabuki").

Check this book out if you want to know what your pooch is really thinking about you – or if he thinks about you at all. You'll enjoy it.

The Truth About Dogs
by Stephen Budiansky

New York: Viking, 2000
\$24.95
ISBN 0-670-89272-6

Blessing the Bridge: *What Animals Teach Us About Death, Dying, and Beyond*

By Rita M. Reynolds

Blessing the Bridge explores what we can learn from animals about the dying process, and beyond. Just as Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross pioneered a revolutionary understanding of death and dying for humans, Rita M. Reynolds forges a similar path through her work with animals.

For more than 20 years Reynolds has worked with infirm and dying animals at her animal sanctuary, Howling Success. During that time, she has observed and comforted many animals in their final stages of life and then death. Like an acolyte, she has listened attentively for the teachings, experiencing the intensity of the animal-human bond, especially with the inevitable shared experience of death. She also acknowledges that animals do indeed grieve over the death of another animal as well as the death of a human companion.

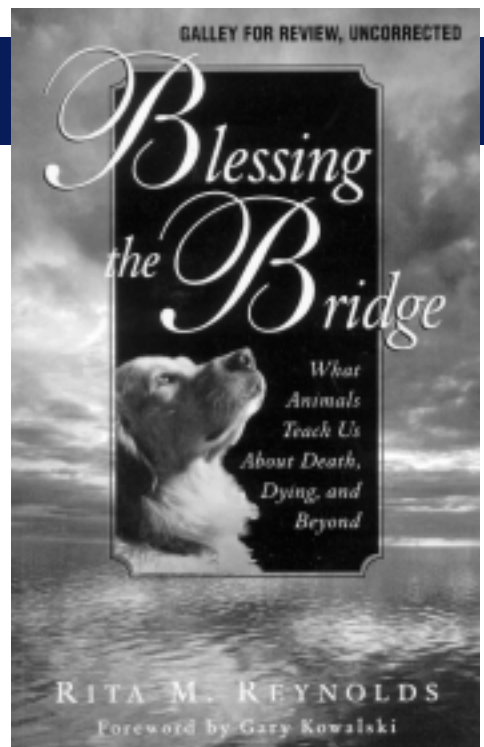
Reynolds's nonsectarian yet spiritual perspective in working with dying animals is honest, refreshing, and hopeful. She is also willing to share her personal struggles with grief and letting go of those she loves, and admits how her once limited view of life after death now includes acceptance of the eternity of the spirit.

In addition to her philosophical approach to the dying process, Reynolds offers practical suggestions for physically and emotionally comforting a dying animal. Suggested tools for the caregiver include music and sound, colors, herbal flower essences, and how to simply be in the moment with a dying animal. She also suggests

ways humans can take care of themselves and their grief after the death of a beloved animal.

Gary Kowalski, author of *Goodbye Friend* and *The Souls of Animals*, writes in the foreword to the book, "I think of exceptional individuals such as Mother Teresa, who spent her life caring for the forsaken and dying of Calcutta, or the poet Walt Whitman, who comforted wounded soldiers as a volunteer nurse in the hospital during the Civil War. Although she is less famous, Rita Reynolds, is no less compassionate in her commitment to care for the forgotten and neglected."

Rita Reynolds lives in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains near Charlottesville, Virginia. Her animal sanctuary, Howling Success, has been home to hundreds of animals in need of love and comfort. Since 1990, Reynolds has co-edited and published *Ia Joie The Journal in Appreciation of All Animals*, a quarterly journal with an international audience that addresses reverence for all life. Presently, she is developing a hospice program for



animal companions and their grieving human companions.

***Blessing the Bridge: What Animals
Teach Us About Death, Dying, and Beyond***
Rita M. Reynolds

\$13.95 USA (\$21.50 Canada)
Publication Date: 2/25/2001
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Troutdale, Oregon 97060-0607
e: www.newsagepress.com

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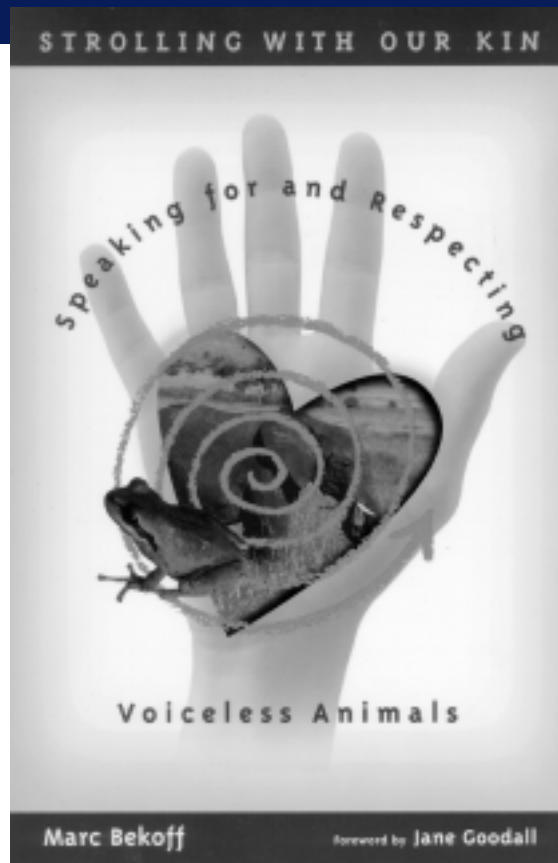
Strolling With Our Kin:

Speaking for and Respecting Voiceless Animals

By Marc Bekoff

OUR UNDERSTANDING OF ANIMALS has come a long way since Dr. Doolittle's fantasy about communicating with animals. In recent years there have been an increasing number of findings that suggest that not only do non-human animals possess skills we humans once thought unique to our species – tool use, comprehension of language, and creation of culture – but that they may also experience emotion and possess self-consciousness.

These discoveries have been made through decades of patient fieldwork, by scientists such as Marc Bekoff and primatologist Jane Goodall. Bekoff is a cognitive ethologist – someone who examines how animals think about and perceive their environment. Over his years of study, Bekoff, who like Jane Goodall is widely published and respected within scientific circles, has come to conclude that the mountains of evidence he has accumulated suggests that many animals are sophisticated beings deserving of not only our respect but certain, fundamental rights: to roam freely, associate with their kind, and not to be confined by humans for the latter's benefit.



Given this, Bekoff takes readers on a philosophical and ethical odyssey examining how we can all live in harmony with our fellow kin. He asks us to explore our thoughts and expand our views of a world made up of many species, only one of which is human. He enables readers to examine their own ethical inconsistencies and asks us where we go from here. Bekoff leaves us with the possibility that not only can we learn to respect other animals, but also that we can stroll with them by acting on their behalf.

Strolling with Our Kin is published by Animalearn, the education division of the American Anti-Vivisection Society (AAVS). The book is distributed in the United States by Lantern Books. Katherine Lewis, Director of Animalearn,

says that, “*Strolling With Our Kin* will be a valuable book for young adults who are interested in broadening their perspective of the world.” She adds, “AAVS was happy to publish a book that makes such a valuable contribution, drawing on young people’s natural connection to other species and allowing them to make connections, ask questions, and ultimately make a difference.”

Marc Bekoff is professor of Environmental Population and Organismic Biology at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He is also an author and lecturer. Jane Goodall is a world-famous primatologist, whose work with chimpanzees in Gombe, Tanzania revolutionized our understanding of our closest ancestor. She is the author of In The Shadow of Man and many other books.

Strolling With Our Kin: Speaking for and Respecting Voiceless Animals

Marc Bekoff

128 pages

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\$9.95 paperback original

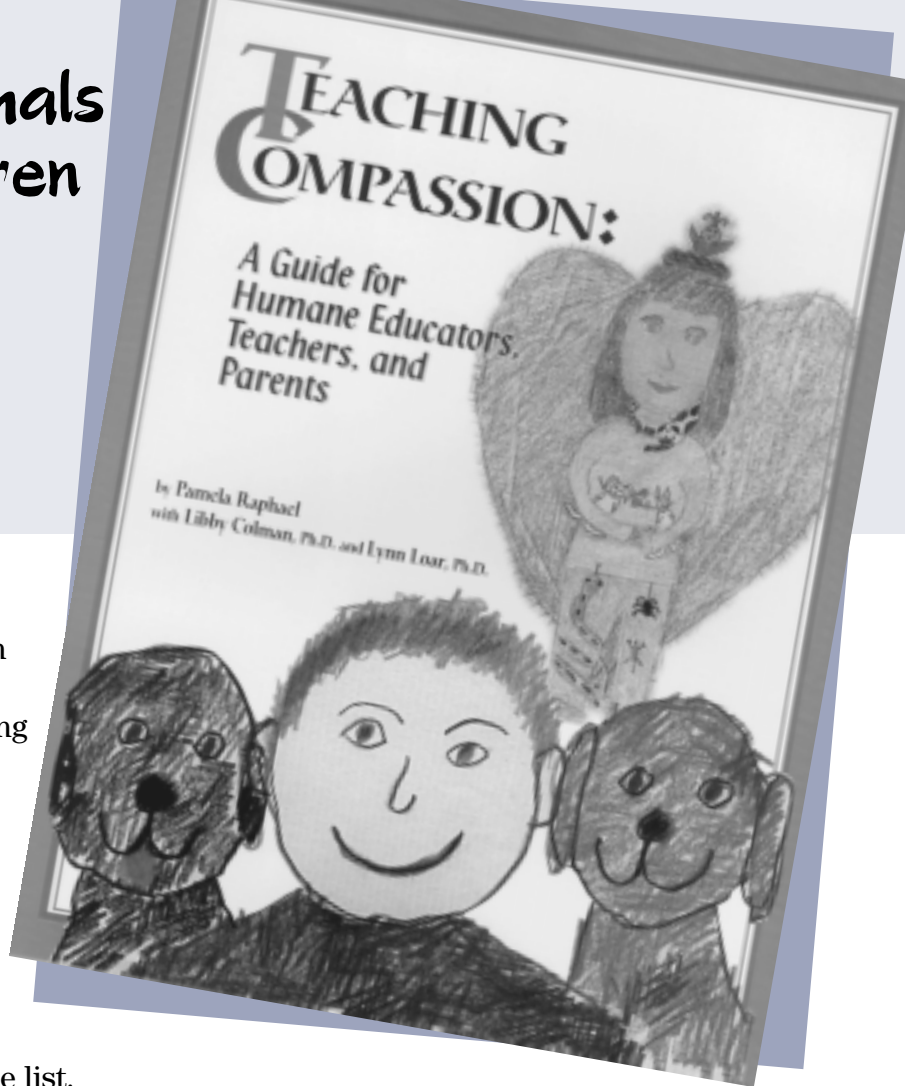
AAVS / Animalearn



The meaning of animals in the hearts of children as revealed through artwork and poetry

Teacher's narrative and lesson plans to encourage respect, responsibility, and compassion.

Topics include the emotional connection between children and animals, pet care, pet overpopulation, habitat loss, and the question of hunting. The chapters are illustrated with children's poems and colorful artwork showing the meaning of the lessons to them. The chapters also include poems by well-known writers to expose children to great poetry at an early age. There is a section devoted to handling disclosures of child or animal abuse. **Appendices include** lesson plans, vocabulary lists, innovative homework ideas, techniques for teaching poetry writing, ideas for role plays, and an extensive resource list.



Pamela Raphael: Humane Educator, Humane Society of Sonoma County (1991-97) where she implemented classes on responsible and compassionate treatment of animals in elementary, secondary, and special education schools. Pamela is presently expanding this program to additional schools in Northern California. Published poet and Poet Teacher for California Poets in the Schools (1978-93).

Libby Colman, Ph.D.: Program Director of San Francisco Court Appointed Special Advocates and co-author of seven books on the psychology of parenting.

Lynn Loar, Ph.D., LCSW: Expert in child abuse assessment and treatment, and a member of the California State Humane Academy faculty, teaching about the inter-relationship of child abuse, elder abuse, domestic violence, and cruelty to animals.

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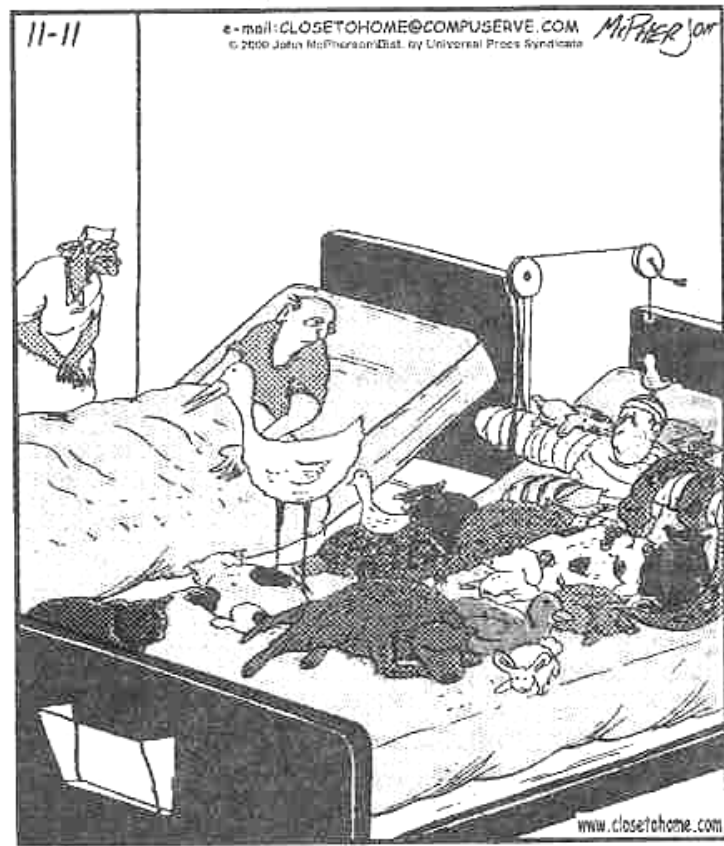
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