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Latham Letter

VOLUME XXXII, NUMBER 4

FALL 2011

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

SINGLE ISSUE PRICE: \$5.00

Sustaining Humane Education

*By The
Association of
Professional
Humane
Educators
(APHE)
Board of
Directors*



➔ See Page 6

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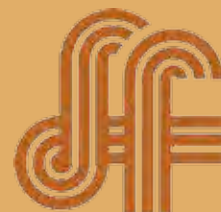
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Therapy CATS pg 14

True Hospice for animals pg 16

INSIDE



*Edith
Latham's
Mandate:*

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



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Promotion of Humane Education*

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The Latham Letter

Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities

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The Latham Foundation, 1826 Clement Avenue, Alameda, California 94501

The Latham Letter

Volume XXXII, Number 4, Fall 2011

**BALANCED PERSPECTIVES ON
HUMANE ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES**



The *Latham Letter* is published quarterly by The Latham Foundation, 1826 Clement Ave., Alameda, CA 94501.

Subscription Rates: \$15.00 One Year, \$25.00 for Two Years

Publisher and Editor Hugh H. Tebault, III
Managing Editor Judy Johns
Printer Schroeder-Dent, Alameda, CA
Design Joann Toth, Fountain Hills, AZ

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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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Ecclesiastes 3

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted.”

These words, recorded thousands of years ago, echo in my mind as I write about the loss of a long-time Latham Foundation member. Don deLemos passed away at home on September 20, 2011.

Don became a member of Latham through his parents who were members themselves. Don’s father and mother established the Art Department at Latham and were responsible for the Latham Foundation International Poster Contest held annually for 39 years between 1925 and 1964. At its peak, the contest received over 10,000 posters annually from around the world. Each year the contest focused on an aspect of the Latham mission – showing respect for living things – so having 10,000 artists send their work, plus the thousands of others who were involved, had a great impact on society.

After each contest, the posters were packaged and sent as traveling exhibit to dozens of schools and art centers. This annual outreach helped spread the Latham message about respect for animals and other living creatures to an ever-widening audience. As we note on our website, years after the traveling exhibits were discontinued we received back one box of posters which we now proudly share at <http://www.latham.org/posters1940.html>

Not only did the deLemos family run the poster contest, but also they provided the illustrations for the many Latham publications, most notably they illustrated



*Hugh H. Tebault,
Latham Foundation’s President,
with Brother Buzz*

The Latham Steps we continue to use to give a visual representation to why our mission is so important. Don continued to work for many years as a board member and officer of Latham. We will be forever indebted to the deLemos family for their contributions.

At this time we also want to commend the American Humane Association for their first annual Hero Dog Awards – an outstanding program recognizing how people and animals work so effectively together and honoring them for their work. I was honored to attend this event held at the Beverly Hilton International Ballroom in early October with over 600 guests and dozens of celebrities. Betty White, a former board member of the American Humane Association, led the cast of presenters. Carson Kressley acted as host of the evening and his “Dancing with the Stars” partner Anna Trebunskaya joined him as a special guest.

The eight finalists each had a video tribute sharing their story and demonstrating why they were deserving of the award. It was an incredible time to see this large gathering honor these people and their dogs. It is not often I get to see great values honored. I encourage you to see this event when it is broadcast, as well as to go to the website www.herodogawards.org to read amazing stories about these heroes. The Hero Dog stories could be used as a teaching event in your community, encouraging the human animal partnership.

The Hero Dog Awards will be broadcast on the Hallmark Channel November 11, 2011.





Congratulations!

Kauai Humane Society's Humane Education Plan "Aloha for Animals" wins First Annual Latham Foundation Humane Education Challenge.

Submitted by Mele Brewer, MS Ed, Humane Educator at the Kauai Humane Society, "Aloha for Animals" is based on the principles of **KOKUA = Helping**, **KULEANA = Taking Responsibility**, and **KUPONO = Standing up for what is right**. For more information, contact Mele at mele10@earthlink.net.

More good news:

Doggone Safe a Top 3 Finalist in the CLASSY Awards

doggonesafe.org

The CLASSY Awards is the largest philanthropic awards ceremony in the USA, recognizing the most outstanding philanthropic achievements by charities, businesses and individuals nationwide.

More than 2,000 nominations were submitted to StayClassy (www.stayclassy.org/stories), which puts a spotlight on philanthropic stories. Out of thousands of nominations, the judges narrowed the list down to the Top 25 most inspiring and impactful in each category. Doggone Safe was a finalist in the category: Most Effective Awareness Campaign.

Psychiatric Service Dog Society

The Psychiatric Service Dog Society (PSDS) is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to responsible Psychiatric Service Dog (PSD) education, research, and training facilitation. It provides essential information for persons disabled by severe mental illness who wish to train a service dog to assist with the management of symptoms. They consult regularly with mental healthcare providers in their efforts to learn more about PSD. They also host an online community of service dog handlers, veteran and new. They do not provide or train dogs for individuals. They are an educational and capacity-building organization dedicated to responsible Psychiatric Service Dog community stewardship.

Sample **Latham Letters** Available

Contact us if you would like sample issues for a library, colleague, or friend and help spread the word about issues and activities in humane education.



Sustaining Humane Education

By *The Association of Professional Humane Educators (APHE)*
Board of Directors



In the last issue, we questioned the long-term survival capacity of humane education and how a model to save endangered species may be applied to help it thrive. In this second installment of a two-part series, we propose an action plan to preserve – and expand – humane education’s reach.

Closing or reducing local and national programs, tightened restrictions on supplemental programs in schools, and competition for resources are some of the factors contributing to humane education’s endangerment. But they don’t have to be its demise.

As noted in part one, APHE is committed to preserving and expanding humane education’s reach. We plan to work with our members to identify interdisciplinary stakeholders and assemble a task force to better understand the impact of humane education on communities and take steps to ensure its longevity. In this vein, we hope to collaborate with a university or other organization to create a central repository for existing data and information. Of course, resources to support further studies are of paramount importance and APHE is investigating the possibility of establishing a research-granting program that would support studies investigating the long-term impact of humane education programming. This may provide the vital evidence necessary to validate the plethora of anecdotal evidence in support of humane education.

Concurrently, there are steps that individuals and agencies – anyone interested in creating compassionate communities – can take to bolster humane education in their locale. Taking a holistic and results-oriented approach, humane education proponents can demonstrate the payoff – literally and figuratively – of investing in humane education.

Considering the challenges facing humane education, programs with the following qualities have a better chance of success and longevity:

- *Earn net income*
- *Increase the number of individuals who incorporate humane education into their interactions with others*
- *Make the connection between the specific goal of a program and the broader applications to positive character attributes*
- *Build and utilize community partnerships*

We will briefly describe each while highlighting a few of the many “star” programs that demonstrate these qualities.

Earn net income

Oftentimes educators are attracted to their profession because they love teaching and helping others no matter what the cost. Although a noble cause, today’s bottom-line economy mandates self-supporting programs (or departments if multiple programs are offered). The good news is that organizers can tap into revenue streams while maintaining high educational standards.

Camps are hugely popular in many areas and can be offered half-day or full-day, on one-day school holidays or longer breaks for a week. Clubs, Scout badge programs, birthday parties, adoptable animal sponsorships, preparing-pets-for-baby

classes and pet care and training classes are other examples of revenue-generating options. For programs that do not lend themselves well to charging a fee, try asking for supply donations instead. You may receive more revenue with in-kind donations than you would have charging a fee. No space for activities like these? See the “partnership” section below.

Keep in mind the indirect benefits of engaging in these programs: first and foremost, building community awareness and relationships that can yield increased donations and volunteerism today and in the future.

Increase the number of individuals who incorporate humane education

A 2010 survey of nearly 100 APHE members revealed that 50% of humane education departments have one paid staff person (who may be part time or full time) and 21% rely completely on volunteers. With limited human resources, it is difficult for humane educators to reach a large percentage of their communities. Investing in “teaching the teachers” can quickly multiply the numbers reached.

HEART (teachhumane.org), Humane Education Advocates Reaching Teachers, provides consultations, professional workshops, and classroom presentations to help teachers and administrators implement humane and character education into classroom lessons and standards-based curricula.

RedRover (redrover.org) Readers trains volunteers and elementary school teachers to utilize their academic standards-based program to read to children and lead discussions aimed at helping children develop critical thinking skills and empathy. In addition to classrooms, volunteers visit children at after-school programs, animal shelter programs and other settings.

Humane educators at animal sheltering and welfare agencies do not have to look far to find a motivated and



Ogden-Weber Humane Society Summer Conference 2011

Photo courtesy of Chuck Barnes

publicly influential audience in staff, volunteers and board members. “Humane Education is part of the daily life for those who work in animal welfare,” says Steven R. McNall, President and CEO of the Pasadena Humane Society and SPCA in California. “Not a moment goes by when you are not educating.”

Make the connection

When educators have a specific goal, such as promoting spay/neuter, opportunities to make broader character connections are sometimes overlooked. Demonstrating how humane education applies to social issues like bullying can help decision makers understand its value.

For example, Operation Outreach-USA (oousa.org) strives to teach children to be kind to animals but has broader goals as well. The organization takes advantage of children’s natural affinity to animals to improve literacy and instill good character: respect, responsibility, leadership and more.

Dr. Jane Goodall’s Roots & Shoots (rootsandshoots.org) program empowers youth of all ages to learn about and compassionately address needs in their community, with a broad scope of implementing positive change for people, animals and the environment. With the combination of a holistic approach, broad applicability, guiding resources and an expansive, supportive network, it is not surprising that Roots & Shoots currently has tens of thousands of members in more than 120 countries.

School districts are increasingly including a community service or service-learning component to graduation requirements. This is a fantastic opportunity to reach a large and diverse population. A resource for many animal-related projects is Mission Humane (humanesociety.org/parents_educators/mission/).

Build and utilize community partnerships

Connecting with business, non-profit and government leaders at the local, regional and even national level can provide financial support and increased recognition for humane education programs. Businesses may donate space and supplies, provide dollars to support specific programs, and/or encourage employees to volunteer their time.

Their public or non-profit agencies may collaborate on special projects. More than 30 non-profit agencies – from local groups such as the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance to national groups like The Humane Society of the United States – are part of the Prairie Dog Coalition (prairiedogcoalition.org) that is dedicated to the protection of prairie dogs and restoration of prairie dog ecosystems.

Again, these relationships can provide the direct benefit of supporting a specific program and have countless indirect benefits of increasing awareness of and support for your individual or agency’s mission and services.

The future

Although there are significant challenges to overcome, there are many bright spots and a tremendous number of people who are working to further humane education's reach. No one can predict the future, but we can take advantage of available tools and resources – and create new ones – to orchestrate the most positive difference possible.

APHE is a nonprofit corporation that provides professional development opportunities and networking for educators who promote humane attitudes toward people, animals and the environment. For more information please visit our website at www.aphe.org. Contact us at aphe@aphe.org.



Call to action

APHE welcomes individuals, organizations, educational institutions and businesses that wish to work together to preserve – and expand – humane education's reach. We seek to start and continue a conversation that will lay the groundwork for an action plan and provide resources and talents. Join us on Facebook to start the conversation.

Lesson Plan databases and websites

Animal Welfare Education Database (animalwelfareonline.org/work/FCAW/resources) – Comprehensive descriptions of good quality animal welfare education resources from around the world

Doggone Safe (doggonesafe.com) – Dog bite prevention resources

Humane Education Advocates Reaching Teachers (HEART) (teachhumane.org/heart) – Provides resources focused on human rights, animal protection, and environmental education to educators and students in the New York and Chicago areas

House Rabbit Society (rabbit.org/kids) – Information for children and teachers about proper rabbit care

Humane Society of the United States Parents and Educators page (humanesociety.org/parents_educators) – Lesson plans and worksheets, professional development, awards and grants

Institute for Humane Education (humaneeducation.org) – Offers professional development, lesson activities, and other humane education resources

The Latham Foundation (latham.org) – Affordable videos, publications, and free online resources promoting humane education and respect for all life

Literature Resources:

Dumb Friends League Bibliography (ddfl.org/education/teacher-resources/recommended-reading) – Bibliography of books to incorporate in programs

Operation Outreach (OO-USA) (ousa.org) – OO-USA gives books to children, lesson plans to teachers, and guides to parents. OO-USA encourages children to read and helps to build character and self-esteem through literature.

RedRover Reader Program (redrover.org/?navid=564) – A community-based literacy program aligned with academic content standards helps children explore the bond between people and animals through stories and discussion. See redrover.org/index.cfm?navid=183 for a list of recommended books.

Service-Learning Resources:

APHE Community Service and Service Learning Manual (aphe.org) – In the "Shop APHE" section

Humane Society of the United States Mission: Humane Program (humanesociety.org/parents_educators/mission) – Provides resources for classroom teachers, animal sheltering professionals, and others to guide youth in service-learning projects.

National Service-Learning Clearinghouse (servicelearning.org) – Locate resources and projects using the SLICE database (servicelearning.org/slice), apply for grants, and locate professional development opportunities.

Youth Service America (ysa.org) – Offers service-learning project ideas, grants, awards, and professional development resources. YSA sponsors Global Youth Service Day.

Spanish Resources:

Humane Society of the United States (animalsheltering.org/programs_and_services/spanish-language-information/) – Customizable pet care and behavior tip sheets, humane education resources and more.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) (petacatalog.com/catalog/spanish-49-1.html) – Brochures and leaflets about animal issues such as circuses, dog chaining and vegetarianism.

New Educational Webinar Series:



Better trainers mean happier, safer dogs

By Katenna Jones

As many readers of the *Latham Letter* are already aware, there are about 78.2 million owned dogs in the United States, with an average of almost two dogs per owner.¹ But what some readers may not know is that the main reasons dogs are given away or euthanized are related to behavior problems.^{2,3} These problems include aggression toward people or other animals, disobedience, excessive vocalizations, escape, fear, destructiveness, house-soiling, and jumping.²

The good news is many of these types of dog behavior issues – and many more – can oftentimes be resolved with the help of a professional dog trainer. However, like many pet owners out there, you may be wondering: How do I find a professional dog trainer? How do I know my trainer is educated and ‘dog-friendly’? Where do I begin?

Enter the Association of Pet Dog Trainers

The Association of Pet Dog Trainers – or APDT – strives to promote the field of professional, dog-friendly dog training. Founded in 1993 by Dr. Ian Dunbar, APDT has evolved into a member-driven organization with nearly 6000 members worldwide, including world renowned speakers and authors, veterinarians, dog trainers, dog club members, humane society personnel and service dog trainers. International members hail from 26 different countries.

The APDT is primarily an educational organization and encourages its members to make use of training methods that use reinforcement and rewards, not punishment, to achieve desired behavior. Their unique opportunity for education, professional networking and sharing of ideas occurs through conferences, a membership directory, journal, seminars, and online webinars.

Webinars are among APDT’s newest initiatives to assist members, animal professionals, and the pet-loving public in obtaining dog-friendly educational opportunities. APDT’s affordable webinars occur weekly and

feature a variety of respected animal professionals, boast a broad sampling of organizations, and encompass a wide array of topics including animal learning, animal behavior, health and nutrition, laws and regulations, business, and general industry topics. Attendees of APDT’s live webinars enjoy PowerPoint presentations, videos, and real-time chat interaction over their computers, or they can attend over the phone. In addition to live events, recordings are available at attendee convenience and can be viewed countless times.

By promoting positive, rewarding educational opportunities to its members or anyone interested in dog training, APDT is doing its part to help make dog training an enjoyable experiencing for all – especially the dog. Further, by assisting countless pet owners and animal professionals to find dog trainers through resources like their “How to Choose a Trainer” guidelines and impressive online membership directory, APDT is making sure more dogs get the help they need. As a result, dogs everywhere have a better chance of staying where they belong: in their homes.

APDT's upcoming webinars:

- **November 17th:** Planning for the Possibility that Pets Outlive Their Human Companions *with Amy Shrever*
- **December 1st:** Reality Bites: Safe, Effective Dog Aggression Modification *with Pat Miller*
- **December 8th:** My Dog Just Wants to Say Hi *with Robin Bennett*
- **December 15th:** Build A Balanced Marketing Plan *with Veronica Boutelle and Gina Phairas*
- **January 18th:** Lateral Training: Working With Another Species *with Terry Rya*

Interested in participating in an APDT webinar?
www.apdt.com/education/webinars/

Interested in presenting a webinar for APDT?
www.apdt.com/education/webinars/presenters/application

For more information on attending or presenting a webinar,
or on APDT in general, please contact:
Katenna Jones, ScM, ACAAB, CACB, CPDT-KA
APDT Webinar Coordinator
Katenna@apdt.com • www.apdt.com

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¹ Humane Society of the United States (2012). US Pet Ownership Statistics.
http://www.humanesociety.org/issues/pet_overpopulation/facts/pet_ownership_statistics.html.
Retrieved September 13, 2011.

² Kass, P. (2001). *Understanding Animal Companion Surplus in the United States: Relinquishment of Nonadoptables to Animal Shelters for Euthanasia*. *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science*, 4(4), 237-248.

³ Salman, M.D. et al. (1998). *Human and animal factors related to the relinquishment of dogs and cats in 12 selected animal shelters in the US*. *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science*, J(3), 207-226.

BIOGRAPHY:

Katenna Jones is the Webinar Coordinator for the Association of Pet Dog Trainers, an Instructor for American Humane Association's Animal Emergency Services. She provides animal behavior consulting to animal care and control professionals, shelter facilities, and pet owners. She earned her Master's Degree from Brown University in Experimental Psychology, where she studied animal behavior, learning, and cognition. Her thesis work examined communication and recognition among shelter dogs. Katenna has nearly a decade of experience in all aspects of animal sheltering, from Kennel Attendant to Manager to Cruelty Investigator and Chairperson of State Vicious Dog Hearings. Katenna is an Associate Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist, a Certified Animal Behavior Consultant, and Certified Pet Dog Trainer. Katenna lives in Cumberland, Rhode Island with her husband, two adopted cats, and adopted pit bull.



“Supporting Humane Education helps meet the overall goals of the Humane Society”



“Humane Education exists to teach the highest qualities of humanity. These qualities, if truly learned and applied, would help to mitigate the problems that exist all over the world.”

– Mele Brewer, MS, Ed., Kauai Humane Society



NATIONAL LINK COALITION

Working together to stop violence against people and animals

Link Training for Law Enforcement Officers Available Online

The Latham Foundation is pleased to announce the availability of a free training curriculum to help law enforcement personnel understand The Link between animal abuse and family violence.

“Animal Abuse and Family Violence: Partners in Crime” is a three-part self-guided training presentation featuring PowerPoint slides and an accompanying script. Written by Phil Arkow, National Link Coalition coordinator and chair of Latham’s Animal Abuse and Family Violence Prevention Project, the curriculum helps police officers to understand the significance of animal cruelty as a potential indicator and predictor of other crimes. It discusses techniques for investigating and gathering evidence in animal abuse/domestic violence cases and offers strategies and resources for handling these situations.

The 71-slide program is divided into three parts. Part 1 is an introduction to the links between animal abuse and family violence. Part 2 covers the definitions and identifying characteristics of animal cruelty, abuse and neglect, as well as domestic violence, child maltreatment, and elder abuse. It also includes a digest of state anti-cruelty statutes. Part 3 discusses the management of animal cruelty cases: crime scene interview and investigation techniques, management of animal victims, risk assessment of perpetrators, challenges in cruelty cases, and effective law enforcement responses.

“Law enforcement officers are often brought in to investigate animal cruelty cases but relatively few of them have had training in the complexities of these cases. By showing them how animal abuse is not just a minor ‘animal’ crime and has serious human safety and welfare implications as well, we hope to inspire police and sheriffs to begin to take these cases more seriously and give them, and the victims, the respect they deserve,” said Arkow.

The outline and presentation slides are available at <http://www.latham.org/link/linktraining.html>.

BIOGRAPHY: Phil Arkow: *Instructor, Animal-Assisted Therapy, Harcum College & Camden County College; Consultant, ASPCA & Animals and Society Institute; Chair, Animal Abuse and Family Violence Prevention Project, The Latham Foundation; Coordinator, National Link Coalition*

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Swimming with the Afuera Whale Sharks

By Robin Culler

Ever since I became involved with shark conservation at Green Chimneys School, new experiences and opportunities have been rolling my way. When the Shark Research Institute asked if I would be interested in going on a whale shark expedition, I didn't have to ponder long. Who knows when a chance like this would come along again? Plans were made ... I was going to Cancun to swim with whale sharks!

Jennifer Schmidt, a molecular biologist who has spent the last nine years studying the population genetics of whale sharks, led the expedition. We were joined by eight other experienced divers from across the country. I was the fledgling, having only snorkeled once before.

We would be snorkeling with gentle giants in the Mexican Riviera where hundreds of whale sharks appear to feed on a massive plankton bloom each summer. In the clear blue water of the Afuera there have been as many as 400 sharks, ranging from 25-35 feet long.

On this expedition we were to photograph the sharks' gill slits and pectoral fins. These photos would be entered into a database that allows shark researchers to identify, compare,



Author holding water samples. You can see the concentration of fish eggs.

and study whale sharks around the world. We would also experiment with a device used to measure the length of the shark and we would take water samples for further study.

We boarded our fishing boat, complete with captain and guides, early in the morning and traveled about 23 miles off the Cancun coast. Our mission: locate whale sharks! When we saw the water spotted with a congregation of boats, we knew we'd found the sharks. We donned our wet suits and prepared masks, snorkels, and fins. Anticipation escalated. I knew that I would soon be swimming with sharks!

As the first group of divers prepared to enter the water, I was ecstatic just being able to view the amazing sharks from on board the boat. They swam lazily near the surface, mouths opened wide, vacuuming in the water. Their feast, tiny tuna eggs, were trapped in their gill rakers while the water flowed back out their enormous gill slits. Their mouths can be four to five feet wide! Their eyes were tiny in comparison to their massive bodies. The sharks' beautiful grey bodies with distinct ridges were covered in a pattern of pale yellow spots and stripes. These configurations are comparable to our fingerprints ... each one unlike the other. Although they have over 3,000 teeth, they are tiny and of little or no use. Whale sharks are the biggest fish in the ocean, reaching up to 40 feet in length.

Soon the guide let me know it was my turn to jump in. With mask and snorkel in place, I entered the water. The adrenalin that was coursing through my body was immeasurable! I was in water 140 feet deep, sprinkled with boats, snorkelers and sharks! I heard our guide shout, "Hey lady, hey pretty lady, shark coming!" I turned, saw the fin, and submerged. What I saw in front of me will stay with me forever. It's very hard to put into words how I felt being so close

to that incredible shark. I swam in the direction it was going, trying my best to keep up with it, but was soon left behind. It moved with slow, leisurely swooshes of its huge caudal fin and posterior end of its body.

I spent about 20 minutes in the water and then it was time for the next group to enter. It was just as well, as I was tired from swimming alongside and after the sharks. Time to rest and regroup before entering the water again. Each time I left the boat, my encounters with the sharks were closer and more amazing. I often found myself right in one's path, scrambling to get out of the way! You are not allowed to touch the sharks and I did my best to avoid collisions.

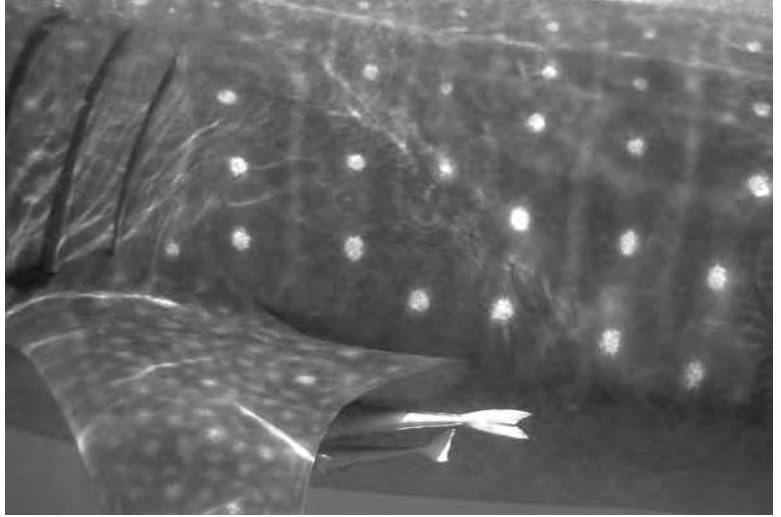
As much as I wanted to take pictures, I decided that job would be best left to the guys with the professional cameras. This was such a new experience for me. Plus, I really wanted to enjoy the moment without a camera pressed to my face.

We swam with the whale sharks on three consecutive mornings. Each day was better than the one before. The weather was perfect and the water warm and clear. It was such an exciting yet peaceful experience and one I couldn't wait to relay to my Shark Finatics back at Green Chimneys.* I was humbled by the beauty and serenity of this gentle fish. How lucky I felt to be part of their world, even for just a bit.

There is so much to be learned about our oceans and the creatures within. We need to stop, appreciate and explore what was naturally placed on this planet. Whale sharks are endangered and are facing a high risk of becoming extinct in the wild. Because of human intervention, such as commercial fisheries, time may be running out for this gentle giant. Ecotourism has brought some hope for this species and some others. Whale sharks are worth much more alive than dead. It is up to us to ensure their continued existence in our oceans. I will never forget the opportunity I was given to swim with and admire nature at its finest.



**Who are the Shark Finatics?
See the Summer '11 Latham Letter, page 10.*



Photos this page courtesy of Dave Lowe

Feline Healing

By Debra J. White



Silky photos courtesy of Sheila Semrou



Nurse Silky

At least 10,500 therapy dogs are registered with the Delta Society; they register only 170 cats. That doesn't stop Silky, Dexter, Martson, Kenny or other frisky felines from healing patients in nursing homes, rehab facilities and hospitals. Children learn to read because of cats. Cats teach compassion in domestic violence shelters, group homes, and crisis nurseries.

Dr. Boris Levinson, a child psychologist, coined the term pet therapy. In the 1960s, Dr. Levinson added his dog Jingles to therapy sessions to see if it would make a difference to his young patients grappling with problems. Results were so successful that pet therapy expanded.

Over the years, pet therapy was fine tuned and is now divided into animal-assisted activities (AAA) and animal-assisted therapy (AAT). A cat cheering up patients in a nursing home is an example of an animal-assisted activity. Animal-assisted therapy, frequently medically prescribed, is goal oriented such as decreasing a patient's isolation or improving the quality of life.

Why so few therapy cats? Diane Decker, pet education manager for the Arizona Animal Welfare League & SPCA, also evaluates animals for the Delta Society. "Cat personalities are often more reserved in a strange environment. They take longer to acclimate than dogs," she says. Cats often do better as "in-station" pets where they live at a facility, wandering from room to room visiting patients. Decker says the paucity of cat therapists may also lie with owners who presume their pets aren't capable.

In 2001 Sheila Semrou, a licensed architect, lost her job. The animal lover volunteered at the Wisconsin Humane Society exercising dogs while job searching. Another cat wasn't what she expected; she had an adopted cat at home. However, a cream colored cat named Silky changed all that. "She caught my eye and I just had to adopt her," Semrou says.

Lovable, friendly, and comfortable with strangers, Silky seemed the ideal therapy pet. Semrou joined the Humane Society's Visiting Companion program in 2002 and started at St. John's on the Lake, a skilled nursing facility where

Semrou's mom, Clementine, was a patient. Semrou and Silky spread joy to seniors. Mrs. Semrou, who always had a lifelong affection for cats, was their last stop. "After a serious illness, Silky's visits brought immense joy to mom. I'll always remember how she hugged Silky, my little Angel." Silky was a constant companion for Semrou when her mom passed away in 2006.

By 2010 Semrou says Silky was ready for advanced therapy. The once-abandoned cat breezed through the Delta Society's stringent behavior exam and began the more challenging animal assisted therapy (AAT) at Heartland Hospice with patients at the end stages of life. Silky's visits had a purpose such as providing a patient with a diversion from pain. Impending loss though can stir up angry feelings among patients and their families. Silky's soothing presence benefitted everyone including staff. Laura Hey, president and founder of Health Healers, the pet therapy organization affiliated with Heartland Hospice, says that Silky is remarkably gentle and brings calm to patients. "She is a wise and exceptional creature, a gift."

Gabriel's Angels, an Arizona-based pet therapy group with offices

in Phoenix and Tucson, was founded in 2000 with a goal to free maltreated, neglected and at-risk children from the shackles of domestic violence through healing pet therapy.

A former shelter cat named Kenny was their only therapy cat. His owner Diane McGuire brought Kenny to a group home for troubled teenagers. Through activities developed by child welfare and animal shelter professionals, Diane and Kenny taught teenagers to develop kindness and compassion for animals. Kids at a group home called him a cool cat and gently pet him on each visit. Even staff doted on Kenny. During one session, they listened to Kenny's heart with a stethoscope and then listened to their own. "Teens drew the parallel that Kenny was a living being just like they were. Children who witnessed violence at home may lack empathy and abuse animals. Kenny not only taught compassion but he probably saved a few lives along the way," says Pam Gaber, president and founder of Gabriel's Angels.

In addition to Gabriel's Angels, Kenny offered comfort to hospice patients and their families and friends. Featured in local and national media, Kenny won honorable mention in 2007

from the Delta Society's Beyond Limits Pet Partners Team.

Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF), headquartered in Walnut Creek, CA, has a mission of people rescuing animals and animals rescuing people. A signature program, the Pet Hug Pack has 126 qualified pets (eight cats) that make 166 visits each month to hospitals, assisted living facilities and schools. Elena Bicker, ARF's executive director says, "The pets bring joy, unconditional love and a distraction from pain. Family and staff benefit too," says Bicker. Cats are also instrumental in a local reading program, in community events at ARF, and in the surrounding area.

Adopted by Wendy Panaro from the Wisconsin Humane Society, Dexter the cat serves as a reading ambassador with Words for Whiskers, a collaborative reading program of the Milwaukee public library and the Humane Society. Designed to improve children's reading skills, Words for Whiskers has several dog teams and Dexter. Animal reading programs are popular because children are comfortable pronouncing a word incorrectly in front of an animal. Besides teaming up with children, Dexter visits a nursing home and a hospice. He's one busy cat.

Marston, a stray that marched out of a rural Indiana cornfield and into the loving home of Pam Solstis, is a therapy cat at the VNA Hospice in Valparaiso. "I lay Marston into a patient's bed, in the crook of his left arm," says Solstis. Marston fussed wanting the patient's right side to snuggle. Three times Solstis tried to settle the usually docile cat. The patient's daughter was in the room at the time. "Her father's right side was his old dog's favorite cuddling spot. It's almost as if Marston sensed what the dying man needed, a connection with his once beloved companion."

Cats such as Silky, Dexter, Kenny and Marston demonstrate that cats heal too. They just needed the chance to prove they can work alongside dogs in nursing homes, hospitals, and reading programs. As more facilities offer animal-assisted therapy, cats will be there too.



The Delta Society, founded in 1977, is a world leader in animal healing with a mission to advance human health and well-being through positive interactions with animals.

Editor's Note: Delta originated as a Latham Foundation committee.

When is End-of-life Care for Animals Truly Hospice?

The (almost) invisible difference determining life or death

By Ella E. Bittel (Holistic Veterinarian) and James C. Armer, DVM (Emergency & Critical Care)

Trying to make sense out of the diverse positions on a topic as emotional as end-of-life care for our animal loved ones can be confusing. And yet, finding the courage to think about that tender time well before a loved one is facing a terminal diagnosis can be very beneficial.

In this article we hope to encourage readers to prepare for the numerous decisions they will face if and when they are confronted with a diagnosis that means limited time left with their beloved animal. We will define and clarify the terms often used in end-of-life care. We hope also to encourage veterinarians to use the term “hospice” or “veterinary hospice” in its truest sense.

Readers will find that there are great discrepancies in the interpretation of what hospice care for animals truly entails. “Palliative care,” “end-of-life care,” and “hospice care” are commonly used interchangeably in the practice of veterinary medicine but they mean very different things.

The world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love.

– William Sloane Coffin, Jr.

Understanding these terms will help readers think about what might be best for their animal if and when they are faced with a terminal diagnosis.

Palliative care is given when there is no cure for a health condition. It aims for the best quality of life for both the patients and their families. Patients receiving this type of care have special needs but do not have to be terminally ill.

End-of-life care is an umbrella term for any type of care given to the terminally ill, whether in hospital settings, in residential senior care facilities, or by hospice in homes. End-of-life Care often, but not always, entails palliative care. “Death with Dignity Act” type regulations permit terminal human patients to take lethal medications as one option in end-of-life care in some states. Statistically it presents a quite rare occasion that patients elect that option for

themselves. If veterinary care is given to an animal known to be terminally ill until it gets euthanized, this too is end-of-life care entailing palliative care.

Hospice care is a *very specific* type of end-of-life care that supports the patient and family and always entails palliative care to allow terminally ill patients to live out their lives as fully and comfortably as possible. Hospice follows a number of basic principles that distinguish it from other care given to animals at the end of life:

Hospice recognizes that death is a natural part of the cycle of life, not a failed medical event, and does not have to be feared or avoided; the focus is “intensive caring instead of intensive care,” without prolonging or hastening death.

Hospice and the veterinary profession

We, the authors, are living proof, both personally and with clients electing hospice, that the majority of our animal companions can die peacefully in their own time. Clients who have chosen hospice report great relief over not having had to “play god,” or to wonder “what if” (they had not euthanized). They also report a less intense grieving process than they anticipated or than they experienced previously when they chose to euthanize an animal.

But questions remain: Does giving hospice to an animal involve considerable effort and dedication? Oftentimes yes. Can we guarantee that an animal can go peacefully in its own time when choosing hospice? No. But if excellent palliative care fails to maintain or restore an animal’s comfort, euthanasia is still an option.

Unfortunately, even some

veterinarians considered experts on the topic of animal hospice have fallen prey to the confusion of terms. These veterinarians claim that they offer hospice despite euthanasia being the outcome for the majority of their “hospice” patients. This adds to the misinformation flooding the interested public and animal health professionals.

The fact that hospice for animals has not been clearly defined should not permit us to freely adapt a term already defined in human care. Let’s hope that these are just temporary growing pains in a new and much-needed special veterinary service. We hope that the veterinary profession will refrain from defining hospice or outlining guidelines of hospice services until the term is correctly understood.

Continued misuse of the term hampers progress in this new field and it feeds into the myth that true hospice cannot be done for animals. It implies that the normal dying process is something best avoided. We know from personal experience that the price of confusing hospice with any other type of end-of-life care is very high.

Why is it so important to distinguish hospice from other kinds of end-of-life care?

There have always been people who want to care for their animal family members all the way to their passing in their own good time. By carefully distinguishing animal hospice from other types of end-of-life care, these animal owners:

- Will be able to choose a veterinarian fitting their needs.
- Will receive the information and



Swany at 16, the day before her passing on her own in hospice.

the support they need to prepare themselves for their animal’s dying process.

- Will NOT be told that euthanasia is the greatest gift they can give their animal at the end-of-life and that other choices are inhumane, based on ideology, not objective, or biased.

Clients who feel judged by their veterinarian for not euthanizing may drop away and do the best they can on their own. In those cases everyone loses – the animal, the caregivers, and the veterinarians. We think it is a blind spot of the profession to believe we can prevent animal suffering by taking a “strong stand” for euthanasia.

One size does not fit all

We understand that each of us wants to do what we think is best for our beloved animal at the end of its life. And we know that everyone is not in a position to elect hospice.

There are many reasons why animal caregivers elect euthanasia. Many cannot get the required time off work to give the intense care involved in hospice, or find needed support. Others are retired, but their own health won’t allow them to care for an animal once it can no longer get up and around on its own. Some simply feel emotionally overwhelmed, or financially strapped (though hospice does not necessarily cost more than other options). Maybe a baby is coming or a life partner is ill. There are as many reasons to choose euthanasia over hospice care as there are life circumstances.

There are also many reasons why veterinarians may not want to engage in hospice. They may have become accustomed to the way they have handled end-of-life issues in the past or, even if they would like to offer hospice, finding the right team members, providing round-the-clock medical advice, making home visits in a crisis, and responding to the diverse family needs may be prohibitive.

Also, giving hospice is a calling. Just as we would not expect every human doctor and nurse to be a hospice doctor or nurse, veterinarians need to be able to choose what they want to offer their patients.

Life and death math

Quality-of-life scales as currently offered by veterinarians attempt to make an inherently individual process “objective” and serve as a guide for when to euthanize. They are a classic example of end-of-life care *other* than hospice. These scales disregard the basic hospice principle of not hastening death. They categorize normal symptoms of the dying process that generally *don't* involve discomfort to the dying patient as unbearable suffering.

The table on page 19 shows just how different perspectives and care goals are between end-of-life care in general and hospice in specific.

How do you know whether or not you resonate with hospice care for your own animal? One way to think about it is to see whether this quote by Cicely Saunders, the founder of human hospice, would describe how you feel about your animal's end of life. Dame Saunders encapsulates the essence of hospice as she speaks to the one dying:

“You count because you are. And you will be of significance until the last moment of your life. And we will do everything we can so that not only you can die in peace, but also live all the way to the end.”

If you are considering hospice for your animal loved one, discuss it with your veterinarian ahead of time.

- Ask about their experiences with their own animals and those of clients passing under hospice without euthanasia. Animal hospice clients often are very willing to share with others and support them.
- Make sure you will be given enough injectable strong and fast-acting pain medications to make it through one night should a crisis arise, and that you can reach medical support by phone 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

What else can you do?

Engage. If you feel that animal owners should have a choice in how to care for their animal until it passes, speak up in conversations with other animal lovers including veterinarians. Write letters to the editor when you spot yet another article, book, or website using the term hospice inappropriately. Let it be known that hospice for humans yields very high percentages of great patient outcomes, and that there is an interest in having veterinarians become educated in this field to achieve the same for animals.

Anyone can attend so save the date!



Ella holding Wee Willie & Jim with Samson (who is covering up Labrador Chocolate Moose)

Hospice care and the practice of euthanasia can co-exist in mutual acceptance and love. The authoring couple is living proof. Ella Bittel is a German veterinarian with more than a decade of experience in the field of hospice care for animals as an equivalent to human hospice care. Her veterinarian husband, Jim Armer, has been an emergency and critical care veterinarian for more than 45 years. Although such practice inevitably entailed years of mainly working in emergency and critical care, which inevitably also entails euthanasia, Dr. Jim never forgot there is another way: Most of the animals he adopted, after living a long lives, died in their own time. Yes, and this was before he and Ella met.

For information on animal hospice and Ella's weekend seminars and online classes, please go to www.spiritsintransition@verizon.net



Comparing Hospice with Other Types of End-of-Life Care for Animals

Commonalities and Differences

Commonalities:

- Recognition of close relationship between human and animal
- Desire not to have an animal suffer
- Engagement in optimizing pain control and other palliative care measures
- Intention to support clients in what they want for their animal
- Understanding of financial, time, emotional, and other limitations to care
- Understanding the need for bereavement support
- Value having euthanasia as an option.

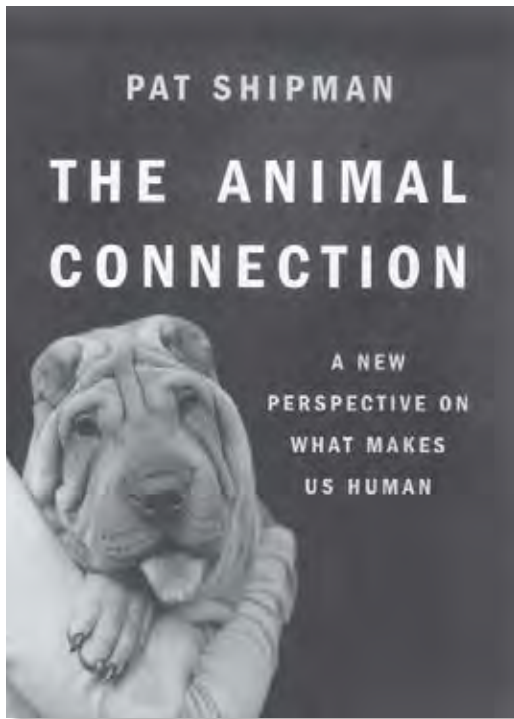
Symptom:	Difference in Care: Animal Hospice	End-of-life Care (other types)
Perceived inability of family to give sufficient care	Families interested in hospice but unable to provide it are supported in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locating additional support to make home care possible • Placing their animal with person or family willing and able to provide care • If neither of the above is elected or possible, hospice is not an option → see end-of-life care (other types) 	Generally leading to Euthanasia
Suffering of patient, including pain and breathing difficulties	Minimized or eliminated through palliative care generally until patient:	
	Passes on its own	Gets euthanized
Loss of Mobility	Understands that dying does not equal suffering Acknowledges that patient may still want to live even if suffering	Interprets normal symptoms of the dying process as unacceptable suffering (see below)
	<i>In non-terminal patient:</i>	
Loss of Appetite at End-of-Life	Requires special-needs palliative care (not hospice unless close to dying)	By some seen as beginning of hospice if elected over euthanasia
	<i>During end of life:</i>	
Loss of Thirst	Common in terminally ill patients Normal during active dying process Requires caregiver education *	Requires hospice care
		Requires hospice care
Dehydration	Dying humans report they simply don't feel hungry anymore – emotional suffering occurs when family cannot accept that this is NOT the same as starving	Seen as starvation Unacceptable ** → Euthanasia
Animal no longer reacting/interacting	<i>Accepted.</i> Dehydration in a dying patient is known to potentially decrease pain IF pain was present	
Euthanasia	Giving fluids to a dying patient is known to cause discomfort and therefore generally not pursued during the end stages (hydrating when the bodies absorption capacity dwindles can cause breathing difficulties, edema, nausea, vomiting etc.)	Triggers giving fluids or Unacceptable ** → Euthanasia
		<i>Accepted.</i> Family is prepared by hospice team also for this part of the active dying process
Euthanasia	Last resort when all available comfort measures fail to maintain sufficient patient comfort Exception, not the rule – performed at time of need	The way most animal patients' lives end – Usually scheduled

* **"Requires caregiver education"**: Any of the symptoms described above as "common in terminally ill patients" are normal for both dying human and animal patients alike. While we know from dying humans' communications that these physical symptoms are generally NOT causing discomfort, they are nonetheless commonly troublesome for family caregivers and friends unfamiliar with care for the dying who witness their loved one's physical decline and grieve over the anticipated loss. Their emotional reaction in turn becomes easily distressing for the patient. Therefore, it since the inception of modern human hospice has been an important part of the hospice teams' work to help families and friends understand the various stages of the typical dying process and how they are experienced by the patient.

** **"Unacceptable"**: It is current standard procedure to euthanize animals before they would be hospice candidates, or latest when they enter their dying process. This is also promoted by various versions of "Quality of Life Scales" which lead users to score normal symptoms of the dying process in a way that results in a recommendation to euthanize. This may largely be based on lack of knowledge and education about how human-level hospice care can create the environment for a peaceful patient-determined death, though a variety of factors can come into play.

The information above depicts the diverse views on the topic of end-of-life care, that have existed in our society in the past and will continue to exist in the future. Without assigning a value ranking on either perspective, it is clear that the existing diverse clients' needs can only be addressed by diverse service offers. That requires distinguishing the proper use of the terms "hospice" vs. "Palliative end-of-life care" for proper client education as a base for informed consent.





THE ANIMAL CONNECTION

A New Perspective on What Makes Us Human

By Pat Shipman

This new book is getting a lot of attention – and with good reason.

When people discuss evolution, they

usually agree that there are three unique behaviors that distinguish humans from other mammals: tool making, language, and the domestication of other species. These developments are usually looked at in isolation, but Pat Shipman, the paleoanthropologist author of this book, argues that there is a fourth human habit linking the others together in a single evolutionary trajectory. Shipman calls this fourth behavior *The Animal Connection*. What's more, her investigations reveal a groundbreaking new idea: that human's connections to other species could very well be the driving force for the last 2.6 million years of evolution.

This connection to animals is unique – no other mammals rear and support the young of other species to the degree that we do. Further, humans often keep animals simply for companionship and affection and share a deep and visceral connection with them. The author explains how she thinks this connection originated and came to shape our evolution.

From the development of stone tools, which allowed humans to compete with other carnivores, to cave drawings, to the domestication of dogs 32,000 years ago, Shipman argues that connections with animals have been an enduring trend in human development.

With her broad background in paleontology, anthropology, and evolutionary theory she creates a “long view” of human development. She says, “Animals were not incidental to our evolution into *Homo sapiens*, they were essential to it – they made us human.”

Pat Shipman is a professor of anthropology at Penn State University and the author of ten books.

The Animal Connection: A New Perspective on What Makes Us Human
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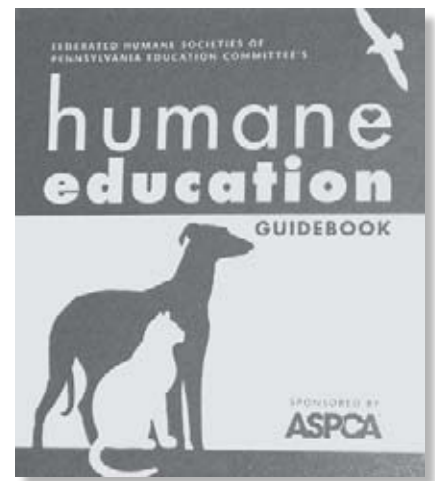
The 246-page guide examines the various ways people learn such as through Multiple Intelligences (verbal, visual, one-on-one, mathematical, etc.) and the Cone of Learning, which explains the difference between passive and active education. The guide defines cognitive development characteristics of five different age groups: 3-5 years, 6-9 years, 10-13 years, 14-18 years, and 19 years and over.

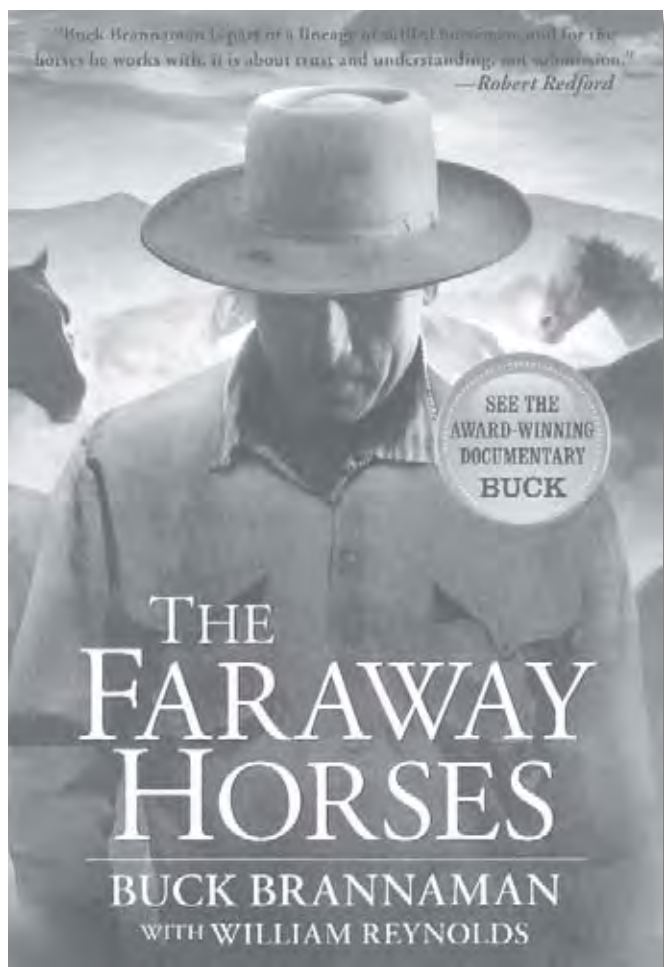
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 E-mail questions to Janice Mininberg, Director of Education, at whsedu@aol.com.





The Faraway Horses

By Buck Brannaman

Reviewed by Terre Roche

“It’s hard to explain how other people’s horses could save your life, but that’s exactly what happened to me.” Buck Brannaman makes that statement on page one of his remarkable memoir *The Faraway Horses*. He goes on to tell the story of his life and how various events led him to his profession. Buck is a cowboy who travels the country giving clinics to help people understand how to work with their horses.

Buck was six years old when he and his brother Smokie were a family act on the rodeo circuit as child trick-ropers. Their father, Ace Brannaman, a disciplinarian with a violent temper, sought to gain fame and wealth by exploiting the talents of his sons.

The incidents of extreme abuse by Buck’s father are heartbreaking and hair-raising. Buck believes it was only a matter of time before he and his brother would have been killed by their father’s hand if the

authorities hadn’t intervened. The boys were sent to live with Forrest and Betsy Shirley, a couple who took in foster children. Safe under the Shirleys’ charge, Buck’s life took a sharp turn for the better. His foster parents gave him something to do – he worked on their ranch and learned the skills of a cowboy.

Given what Buck had been through it would be no surprise to hear he’d hardened into a mean-spirited abuser of people and animals alike. Instead, he found a deep connection with horses, based on compassion for them and his first-hand knowledge about the nature of their fear.

Once you see the result of Buck Brannaman’s approach to working with horses, it’s hard to imagine why anyone would ever use severe punishment and intimidation to train a horse. As Buck takes us through specific cases that he’s worked with, we begin to see the owners’ personalities and how significant a part they play in their horse’s problems. For example, a fearful rider’s own nervousness unwittingly creates an unsafe environment for her horse; a domineering control-freak strikes out before noticing the nature of his horse and how to properly work with it in order to get the result he’s looking for.

Buck shows the difference between discipline and punishment. It turns out that compassion and empathy are strong qualities that require courage, while the violent approach is the cowardly approach. With a horse you have to walk the razor’s edge, always awake to the present moment – too much coddling and you spoil the animal; too much unfocused force and you break the horse’s spirit. The consequences of either can be devastating to the horse and dangerous to the human.

Somewhere along the line the reader realizes that Buck Brannaman’s approach to working with horses applies to every other aspect of life. This is the true gift of *The Faraway Horses* and this is why I recommend this book to everyone, regardless of whether or not you’ve ever set foot in a stirrup.

The Faraway Horses

Buck Brannaman with
William Reynolds

Lyons Press

www.LyonsPress.com

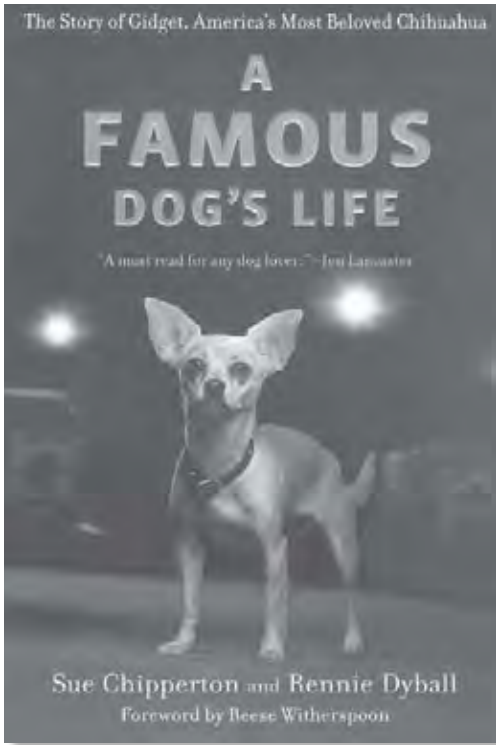
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Photo: Cliff Fagin

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**A Famous Dog's Life:
The Story of Gidget, America's
Most Beloved Chihuahua**

Reviewed by Judy Johns

This book is a delight. At first I was simply curious about this new book because I'm an On-call American Humane Certified Animal Safety Representative™, and although I

never had the pleasure of meeting Gidget, I've seen author Sue Chipperton work her apparent magic with dogs and ducks. But now, having devoured the Taco Bell dog's life story on a recent cross-country flight, I can say how much I enjoyed Gidget's story – and not just because I know the author and recognize some of the people and situations she describes. *A Famous Dog's Life* is a book for all animal appreciators.

Readers are bound to enjoy the author's behind-the-scenes look at studio animal training and her insider's perspective should allay any concerns they might have about the way animal actors are cared for and treated in American-made films, television shows, and commercials. I say "American-made" because, with few exceptions, only productions filmed in the USA are eligible for the American Humane Association's Film and Television Unit's guidance and oversight. This careful monitoring is what makes productions eligible for the well-known "No animals were harmed" end credit. If you visit www.americanhumane.org, you can search an extensive archive of movie ratings and reviews, read the complete guidelines for the safe use of animals in filmed productions, and learn what's involved in becoming a Certified Animal Safety Representative.

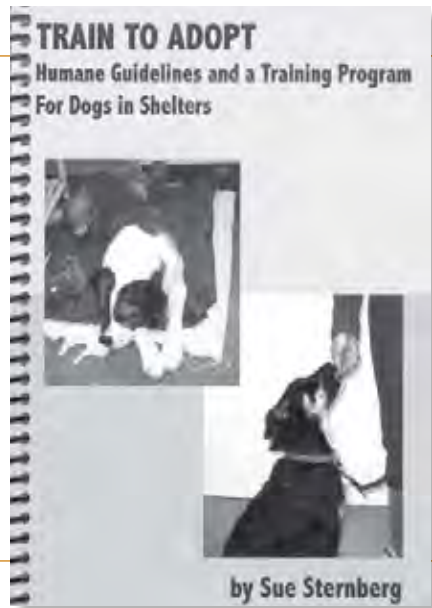
A Famous Dog's Life is much more than a loving memoir of a special dog. Sue describes the selection, training, and care that go into the life of an animal actor. Along the way she compares their life to that of a non-working companion animal. All pet owners are bound to find the differences and similarities enlightening. Sue also obviously "gets" clicker training and illustrates its effectiveness with many wonderful examples.

This peek into a world that most readers can only imagine, combined with a glimpse into Sue's own fascinating personal experience, make for a fabulous, fun read.

A Famous Dog's Life: The Story of Gidget, America's Most Beloved Chihuahua

By Sue Chipperton and Rennie Dyball

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New website

TRAIN TO ADOPT

The website: www.traintoadopt.com has free videos and training tips for shelters to access. There's also a "Sue Sternberg's Train to Adopt" Facebook page where shelters can post training questions.



Animals and the Kids Who Love Them: Extraordinary True Stories of Hope, Healing, and Compassion

By Allen and Linda Anderson

Many *Latham Letter* readers are lucky enough to have experienced the comfort and loyalty of a beloved animal when they were growing up; however, not everyone realized the healing potential contained in those warm furry bodies. Authors Allen and Linda Anderson have

once again gathered heart-warming stories of the relationship between animals and humans in this newest edition to the Angel Animals series. The book contains stories about children and animal connections that result in courageous and compassionate acts of love and healing.

You'll be moved by stories as seemingly everyday as a rabbit who helps a foster boy sleep through the night to as life-changing as the Dalmatian Sparkles whose fire-safety lesson saved the lives of a five-year-old girl and her father when she awoke to smoke and "crawled like Sparkles" into her father's room to wake him.

Other stories include: Richochet, a failed service dog who excelled at raising funds for charitable causes by tandem surfing; Maya the "rescued" dog who points an autistic, Down's syndrome girl to the school bus each morning and greets her each afternoon; a pony that helps disabled children regain strength in their limbs and confidence in their bodies; a dog and a guinea pig who help shy, reluctant children learn to read; a dachshund with "wheel legs" who helps a boy in a wheelchair hope again; and even a turkey who helps an blind girl traumatized by an earthquake regain her voice through a shared love of music.

The stories will amaze and inspire, as both animals and kids overcome tremendous odds to live with the basic skills and mobility that most of us take for granted.

This beautiful book includes a foreword by Robin R. Ganzert, Ph. D., President and CEO of American Humane Association, and Steve Dale, CABC, syndicated columnist and radio host of *Steve Dale's Pet World*. You'll also find a valuable appendix of considerations when deciding to bring a pet into the family.

Allen and Linda Anderson are speakers and authors of a series of thirteen popular books about the spiritual relationships between people and animals. They cofounded the Angel Animals Network in 1996 to increase love and respect for all life through the power of story. Their work has won Minnesota and national awards and has been featured in local, national, and international media and news outlets. They donate a portion of revenue from their projects to animal shelters and animal welfare organizations. The Andersons' website is www.angelanimals.net.

Animals and the Kids Who Love Them: Extraordinary True Stories of Hope, Healing, and Compassion By Allen and Linda Anderson

November 15, 2011 • Trade Paperback \$14.95 • 272 pages
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