

Latham Letter

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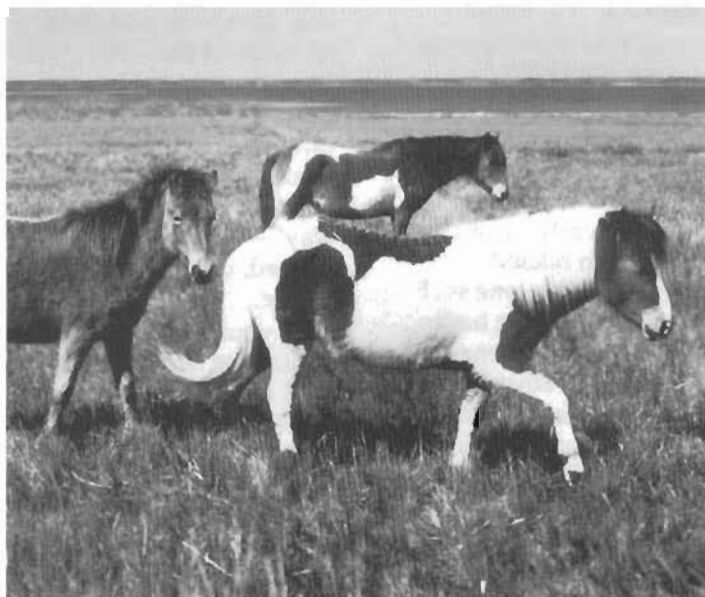
PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIVING THINGS THROUGH EDUCATION

Humane Population Control

Jay F. Kirkpatrick, Ph.D.

Feral horses usually evoke mental pictures of western plains, foothills of the Rockies, or the vast deserts of the Great Basin. But, ironically, America's most visible and popular feral horses live two thousand miles away on a coastal barrier island off the coast of Maryland and Virginia. Assateague Island is home to about 350 feral horses. These horses, almost exclusively pintos, bays, and sorrels, have been living there for 360 years, having been put there by early English settlers in 1630. Legend has it that in 1820, the Spanish ship San Lorenzo foundered on the island's shoals and an undetermined number of an undetermined breed of horse swam ashore and added to the gene pool. No one knows for sure whether that legend is true, but if it isn't, it should be!

Today the horses exist as two separate herds. The Virginia portion of the island is Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge (CNWR) and the horses there are owned by the town of Chincoteague and are grazed on the refuge by permit. Each July, the horses are rounded up, forced to swim the bay's channel



© Karen Aulis, AAZPA Conservation Center

to the town of Chincoteague, and the foals—many less than two months old—are taken away from their mothers and sold at auction. These foals are taken far and wide across the U.S. and are probably humanely cared for, although no one really knows for sure. The auction raises between twenty and thirty thousand dollars for the town's fire company and draws forty thousand visitors to watch the animals swim across the bay. Once the auction is over, the mares are herded back across the bay where, in the absence of their foals, they reproduce with alarming efficiency and start a new crop of foals for the next year's swim and auction. It is roughly analogous to an equine puppy mill.

To the north, on the Maryland section of the is-

land, 150 of these animals roam about 20 miles of Assateague Island National Seashore (AINS). Their owners, the National Park Service, have classified the horses as a cultural resource and as such, recognize their right to inhabit the island despite being an introduced exotic species. A large proportion of the 700,000 annual visitors to the island come to see these free-roaming equids. However, too much of a good thing can be damaging to the island's fragile environment and the park's management plan calls for maintaining the herd at 150 animals. To the credit of the park's administration, the plan calls for a humane solution which eliminates capture and preserves the wild nature of the horses. Roundups, adoptions, or sale were not viewed as

humane and removal would only stimulate foaling rates among the remaining horses.

In 1986, AINS embarked upon a research program of feral horse contraception to achieve their goals. After two years and only moderately successful attempts at contracepting stallions with steroid hormones, my colleagues, Drs. John Turner, of the Medical College of Ohio, and Erwin Liu, at the University of California-Davis, and I turned to the cutting edge of modern contraceptive technology—immunocontraception.

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L L's Fresh Look!

We hope that you'll find *The Latham Letter's* new format attractive and inviting. With our readers in mind, much thought has been given to its modified appearance and readability. While a great variety of topics and opinions have been presented during the past eleven years, this edition is the first to be published with an entirely new look. The timing was thought to be particularly propitious and in keeping with the humane industry's achievements in gaining society's new attitude concerning the rights and treatment of children, the aged and animals.

Make Money the Old Fashioned Way, Earn It! (and let others know of your worth)

As a result of the incessant harangue of television commercials, I find that I subconsciously have developed selective hearing. That blessing, however, is further enhanced and assured by an effective and trusted defensive device: the mute (shut up!) button on my remote TV control. I am indeed thankful for such undisputed respite. While objecting to the general run of commercials, I know that some are

well worth a viewer's thoughtful attention. One such worthy commercial is that in which actor John Housemann eloquently and effectively informs viewers concerning his employer's method of operation: "We make money the old fashioned way, we earn it!"

Not only do I hear and know the name of Mr. Housemann's employer, but the wisdom of his message frequently causes me to reflect on related thoughts. Often, one such avenue of thinking has to do with the great, ongoing need which humane organizations face for the recognition and financial support of the communities which they serve. Having produced and supplied humane education materials for the past 75 years, we at the Latham Foundation are well aware of the wonderful and needed work through which humane organizations serve their communities. As friendly observers, however, we also recognize that while they have indeed earned the recognition and financial support of their community, they frequently fail to employ public relation tools which inform their community of the vital importance of those services.

"Your Humane Society," Latham's new video, describes the many services provided by humane organizations. In a sensitive and well-balanced style, it emphasizes the importance of those contributions to its community. The 15-minute videotape's 1/2" format is designed to facilitate its use as a part of a speaking en-

agement, for presentation at local service clubs, schools, churches, other organization meetings, displays and conferences, or local television. Its purchase price has been deliberately set at a very reasonable \$50 in order that it might benefit as many organizations as possible.

Since becoming available, many organizations have found that "Your Humane Society" has proved to be an effective public relations and fund-raising tool—helping raise support "the old fashioned way"—through an informed, understanding public.

If your humane organization can use such a tool, call Latham, we want to help.

Hugh H. Tebault



Canine Good Citizen Companions Program by Animal-Vues

Animal-Vues, a progressive educational organization, has produced an outstanding, six-program series entitled "Pets 'N People/Canine Good Citizen Companions". Each individual program features one of six authoritative Veterinarians who comprehensively present important topical information germane to the series' title. The specific subjects addressed: Health, Hygiene, and Happiness; Health and Nutrition; Focus on First Aid; Animal Care; Mourning and Grief; and, Animal Rights/Animal Bond, will be found of particular interest to all individuals and agencies concerned with

human/animal health and welfare.

The program series has been so produced to facilitate its use for radio broadcasting, telecasting and/or a home video recorder. We are certain that numerous visionary animal welfare agencies will find many valuable opportunities to employ this unusual product.

Animal-Vues anticipate an early release of their brochure, video educational effort to:

1. Introduce the average dog owner to new ideas and help in dog training as well as build a communication bridge with health caretakers.

2. Encourage kennel clubs, 4-H groups and humane organizations to launch similar programs using their veterinarians as educators.

3. Give veterinarians an educational tool to use in "connecting" with community groups and to further client relations of veterinary hospitals and associations with the community.

Further information will be provided by Animal-Vues, R.D. #2, Bloomsburg, PA 17815, (717) 784-0374.



Correction

The photograph of Reverend Robert M. Kidd which appeared on page one of the Summer 1991 issue of *The Latham Letter* was taken by Dr. Jim Harris.

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The Effects of Animal-Assisted Therapy on Communication Patterns With Chronic Schizophrenics

Lawrence Bauman, Monte Posner, Karl Sachs, and Robert Szita

Introduction

For the past 15 years, companion animals have been regularly used in an adjunctive capacity for treating physically and mentally ill people. Proximity to a variety of pets (cats, dogs, kittens, puppies, fish, and parakeets) has been associated with increased survival rates among coronary heart diseased patients (Friedmann, Katcher, Lynch, & Thomas, 1980), as well as potentially life-saving improvements in blood pressure among the institutionalized elderly (Daniel, Burke, Rutel, and Burke, 1987; Katcher, 1982).

Similarly, pet ownership was observed to mitigate the effects of stressful life events by contributing to fewer doctor contacts among a large group of elderly survey respondents (Siegel, 1990). The latter study point out the potential importance that pet companions have in soothing the spirits of fortunate pet owners.

To date, the body of work substantiating the psychological benefits of human/companion animal interactions is steadily expanding. Mere visual exposure to puppies prompted elderly people in long-term care to demonstrate increased rates of verbalization, smiling and wide open eyes (Robb, Boyd, & Pritash, 1980). Among a group of noninstitutionalized old people, exposure to caged parakeets fostered improved morale (Mugford & McComisky, 1975).

When domesticated cats and dogs were introduced in institutional environments, the impact on social behavior increased in seeming proportion to the level of exposure. In one study (McCulloch, 1981), outpatients who were depressed, secondary to physical illness, became more spirited when exposed to pet animals. Similarly, at a hospital-based intermediate care unit, middle-aged and elderly OBS patients who were exposed to cat mascots were assessed to be more responsive, more in touch with reality, and friendlier to other patients than before the introduction of cats (Brickel, 1979). At a nursing home for terminally ill patients, allowing residents to hold, caress, talk to, play with and watch kittens and puppies led to projections of feelings of love, demonstrative caring, increased pleasure, as well as reduced fear, despair, loneliness, and helplessness (Muschel, 1984).

Despite the proven efficacy of using companion animals with sub-populations as diverse as the medically ill, the elderly, wheelchair bound children and imprisoned felons, only a few studies have documented the benefits of animal-assisted therapy with psychiatric patients.

Among the exceptions are studies which highlight the role played by animals in promoting adaptive behaviors in institutionalized patients. In a landmark study, a husband and wife team of researchers (Corson & Corson, 1982) observed an increase in ver-

balizations, emotional expressiveness and reduced tension level in a group of elderly psychiatrically disturbed patients who were formerly unresponsive to traditional modes of treatment. Earlier, this same team of investigators reported decreased question/answer intervals, increased number of questions asked, and increased words per answer with psychiatric patients who heretofore were withdrawn, uncommunicative, or mute (Corson & Corson and Gwynne, 1975).

More recently, when emotionally disturbed children (age 5-17) in residential care were allowed to interact with dogs, the incidence of acting out and aggression was significantly reduced (Daniel, Burke, Comprecht, & McLaren, 1987).

Although companion animals have been introduced with psychiatric patients few, if any, studies have utilized animal-assisted therapy with chronic schizophrenic individuals in residential care. Furthermore, use of animals with institutionalized populations has been informal and often lacking the methodological precision of other therapies or other research endeavors. Since schizophrenic symptomatology is often characterized by aberrations in the quantity of verbalizations (hypervocal or hypovocal speech), quality of verbalizations (relevant or irrelevant speech) as well as other social behavior indicators (e.g., erratic eye contact, bizarre body movements, etc.), this team of investigators wanted to collect observational data associated with these variables under two conditions: animal present and animal

Continued page 4

Animal-Assisted Therapy *continued*

absent. The primary purpose of the study was to determine if psychiatric patients who were exposed to a variety of animals during bi-weekly group therapy meetings would demonstrate increases in appropriate speech and other social behaviors as compared with a group exposed to a curriculum of mental health concepts.

Program

The Community Residential Treatment Service (CRTS) Continuing Treatment Program of South Beach Psychiatric Center provides treatment services for clients with psychiatric problems under the auspices of the N.Y.S. Office of Mental Health. The CRTS Continuing Treatment Program has been in existence for the past 10 years. The primary purpose of the program is to provide aftercare and, in most cases, day programming for psychiatric patients. These patients characteristically have had multiple hospitalizations and have been difficult to place and stabilize in any outpatient setting. The patients reside on the grounds of the hospital in a variety of structured residences, "eighthway," "quarterway," and "halfway houses."

The CRTS Continuing Treatment Program is a highly structured behaviorally oriented, token economy program which provides training in skills necessary for community living, e.g., knowledge of and compliance with medication, appropriate communication skills, stress management, and problem solving.

The clients range in age from 21 to 66. They come from a variety of ethnic, religious, social, and economic groups. These clients have chronic psychiatric histories and a history of unsuccessful attempts at community placements.

The CRTS Continuing Treatment Program is staffed by an inter-disciplinary treatment team. The major focus of the unit is to help the clients through the use of psychotropic medication, behaviorally-oriented skills training groups, individual therapy and family treatment when indicated.

Sample Characteristics

Participants in the Animal-Assisted Therapy Project were 19 mostly chronic schizophrenic, single men and women ranging in age from 25-69. The mean age was 37 and the average number of previous psychiatric hospitalizations was 4.75. A more comprehensive description of sample characteristics broken down according to group (experimental or control) is presented in Table I.

Table I Characteristics of Study Participants

| Characteristic | Experimental (A.A.T.) Group | Control Group |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Number (N) | 10 | 9 |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 80% | 67% |
| Female | 20% | 33% |
| Diagnosis | | |
| Schizophrenia | 60% | 78% |
| Affective Disorder | 0% | 11% |
| Other | 40% | 11% |
| Mean # Psychiatric Hospitalizations ('82-'89) | 3.6 | 5.9 |
| Mean Length of Stay Per Hospitalization (in months) | 2.8 | 2.2 |

Procedures

The CRTS Day Program Animal-Assisted Therapy Project was designed as a three-phase study. Prior to phase 1, the staff of the program (1 psychologist, 1 social worker, 1 registered nurse and 1 mental health therapy aide) independently rated each of the study participants according to the average frequency of displayed eye contact (E.C.), relevant conversation (R.C.), appropriate body posture (B.O.), and overall participation (F.P.) during routine problem-solving therapy groups. After calculating each patient's current level of social functioning (a composite score of E.C., R.C., B.O., and F.P. ratings), patients' names were then randomly assigned to the experimental (animal-assisted therapy) or control (psychoeducational concepts curriculum) group. In order to ensure initial parity between groups, a T-test was performed using a comparison of grand means and found to be nonsignificant ($t=.27$, $d.f.=17$, $p=.05$).

All participants in the study were volunteers from a total of 19 patients attending the CRTS Continuing Treatment Program and living on the grounds of South Beach Psychiatric Center. In order to protect patients' rights and welfare, each prospective research participant met with his/her therapist or the principal investigator who informed him of: (1) the approximate starting and ending date of the project, (2) the voluntary nature of his/her participation, and (3) the right to withdraw from the project at any point.

Experimental (Animal-Assisted Therapy) Group Procedures

Patients assigned to the experimental group received four 45-minute sessions (2/week) of a psychoeducational curriculum entitled "Building Mental Health" during the baseline phase, followed by six 45-minute (1/week) of animal-assisted therapy (treatment phase), followed by four 45-minute sessions (2/week) of the psychoeducational curriculum (post-treatment phase). Baseline and post-treatment groups were conducted by a regular CRTS Day Program staff member who also distributed token economy supplies exchangeable for edible or nonedible reinforcers in accordance with the usual day program procedure. For the duration of the research project, the same standard for the reinforcement of "appropriate behavior" was applied to both groups. During the baseline, treatment, and post-treatment phases, two staff members (other than the group leader) recorded the frequency of targeted behaviors at five-minute intervals. A "blind" observer, who was not familiar with the research design, recorded in narrative form, also at five-minute intervals, information pertaining to attentiveness, alertness, and relatedness to the speaker and/or the animal.

Animal-Assisted Therapy (A.A.T.) Sessions

A. Program Overview

Each of the six A.A.T. sessions began with a greeting by Mr. S., Program Coordinator for Special Audiences at the Staten Island Zoo. After introducing himself, Mr. S. asked each patient to say his name or addressed by name the patients he already knew. He then informed patients that he would be visiting weekly for six sessions and would bring a different animal each time.

The order of presentation was as follows:

| Week | Animal |
|------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | rabbit |
| 2 | rooster |
| 3 | 2 ferrets (weasel family) |
| 4 | goat |
| 5 | 2 turtles |
| 6 | rabbit (different from week 1) |

After the first session, introductory comments reflected where in the six session course the current session belonged (for example, beginning the third session he said, "This is our third meeting..."). A brief statement pertaining to A.A.T. followed: "We will be learning about some zoo animals and how to get along with them... We will also learn more about ourselves."

B. Animal Introduction

Prior to taking the demonstration animal out of its enclosed carrying case, Mr. S. attempted to desensitize the group from feelings of apprehension or anxiety by explaining how the animal came to the zoo (e.g., born there, dropped off there) and providing other background information (e.g., "This rabbit is friendly. It has been petted by many children at many neighborhood schools.") Next, Mr. S. introduced the animal to the group (e.g., "This is a goat; his/her name is _____.")

C. Expectations

The group was instructed as to proper voice tone and petting motion for interacting with the animal.

D. Invitation to Pet or Touch the Animal

Patients were invited to touch/pet the animal one at a time. Reluctant patients were encouraged to get a closer look at the animal but nobody was forced to come closer than was comfortable. If a patient became anxious or agitated by the mere presence of an animal, he/she was escorted from the group and received supportive counseling.

E. Monitoring

While patients were petting the animal or observing others petting the animal, Mr. S. invited other group members to report what happened as the two interacted. He asked open-ended questions such as, "What happened when T.R. started to pet the rabbit?" Further questions focused on feelings attributed to the animal, e.g., "How do you think the rooster feels when T.R. touches its neck? Do you think the rabbit is comfortable?"

F. Group Process

Throughout the group, Mr. S. solicited questions and comments reflecting the group members' personal feelings, e.g., "How would you feel if you lived in a cage? Do you ever feel lonely living at SBPC? Have you ever felt like that — carefree or free?"

Control Group Procedures

Each patient assigned to the control group received four 45-minute sessions (2/week) of a psychoeducational cur-

riculum entitled, "Building Mental Health," followed by six 45-minute sessions (1/week) of a different section of the same curriculum, followed by four 45-minute sessions (2/week) of the original curriculum. The first and last four sessions constituted the pre and post-treatment phases while the middle six sessions constituted the comparative phase. As with the treatment group all sessions were conducted by a regular CRTS staff member who distributed token economy supplies in accordance with the usual day program procedure. In addition, two staff and one blind observer recorded pertinent data at five-minute intervals.

Following the post-treatment phase, all patients in the study received six sessions conducted by Mr. S., Program Coordinator for Special Audiences at the Staten Island Zoo.

Results

Although T-test comparison of the experimental and control groups prior to beginning the baseline phase failed to reveal initial group differences, T-tests performed after completion of the baseline period but prior to the treatment phase revealed some differences. The variables eye-contact (E.C.) and irrelevant verbalizations (I.R.) failed to discriminate between the groups, thereby reflecting initial parity, whereas the A.A.T. group had better body orientation scores but fewer relevant verbalizations during the baseline period. Table II provides a summary description of T-test comparisons during the baseline phase.

Table II
Baseline Phase Comparisons

| | Variables | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------|------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|
| | Eye Contact | | Body Orientation | | Relevant Verbalizations | | Irrelevant Verbalizations | |
| | A.A.T. | Control | A.A.T. | Control | A.A.T. | Control | A.A.T. | Control |
| Means | 5.02 | 4.29 | 4.94 | 3.39 | 3.38 | 5.73 | 1.07 | 3.26 |
| T-test value | 1.5 | | 2.2 | | 3.45 | | 1.73 | |
| d.f. | 17 | | 17 | | 17 | | 17 | |
| Probability Level | .05 | | .05 | | .05 | | .05 | |
| Statistical Significance | Nonsignificant | | Significant | | Significant | | Nonsignificant | |

Since only the variables eye contact and irrelevant verbalizations failed to discriminate between the groups prior to introducing the respective treatment interventions, the statistical comparisons employed were primarily within-group comparisons. Between-group comparisons were made for eye contact and irrelevant verbalizations since the groups were initially matched on these variables. Table III summarizes the data used to make statistical comparisons. The entries which appear in rows "E.C." and "B.O." refer to the average number of times each of these behaviors occurred during a 45-minute session when observations were recorded at five-minute intervals only. By contrast, rows

Continued page 17

Living Miracles

The Reverend Dr. Andrew Linzey

I witnessed a miracle. The date was the 15th of May, 1988. The time was 9:39 in the morning. The place was my house—the Chaplain's residence—in Wivenhoe. I saw an immaculately formed, miniature human being pushed out of a mother's womb and into the world. Within a few moments, I held in my arms new life. Little things I still remember: a little hand clasping my finger; the wrinkled forehead; the small feet and tiny toes; the brilliant sun outside—and most of all an overwhelming sense of relief and thanksgiving. It was as though God in person had visited us. It was the birth of our fourth child, Jacob Peter.

Life is a miracle. That we are here at all is miraculous. Very shortly after Jacob was born, our three other children: Adam, Clair and Rebecca, came excitedly upstairs to greet the new child. I shall never forget their looks of wonder and amazement as they peered over the swaddling clothes and said, "Hello," to the new face in their midst. Life is grace, gift, miracle. We do not own it; it does not belong to us. In the face of it, we do well to stand in awe and wonder, gazing at the graciousness of the mystery we encounter. It was D.H. Lawrence who spoke of the need for "the sixth sense of wonder."

"Why who makes much of a miracle?" wrote Walt Whitman.

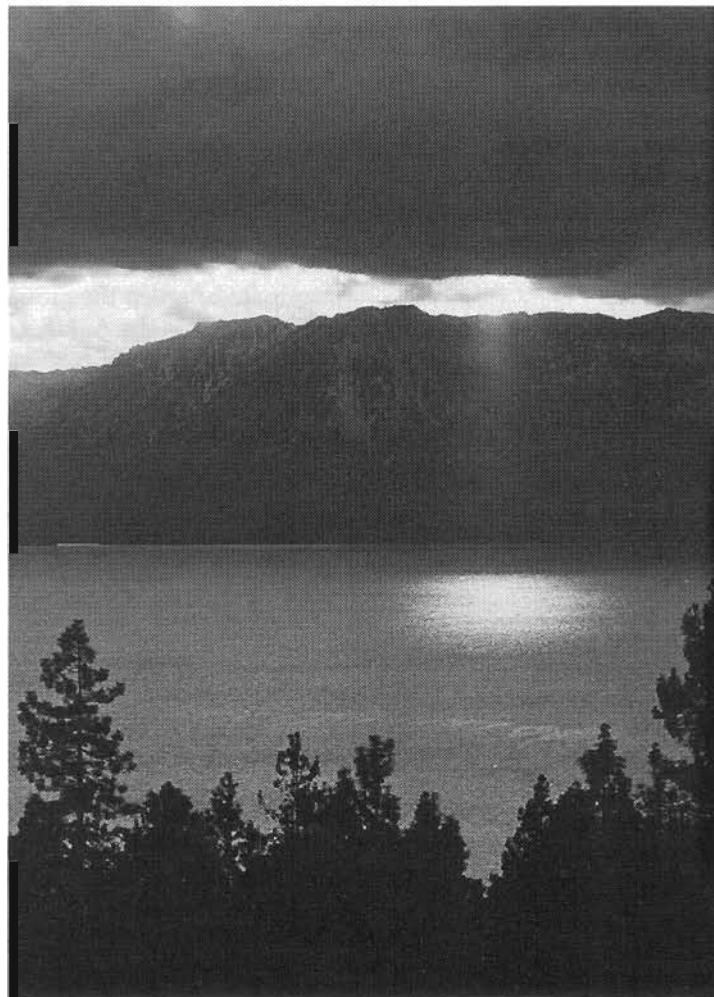
"As to me I know nothing else but miracles, (whether they be) animals feeding in the fields,

"Or, birds, or the wonderfulness of insects in the air,

"Or the wonderfulness of the sundown, or of stars shining so quiet and bright,

"Or the exquisite delicate thin curve of the new moon in spring;

"These with the rest, one and all, are to me miracles."



God the Creator is the source of all these living miracles. Not just human life, but all life. The living world does not exist simply for us. It is not here simply for human use and pleasure. The miraculous world of living creatures exists because God loves them, and sustains them, and rejoices in them. If we do not hear this divine rejoicing throughout creation, then we shall live

mean, narrow, self-centered lives. Three attitudes we need above all else: celebration, responsibility, and reverence.

First, then, celebration. Now some of you may say, "What do we have to celebrate when animals are used cruelly in factory farms and laboratories; when animals are made

cause so many of us still imagine the world as just that. For too long Christian churches have colluded in a doctrine that the earth is half-evil, or unworthy, or—most ludicrous of all—"unspiritual." To help expand our consciousness, we should reflect upon these words written of St. Francis by an early biographer:

He rejoiced in all the works of the hands of the Lord and saw behind all things pleasant to behold their life-giving reason and cause. In beautiful things, he saw Beauty itself, all things were to him good. "He who made us is the best," they cried out to him. Though his footsteps impressed upon all things, he followed the Beloved everywhere; he made for himself from all things a ladder from which to come even to his throne. He embraced all things with unheard of devotion, speaking to them of the Lord and admonishing them to praise him. . . . For that original goodness that will one day be all things and in all, was already shown forth in this saint as all things in all.

Second, in addition to an attitude of celebration, we need responsibility. Here we must not mince words. Dominion means responsible stewardship, but much of what we now do to animals is frankly tyrannous. We treat billions of animals every year simply as means to our ends, as renewable resources, as laboratory tools, as units of production, as commodities which can be bought or sold or dispensed with like worn out TV sets or empty cans of lager. Three to four million experiments on living animals every year, 500 million animals slaughtered

for human consumption, 45 million laying hens in battery conditions, a thousand unwanted or abandoned dogs destroyed every week. Let no one think that our treatment of animals is a small matter. In terms of suffering alone it ranks as one of the most urgent moral problems confronting the human species. The time for piecemeal reform is long past. We need a revolution in moral attitudes towards animals.

I put it to you that it cannot be possible to honor and love the Creator of living miracles and also destroy these miracles wantonly as we do today. More than this: when we humans destroy life casually, recklessly, indifferently, we ourselves become unworthy of life. The line from Scripture I always find most pregnant of all is that from Genesis 6, when God reflected upon the human species and the violence they had brought into the world and declared that "I am sorry that I have made them." You may recall the end of that story: it was only Noah who had the good sense to realize that we are all in one boat together and who was saved.

Third, in addition to attitudes of celebration and responsibility, we need reverence. Moral exhortation, though desirable, is not enough. We shall not act responsibly if we have no reverence for life in our hearts. The Church needs to teach reverence for life as a major aspect of Christian ethics. So much of our ethical thinking is ludicrously bound with personal issues which leave to one side the whole business of actually caring for the world that God has made. So much of Chris-

tian ethics is pathetically narrow and absurdly individualistic. We deserve the admonition from St. Bonaventure:

Open your eyes, alert the ears of your spirit, open your lips and apply your heart so that in all creatures you may see, hear, praise, love and worship, glorify and honor your God.

One of the major problems with St. Francis, like to a lesser extent St. Bonaventure, is that the Church has not taken any practical notice of him. St. Francis preached a doctrine of self-renunciation, whereas the Church today remains overwhelmingly concerned with its own respectability. St. Francis lived a life of poverty, whereas the modern Church is as ever concerned about money. St. Francis, like Jesus, associated with the outcasts and the lepers, whereas the English Church consists predominantly of the middle classes. But the greatest challenge of all from St. Francis consists in this: Animals are God's creatures and because of that they are nothing less than our brothers and sisters. Unless we recognize that truth, and feel it in our hearts, the outlook for our own species must be grim. "We must turn back to what we have left of the capacity for wonder," writes Laurens van der Post, "only reverence for life can deliver us from our inhumanity, and from the cataclysm of violence awaiting us at the end of our present road."

I began with a story of birth. I want now to conclude by speaking of another birth. In his letter to the Roman Church, St. Paul describes creation as itself in a state of childbirth.

"The creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God." It is this picture of new birth, of world birth, that I want us to hold before us. According to the Christian reckoning of things, the world is going somewhere. It is not destined for eternal, endless suffering and pain. It has a destiny. Like us, it is not born to die eternally.

The fundamental thing to grasp is that we have responsibility to cooperate with God in the creation of a new world. And this is why sensitivity to suffering and abhorrence of cruelty is central to the Christian faith, indeed so central that a cruel Christian must be a contradiction in terms. "What is a charitable heart?" asks St. Isaac the Syrian, and he replies:

It is a heart which is burning with love for the whole creation, for men, for the birds, for the animals. . . for all creatures. He who has such a heart cannot see, or call to mind, a creature without his eyes being filled with tears by reason of the immense compassion which seizes his heart; a heart which is softened and can no longer bear to see or learn from others of any suffering, even the smallest pain, being inflicted upon any creature. That is why such a man never ceases to pray also for the animals, for the enemies of truth, and for those who do him evil, so that they may be preserved and purified. He will pray even for the reptiles, moved by an infinite pity which reigns in the hearts of those who are becoming united with God.

I believe then that the Church must wake up to a new kind of ministry, not

just to Christians or to human beings, but to the whole world of suffering creatures. It must be our human, Christian task to heal the suffering in the world. We must take every opportunity, following St. Francis, even in things that appear small and insignificant to lessen the burden of suffering upon the animal world.

If we are serious about following St. Francis, we shall want to take every opportunity to honor the Lord of life by refusing to be a part of wanton cruelty and death. In this way, we shall ourselves be reborn. I leave the final words to Albert Schweitzer who writes in his autobiography:

I could not but feel with a sympathy full of regret all the pain that I saw around me, not only that of men, but that of the whole creation. From this community of suffering I have never tried to withdraw myself. It seemed to me a matter of course that we should all take our share of the burden of suffering which lies upon the world.

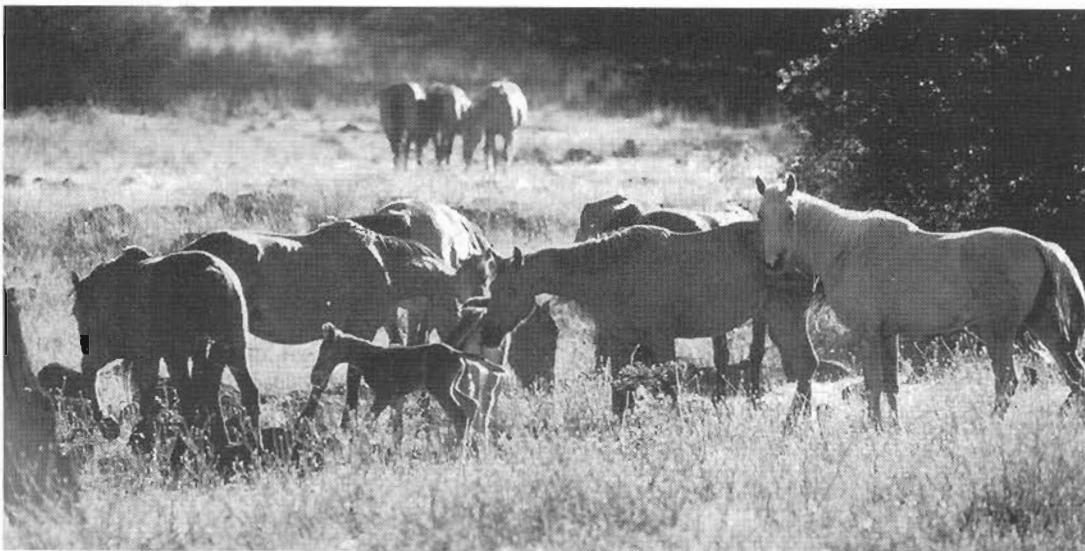
© 1989, A. Linzey

The Reverend Dr. Andrew Linzey preached the above sermon at the Service for Animal Welfare and Thanksgiving for the Life of St. Francis at St. Edmundsbury Cathedral in July, 1989.

He is the Chaplain and Director of Studies, Centre for the Study of Theology in the University of Essex, and author of Christianity and the Rights of Animals, available through: Crossroad, New York.

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Population Control *continued*

Erwin's laboratory prepared an experimental vaccine made from the protein membrane, known as the *zona pellucida*, which surrounds pig ova. The vaccine, now known as *porcine zona pellucida* or PZP, was first tested in 14 captive mares in California and caused infertility in 13 of them. The PZP injections cause the mare to produce antibodies against the pig protein. However, these antibodies also attached to the *zonae pellucidae* of the mares' own eggs, thereby preventing recognition and attachment by sperm and, therefore, fertilization.

In 1988, we set out to demonstrate that this PZP vaccine could be administered remotely—without capture—to the free-roaming feral horses of Assateague, thereby inhibiting fertility in a wild population. Beginning in late February, 1988, 26 Assateague mares were inoculated by means of small barbless darts fired from a capture gun. Some of the animals were accustomed to campers and were easily treated, but many were extremely wild and had to be stalked for many hours or, in a few cases, for several days. The darts fell out



Kirkpatrick and orphaned horse

© Karen Asis, AAZPA Conservation Center

within minutes, after the contents had been injected; the horses seemed bothered more by the noise of the capture gun than they did the darts.

Little more than half of the inoculated mares were pregnant at the time of treatment and all produced healthy foals later that spring. This was important information because the vaccine had not been tested in pregnant animals before. Now all that remained was to wait until August, 1989, and count foals. That proved unacceptable, how-

ever, because we planned to test the effectiveness of an annual booster shot in February, 1989, and we had to know whether the mares were truly contracepted before February, 1989, or long before they actually began their foaling season. Yet, these were wild creatures and we were not permitted to capture them! How does one pregnancy-test an uncaptured mare?

To accomplish this seemingly forbidding task, we turned to some established zoo technology. During the past decade, Dr. B.L. Lasley,

then at the San Diego Zoo, developed a number of urinary tests for pregnancy and to monitor ovarian function in captive exotic species. We devised several methods of extracting urine from the island's sand and marshes. After witnessing a mare urinating, we applied Dr. Lasley's tests to these samples. The results indicated 100% success in inhibiting fertility and total counts in August, 1989 confirmed these results. Thus, the PZP vaccine was effective, could be delivered remotely, had no adverse ef-



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fects upon pregnancies in progress, and did not appear to alter the horses' highly developed social organization.

In February, 1989, 14 of the 26 mares were given a single booster inoculation and the remaining 12 were left untreated. This booster experiment later revealed that 13 of the 14 booster-treated mares were successfully contracepted. The 12 that did not receive the booster became pregnant at normal pretreatment rates, confirming the reversibility of the vaccine's contraceptive action. This was extremely important because it is highly unlikely that the public will accept irreversible sterilization of America's feral horses, on Assateague or elsewhere. Ten of the boosted mares were given annual booster inoculations in 1990 and 1991. Current studies, utilizing the non-capture urinary

measurements, are directed at learning if there are any effects of long-term treatment upon the ovary.

This work on Assateague has resulted in only a single foal in 60 mare-years, among treated animals, instead of the predicted 30 foals. This contraceptive effectiveness, coupled with the vaccine's safety, has prompted the park officials to begin developing a comprehensive management plan which utilizes contraception but which has a minimal effect on the composition of the herd. If one accepts the use of darts, it appears that a humane solution to controlling Assateague's horses is close at hand.

Since the encouraging results from Assateague, the PZP vaccine has been tested on captive Przewalski's horses and a banteng at the Cologne Zoo



Carrie Bickle anesthetizing a skunk with a pole syringe

in Germany, on 26 sika, axis, and sambar deer at the Bronx Zoo, patas monkeys at the Calgary Zoo, an orangutan at the Toledo Zoo, and in bison at the San Francisco Zoo. The use of PZP vaccine in captive exotic species may be helpful in preventing unwanted pregnancies among zoo animals and thereby provide a solution to the

problem of surplus animals. The vaccine has also proved to be 100% effective in inhibiting fertility in white-tailed deer. With funds provided by The Humane Society of the United States, research efforts are underway to engineer a one-inoculation, long-acting form of the PZP vaccine for use in suburban deer populations, where hunting is illegal or unsafe and deer populations are getting out of hand.

Research directed at the humane control of small wildlife species which have adapted almost too well to urbanized areas is also promising. In a study being conducted here in Billings, Montana, and in Iowa, skunks are being contracepted successfully. These often maligned but highly adaptable animals have colonized urban areas extremely well, but as

populations grow, the threat of rabies or Lyme disease often accompanies the population growth. Historically the skunks have been destroyed, by shooting, trapping, or poisoning. The irony is that virtually all the skunks that are killed are healthy skunks. Furthermore, removal of the skunks only creates habitat vacuums, which draw

skunks in from surrounding areas, thus programs of killing are forced to go on forever.

Our strategy was to permit a core population to exist but to contracept it. In this way, the animals would defend their territories, prevent immigration of new skunks into the area, and not produce six



Radio collared treated skunk.

or seven new animals annually. To accomplish this, we live-trapped females, lightly anesthetized them (tricky business, but we never got squirted), and placed a small contraceptive rod under their skin. These contraceptive rods, recently approved for use in humans by the FDA and known commercially as Norplant[®], are only 30mm long and about the thickness of a drink stir-rod. They were placed just under the skin without surgery, by pushing them through a large hypodermic needle, and the small puncture wound was dusted with a topical antibiotic. The entire procedure takes only minutes and virtually anyone can be trained to carry out the procedure. Thus far, after two years with their subdermal rods, not a single treated skunk has produced a litter. It is our ultimate goal to train animal

control personnel to control skunk populations in this way. Just consider that every ten skunks thus treated translate into seventy new skunks that never appear, and, best of all, no skunks have been killed. We are currently planning Norplant[®] contraceptive trials in raccoons and foxes.

We are entering a new age, where the destruction of wild animals or, at best, inhumane treatment in order to control populations, will no longer be tolerated by the public. Overpopulation, after all, is only a symptom of the problem, and killing or removing animals only treats the symptom. Reproduction is the cause and it is time that we focused our efforts on preventing increases rather than destroying our valuable and interesting wild



Norplant[®] implant being inserted under the skunk's skin.

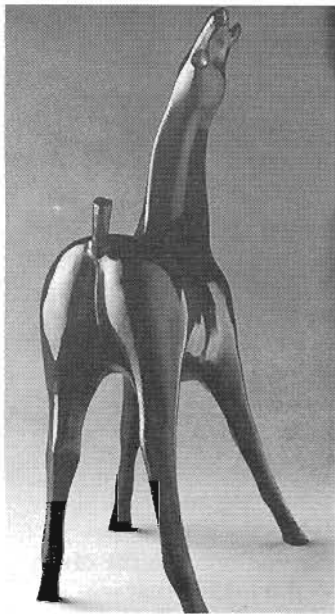
relatives. Wildlife contraception still sounds a bit bizarre, but it is an idea whose time has arrived.

Dr. Jay F. Kirkpatrick is the Associate Professor of Physiology at Eastern Montana College in Billings, Montana. He was a major speaker at the second International Conference on Fertility Control in Wildlife, held at the University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, in November, 1990.



So You Want to Adopt a Horse . . .

Kim Sturla



"Avatar", sculpture by Sharon Andreason, noted California artist. Photograph by Zantman Art Galleries

Are you contemplating adopting a horse? Many of us dream about this, but if you're actually going to do it, you will first need the following information about the financial commitment you are making to yourself and, most importantly, to that animal. If you can truthfully envision yourself handling all of these expenses, then enjoy your new friend; horses are wonderful animals.

The Initial Expense

Horses can cost anywhere from \$500 to \$2,000. And jumpers and show horses cost considerably more than that. So, first decide exactly what kinds of activities you would like to share with your new four-legged friend. Then decide what kind of horse would be best for you.

Once you choose your horse, don't forget about all the paraphernalia that's needed. Saddles range from \$100 for a used one to several thousands, then

there are the blankets (\$30), bridle (\$50), halter (\$25), and miscellaneous grooming items (\$25). That's a minimum of \$250 for the basic necessity items.

All creatures have to eat and some are a bit more expensive to feed than others. A dog can cost anywhere from \$10 to \$25 a month to feed, but a horse eats about \$50 to \$100 worth of food each month.

A good diet for a horse consists of quality alfalfa and a supplemental feed such as grain. An average horse eats about one to two sacks of grain a month, at a cost of \$17 a sack. He/she will also chow down lots of alfalfa, which is often included in the boarding fee at many stables.

The cost of veterinary care must always be considered when thinking about caring for an animal. And horses cannot be brought easily to your veterinarian's office, so that means house calls (or barn calls). We all know house calls are a bit more expensive than visiting your doctor on his/her own turf. Count on having your horse vaccinated yearly and wormed every two to three months. These are just two of the basic veterinary needs.

If you think \$40 is a lot to pay for new jogging shoes, well, horse shoes cost more than that. Although not all horses wear shoes, they all do need to have their hooves trimmed at least every two months at a cost of \$15 to \$20. Shoes cost \$35 to \$50. It adds up!

Do you know how to ride a horse? If not, plan on taking some training lessons. Those cost about \$15 an hour.

Last, but not least, is the time commitment. It's not

uncommon for people to put their horse out to pasture and essentially forget about him/her. What often occurs in these situations is the unattended horse does not get enough nutrients and begins to lose weight. Other health problems frequently occur due to neglect and malnutrition. Since his/her owner is not there to monitor the health of their animal, the animal suffers until someone takes notice and files an animal neglect report with us.

To properly maintain a horse, you must invest a minimum of one to two hours a day. Companion horses need to be exercised at least an hour a day, especially if they are kept in stalls and don't have room to run around.

Already convinced you can afford the company of these graceful creatures? Then your next step is to look for a suitable place to board your equine friends, unless you are fortunate enough to live on a large enough piece of property where you and your horse can live.

Depending on location and type of facility you choose, boarding your horse can range from \$100 to \$300 a month. Before choosing a facility, you need to determine what stable best fits you and your horse's needs. One that can please the both of you is naturally your best bet.

Here's a checklist to help you evaluate a boarding facility:

Location

How far are you willing to travel to the stable from where you live or work? If you are boarding your horse at a location where you must feed and clean him/her yourself, then you

probably want that stable no farther than a few miles from your home or office. Traveling 30 miles twice a day to feed and clean your horse can get tiring real quick.

Locale

Is the general area of the stable suitable for the type of riding you and your friend want to do? Some people are primarily interested in trail riding. Others are interested in jumping or show competition.

Most people, though, are interested in pleasure riding on trails, so find out how accessible trails are from the stable. Otherwise, you'll have to trailer your horse to a different site every time you want to ride.

Services

What services does the stable provide? Depending on how much you want to spend, some stables will feed, clean, and even groom and exercise your horse. I would think half the fun of having a horse, though, is taking care of him/her yourself.

The ritual of brushing, feeding, and cleaning the hooves of your pal before riding him/her is part of the enjoyment. So don't compare apples with oranges when shopping around. Compare the cost and what services are included in the cost. Also, if the price does include feeding, find out what kind of feed they use. With the high price of feed, it may cost more to furnish your own hay and grain in a stable where you pay only for the stall than it would to board your horse at a higher priced barn where feed and bedding are included.

Pasture/Stall/Paddock

What type of home are they offering and what kind do you want for your horse? Generally your choices are stalls, paddocks, and pastures, and sometimes a combination of the three. There are advantages and disadvantages to each.

Stalls provide limited space and therefore limited exercise, but are usually secure and provide easy accessibility, especially if you are in the process of training your horse.

Pastures give your horse the opportunity to run around and interact with other horses. Pastures don't, however, provide protection from the weather, but many horse experts claim all that is really needed is a wind break.

Owner

Is the owner or stable hand present during the day? During the evening? Do they have a veterinarian on call? It's important someone is always there to keep an eye on the horses and to catch and deal with any emergencies that may arise.

Cleanliness

Is the facility reasonably clean or are the corrals or paddocks revealing a month's worth of manure? Check the water trough; is it kept clean? Obviously, you don't want to board your horse in an unsanitary place.

Fencing

Check out the entire boarding facility. Look at the pastures, paddocks, and corrals. Inspect the type of fencing used; barbed wire can be dangerous as the horse can easily cut him/herself on it. It's important the fences and

gates are well maintained, and the area your horse will live in is secure.

Storage

Inquire about a place to store your feed and gear. Find out if they have a tack room and if it's kept locked. If you want to care for your horse during the evening hours, be sure they have lighting and electrical outlets for convenience and safety.

Overall Evaluation

After checking out all of the specifics, evaluate how the facility rated with the others you've seen. If it seems clean, has a concerned owner (who is always present) and good, sensitive stable hands, is close to your home or work, and is affordable, you may have found your horse's new home.

So potential horse pal. . . if you have two hours a day to spare and \$750 for horse equipment, \$100 to \$300 a month for boarding, \$75 a month for food, and several hundred extra dollars for veterinary care and shoeing, then happy trails to you . . . you lucky dog!

The above article appeared in the January/ February issue of AnimalFare/San Diego Humane Society and SPCA. It is reprinted here with the permission of its author and the San Diego Humane Society and SPCA.

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Coalition Against the Horse Slaughter Trade

Ed. Note: The Latham Foundation generally provides a forum for its readers. However, we feel that the cruel and inhumane transport practices of the Horse Slaughter Trade need to be changed immediately. We are providing a petition for our readers to circulate as well as information on how we can all help effect a change in these transportation practices.

Dear Friends of the Horse:

On April 13th at the Equitana Fair in Essen, Germany, *Sankt Georg* magazine, the biggest, oldest and most prestigious equine magazine in Germany, launched a nationwide—by now, Europe-wide—campaign against the horrors of unregulated, lawless and uncontrolled horse slaughter transports, not only for the future of the "borderless" Europe in 1992, but also at present for the horses of our country: The American Horse! Their petition specifies humane demands with regards to slaughter horses, as well as detailed demands for water, feed, proper horse conveyances, humanely schooled, specially licensed personnel, inspections and tough laws. They also ask that the European Economic Community abstain from importing horsemeat from America until and unless the United States institutes truly humane slaughter and transport laws which safeguard humane treatment of the animals!

Our European friends have included our in-

tolerable conditions after learning from the Coalition Against the Horse Slaughter Trade about the incredibly cruel practices in the United States, after seeing pictures of our emaciated, maimed, injured and abused horses—after learning that there are no safeguards, no laws to ensure proper, humane treatment. Those petitions then, by now nearing 200,000, were endorsed fully by the German FN (umbrella organization in Germany, including the equivalent of the AHSA, USDF, CT, and breed associations) and many Olympic medal winners in equine events. Others are following their example and express their horror at the conditions here and hope that it will not be like this in Europe. Our European friends asked us what WE are doing about OUR horses; our answer was: we shall start a national petition drive directed at Congress to alleviate the intolerable horse slaughter situation.

We need your support. We are a nonprofit, tax exempt and all-volunteer organization. We need your membership to assist us in our efforts. Please help network the petition to Congress: it is a once in a lifetime opportunity to get some laws on the books for the protection of our equine friends. Petitions and membership requests should be addressed to Ursula M. Liakos, Chairperson, Coalition Against the Horse Slaughter Trade, P.O. Box 907, Penn Grove, CA 94951.



To Neuter or Not to Neuter . . . Is That the Question?

Dennis Fetko, Ph.D.

A lot is said about neutering, most of it nonsense. If you neuter your male your voice will not go up three octaves and you won't have to change your wardrobe or spend your next vacation at a clinic in Denmark. If you spay your female you won't have to get her a spike collar and dagger tattoo. Different dogs react in different ways but here's what neutering usually does and doesn't do.

It helps your dog live longer; lessens the probability of certain physical ailments (some as serious as cancer); reduces overall medical costs; influences some aggression; increases owner importance by reducing the significance of outside stimuli; stabilizes behaviors like digging, escaping, fence jumping, breeding, fighting, false pregnancies, mounting or humping, and urine marking.

These are major points because if behavior is biomedically motivated it is very resistant to change. Training, punishment or even behavioral therapy may not effect them to a satisfactory degree. Imagine willing or training yourself out of going through puberty.

What neutering does not do is also important. Ordinarily it does not cause major personality changes, make dogs less protective, or automatically cause obesity. Neutered or not, overfed and underworked dogs get fat.

There's a big difference between aggression and

protection. Aggression is active, offensive and negative. Protection is passive, defensive and beneficial. Neutering affects aggression, not protection. If a dog needed hormones to defend itself, any female would let you beat her with a stick. Want to try that with my neutered female? It'll earn you a new nickname. Lefty.

In some cases neutering is not only beneficial but required. Undescended testicles retained in the abdomen are prone to cancer, so neuter males with undescended testicles. If your female has brucellosis, pyometra, irregular cycles or other problems, spaying may be clinically indicated.

Some people object because neutering is "unnatural" without being able to define "natural" for dogs. When you change circumstance (by domestication) you also change "natural." Natural for a timber wolf is not the same as for a Shih Tzu. You wouldn't neuter a dog and then release it into the wild; it wouldn't last long and its death would be rough. It's just as unnatural to bring a dog into your home and expect it to live in a human domestic environment intact, biochemically prepared to kill food and fight predators. You're going to punish it for what its hormones make it do in your home or yard. Is that fun and "natural?"

Others say neutering is unnecessary because their dog is never loose outdoors. We usually call such dogs "parents." There is little chance anyone can watch a determined dog so closely that it cannot breed—and biochemistry provides a lot of determination. Dogs can breed through a fence. Even if it

is supervised closely, it's better for the dog to be altered.

"But MY dog is so brilliant and beautiful I owe it to the world to breed it!" Sound familiar? Even if your dog is a sweet, gorgeous genius, its offspring may not be (nasty, dim-witted ragamuffins come from somewhere). Neutering is beneficial so if your dog is that great, do what's best for it. A dog that good should be more important than ego, pups, or the dollars they may bring.

Many people don't know that a litter can have more than one sire. You may breed your female to a chosen male and two days later the neighborhood rogue accommodates her. When the litter is born you can't understand why half are purebred and half mutts. So much for the argument that breeding purebreds does not contribute to the surplus animal problem. And you need only visit your local shelter to see how many purebreds end up there.

Potential downsides are surgical risk, anesthetic reaction and occasional loss of female bladder tone (usually remedied easily). But they're minimal given today's veterinary competence. They are very minor compared to the dog dying at the shelter or getting hit by a car after escaping your yard in a biomedical frenzy.

Prepuberal neutering also helps address the horrible overpopulation problem in this country. Millions of dogs must be destroyed every year because there aren't enough homes for them. Every intact dog represents a potential breeding machine. Why risk having to kill more dogs when neutering is bet-

ter for your dog in the first place? Your dog relies upon you to provide the best possible care it can receive. Get the facts. Spay and neuter.

Dennis Fetko, Ph.D., a.k.a. "Doctor Dog," contributed the above article to the July/August 1991 NACA News, newsletter of the National Animal Control Association, and graciously granted permission to animal control personnel to copy and use this article if they so desire.



H/CAB Innovation

Jeff's Companion Animal Shelter is a newly organized, unique facility established in Westport, Massachusetts. Its specialized purpose is to select, care for, train and place companion animals.

Founded by Westport-based artist and high school teacher Betsey MacDonald and business executive Bill Connelly, the Shelter's specific purpose is to provide dogs to the elderly and otherwise house bound as a source of love and affection—elements which are proven to make important contributions to the physical and emotional well-being of the elderly and infirm.

The Shelter's namesake, Jeff, is Bill Connelly's personal dog who, with his owner, has successfully worked as a perfect symbol of the Human/Animal Bond. It is the intent of Jeff's Shelter to obtain older, healthy dogs from local shelters and, through training, develop them into adoptable home companions.

In addition, Betsey MacDonald, an experienced equestrienne, envisions the establishment of a horseback riding program where

the physically handicapped will be able to ride specially trained horses.

Additional information can be obtained from Bill Connelly and Betsey MacDonald by writing to: Jeff's Companion Animal Shelter, P.O. Box 3114, Westport, MA 02790.



Animal Control Funding

In the Spring, 1991 issue of its newsletter, the Louisiana Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals detailed a plight that is becoming far too common in cities throughout the United States. The city of New Orleans, in a budget move, deleted funds for animal control in its 1991 budget.

Budgetary shortfalls are unfortunately common in every level of government throughout the nation, however, we question the necessity for animals to bear the brunt of irresponsible spending and revenue shortfall. Decisions for reducing spending should be based upon the necessity of a service—not the lack of opposition to its reduction/elimination. Historically, animals (as well as the mentally ill, elderly, homeless and children) have not had an equal opportunity to defend the need for services aimed at improving their quality of life.

The humane community should work at assisting our governments to base their budgetary decisions on reducing/eliminating those programs that are not based upon vital services to those who severely need them.

CENSHARE Conference

On April 18 and 19, 1991, the Center to Study Human-Animal Relationships and Environments (CENSHARE) presented a two-day conference entitled *The Ethics of Humans Using Animals for Food and Fiber*. The conference provided a forum for discussing issues related to farming practices and how humans can resolve the dilemma of eating meat products while at the same time caring for animal life.

With the wide array of views represented, conference attendees were able to evaluate their attitudes as well as become more aware of contrasting opinions. Conferences such as this provide individuals with the opportunity to network and to bridge differences within a neutral setting. Forums for discussion on the ethics of humans using animals for food and fiber need to become permanent parts of our community's agenda.

Videotapes from the conference (first day only) and audiocassettes (from both days) are available for purchase. This series of programs provides a structured yet balanced discussion among experts of various disciplines such as philosophy, anthropology, law, ecology, veterinary and agricultural science, public health, nutrition, and economics. If you have any questions or are interested in purchasing these videotapes or audiocassettes, please contact Annette Mike, CENSHARE, Box 197 Mayo Memorial Building, 420 Delaware Street, S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455,

(612) 626-1051 or (612) 623-7906.



Latham Has Been Busy—Did You Know?

From the time of its origin in 1918, Latham has engaged in many innovative and interesting humane educational endeavors; they've included the 1927 initiation of regular radio broadcasting for its soon to be popular "Brother Buzz" program series and in 1952, as a nationally and internationally distributed, multi-linguistic television feature. The intervening years have also seen the production of over 150 much needed, humane educational film/tape titles as well as TV spot announcements and the publishing of numerous books. For over thirty years, the Foundation conducted a heavily patronized international (humane precept) poster contest as well as successful domestic essay contests. More recently, its pioneer sponsorship of university level conferences and symposiums have proven of profound value to an understanding of the many mutual benefits to be found in human non-human bondings. In many gratifying cases, Latham's early efforts in publicizing the value of human non-human bonding proved to be the genesis for the formation of organizations and the implementation of programs supportive of and involving that activity.

The motivating impetus behind all of Latham's products and services is based on a philosophy of find a need and fill it. In

that regard, we're very pleased to note that the Foundation's just released, 15 minute, public information and relations videotape documentary, "Your Humane Society", is already serving dozens of communities, sponsored by progressive organizations which understand that an informed citizenry can be counted upon for needed volunteer, political and monetary support. We sincerely hope that many more humane organizations will take advantage of the built-in public relations message of "Your Humane Society"

Because so many dog bites are the result of human carelessness or ignorance, and in most cases with the animal, not just its human victim, suffering the consequence, often paying with its life, we're working on two important, new yet-to-be-titled, public information video presentations. One is designed to inform and prevent dog bites for those individuals with vocations requiring them to regularly enter upon private property, i.e., postal workers, meter readers, etc., the other is directed at young children, not to frighten, but to caution of the danger to them regarding dogs with whom they are unfamiliar and those eating or with young, etc. Prior knowledge can prevent tragedy.

Hugh H. Tebault



Alley Cat Allies: Dealing Humanely With Feral Cats

Becky Robinson
Louise Holton

An estimated 26 million homeless cats manage to survive in streets and alleys in the U.S. Former companion animals who were abandoned or became lost start up lives in areas where there is a food source, such as in campgrounds, factories, public parks, restaurants and alleys where garbage is stored. Unsterilized, these animals breed into large colonies and become a nuisance to neighborhoods. Humane societies and shelters, for the most part, do not have the time or resources to deal with the issue; if they do, the animals are usually trapped and euthanized. They are swamped with people dumping unwanted animals on their doorsteps; they are forced to kill healthy, socialized cats. These cats, left to fend for themselves, become wild or feral and their lives are mostly filled with suffering.

After decades of trapping and killing feral cats in Britain, the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare, with the support of major animal protection groups, including the R.S.P.C.A., realized that this was neither a permanent solution nor a humane one. They attempted a new approach to address the problem: long-term caretakers were found, usually the people who were already feeding the cats. Adults were then trapped, sterilized, vaccinated and returned to the site. This program has been successfully carried out for over ten years in Canada, the Virgin Islands, Europe and



South Africa. Over 15% of the estimated one million feral cats in Britain are controlled this way.

Last summer we found a large colony of feral cats in Adams Morgan, Washington, D.C., and, using these methods, brought the colony under control. The news about our work spread and we were swamped with calls from others wanting to know how they could help feral cats in their areas. Out of the growing need from people wanting to deal with the problem humanely, we created Alley Cat Allies, a network promoting these methods of controlling feral cats without killing. The Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights has included our program in their campaign to address the over-population crisis in the United States.

The intention of Alley Cat Allies is to promote these methods through the print and broadcast media, through animal protection groups and by networking with others already involved with similar programs so that this becomes

the preferred method of control. The lives of feral cats can be improved; they deserve our compassion and care just as any other animal does. It takes time, dedication and devotion to help them. Anyone who has had the privilege of sharing their lives with a feral cat will know how special and deserving these creatures are. The goal of Alley Cat Allies is to help change present attitudes of considering these cats pests to be eliminated as quickly as possible.

We wish to extend the ethic of caring for the earth's creatures to include feral cats. Of course, cats are domestic animals and each should have a fireplace, but in this imperfect world, if we cannot provide a fireplace, we can surely provide some basic care for them. Killing should be our last resort, not our first as it is now.

The feral cat population is at a crisis level. These animals are mostly neglected by everyone; daily they are suffering and dying. Controlling and managing colonies are healthier, fighting

is minimal, regular daily feeding keeps the colony fit and well. If you trap and kill all the cats in a colony, others quickly move in to repopulate the area. Food sources are difficult to eliminate. The only human and long-term solution is controlling by neutering, unless the cats are in an environment that is dangerous to their well-being. Even in these circumstances, if one wants to help them, relocation of the entire colony is often successful.

There are many people out there willing to spend the time, effort and money to help feral cats. Let us all work together to stop the suffering and the killing.

Becky Robinson is a former conference coordinator for the National Alliance for Animal Legislation. She has assisted in the operation of a shelter for homeless cats in Kansas.

Louise Holton has worked for "The Animals Agenda" magazine and is a member of the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine. She was involved for many years in conservation and animal protection in South Africa and worked with the Johannesburg S.P.C.A. on their programs controlling feral cats.

(Note: A thoughtfully compassionate person cannot read the foregoing article without being impressed by the authors' sincere concern for the pathetic living conditions endured by this nation's untold number of homeless and feral cats. The reproductive abatement procedure as suggested, is certainly humane and, for the most part, sensible. We are disturbed, however, by haunting and largely unanswered questions concerning the reliability of proper food sources, the prevention and/or treatment of traffic injuries as well as those inflicted by other animals and an unresolved sanitation problem. HHT)

Within a Wild Sanctuary

Catherine Moody

"Preserve, Within a Wild Sanctuary, an Inaccessible Valley of Reveries"
Ellen Glasgow

It is a cool sunny morning in Shasta County. A breeze moves through the grass, rattling the long, dry stems. In the distance you can see Mount Lassen, gleaming serene and white above the foothills and volcanic rock formations that rise out of the hard, red earth. This is a wild and rough terrain.

Suddenly comes a sound like thunder, but moves! It changes directions, comes closer and then, through a haze of red dust and filtered gold sunlight, you see them: manes flying, hooves pounding as they cross the horizon: Horses! Wild horses!

Creating a Dream: The Wild Horse Sanctuary

This is a daily scene at the Wild Horse Sanctuary, a 5,000 acre refuge for wild horses and burros, spread over the rugged hill country near Mt. Lassen National Park in Northern California. It is the dream child of Jim and Dianne Clapp, who founded the Sanctuary twelve years ago in order to provide a safe, permanent home for wild horses and burros who otherwise would be sent to slaughter.

The first eighty wild horses to arrive at the Sanctuary were adopted by Jim when he learned that they were scheduled to be destroyed at the government facility near Tulelake, California where they were held. They were all that



© Donna Pahl

remained of the three hundred horse herd that he had captured for the U.S. Forest Service.

Jim tried to rent pasture for the animals but when his attempts failed he purchased land near Alturas. The land lacked suitable graze and was very expensive to feed hay all through the first winter; but the thought of those horses being destroyed made him even more determined to save them. It was months before a neighboring rancher learned of the situation and became interested. He told Jim that some of the best working horses he knew of, the ones he had grown up with, had been wild ones; much like the ones Jim Clapp had saved. The rancher (Pete Carey) had a large ranch and a sympathy for the horses, so he and Jim took personal responsibility for their protection. Thus, the Wild Horse & Burro Sanctuary was born.

The two men thought that if they cared enough to save horses from death, surely there must be other

concerned individuals who also would be willing to join the cause. Soon thereafter, government officials were contacted and all the necessary arrangements were made to qualify the Sanctuary as a refuge and permanent home for wild horses. At the same time, the Sanctuary was designated as a nonprofit organization, an important step if the Sanctuary were to encourage people nationwide to help support the care and feeding of these magnificent animals with their donations and sponsorship.

Twelve Years and 350 Wild Horses & Burros Later

Those first five years in Alturas, the Sanctuary was able to provide a home for the rescued wild horses and burros. But as more arrived, they realized that a permanent home with a milder winter climate, more natural cover and better accessibility to the public was needed. It was found near Shingletown, four hours north of San Francisco. It is situated be-

tween Mt. Shasta to the north and glacier-tipped Mt. Lassen to the east, in some of Northern California's most scenic recreational areas.

Now, the wild horses and burros share their natural setting with black bear, deer, quail, dove, wild turkey, grey fox, coyote, raccoon, badger, bobcat and mountain lion, along with hawks, owls, bald eagles and over 150 varieties of song bird.

A Sponsor is a Special Person

As part of the effort to save as many wild horses and burros as possible, the Sanctuary offers a unique opportunity to those who would like to help; for just \$38 a month (\$19 for a burro) you can sponsor a wild horse or burro of your choice, in your own name, or that of a loved one. Your sponsorship will help the Sanctuary provide the supplemental feed and any minor veterinary care that may be required, and it allows "your" wild horse or burro to live out its life in freedom, safe from harm, at the Wild Horse Sanctuary.

Sponsors receive a photograph and a description of the animal they've chosen to support, and are always welcome to visit the Sanctuary (and your wild horse or burro) at any time.

Now and for the Future

Besides providing a safe permanent home for rescued wild horses and burros, the Sanctuary is part of an intensive effort to develop humane and sustainable herd management methods.

The Sanctuary is home to a study on the reversible fertility based in research by Dr. Erwin Liu of the University of California at

Continued page 16

Wild Sanctuary *continued*

Davis and on field studies conducted by Dr. Jay Kirkpatrick and Dr. John Turner. Earlier field studies by Dr. Kirkpatrick and Dr. Turner provided the basis for research into non-intrusive, non-stressful methods of reproductive control. [Ed. note: See related article on page 1]

And while this method has great promise for the future, the needs of the Sanctuary are immediate: over 150 wild horses from Oregon were recently rescued from slaughter. These animals were brought to the Sanctuary on faith that the future and generosity of sponsors will provide for them.

Two and Three Day Pack Rides

As an additional fundraiser, the Sanctuary now offers one, two and three day horse treks, riding out from a base camp to observe and photograph wild horses and burros in their natural habitat. Half-day picnic rides are also available. You won't ride the wild horses, but you'll see them—flashing across a hillside, disappearing into the scrub oak and chaparral, or standing statue-still and keenly alert, watching your approach. Then an instant later—gone! Only a flurry of red dust assures you that the vision was real, not imagined. A wild horse sighting leaves you with an indelible impression of strength, beauty and freedom.

As part of the ride, impromptu seminars on wild horses are given by wildlife experts or by the Clapps themselves. "Each group of wild horses brought into the Sanctuary has distinct physical and genetic characteristics," Dianne explained during a lunch break, taken

high atop a pine-covered ridge. She pointed out a group of small, compact mustangs grazing in a nearby meadow that are believed to be descendants of Spanish stock, the first horses brought to this country.

Other wild ponies have characteristics closer to the draft horses and cow ponies that mingled with the mustangs on the largely unfenced lands of the early American west.

An American Legacy

Nearby, Jim Clapp was talking to a small group of riders when suddenly the background noises faded and his words came into sharp focus. The only sound was the wind in the grass.

"And what of the horse?" Jim asked, in his soft voice. "Is this all we have to give him after years of service? The horse took us across the west, helped us break the prairie topsoil. He pioneered this land with us. Is this all we give him in return, turn 'em into pet food or pen 'em up in tiny corrals until they die?"

"I think the horse deserves more than that. After all, Congress has designated America's wild horses to be a national treasure. And look at the eagle; it serves no economic benefit, yet it's the symbol of our nation. It lives free, we make room for it, we protect it. Can we do less for the horse?"

For a moment, all was still and his words seem to hang in the air like a message. Then slowly, one by one, we stood up. We brushed the crumbs from our shirt fronts and smacked the dust from our jeans. We saddled up and rode on, in search of more wild horses.

For more information on sponsoring a horse, visiting the

A VITAL BOOK

The Loving Bond

Companion Animals in the Helping Professions

"most definitive publication on the subject yet"

PET BUSINESS

Edited by Phil Arkow
R & E Publishers
P.O. Box 2008, Saratoga, CA 95070
420 pages, soft cover, \$19.95 plus
\$2.00 postage and handling

"excellent, state-of-the-art"

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Originally published and distributed by the Latham Foundation under the title of *Dynamic Relationships in Practice: Animals in the Helping Professions*, the updated edition, *The Loving Bond: Companion Animals in the Helping Professions* continues to enjoy a wide distribution as a textbook in universities and colleges, reference material in libraries and among individuals pursuing information about the various aspects of the human/companion animal bond. One of the first books to explore the many facets of the bond, it remains one of the most definitive publications on the subject. Its contents range from the historical perspective on the relationship between humans and companion animals through the pets' roles in society, pet behavior, pet loss and human bereavement to the publicizing and promotion of the alliance.

A vital resource for anyone interested in learning about the field as well as those involved in it, *The Loving Bond* is "an extraordinary publication . . . provides practitioners with reference materials to direct their efforts more effectively and efficiently"

AMERICAN HUMANE
ASSOCIATION

*" . . . contributor to animal welfare,
an objective well-served by this publication"*

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Sanctuary or taking a trail ride, write to: Wild Horse Sanctuary, P.O. Box 30, Shingletown, CA 96088-0030, or call (916) 474-5770.



Animal-Assisted Therapy *continued*

"R.V." and "I.V." refer to the average number of times each of these behaviors occurred over the course of a 45-minute session when there was no such restriction on recording.

Table III
Comparison of Communication Variable by Group and Across Conditions

| | Dependent Variables | Pre-Treatment (Baseline) | Treatment | Post-Treatment |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Experimental Group | ¹ E.C. | 5.02 | 6.96 | 5.21 |
| | ² B.O. | 4.94 | 6.87 | 5.36 |
| | ³ R.V. | 3.375 | 9.02 | 9.625 |
| | ⁴ I.V. | 1.07 | .174 | 1.055 |
| Control Group | ¹ E.C. | 4.29 | 5.3 | 4.76 |
| | ² B.O. | 3.39 | 4.87 | 4.38 |
| | ³ R.V. | 5.73 | 7.98 | 7.70 |
| | ⁴ I.V. | 3.26 | 2.35 | .66 |

¹Eye Contact
²Body Orientation
³Relevant Verbalizations
⁴Irrelevant Verbalizations

Eye Contact

Between-group comparison of means for eye contact revealed significantly more appropriate eye contacts for the A.A.T. group versus the control group (6.96 vs. 5.3, $t = 2.37$, $d.f. = 16$, $p = .05$) at the completion of the treatment phase.

Within-group comparisons further substantiate this finding because the magnitude of increase for eye contact from baseline to treatment phases was significant for A.A.T. patients but not for the controls. Similarly, when A.A.T. was withdrawn in the post-treatment phase, the frequency of eye contact was significantly reduced whereas for the control group no such reduction occurred. Table IV summarizes the impact of the respective treatments on eye contact across conditions.

Table IV
T-Test Comparison of Means for Eye Contact by Group and Across Conditions

| Group | Conditions | |
|---------|---|---|
| | Baseline → Treatment | Treatment → Post-Treatment |
| A.A.T. | Significant ($t=2.62$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.02$) | Significant ($t=2.26$, $d.f.=13$, $p=.05$) |
| Control | N.S. ($t=1.61$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.05$) | N.S. ($t=.76$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.05$) |

Body Orientation (Posture)

Within the group comparisons for the variable body orientation (B.O.) indicate the differential impact of the respective treatments. Patients in the A.A.T. group

demonstrated a significant improvement in posture while exposed to the animals ($t=3.25$, $d.f.=17$, $p=.01$), whereas control group members did not ($t=1.77$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.05$ is nonsignificant). Similarly, withdrawal of A.A.T. during the post-treatment phase produced a significant decline in posture ($t=2.19$, $d.f.=13$, $p=.05$), while control group participants experienced no such change following withdrawal of the mental health concepts curriculum ($t=.653$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.05$ is nonsignificant).

Relevant Verbalizations

Unlike variables eye contact and body orientation, the impact of A.A.T. and the alternate treatment on verbal relevance was quite similar. In fact, the "relevant verbalizations" variable was most dramatically effected by both treatment interventions. For both groups, introduction of a novel treatment resulted in significant and sizeable increases in relevant speech (A.A.T.: $t=3.98$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.001$; Control: $t=2.39$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.05$). Table V illustrates the magnitude of change increase slightly during the post-treatment phase for the A.A.T. group, while a small decline from mid-phase was evident among control group participants. Nevertheless, these subtle changes were nonsignificant following withdrawal of the respective treatments (A.A.T.: $t=.32$, $d.f.=13$, $p=.05$; Control: $t=.26$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.05$). Therefore, in both groups the rate of relevant verbalizing remained at a high level after withdrawal of the respective interventions.

Table V

Percentage Change for Communication Variables Across Conditions

| | Dependent Variables | Baseline → Treatment | Treatment → Post-Treatment | Baseline → Post-Treatment |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Experimental Group | ¹ R.V. | +268% | +12% | +280% |
| | ² I.V. | — | — | — |
| Control Group | ¹ R.V. | +139% | -8% | +133% |
| | ² I.V. | -28% | -72% | -80% |

¹Relevant Verbalizations
²Irrelevant Verbalizations

Irrelevant Verbalizations

Between-group comparison of means for the variable "irrelevant verbalizations" at completion of the treatment phase revealed significantly fewer irrelevant statements for A.A.T. participants as compared with the control group (.174 vs 2.35, $t=4.62$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.001$). This was partially substantiated by the finding of a significant, although not particularly meaningful, decline in irrelevant statements following introduction of A.A.T. (1.07 vs. 174, $t=2.42$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.05$). In contrast, no such decline occurred for the control group (3.26 vs. 2.35) when the "novel" curriculum was introduced ($t=.65$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.05$ is nonsignificant). Surprisingly, the number of irrelevant statements declined in a significant direction (2.35 vs. .66, $t=3.18$, $d.f.=16$, $p=.01$) only after the alternate curriculum was withdrawn.

Continued page 18

Discussion

Historically, efforts to document the beneficial effects of using animals as adjunctive therapeutic agents with institutionalized as well as noninstitutionalized populations have been highly anecdotal or based upon consensually-validated clinical observations. Yet, these studies have laid an important groundwork for understanding the depth and variability of human responses to the presence of domesticated cats, dogs, fish, birds, and others. Interacting with animals has produced meaningful and occasionally life-span promoting changes in verbal, non-verbal, and physiological measures. The present study adds another dimension to the earlier investigations since it documents improvements in social behavior with small groups of institutionalized mentally ill patients using controlled, experimental procedures.

The decision to use zoo animals in an adjunctive treatment capacity with chronic schizophrenic patients was based on two factors: (1) Proximity to the Staten Island Zoo and willingness of its zoo coordinator, Mr. S., to run A.A.T. groups and, (2) ongoing use of behavioral treatment technologies (i.e., token economy approaches) to teach appropriate social skills to this population at the Community Residential Treatment Service. Since schizophrenia is partially characterized by aberrations in verbal and nonverbal behaviors (i.e., disconnected and illogical speech, bizarre or inappropriate facial and bodily gestures), we wanted to see if the presence of animals in a structured therapy format would mitigate against this symptomatology.

As demonstrated, animal assisted therapy had a very positive effect on all of the measured variables with the possible exception of irrelevant speech. In both groups, few irrelevant remarks were observed regardless of treatment condition. Therefore, drawing conclusions about the efficacy of A.A.T. as related to irrelevant speech is at best suggestive of a trend.

Despite this exception, A.A.T. produced significant increases in eye contact and appropriate posture. The alternate curriculum (mental health concepts discussion group) did not. Equally telling is the finding that withdrawal of A.A.T. produced a significant decline in the E.C. and B.O. Regression to baseline levels attests to the fact that patients missed the animals when they were gone. Watching and interacting with the zoo animals therefore facilitated more visual focusing and fewer extraneous bodily movements.

The "verbal relevancy" variable was most dramatically affected by A.A.T. as well as the alternate treatment. For both groups, introduction of a novel treatment accounted to an average increase of from 139%-268% from baseline (see Table V) depending upon condition. For both groups, it appears that meaningful or context-dependent verbal behavior is similar to the phenomenon of a dam barrier, it becomes difficult to slow down, let alone stop to any degree. In our study, speaking in a relevant manner seemed to "take on a life of its own" even after the respective treatments (A.A.T. or the mental health concepts discussion group) were withdrawn. Perhaps, as our patients became interested enough in the animals or concepts that had immediate relevance to them (i.e., how to remain optimistic, to

fulfill responsibilities, to keep problems in perspective, etc.), there was little room for the kind of idiosyncratic self-preoccupation that they usually engage in.

Irrelevant speech, by contrast, seems to follow a different set of rules. Few irrelevant statements were observed among experimental (A.A.T.) group participants. Among control group participants, although only 3 irrelevant statements occurred on average during each 45-minute session (baseline phase), the number of irrelevancies steadily declined from mid-point through the post-treatment phases (see Table III). Perhaps irrelevant verbalizations are inversely related to relevant statements. As schizophrenic patients become more relevant and organized in thinking and consequently more expressive in their speech, there is less room or need for irrelevant speech.

It is not clear from our study if the negative relationships between relevant and irrelevant components of speech is a valid finding or if it is an artifact of unintentional rater bias. Staff who collected data are all seasoned clinicians who may have inadvertently paid more attention when relevant statements were made since integrated, socially related speech is a rarer phenomenon for our patients. If relevant speech was disproportionately affected by rater bias, it may be because therapist raters were wishing that the patients could behave in more normal ways just like one hopes a new medication will produce desired effects for a serious physical illness. This hypothesis is only conjecture and was not shown to occur.

In conclusion, the use of animal-assisted therapy in directed small discussion groups with chronic schizophrenic patients was successful in improving selected aspects of verbal and nonverbal social behavior.

These findings are consistent with a large body of anecdotal and observational data attesting to the beneficial impact of animals on psychological, social, and physiological indicators with diverse populations. One cautionary note should be mentioned. Our study involved only nineteen (19) patients and spanned 10 weeks. Future investigators should attempt to use larger numbers of subjects and larger periods of follow-up.

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Book Reviews

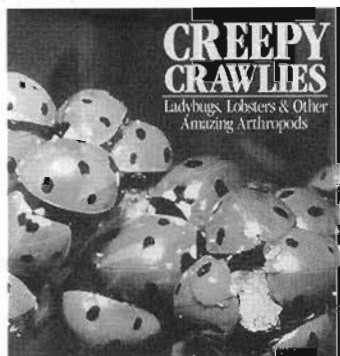
A Morally Deep World An Essay on Moral Significance and Environmental Ethics

Lawrence E. Johnson
Cambridge University Press
40 West 20th Street
New York, NY 10011
301 pages, hardbound, \$39.50

In this excellent book, Professor Johnson provides meticulous and thought-provocative philosophical arguments in support of an advocacy for a major change in our attitude toward the world of non-human life. The authors argues that not only individual organisms but ecosystems, and the biosphere as a whole, are entities in their own right and are thus morally significant beings with intrinsic interests worthy of respect. He scrupulously examines and with cause, and rejects the generally accepted reasons which underlie a contention that only the interests of humans are morally considerable.

Though written in a non-technical style, *A Morally Deep World* presents a plethora of logical thinking that each page demands the reader's full attention. Its text will be welcomed by those who recognize the monumental importance of moral questions relating to the environment.

Hugh H. Tebault



Creepy Crawlies: Ladybugs, Lobsters & Other Amazing Arthropods

Natural History Museum,
London
Sterling Publishing Co., Inc.
387 Park Avenue, South
New York, NY 10016-8810
107 pages, hardbound, \$14.95
(\$19.95, Canada)

Creepy Crawlies: Ladybugs, Lobsters & Other Amazing Arthropods introduces readers to the amazing diversity of arthropods: creatures having jointed limbs and an external skeleton. The group includes bedbugs, mosquitoes, scorpions, lobsters, crabs and many others.

Developed as a companion to an exhibition viewed by thousands of school children, the book provides details about the growth and survival techniques, as well as the uneasy relationship humans have with the household pest and crop-eating varieties. In addition to being informative, the book is a visual feast of beautiful photographs illustrating the

vivid colors, camouflage, habitats and fossils of this amazing species.

Among the many fascinating facts readers will learn are about the robber crab who lives entirely on land and eats coconuts; that spiders' silk is twice as strong as steel, finer than human hair and can stretch up to three times its own length; that the spear-like front legs of a praying mantis can deliver a blow with the force of a small caliber gun; and much, much more. *Creepy Crawlies: Ladybugs, Lobsters & Other Amazing Arthropods* provides children and adults an exciting adventure into the world of arthropods.

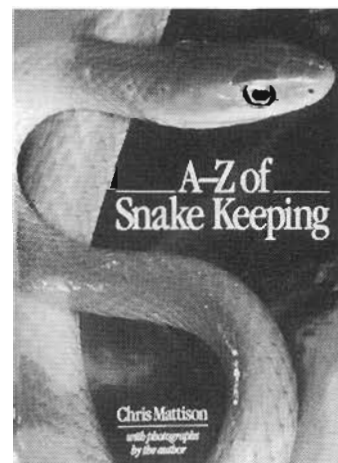
Raise More Money for Your Nonprofit Organization: A Guide to Evaluating and Improving Your Fundraising

Anne L. New (with the assistance of Wilson C. Lewis)
The Foundation Center
79 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10003
51 pages, softbound, \$14.95

Jointly sponsored by Indiana University Center on Philanthropy and the Department of Public Administration, Baruch College/The City University of New York, *Raise More Money for Your Nonprofit Organization: A Guide to Evaluating and Improving Your Fundraising* provides the guidance necessary for the establishment of a

productive, intelligently planned fundraising program. Paradoxically, the actual information gained is provided and collated by the booklet's reader, as page after page of germane, searching yes and no questions are answered. A must for every progressive organization seriously concerned with increased outreach.

Hugh H. Tebault



A-Z of Snake Keeping

Chris Mattison
Sterling Publishing Co., Inc.
387 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016-8810
144 pages, hardcover, \$24.95
(\$34.95 in Canada)

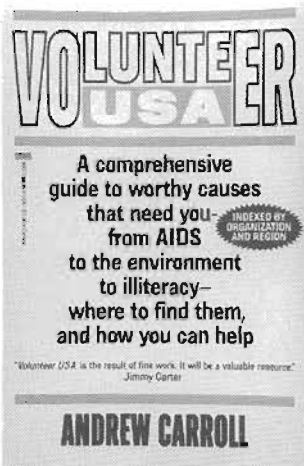
A-Z of Snake Keeping is the very best book on the care and keeping of snakes for an amateur that we have read. In addition to being an aesthetically pleasing book with over 150 photographs (72 in color) and drawings, it is replete

Continued page 20

Book Reviews continued with information on feeding, cages, health and habitat requirements for the various non-venomous snakes.

Arranged in an encyclopedia format, *A-Z of Snake Keeping* provides detailed information on each species as well as broader subjects such as breeding, handling, sex determination, what to look for before buying a snake, the suitability of keeping specific species as well as a section on what to do when a snake becomes ill.

This book should be required reading for anyone considering becoming involved in keeping snakes as a hobby.



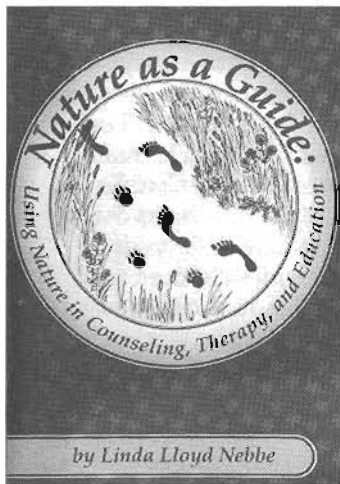
Volunteer USA

Andrew Carroll
A Fawcett Columbine Book
Ballentine Books
New York, NY
397 pages, softbound, \$8.95, U.S.

Andrew Carroll, a twenty-one year old Columbia University junior, has produced a tremendously valuable resource for volunteers. *Volunteer USA* is a comprehensive guide to organizations, both local and national, that are concerned with issues ranging from

health, homelessness, veterans' affairs, animals, the environment and much more. Not only has the author listed the causes alphabetically, with the organizations concerned with them alphabetically, he has provided a geographical index. Each section contains a segment entitled, "What You Can Do," thereby providing the much needed information for a potential volunteer.

In the words of Alan Luks, Executive Director of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New York City, "Every school, union, business, senior center, church and synagogue in the country should have this book."



Nature as a Guide: Using Nature in Counseling, Therapy, and Education

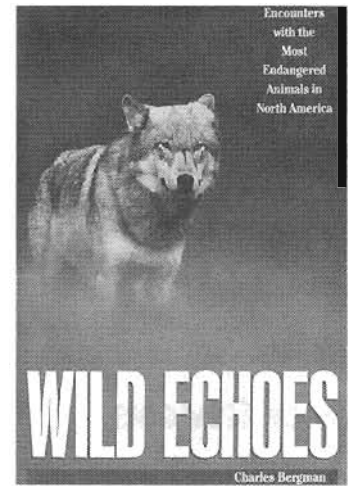
Linda Lloyd Nebbe
Educational Media Corp.
Box 21311
Minneapolis, MN 55421-0311
230 pg. softbound, \$10.95 plus \$1.50 postage & handling

Nature as a Guide: Using Nature in Counseling, Therapy, and Education is the product of Ms. Nebbe's experiences with animals, gardening and the environment. As an elementary counselor she began to experiment with various types of therapy and has

shared some of her most successful techniques.

Arranged in three parts, *Nature as a Guide: Using Nature in Counseling, Therapy and Education*, offers insight into the rationale and approaches of nature therapy. There are segments that not only explain the techniques of the therapy, but also its objectives. In the third section of the book, *A Handbook*, there are innovative activities for a therapist to use in group sessions as well as with an individual. The activities listed accommodate important objectives but are also just plain fun. Suggested exercises range from activities concerning animals, horticulture and the environment. Lessons stress understanding and learning about our surroundings with added messages of self-esteem, social skills and the interrelationship of all life.

Nature as a Guide: Using Nature in Counseling, Therapy, and Education is a valuable resource for teachers, therapists, parents and anyone interested in promoting the environment and our relationship with and within it.



Wild Echoes: Encounters with the Most Endangered Animals in North America

Charles Bergman
Alaska Northwest Books, a division of GTE Discovery Publications, Inc.
22026 20th Avenue, S.E.
Bothwell, WA 98021
332 pages, softbound, \$12.95

While much of substance has been written about the spotted owl, the wolf and other seriously endangered creatures, this is a book that carries a very personal challenge. In *Wild Echoes: Encounters with the Most Endangered Animals in North America*, Charles Bergman explores the question of what is lost when a animal species dies "forever". Drawing deeply on his broad knowledge of literature, philosophy, and natural history, Bergman suggests that the more complete our domination of nature has become, the more we have lost control of our own destiny.

The author recounts fascinating travels throughout North America to bring his readers within touching distance of animals on the verge of extinction: the Alaskan grey wolf, the trumpeter swan, the Florida panther and more.

The beautifully written text is at once informative and entertaining yet

challenges the reader to seriously rethink his/her relationship and responsibilities to nature.

Charles Bergman has written extensively for Audubon, Smithsonian, National Wildlife and National Geographic. He is a professor of English at Pacific Lutheran University at Tacoma, Washington.

Hugh H. Tebault



The Living River

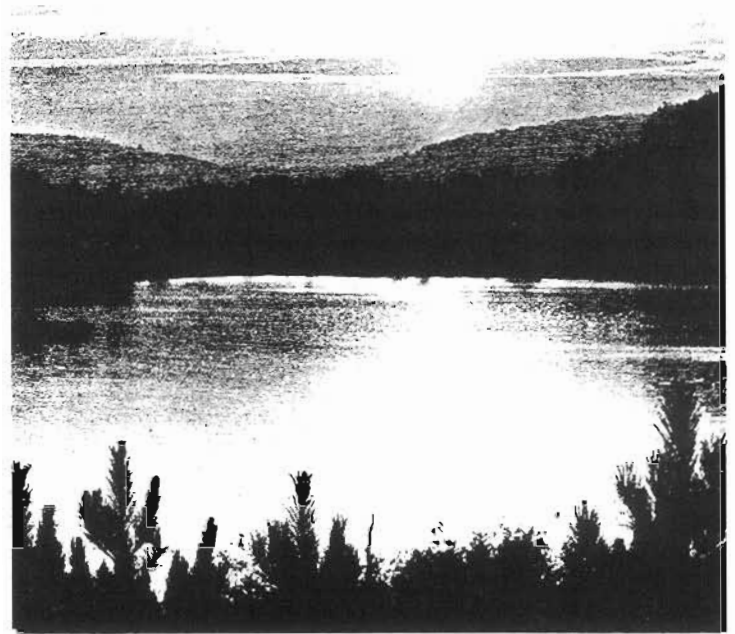
David Boag & Eric Soothill
Sterling Publishing Co., Inc.
387 Park Avenue, South
New York, NY 10016
160 pages, 160 full color illustrations, hardbound, \$24.95 U.S.

Authors Boag and Soothill have produced a fascinating armchair word-and-picture river journey. By means of descriptions and beautiful color photography, they liken the life of a river to that of man, beginning as a babe-in-arms, followed by a vigorous youth and culminating in maturity. Each transition of the river is described, from its tiny beginning, as a mountain spring, then down tumbling white waters into lowlands and along sleepy meadows to an expansive estuary and its final dramatic meeting point with the sea. At each stage the reader-traveler will follow the changes in the varieties of fish and amphibians,

wildlife, birds and insects as well as trees and grasses.

Observe the stunning beauty of a hawthorn bush's overhanging branch dropping its white blossoms, like confetti, onto the water. Then along the bank of a stream, a wren feeds her chicks in the dense vegetation. A wealth of information concerning a river's vitally significant, life-giving contributions is elegantly described.

Hugh H. Tebault



Roger A. Caras Named New ASPCA President



Photo courtesy of ASPCA

Noted wildlife author and commentator Roger A. Caras will assume the duties of President of The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), the western hemisphere's oldest humane organization, on September 30, announced Thomas N. Carter III, Chairman.

Mr. Caras will be the 18th president of the ASPCA since Henry Bergh first organized the Society in 1866, fashioning it after the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the RSPCA, in England.

Mr. Caras has been television's only network news correspondent reporting full-time on animals and the environment since joining ABC News 17 years ago. He will complete the assignment on September 28. Prior to joining ABC in 1974 he was resident naturalist on NBC's "Today Show" for eight years and reported daily on CBS Radio for 11 years with his "Pet & Wildlife" broadcast.

"One of the most compelling reasons for accepting the challenge of leading the ASPCA is its record as a unique, hands-on collection

of caring people who really make a difference," said Mr. Caras. "National leadership in the humane movement and concern for national issues has not obscured the Society's purpose . . . to alleviate pain, suffering and fear. Everything we do must be to that end."

Mr. Caras is the author of approximately 60 books, largely on animals, wild and domestic. While at ABC he reported from Russia, China, Sri Lanka, South America, Europe and Africa, as well as the United States, Mexico and Canada. In 1989 he received TV's coveted Emmy Award for his reporting on the fate of America's wild horses.

At the ASPCA, Caras follows 14 years of distinguished leadership by Dr. John Kullberg.

ISAZ—International Society for Anthrozoology

Those familiar with the Latham Foundation's efforts know how earnestly it has promoted the principle of respect for all life in general, and of the great benefits to be derived from human companion animal bond relationships, in particular. Specifically during the past eleven years, successes have been realized as a result of the organization throughout the country, of innumerable human companion animal bond activities. On the other hand, disappointment has resulted from the

relative unresponsiveness of the scientific community.

In light of our past experience, we are heartened by the scientific community's recent organization of the International Society for Anthrozoology (ISAZ), and particularly by its declared purpose: "The aim of the Society is to promote the study of all aspects of human-animal relationships, by the encouragement and publication of research, the holding of meetings, and such other activities as may be held to forward the purposes of

the Society." The seriousness of the Society's purpose is further emphasized by its founders' statement concerning membership qualifications: "The membership of the Society shall be open to all individuals who are, or have been, engaged in academic, scientific or scholarly research on any aspect of human-animal relationships . . .".

We have no doubt that the in depth investigations and studies undertaken at ISAZ's behest will disprove exaggerated pro and con claims regarding human-

animal relationships. We are equally certain, however, that such scholarly attention and consideration will result in many positive findings and documentations substantiating the validity respecting the beneficial aspects of such relationships.

We welcome the International Society for Anthrozoology and wish them much success.

John Bradshaw
Dept. of Biology
University of Southampton
Bassett Crescent East
Southampton, England
SO9 3TU



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PETITION

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, PETITION THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO INITIATE AND PASS LEGISLATION FOR HUMANE SLAUGHTERHOUSES FOR OUR HORSES, MULES, DONKEYS AND PONIES. Further, we ask for feed and water at the stockyards and slaughter pens, and swift death—euthanasia—for injured animals, and humane supervision and controls with strict criminal justice for infractions.

WE ASK FOR HUMANE LAWS AND SUPERVISION REGULATING THE NOW TOTALLY LAWLESS AND UNREGULATED SLAUGHTER TRANSPORTS FOR HORSES, MULES, DONKEYS AND PONIES.

Further, We ask for proper horse conveyances—not livestock trucks, doubledeckers, or possum-bellies—prohibiting overloading as well as loading injured or otherwise debilitated animals. We ask for humanely schooled drivers and helpers with special licenses, and that these transports are prominently marked for easy inspection by peace officers, that logs with proof of watering, feeding and rest periods every 12 hours are to be kept on board. We ask that perpetrators against these rules are to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the laws governing humane treatment of animals, and their licenses withdrawn. We are herewith aligning ourselves with the biggest-ever campaign against the horse-slaughter transport atrocities in Europe and the United States, inspired by the pictures and documentation and observed practices of the Horse Slaughter Trade in our country.

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