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Latham Letter

VOLUME XXXVIII, NUMBER 2

SPRING 2017

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

SINGLE ISSUE PRICE: \$5.00

EDUCATION:

Instilling Respect for Gorillas and the Environment in the Congo

By Lisa Forzley

EDUCATION



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Companion Animal Medicine pg 12

Research News pg 11

Humane Education pg 14



THE MANDATE:

Edith Latham's

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



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The Latham Letter

Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities

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The Latham Letter

Volume XXXVIII, Number 2, Spring 2017

**BALANCED PERSPECTIVES ON
HUMANE ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES**



The *Latham Letter* is published quarterly by The Latham Foundation, 1320 Harbor Bay Pkwy, Suite 200, Alameda, CA 94502-6581.

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

Publisher and Editor Hugh H. Tebault, III
Managing Editor Judy Johns
Printer FolgerGraphics, Inc., Hayward, CA
Design Joann Toth, Fountain Hills, AZ

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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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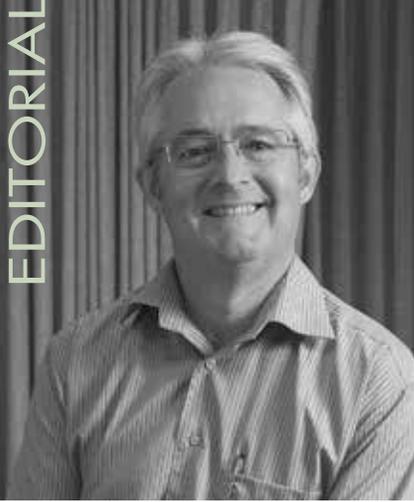
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Hugh H. Tebault III,
Latham Foundation's President

Is our society Multi-Ethnic with Equal Justice or Multi-Cultural with Social Justice?

In the Latham Foundation steps to Humane Education, we illustrate the results of teaching a core of humane education. The Latham Steps reflect a multi-ethnic society where there is equal justice for all. The steps are based on a shared cultural set of values that guide kindness and respect.

To give a real world example and a bit of history, I grew up in Alameda, a city in California. My parents were also raised in Alameda, so I have two generations of experience with the Alameda culture, which is a subset of California culture, which itself is a subset of US culture. The ability in the US to have diverse ethnic groups share a common culture is a hallmark of the US experience. We shared a common education in the public schools.

My parents attended public school, and in review of their school year books, I find a very broad multi-ethnic representation. Many of those my parents attended school with grew to be the business leaders I knew growing up. I learned about a number of ethnic traditions different than my own and learned the value of community growing up. I was taught by action and lesson that our community worked together, that we helped our neighbors, showed respect to animals and other people, and that equal justice was expected. If someone had broken a law, it was expected they would pay an equal penalty to anyone else.

As an example of how my parents worked for the betterment of their community, they participated as students in the Alameda student strike of 1936, which occurred when members of the city government were illegally trying to take over the school system. In part due to the strike, investigations were begun and several city leaders were tried and convicted, serving prison time in San Quentin. It is also of historic interest to note that the County District Attorney who investigated and prosecuted those Alameda leaders was

Earl Warren, later most known for his opinion as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in the case of Brown vs. Board of Education (1954). I suggest that Justice Warren's early exposure to the student and faculty diversity he found in Alameda schools was likely formative to his later decision. For more details on this strike, please see: <http://www.thealamedan.org/news/alameda-history-alameda-high-school-strike-1936>

In my education, of the many fine teachers I had, one in High School history is especially memorable because of his ability to link history to reality. Mr. Gunther Gates was a history teacher who also happened to be a Rabbi. Learning history from a Rabbi was profound. I am a Christian and it was never about converting. It was about respecting our multi-ethnic community and diversity. It was about understanding our history in the hope that events like WWII would never be repeated.

EXPECTATIONS, con't. on page 10



Save the date!

2017 Best Friends National Conference

July 13-15

**Harrah's Waterfront Conference Center,
Atlantic City, New Jersey**

**See page 10 for additional
conference news regarding the LINK**

**Animal lovers
put their money
where their hearts are.**

On average, an owner will spend at least \$239 a year on dog food and \$203 on cat food. Americans' spending on pets exceeded \$55 billion in 2013, with more than \$4 billion going toward services such as grooming, boarding, training, and pet sitting.

SERVICE ANIMALS

The Department of Justice considers dogs and miniature horses as service animals. Service dogs can visit hospitals and nursing homes, and restaurants that do not allow pets. The cost of training a service dog is more than \$15,000. Other animals, such as monkeys, cats, and birds, have performed tasks for people with disabilities.



**Have you seen
an unusual therapy
animal?**

Email your best shots with details to
JJohns@latham.org

Exciting Shelter News from the ASPCA

According to researchers at the ASPCA, *fewer dogs and cats are coming in to shelters compared to five years ago.* In fact, we estimate that the number of dogs and cats entering U.S. shelters annually has declined from approximately 7.2 million in 2011 to 6.5 million in 2016. The decline was smaller for cats – with our estimate being a decline from 3.4 million to 3.2 million. For dogs, we found an estimated decline from 3.9 million to 3.3 million.

And it gets more exciting from there. *We estimate that the number of dogs and cats euthanized in U.S. shelters annually has declined from approximately 2.6 million in 2011 to 1.5 million in 2016.* Estimated dog euthanasia declined from 1.2 million to 670,000 and cat euthanasia declined from 1.4 million to 860,000. **HOT DOG (and CAT)!**

Congratulations and many thanks to all of you who have put the "people power" into these encouraging statistics.

Instilling Respect for Gorillas and the Environment in the Congo

By Lisa Forzley

This article originally appeared on the Detroit Zoo Blog, which can be found at www.detroitzoo.org.

I recently had the opportunity to travel to the Gorilla Rehabilitation and Conservation Education Center (GRACE), located in the eastern part of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). GRACE is truly a special place – it is the only facility in the world that cares for highly endangered Grauer’s gorillas that have been rescued by wildlife authorities after being illegally captured by poachers and traders.

Grauer’s gorillas are endemic to this region and only approximately 4,000 remain in the wild. There are current-

ly 14 gorillas residing at GRACE, where a dedicated Congolese staff provides daily care and monitors the group while they explore a 24-acre forest – the largest gorilla enclosure in the world.

GRACE is overseen by a dedicated board of directors, which includes Ron Kagan, Detroit Zoological

Society (DZS) CEO and executive director, who has also served as board chair. In addition to Ron’s valuable leadership, the DZS’s involvement with GRACE also includes financial and staff support. In 2015, Ron helped secure funds for a new night house enclosure for the gorillas, which I was able to see in operation while I was there. Also in 2015, DZS Director of Animal Health Dr. Ann Duncan traveled to the Congo to perform health examinations on 12 gorillas, which had never been done before.

I traveled to the DRC with three staff members from Disney’s Animal Kingdom and the executive director of GRACE as part of the GRACE Education Advisory Group. We carried quite a bit of luggage with us, which included a number of veterinary medicines and supplies provided by the DZS.





While at GRACE, we worked extensively with the Congolese education team. We observed current programs, provided our feedback and facilitated trainings focused on methodology, messaging and differentiating instruction to meet the needs of their various audiences. We also began to draft a strategic plan for their education programming and evaluation efforts as they move forward. The team's reach is vast; not only do they work with primary and secondary school groups onsite and in local villages, they also conduct programs with community groups and

the military, to name a few. GRACE doesn't have open visitation hours, so all of the groups that they work with have been scheduled by the educators. Throughout all that the team does, there's a common theme of instilling reverence and respect for not only gorillas, but all animals and the environment. They work with people of all ages to help foster behavioral changes that result in a positive impact for people, animals and their shared home.

I can't say enough about the amazing people that I met throughout the

course of our visit. The team at GRACE is truly a hard-working, dedicated, passionate group of people and they give tremendous hope for the future. Additionally, on our last day at GRACE, we were fortunate to take part in a tour of the local village, led by the women's cooperative, where we met many members of the community. We were invited into homes to see cooking demonstrations and to learn about some of the small-scale businesses they own and operate. We also visited Muyisa Primary School where we were greeted with song and dance and hundreds of smiling faces. Everywhere we went, people were kind and welcoming. They definitely made it difficult for me to leave.

As we move forward, the Education Advisory Group and the Congolese educators will continue to meet by way of monthly conference calls. We'll continue to advise efforts and offer additional training. I'll also be working on developing humane education curriculum and projects for the children's conservation clubs which currently exist in five communities. Stay tuned for more to come on that!

Lisa Forzley is a curator of education for the Detroit Zoological Society and oversees the Berman Academy for Humane Education.



The Curious Connection between Humane Societies and Ice Skating



The frozen waters of the Schuylkill River in winter were popular attractions for ice skaters in Philadelphia.

By Phil Arkow

In an earlier issue of *The Latham Letter* (Vol. 31, No. 2, Spring 2010), I raised the question as to how it came to be that so many animal protection organizations in the U.S. and Canada are known as “humane societies” when, in fact, that term has no relevance to animal welfare in Great Britain where the animal protection movement originated.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was formed in London in 1824 and was the progenitor of the American SPCA. Shortly thereafter, in 1866, the Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, San Francisco, and other SPCAs in the U.S. came into being. But the Royal Humane Society, founded in London in 1774, was chartered to recover persons who had apparently drowned. That organization resulted in the formation of similar humane societies that exist today in the U.K., Australia, Ireland and New Zealand. It also spawned several humane societies in the late 18th century in America that focused on the restoration of life by resuscitating persons who appeared to have died from drowning, lightning strikes, heat prostration, and hypothermia. These humane societies, in turn, later established lifesaving stations to rescue sailors along the Eastern Seaboard and became the forerunners of the U.S. Coast Guard.

While I am no closer today to understanding how the term “humane society” morphed from water-safety into animal welfare, I have recently discovered that the earliest humane society in the U.S. lives on today – albeit, in name only – with an unusual connection to ice skating.

Founded in 1780 and incorporated in 1793, the Humane Society of Philadelphia published guidelines for the “reanimation” and resuscitation of victims and aided the formation of fledgling humane societies in Baltimore, Wilmington and Cincinnati. In an annual address in 1799, Society president Dr. Benjamin

Say remarked that prior to the efforts of humane societies in the U.S. and abroad, “Thousands of our fellow creatures have been consigned to the tomb with the unextinguished sparks of life remaining in them, and perhaps many of them in an unprepared state to meet their Creator in the world of spirits.”

The annual oration was prefaced with an appropriate motto: “The most delightful of all our pleasures is that of doing good.” It ended with an appeal common to other early humane societies: the condemnation of “the intemperate use of distilled spirituous liquors” as the most common cause of premature death. (Child welfare was also addressed, with smoking and chewing tobacco among boys as young as five years old seen as leading them to a life of intemperance, “the worst and most debased purposes” and an early grave.)

While not specifically addressing animal welfare, Say’s oration is among the earliest humane society writings addressing the universal kinship between human beings and other animals. Resuscitation of the apparently drowned should be possible, he posited, because some species that appear dead in the winter are merely hibernating.

“A spark remains, secreted in some unknown and obscure recess of their nature, which like a little leaven hidden in three mixtures of meal is capable of enlivening the whole mass.” In such suspended animation, “All are upon a footing: the insect and the philosopher being equally insensible,” he said.

Over subsequent decades, a number of “humane” fire companies were formed in the Philadelphia region during an era when fire-fighting was performed largely by private companies supported by residents who paid annual dues to ensure someone would respond to a fire at their home. Similarly, the Philadelphia Humane Society placed ladders strategically in alleys throughout the city, to be used to rescue people from burning buildings and by bucket companies to pass up water to extinguish fires.

But by the 1850s, the role of the Humane Society of Philadelphia was greatly diminished. Meanwhile, the first skating club in the U.S. – the Skaters’ Club of the City and County of Philadelphia – had been formed in 1849. Members skated on the frozen waters of the Schuylkill River and several area ponds. But being aware of the hazards involved in an era before refrigeration



Ice Water Rescue:
The club house of the Philadelphia Skating Club and Humane Society on the Schuylkill River, illustrating light ladder and reel mode of rescue (1896)

and ice rinks, members would protect the skaters from the “roughs” and go out on the ice with a short wooden reel, a 60-foot cord, and ladders to save those who had fallen through the ice.

According to a history of the Club written in 1895, in the winter of 1853 some 28 lives were saved by the use of the cord and reel, and by 1859 the total number saved was 125. After the development of a new and improved ladder system, the life-saving record of the Club had eclipsed the work of the Humane Society.

After the disbandment of the Humane Society, the Skaters’ Club appointed a committee to determine what had become of its funds, with the view of turning them into the Club’s treasury. As it turned out, the Humane Society’s assets had been distributed to the Pennsylvania Hospital – America’s oldest hospital, founded in 1751.

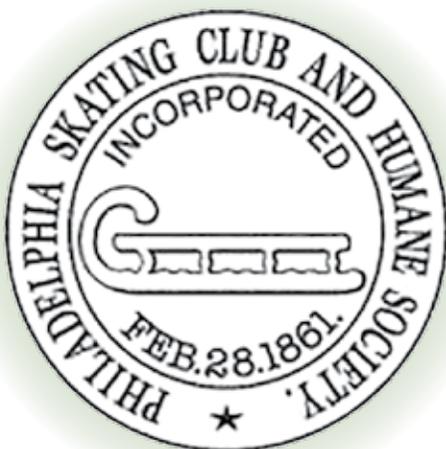
The Constitution and By-laws of the Club were revised and on Feb. 28, 1861, the Club was incorporated as The Philadelphia Skating Club and Humane Society, the name which exists today – and which today results in at least one daily phone call from someone looking for the Pennsylvania SPCA.

The Club is a mainstay of ice skating in the Philadelphia region. Among its more celebrated alumni are National, World, and Olympic Champions Dick Button and Scott Hamilton.

“This, in short, is the simple story of the Philadelphia Skating Club and Humane Society,” wrote the author of the 1895 history. “Were the facts known, pages could be filled with the record of noble and disinterested deeds, of the sick attended, of the wounded treated, of the drowned resuscitated, and of many lives saved, often at the risk of death to the brave wearer of the little silver skate. Doubtless from eight to nine hundred people have been actually saved by the members from drowning, but no list of these rescues has been kept nor can well be made. They remain alone in the recollection of those who performed them, or who saw them, but the Recording Angel has them all....”

Phil Arkow is a Consultant and Contributing Editor to The Latham Foundation and Chair of our Animal Abuse and Family Violence Prevention Project.

Contact Phil for more information on the early history of humane societies at arkowpets@snip.net or at 856-627.5118.



The logo of the Philadelphia Skating Club and Humane Society

EXPECTATIONS, *con't. from page 10*

The same multi-ethnic values were evident in other groups I participated in, like the Boy Scouts and our youth groups in church. Those groups were focused on helping others, and I often learning new skills while doing so. The organizations were never government funded, but included volunteers or staff that was paid from local funds. Even outreach programs like the Meals on Wheels program in Alameda (started by my father and others) was strictly run by local volunteers and local funds when it started. I don't know how it is run today, but have attended fundraisers for Alameda Meals on Wheels over the years to help support their local work.

Flash forward to 2017. Society, government programs and daily stories push a multi-cultural message. Social justice warriors do not push equal justice before the law, but rather excuse politically correct groups from crimes in the name of social justice. Demonstrators demand that free speech only be allowed to those who "think the correct way" or vote for a certain lifestyle. Colleges have devolved from locations where free speech and thought can be exchanged and debated, to battlegrounds where most conservative thought is driven underground by violence and intimidation. Cities and some states are actively misusing their government positions and our tax money in an attempt to help illegal aliens avoid the rule of law, while at the same time some of those people are involved in crimes against citizens and legal immigrants. The banner is social justice, not equal justice.

A hallmark of our free society is the rule of law. Lady Justice is depicted holding the scales of justice with a blindfold on so that anyone brought before her is given equal justice. The attempt to break down the Alameda/California/US culture by denying equal justice is why there is so much trouble today. The frustration of both citizens and legal immigrants is that the promise of equality before the law is being ignored by some government workers and by politicians who violate their oath of office to uphold the law.

As individuals, we should personally demonstrate social outreach, while at the same time depending on the government to operate under the rule of law. I urge us to work together and return to a respectful, multi-ethnic culture with equal justice for all. When we do that, we will be much closer to the kind society the founders of the Latham Foundation were hoping for in promoting humane education.



NATIONAL LINK COALITION

*Working together to stop violence
against people and animals*

LINK Conferences

Upcoming LINK Meetings

June 1 – Tedford, Shropshire, UK:

Paula Boyden, Freda Scott-Peck, and Phil Wilson will discuss The Link in an all-day training for veterinarians.

June 2 – Dallas, Texas:

Mental Health America of Greater Dallas will sponsor a Conference to discuss animal hoarding.

June 8-9 – Flagstaff, Ariz.:

Diana Webster and Christina Schwamberger will discuss The Link at the Navajo Nation Bar Association Annual Conference.

June 24 – Reno, Nev.:

The National Coalition on Violence Against Animals will meet in conjunction with the National Sheriffs' Association Annual Conference.



The Promise of Animal-Assisted Interventions (AAIs) for Children with Autism

Review article as anchor:

O’Haire, M.E., Guerin, N.A., Kirkham, A.C., & Daigle, C.L. (June 23, 2015). Animal-assisted intervention for autism spectrum disorder. *HABRI Central Briefs*, 1(6): p. e1-8.

Introduction

Although difficulty in human social interactions is a hallmark of autism, many children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) exhibit a natural affinity for animals. For some, developing close and affectionate bonds with the companion animals in their lives becomes a bridge for learning how to understand and interact with other people, as in the case of Temple Grandin. Diagnosed with severe autism as a child, Grandin credits her unique connection with animals as enabling her to cope with the social challenges of growing up and becoming internationally renowned as an animal behaviorist.

For Olga Solomon at University of Southern California, watching the interaction between her dog and a little autistic girl at the park made her realize that there might be something special about canine social behavior that engages autistic children in a way that humans can’t. Solomon watched how her border collie enticed the girl to throw the Frisbee and got the child to play. The girl’s father was thrilled by what he saw and begged Solomon to sell him her dog. He explained that his daughter had autism and had never played with anyone before. Inspired by this experience, Solomon went on to conduct two in depth case studies, one involving a nine-year-old autistic girl and her interactions with several different therapy dogs, the other involving a 13-year-old boy’s interactions with his service dog. Solomon reviewed 65 hours of video and audio recordings for these studies (2010). Personally, I found her observations of these child-dog interactions fascinating.

As it turns out, dogs are the species most commonly involved in Animal-Assisted Interventions for ASD, followed by horses. Small animals like guinea pigs are emerging as the third most popular species in animal-involved



By Deidre Rand, Ph.D.

treatments for ASD. Studies report positive outcomes on the efficacy of incorporating dogs, horses, and guinea pigs in interventions for ASD, especially in areas of persistent impairments that are characteristic of autism, such as social interactions and restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, and difficulty coping with stress.

Human-Animal Interaction Research and the Treatment of ASD

Rapidly burgeoning research on Human-Animal Interactions (HAIs) has produced findings that support incorporating animals into the lives of people with ASD. These findings include: interacting with animals increases levels of the “feel good” hormone oxytocin, which promotes social bonds and interest in social interactions. Studies also show that the mere presence of an animal facilitates social encounters with fellow humans in recreational and therapeutic contexts. Robust scientific

RESEARCH NEWS, con’t. on page 18

CANINE BLOOD DONATION —

By Zac Wood

Reprinted courtesy of
The Wag Magazine,
Fountain Hills, Ariz.

Humans get unending phone calls from the Red Cross and United Blood Services looking for good Samaritans to bleed into a bag to help save a stranger's life. Many folks find blood donations rewarding and contribute regularly. Donated blood is used in transfusions for sick and injured people and to replace blood lost during surgery or in traumatic events.

It's the same for dogs. They can donate blood and save lives, too. "The canine blood donation has the same benefits as human blood donation," says Jonah Sturges, formerly with Maricopa County Animal Control. "It helps save the lives of dogs that need a transfusion for surgery or other medical necessities."

BECOMING A CANINE BLOOD DONOR

Breeds like greyhounds, pit bulls, boxers, German shepherds, and Dobermans are likely good donors. Their typical large size also means they have lots of blood and can donate without missing it too much. It's also preferable that the donor have a demeanor that's calm, friendly and relaxed.

Giving Back to the Pack



Seamus and Oliver

Much of the screening process for dogs is similar to that for humans. For example, there are age and weight requirements. A dog should be over 50 pounds and between one and seven years old. There's a medical exam like a normal check-up covering obvious health concerns but also going into in-depth tests for things like: heartworms, *Anaplasma*, *Bartonella*, *Babesia*, *Ehrlichie*, *Hepatozoon*, *Leishmania*, *Neorickettsia*, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, *Mycoplasma*, and Lyme disease. Donors must be current on all vaccinations and free of medications except for heartworm. Once a dog is pronounced healthy, a simple test identifies the antibodies that dictate blood type. Similar to human blood, there are five major canine blood types, and there's one "universal donor" that is always in high demand.

Once typed, matching dogs can donate through a relatively painless blood draw every four to eight weeks, giving about a pint each time. For a well-behaved pet, this involves a short inspection, then about fifteen minutes of sitting still, with no anesthesia needed, while blood is drawn from the jugular vein in the dog's neck.

The freshly-drawn blood is usually shipped to a blood bank, where it is processed into various products. Sometimes emergency offices need blood immediately, but that is a rare special circumstance and not part of most normal donations.

WHO GETS WHAT

Whole blood is for dogs that need fluid, nutrients, and red blood cells – the whole nine yards. This is most common in surgery and serious injury cases, where

the recipient has lost a significant volume of their blood. Administering doctors have to be careful when providing whole blood, as a circulatory system can actually be overfilled and overwhelmed.

Sturges is now a nurse for humans at a hospital in Flagstaff. “I would say the most common blood product that we give is packed red blood cells or PRBCs for short. What we give is determined by the lab tests on patients.” Packed red blood cells are used in patients who haven’t lost volume but have thin or anemic blood, or a low red-cell count. “It makes sense that it is the same for dogs.”

Plasma is the fluid component of blood – basically everything except the actual red cells. Plasma gets used on sick dogs who are dealing with blood clotting problems, parvo, pancreatitis, protein loss, and even venomous bites. It’s also used in surgery.

FACILITATING THE NEED

Dr. Eva DeCozio at VCAApache Junction Animal Hospital has been in the business quite awhile. “We used to have blood donors a long time ago (rescued greyhounds from the track ... 20 years ago, they would use them as donors and then adopted them out).” Now greyhounds have much better prospects during and after their racing careers. “We have done a few transfusions, when I had big healthy dogs that could donate when we needed blood in an emergency,” DeCozio continued. “We don’t do that anymore. Canine blood banks are the way to go nowadays, and the specialty practices are set up to cross match and perform the transfusions.”

There are only a handful of canine blood banks in the country. The Western United States is serviced by Canine Blood Heroes and by BluePearl Veterinary Partners. Canine Blood Heroes, based in Idaho with collection partners from Seattle to Phoenix, will coordinate sending a puppy-phlebotomist to a nearby vet. BluePearl has full-service emergency veterinary clinics in 17 states, including five in Phoenix. The Southern Arizona Veterinary Specialty and Emergency Center has two locations in Tucson and used to run their own blood bank. They don’t have enough donors, dedicated staff, or demand to keep it active right now.

In Phoenix, Ariz., or other areas, the best way to donate is to ask your vet, who will either have their own capabilities or put you in touch with one of the donation specialists nearby.

YES, YOUR CAT CAN DONATE, TOO!

There’s a similar screening process as that for dogs. Cats have to be over ten pounds. The technician takes only two ounces per session, and wisely,



felines must be sedated for the process. Ask your vet!

LUNA’S HOPE TO HELP

“When I first asked my vet office about it, the receptionist seemed unfamiliar with the request and put me on hold,” says Nick Gunther, who wanted to bring his rescued pit-mix, Luna, in to make a blood donation. “When she came back she told me that the transfusions aren’t done at their locations and are usually ‘only done at emergency vet clinics.’ She said that that’s where they also take the donations, so she gave me the number to BluePearl.”

Luna is right at the fifty-pound threshold. “I’ll fatten her up a bit,” Gunther says. “I’m really looking forward to being able to save lives like this. It’s why I rescued Luna in the first place.” Luna will have to wait a month to get her intake appointment, to see if she’s eligible to donate.

While the blood banks pay veterinarians for the blood, the whole process is actually rather time-consuming and not profitable. Blood tests are expensive, and a lot of man-hours go into each donation appointment. It takes fairly large volumes of blood for some products, which means multiple donations. BluePearl asks that donors commit to at least twelve donations, spread out over three years.

“The commitment is worth it,” Gunther says. “I committed to being Luna’s forever home, and we’re both happy to help save other lives.”

Zac Wood is a US Navy combat veteran, a juggler, a writer, but most of all a reader. His dogs are named for Harry Potter characters, and he currently lives and works near DC.

He can be contacted at zachary.dc.wood@gmail.com.



They Walk a Little Taller

Photos by Charles Pitkofsky

By Miguel Contreras, Marinna Navarro, Victor Ochoa,
Erika Rodriguez, Ricky Ruano, and
Mike Coyne, Principal, Baden High School
Lynn Loar, Ph.D., LCSW
President, The Pryor Foundation



Ricky and Cora

Introduction:

Lynn: Clicker training dogs to have good manners is easy and lots of fun. In contrast, reaching at-risk teenagers with little if any academic success is rarely easy or enjoyable work. Rather, the work is considered draining and limited in impact. What's a social worker to do? For the past four years, the Pryor Foundation has been sending five or six students from Baden High School, a continuation school in South San Francisco, Calif., to clicker train animals at the Peninsula Humane Society. The plight of the animals – homeless, unwanted, poorly behaved, yet wanting someone to care about them – resonates with these students who want to learn to train the animals in the behaviors that will make them more adoptable. Here are the reflections of this year's students on their journey from troubled adolescent to motivated learner and trainer.

Ricky: When I heard about the program at school, I thought about joining it immediately. I was willing to put in all my effort to be accepted into this program because I love animals, and it might help me have a future working with animals. I also wanted to learn how to train dogs so I can train mine.

We practiced clicker training by playing the clicker training game at the end of every session. We all took turns being the trainer while another student was the learner. The trainer chooses something for the learner to do and the learner has to do the action

just by reacting to the clicker. It was hard at first because we couldn't click on time, but after two sessions we were all able to click on time and also learned to figure out the task fast. Now I know how to clicker train properly.

I learned how to train a dog to walk next to the trainer. Then we learned how to teach dogs good manners and impulse control around treats. We also learned how to teach the dogs to stand still while we put collars and harnesses on them.

Victor: I was nervous because I didn't think an animal shelter was really a place for me. I've never owned a dog, so what made me in any way qualified to train one? I later found out though that it's quite a simple prospect to clicker train animals in a short time. I've done it! I feel like I have truly mastered the skill.

It's been an amazing journey seeing



Victor and Elsa

ourselves and the dogs develop new skills that will help us both in the future. For example, Elsa, one of the dogs who has been at the shelter for a little over a year, recently got adopted, and we had a big part in that.

The best part of this program is seeing these dogs go from being scared or impulsive to patient, lovable animals that almost any person would adopt.

Erika: We clicker train the dogs to help them become more adoptable. I have learned that it takes a lot of work to get these dogs to trust people, so we have to be patient with them. It works out in the end because the dogs will absolutely do anything for that click and treat, and you get the behavior you want them to learn.

What I love about this program is the relationship that is built with these dogs. The result after the trust is built is amazing. The first day of the program I was nervous and scared, and I am sure the dogs felt the same way because they didn't know who we were or what our intentions were. However, once we started working with them they stopped barking. They started wagging their tails because they knew every time we came they were going to earn treats. They knew we weren't a threat. I like knowing that the dogs I work with aren't scared of me anymore.

Our work makes it easier for the volunteers and staff to handle and train these animals. It is amazing that we can clicker train the animals and reinforce positive behaviors.

This program has taught me that we help the dogs out a lot, and they have helped me by getting me out of my comfort zone. I know they are just as nervous as I am, and working together calms us both down. Clicker training these dogs has made me become more patient and observant with day-to-day things, and I am grateful for getting this out of the program.



Erika and Elsa



Mickey and Elsa

One dog that really stood out to me was a blue pit bull named Elsa. Elsa was a kind, smart, and sweet dog but it was hard for her to get adopted because of her strength. Through clicker training we taught her impulse control, walking next to the owner when she goes out for walks, and doorway manners because she would lunge through the doorway. I am really happy for her because she finally got a home, and I am really proud of our group because we helped her get adopted.

I want to continue working with animals, so I am going to apply to Foothill College to become a veterinary technician.

I really like this program because of its positive energy; they want you to succeed in every class you take. When I saw Foothill's vet tech program I knew this was the college for me – they teach you everything you need to know to become a veterinary technician, and how to spay and neuter animals.

This program taught me about animal behavior and it helped me grow as a person who is interested in being a veterinarian in the future.

Mickey: When I was young I lived with my grandma in Mexico and she took care of stray animals. She would bring food for the animals that lived on the streets.

I currently work with kids at my job. I teach them how to swim, and I think it would be the same for the animals, because I'm teaching them skills they can use in the future and also helping them get adopted.

The animals have feelings just like us humans. Some animals at the shelter have scars and bruises. It's sad because the animals trust you. Some people treat them badly and abandon them. That's not right. I made connections with some dogs. At first the dogs didn't know me, but when I kept going to the shelter they knew me and knew what game we were going to play.

Marinna: This program has made me more mature because I act differently and treat animals differently than I did before. When I approach any animal, I look at their body language. I also know now that I shouldn't look them directly in the eyes and reach over them and pet the tops of their heads unless they are OK with that. I'm a lot less shy around animals because I am able to identify what their body language means.

The dog I enjoyed working with most was a pit bull named Elsa. Whenever Elsa walked into the room, she always put a smile on my face because she was happy and excited to see us. She was a quick learner and enjoyed clicker training; she never tried to outsmart us and always did what we wanted her to. She finally got adopted the last week of the program.

Another dog we worked with often was a shepherd mix named Guinness. At first, Guinness was afraid to approach us and was very shy. We all sat in a circle on the floor and let him come to us so we didn't force him to do something he didn't want to. After that day, he was fine with us and would even get happy to see us. Guinness understood very quickly and clearly what we would want him to do when it came to clicker training.

This program has made me realize what I want to do in the future: a career in animal welfare. The program has helped me not only in learning body language in animals, but in identifying body language in humans too. I am really going to miss working with these dogs and seeing their faces light up when they walk into a room and see us.

Conclusion:

Mike: Much of what the partnership between Baden High School, the Pryor Foundation, and the Peninsula Humane Society does for students is about opportunity: the opportunity for young people to sense the satisfaction of helping an animal find a safe home; the opportunity to be part of a group with a common goal; the opportunity to develop reading, writing, and speaking skills; and maybe most importantly, the opportunity to develop self-confidence by achieving a set goal. These are great opportunities for any student, but when presented to continuation high school students who have had a pattern of academic



Marinna and Guinness

struggles and failure, the results, both measurable and not, can be transformational and sometimes staggering. They literally walk a little taller and carry themselves differently because they have taken advantage of an opportunity and have developed a new sense of accomplishment, a new sense of who they are, and a new sense of what they can become.



San Francisco Organizations Collaborate on LINK Meetings

June 27 – Oakland, Calif.: Phil Arkow will present “The Link Between Human Violence and Animal Abuse: Creating Safer Communities through Species-Spanning Partnerships” at the East Bay SPCA as part of the Alameda County District Attorney’s Animal Abuse Task Force outreach and training

June 28 – Santa Rosa, Calif.: Phil Arkow will present “The Link Between Human Violence and Animal Abuse: Creating Safer Communities through Species-Spanning Partnerships” at the Sonoma Humane Society/ Forget-Me-Not Farm.

June 29 – San Mateo, Calif.: Phil Arkow will present “The Link Between Human Violence and Animal Abuse: Creating Safer Communities through Species-Spanning Partnerships” at the Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA.

This program is part of a collaborative effort among numerous Bay Area organizations, including the Latham Foundation, East Bay SPCA, Sonoma Humane Society, and Peninsula Humane Society working in partnership to bring community humane and human services together to promote kindness to all living creatures.



evidence supports the connection between interacting with animals and reduction in physical measures of stress and anxiety such as heart rate, blood pressure, and the stress hormone cortisol.

The findings of this HAI research, and the growing popularity of interventions which involve interacting with animals, have captured the interest of the scientific community. Published empirical research on Animal-Assisted Interventions for ASD has seen rapid growth in recent years, with the number of such studies doubling in the year from 2013 to 2014. However, the kind of rigorous research needed to advance is still in the nascent stages. O’Haire et al (2015) point out that the terminology for interventions in published research is inconsistent, with a variety of different labels used to refer to the same thing. Consistent terminology is important for the field to advance. They recommend consistent use of the umbrella term “Animal-Assisted Intervention” and its sub-categories, which include Animal-Assisted Therapy (AAT), which is guided by a healthcare professional, and Animal-Assisted Activities (AAA) which may be therapeutic but are less structured.

Incorporating Dogs in Animal-Assisted Interventions for ASD

The two AAI studies described below were conducted by researchers in Romania. The participants in both studies were children who attended Autism Centre day programs.

The Development of a Canine Para-Agility Program: Positive Affects in Children with Autism and in Therapy Dogs by Pop, Rusu, & Miresan (2016)

Children ages 3 to 12 participated in structured and unstructured sessions with trained therapy dogs. In the structured AAA, the dogs were led individually by the children through a modified agility course. During the unstructured sessions, dogs and children were allowed to play freely with a supervisor present. The sessions were videotaped and the behaviors of the child and dog in each dyad were analyzed. Child-dog dyads expressed positive affects towards each other in the structured and unstructured conditions but positive affects were expressed through petting during the structured sessions and playfully during the unstructured sessions.

Interaction with a Therapy Dog Enhances Effects of the Social Story Method in Autistic Children by Grigore & Rusu (2014)

This study explored the effects of having a therapy dog present while the therapist was doing the Social Story intervention with the autistic child. Two social skills were targeted: (1) the ability to greet a social partner and (2) the ability to introduce oneself to a social partner. The presence of the therapy dog while reading the Social Story increased the frequency of social initiations and decreased the level of social prompt needed to elicit social responses from children with autism.

Equine-Assisted Therapy Program for Children with ASD

Effectiveness of a Standardized Equine-Assisted Therapy Program for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder by Borgi et al (2016)

Participants were 28 boys aged 6-12 who were selected from a larger population of ASD children who were followed longitudinally by the Italian National Health Service. The boys were randomly assigned to two groups, the Equine-Assisted Therapy (EAT) group or a control group made up of children on a wait-list. EAT sessions were held once a week for 6 months with a total of 25 sessions for each patient. Children with ASD who participated in the program showed improvement in social and executive functioning compared to children in the control. This study was carefully designed to avoid some of the limitations common to AAI research.

In Closing

I titled this article “The Promise of AAIs for Children with Autism” because that’s what I believe. Quantitative research that is well done is important for the credibility and advancement of the field. To me, however, it is the

detailed accounts found in qualitative research that speak to the importance of involving animals in our work as helping professionals and in our lives.

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Dr. Deirdre Rand is a psychologist in independent practice in Mill Valley, Calif. She is the developer of an online Continuing Education course for healthcare professionals titled "Animal-Assisted Therapy: The Healing Power of Pets." This is an introductory course offered through Professional Development Resources <https://www.pdresources.org>. The course is geared to practitioners in the healthcare arena but anyone interested in Animal-Assisted Therapy may take it. For more information: AnimalsAsNaturalHealers.com



COMPARISON OF CAT AND DOG AGES TO HUMAN YEARS

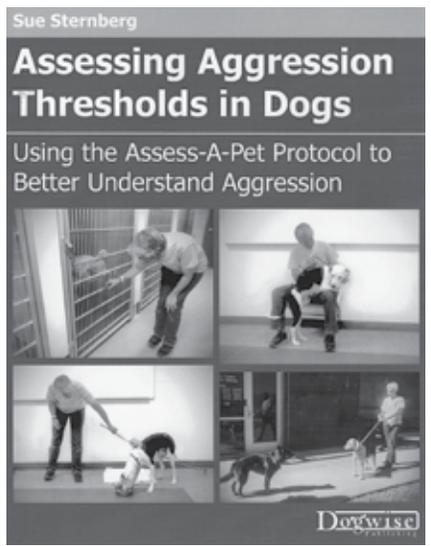
Pet Age (in Years)	Pet Age (in Human Years)				
	Cat	Dog (adult size, in pounds)			
		0-20	21-50	51-120	>120
3	28	28	29	31	39
4	32	33	34	38	49
5	36	38	39	45	59
6	40	42	44	52	69
7	44	46	49	59	79
8	48	50	54	66	89
9	52	54	59	73	99
10	56	58	64	80	
11	60	62	69	87	
12	64	66	74	94	
13	68	70	79		
14	72	74	84		
15	76	78	89		
16	80	82	94		
17	84	86			
18	88	90			
19	92	94			
20	95				

Adult

Senior

Geriatric





Assessing Aggression Thresholds in Dogs: Using the Assess-a-Pet Protocol to Better Understand Aggression

By Sue Sternberg

Sue Sternberg has done it again. Her new book is an updated compendium of all her thoughts and decades of experience. Complete with data and evaluation, *Assessing Aggression* offers concrete steps toward safely assessing dogs for placement with families.

The book includes Sue’s newest protocols based on the theory that sociability is the key predictor of a dog’s potential for aggression. In addition to a number of step-by-step tests for shelter workers to use, Sue has included a section for trainers and behaviorists for use in home visits to better design training and management programs for their clients.

Author Sue Sternberg has devoted her personal and professional life to helping dogs and people live together happily. She is known internationally for developing testing procedures to improve the odds of successful adoptions.

Dogwise Publishing • www.dogwise.com • Paperback 8.5 x 11, 152 pages • ISBN: 978-1-6178120-3-3 • \$19.95

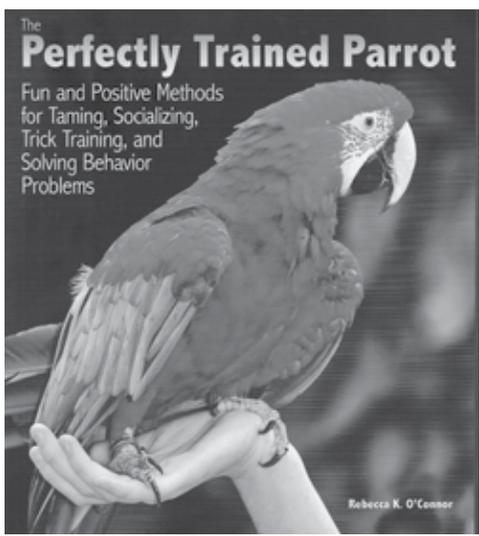
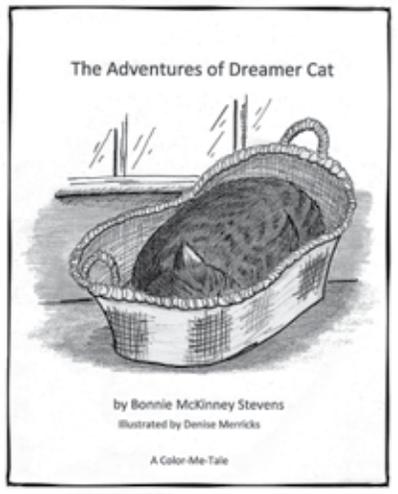
The Adventures of Dreamer Cat

By Bonnie McKinney Stevens
Illustrated by Denise Merricks (A Color-Me-Tale)

Dreamer is a shy little cat who has had a traumatic life, both mentally and physically, before arriving at an animal shelter. Yet in her dreams, Dreamer sees herself as a very capable superhero named Adventure Cat! Over time, the little tabby cat finds that her dreams give her the real-life confidence to overcome her fears and bring her to the realization that she is ready to love and be loved.

“...Bonnie McKinney Stevens, 'The Adventures of Dreamer Cat' is wholly enchanting. This is an exquisite gem of a story: the writing is sensitive and heart-felt and captures the feelings of the little stray who longs to feel 'warm and safe and loved forever and forever.'”

– T.J. Banks, Catsong, Houdini, and Derv & Co.



The Perfectly Trained Parrot:

Fun and Positive Methods for Taming, Socializing, Trick Training, and Solving Behavior Problems

By Rebecca K. O'Connor

As Judith A. Woods explains in her book, *Those Crazy Caiques* (www.avianpublications.com), “Parrots are enjoying increasing popularity in our society; they are the third most popular pet behind dogs and cats. But not all parrots make good pets and not all people make good parrot owners. Unlike dogs and cats, parrots have not been domesticated for thousands of years, and general knowledge of their needs, while growing every day, is still scanty.

Parrots are not sweet, cuddly, obedient creatures that will respond to our every whim. They are still wild, and in their natural habitat, they are the prey of many species. Therefore, their first and most important instinct is to fly for survival. Birds in captivity are constantly on the lookout for danger. So they are easily startled, quick to fly away (or attempt flight), and very quick to bite in defense. But approached with common sense, the correct expectations, and enough knowledge, living with a bird can be an absolute joy!”

Continued...



This comprehensive guide contains methods and advice to ensure that your bird becomes a social, tame, and fun companion. Author O'Connor, a professional bird trainer, advocates only positive and humane methods including clicker training – methods that will make training fun for both you and your bird.

The Perfectly Trained Parrot is the perfect resource for forging a strong and loving bond with a well-behaved parrot.
 ISBN 978-0-7938-0720-8 • \$19.95 www.tfh.com

Secrets Shared

The Life and Work of Sister Pauline Quinn op

By Susan Nagelsen and Charles Huckelbury

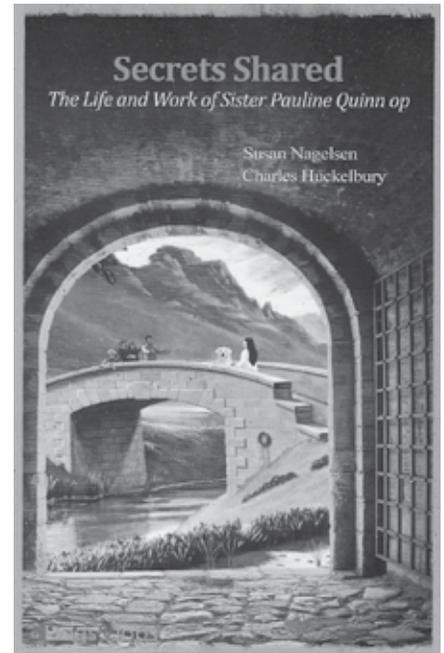
This is a book about an extraordinary woman. Now in her 70s, the catholic nun Sister Pauline Quinn has only one wish: To share her secret. Her story is one worth telling and the authors tell it beautifully.

She was born as Kathy into a life of apparent privilege in California, but her family was dysfunctional and her life began to disintegrate when she was only six years old. The book describes her years of abuse and inhumane conditions but it also focuses on her strength and ability to survive – to recover, and to triumph as Sister Pauline Quinn – bringing hope and joy to thousands of people.

Her introduction to the company of canine companions was part of her recovery. After learning everything she could about dogs and their ability to facilitate healing, and with the support of a well-known veterinarian, she approached a prison in Washington State and proposed starting a program for the prisoners to train service dogs for the disabled. The program grew and became the subject of the film, *Within These Walls*, starring Ellen Burstyn and Laura Dern.

The Latham Foundation also documented this first of its kind program in a film called *Prison Pet Partnerships*. (Details at www.latham.org) She went on to help establish dog programs within prisons all across the county.

She also has gone wherever people are suffering, giving medical care, transportation, hope and joy to thousands of people.



www.dogsandjobs.com
 ISBN 978-1-945895-01-2

Animals in Social Work: Why and How They Matter

Edited by Thomas Ryan
 London: Palgrave Macmillan

Text Addresses Link Issues in Social Work ...
 As seen in the March, 2017 LINK-Letter

The field of social work has traditionally not widely addressed the implications of the human-animal bond, or animal abuse as coercive control, within training curricula; few authoritative resources have been available written from a social work perspective. This compilation of essays in the Palgrave Macmillan Animal Ethics series aims to correct that deficiency and may be the first textbook describing the importance of considering animal welfare within social work.

Deborah Walsh writes about “Domestic violence and animal welfare: The issues, risks and implications for practice.” She explores the link between domestic violence and companion animals by focusing on the debates surrounding the definitions

of violence and the evolution of understanding about coercive control in domestic violence as a social problem. The chapter includes a comprehensive literature review and a robust discussion of the impact of coercive control on women and their animals.

Lynn Loar encourages social workers to ask questions about the family’s pets: this can greatly inform risk assessments and effective interventions, but is an approach which social workers need to be trained to include in their repertoire. Christine Kim and Emma Newton describe the impact of companion animals on homeless populations, many of whom are survivors of domestic violence.

Other chapters address such issues as expanding the definition of the human psychosocial environment to include the impact of animals and nature on human well-being (Maureen MacNamara & Jeannine Moga); considering animal welfare as a component of trans-species social justice (Atsuko Matsoka et al.); and how the One Health concept bridging human and veterinary medicine is applicable to social work (Cassandra Hanrahan).



Help Me Help You

SERIES

A series of films that examines a variety of animal-assisted activity programs across the USA – programs in which animals help children, and in turn, children help animals.



FAITH and HOPE on a FARM

FIRST IN A SERIES

An inspiring reminder of why we teach compassion, empathy, and respect to help break the cycle of abuse.

This 15-minute DVD highlights Forget Me Not Farm at Sonoma Humane Society in Santa Rosa, California, where children and animals bond and heal. At this safe haven, children learn gentle touch and respect for both other humans and animals through animal-assisted and horticultural activities.

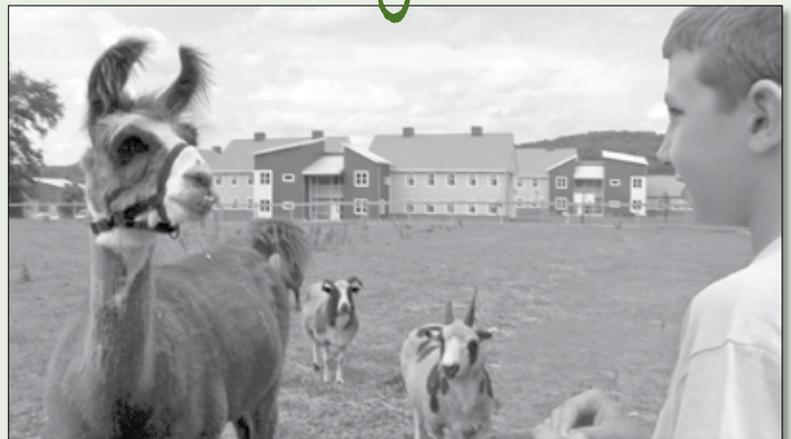


The film features Faith, a formerly-abused child who was adopted by wonderful parents. As you see her blossom, you'll be reminded that where there's life, there's hope.

2
SECOND IN A SERIES

At Green Chimneys in Brewster, New York, visitors see smiling students and well-cared-for animals. What's not immediately evident on this beautiful campus is that the children there are struggling with emotional, educational, social, and behavioral challenges. Green Chimneys includes a New York State-Approved Special Education Program, a Residential Treatment Program, and a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility. All are designed to help children succeed academically, socially, and emotionally – to see blue skies in their futures.

Green Chimneys, Blue Skies



The USDA-accredited Farm and Wildlife Center is at the heart of this unique, multi-faceted setting.

At Green Chimneys animals have been helping kids and kids have been helping animals for more than 65 years. How and why do they do it?

Green Chimneys, Blue Skies is a comprehensive and detailed look at the philosophy and methods behind this successful world leader in animal-assisted therapy. It is also a reminder of the power of the human-animal bond and sure to leave you moved and inspired.



BARC

If You Need Help

**Project BARC =
Building Adolescent
Responsibility and
Compassion**

Project BARC is a collaborative program between the Humane Society of West Michigan and the Kent County Juvenile Detention Center. Its purpose is two-fold: to build responsibility, compassion, and self-confidence among the teens in the detention center and to increase dog adoptions.

The selected trainees participate in daily classroom lessons to build empathy. At the same time, they work with an animal trainer to help their dogs pass the Canine Good Citizen test, which greatly increases their chances for adoption.

You'll see some of the lives (both human and canine) that Project BARC has transformed in this inspiring film with a very happy ending: the BARC Graduation Ceremony and the joyful results of everyone's hard work.

(All ages; 15 minutes. Social Studies, Science, Undergraduates and above, Professionals, Occupational Therapy, Juvenile Justice, Criminology, Corrections)

4
FOURTH IN A SERIES

Horses Heal Too

Two Different Paths to Healing



Rescued horses in two very different programs help troubled youth learn respect, responsibility, empathy, and compassion. Both programs benefit children and horses in need of a second chance.

Zuma's Rescue Ranch – A well-established program near Denver, Colorado, where rescued horses are paired with at-risk youth in mutually therapeutic programs.

Reaching Hands Ranch – A grass-roots program in northwest Wyoming where youth assist in the rehabilitation and adoption of horses after school and on weekends.

(24 minutes, appropriate for all ages)



See YouTube clips of these films at **Latham.org** in the Products/Services section or by searching "Latham Foundation" on YouTube.

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the complete series.**



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