

# Latham Letter

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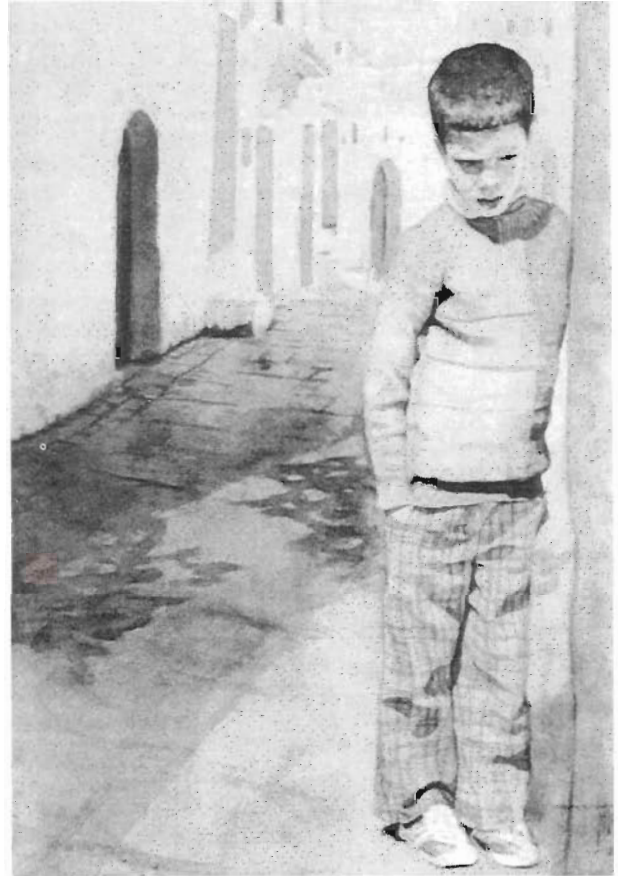
PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

## USC Conference Addresses Violence Against Children

Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D.

Violence against children, its causes, consequences, and prevention, was the topic of a two-day seminar at the Davidson Conference Center at the University of Southern California (January 27-28, 1995). Over 180 participants had the opportunity to hear presentations from psychologists, sociologists, physicians, and other social welfare experts whose professional work immerses them in the lives of children who are victims of aggression and maltreatment. The conference organizer, Dr. Penelope Trickett (Dept. of Psychology, USC), Chair of the American Psychological Associations Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, began the conference by outlining its focus on physical and sexual abuse, family violence, and community violence, topics that have become familiar to Latham Letter readers through recent articles integrating child welfare and animal welfare issues.

CONFERENCE, continued on page 10



WATERCOLOR BY: TERIK BANZI

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- *Living with HIV and Pets Wins Job Michael Evans Humanitarian Award* (Page 23).
- *Child & Animal Protection News* (Pages 9 & 16).
- *What Works: The Pet Pals Program* (Page 6).
- *Animal Assisted Therapy, Kids, and Seniors* (Page 12).

## Creating Positive Attitudes Toward Wildlife in Children

Aline H. Kidd, Robert M. Kidd, R. Lee Zasloff

Because most people still don't really understand fully how much the destruction of flora, fauna and their independent environments will ultimately affect humans and humanity's domination of this fragile planet earth, our island home, it becomes important to work harder for the preservation of as

many species and subspecies of plant and animal life as possible. And it is surely time to investigate ways to increase awareness of and positive attitudes toward more protective care and concern for plant and animal life in ourselves and our children.

ATTITUDES, continued on page 4

See Page 18 for information about Latham's new video and training manual *Breaking the Cycles of Violence: A Practical Guide* by Phil Arkow.

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**Remember  
to Recycle**

**Coming in the next  
Latham Letter:**

- *How Hawaii Prevents Child and Animal Abuse*
- *Humane Education News*
- *Latham goes online*

## EDITORIAL

# Don't Just Stand There — Do Something!

*Hugh H. Tebault*

**W**e know that not all of the *Latham Letter* readers see eye to eye with us or each other concerning the value of companion animals. We are however, all confronted with resolving the problem of their overpopulation. Most will agree that correction by means of spay and or neuter procedures are preferable to other measures. Unfortunately, though effective, the necessary surgery's cost in time and expertise is responsible for correcting the problem of only a small percentage of the animals actually in need of such procedures. A great number of the homeless companion animal overpopulation problem is simply resolved by euthanasia (a polite word for killing).

In many instances, THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE to the above solutions. Many if not all, pure breed dog clubs (and some individuals) provide services which include the temporary shelter, maintenance and second home placement effort, for dogs of the breed in which they are interested. One such service provides a temporary home and adoption agency for retired race greyhounds. As a member of a English Springer Club, our daughter travels throughout central California at her own expense, picking up, grooming, sheltering and then placing homeless Springers\*. Another service, HART (The Humane Animal Rescue Team, see page 00) provides a holding facility for both pure and mixed breed animals and specializes in finding them needed homes. It also regularly publishes the *Muttmatchers Messenger*, in which pure, mixed breed, young and mature animals in need of a family are



publicized. An adoption service in the Los Angeles area for Poodles recently was brought to our attention. It, like some others, is operated by and at the sole expense of an individual. The Mastiff Club of America also provides a Rescue/Placement service. And there are many others.

I don't know how many *Latham Letter* readers have visited short term holding facilities for lost or homeless dogs. Looking into their eyes knowing of the loving companionship which they have to give and wondering what fate holds for them, I find to be a deeply emotional experience. Those not familiar with Carol Lea Benjamin's book *SECOND HAND DOG*, (published by Macmillan, 866 3rd Ave. NY 10022) will find worthwhile reading.

The wonderful services described above need and deserve your financial support. Their addresses' are:

**H.A.R.T/Muttmatchers**  
P.O. Box 920, Fillmore, CA 93016



**LAST RACE GREYHOUNDS**  
27 Gregory Street, Danbury, CT 06811

**Sallie Perkins, Standard Poodle Rescue  
and Placement, 310-276-8982**



**Alma Bowman, Mastiff Rescue Dir.**  
Route 1, Box 283  
Rock Springs, GA 30739





# The Latham Letter

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**Publisher and Editor:** Hugh H. Tebault

**Founding Editor:** Wallace Ness Jamie  
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**Managing Editor:** Judy Johns

**Contributing Editor:** Aline H. Kidd, Ph.D.



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## OPINIONS

### Dear Latham Readers:

I am writing a book about the human\animal bond especially as pertains to people and the relationships they have with their companion animals. Along with interview and personal essay material, I am looking for references to that relationship, or the animals that it describes, (e.g. dogs, cats, etc.) in popular and classic literature, poetry, parables, mythology, teaching tales, cartoons, good quotations, personal memoirs, etc..

If you know of any such references, could you please mail the actual material, or sufficient information so I can find them myself to: MHUTCHINSON@aol.com, or snailmail them to: Marcia Hutchinson, 88 W. Goulding St., Sherborn, MA 01770.

Thank you for any help you can provide.

Marcia Hutchinson

(Note to readers: Ms. Hutchinson is a psychologist and published author and new *Latham Letter* subscriber.)

### ... another request for references...

Dear Latham:

The ASPCA is interested in updating its bibliography, Kids, Animals, and Literature. If your readers know of any books that would be suitable for consideration for inclusion, please send the title, publisher, year published, and ISBN # to Julie Bank, Director of Humane Education, ASPCA, 424 E. 92 St., New York, NY 10128.

Thank you.

Julie Bank, 212-876-7700

### Dear Latham:

Here is a slightly revised version of the Non-Human Life Forms Survey I used earlier to collect the data I summarized in the Latham Letter article, "Can a Cockroach Have a Nice Day?" Thought your readers might be interested.

Wayne Hogan, P.O. Box 8442  
Cookeville, TN 38503  
615-528-1638.

(Editor's Note: Copies of the questionnaire are available from Latham.)



## Animal Health News from the AVMA

### Eat Your Veggies, But Don't Feed Them to Fido

While a vegetarian lifestyle may be favored by some humans, their companion animals shouldn't be subjected to such apparently healthful fare, said Dr. C.B. Chastain, associate dean for academic affairs at the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine. A new trend recently has emerged in which pet owners are imposing a diet rich in grain and vegetables and devoid of any trace of meat on their carnivorous companions. The well-meaning owners may be doing more harm than good to the animals, according to Dr. Chastain. While humans are physiologically equipped to handle an all-vegetable diet, dogs and cats have a short intestinal tract that contains special enzymes to break down animal protein rather than plants, making it difficult for them to digest vegetables. In addition, they lack the ability to extract some vitamins from vegetables. All in all, Dr. Chastain recommends that pet owners stick with commercial pet foods, which contain meat, meat byproducts and some grain or vegetable material, for the best bet when it comes to keeping Fido happy, healthy, and well-fed. Contact Dr. C.B. Chastain at 314-882-3554.



Indeed, recent research data suggest that such attitudes and concern are usually instilled and established by childhood experiences. Pet ownership and attachment during childhood result in adult attachment and ownership to the same types of pets as in childhood. Too, adults who had many pets during childhood scored higher on measures of concern for wildlife than did adults who had fewer or no pets. Members of organizations concerned with conservation, the environment, and animal welfare currently had more childhood pets than non-members. Obviously, childhood is the best time to introduce positive attitudes toward all plant animal life.

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*"Touching" is undoubtedly  
very important  
for the development of  
positive emotions toward  
animals in general.*

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Although some groups believe that zoos should be abolished, zoos and petting zoos, as well as wild and marine life parks currently provide the only contact most urban children and adults have with wild and non-pet domestic animal life. Because there were very few studies of the emotional and cognitive effects of zoos and petting zoos on children's attitude toward animals, the present study was designed to clarify the emotional and cognitive effects of distance, visibility, and tactile stimulation on the current attitudes of children and their parents toward wild life.

We began by interviewing 208 urban and suburban parents and their children. 69% owned pets and 88% of the adults had visited zoos as children. Those adults who had made childhood visits to zoos



PHOTO: © 1988 PAUL REZENDES

*Common Loon  
(Gavia immer)*

brought their own children to zoos significantly more often than those who had not.

In addition to petting the animals, the children at the petting zoos spent more time watching, smiling at, laughing at, and talking to or about the animals than did children at the main zoo exhibits. The data suggest that petting zoo experiences generate more interest in, and learning about, animals than do main zoo experiences — that is, they generate more favorable attitudes toward wildlife than do main zoo exhibits.

Earlier research, furthermore, indicates that, ideally, zoos should provide auditory, visual, and tactile experiences for visitors in order to help create favorable attitudes toward wildlife. The important variable factors for providing auditory, visual, and tactile stimulation are proximity, visibility, and hands-on availability. Petting zoos do provide occasion for all these factors. Main zoo exhibits cannot ordinarily provide hands-on touching, of course. Too, it is difficult to measure proximity because the bigger animals move around in fairly large enclosures and keep a considerable distance away from the viewers. Visibility is also a problem because many of the animals are partly or entirely hidden by rocks and other "natural" landscaping elements as well as by the bars or other unnatural containment elements which make seeing the animals difficult.

In order to determine more

clearly the relative importance of audition, visibility, and touch, we selected the Lindsay Museum in Walnut Creek, California. This rescue facility and living museum offers close-up, well-lighted viewing, controlled touching of some of the snakes, raptors, and other manageable California wildlife, and a "Petting Circle" for the smaller less-domestic pets. It also offers hands-on experience with such typical museum exhibits as mounted specimens in "natural" settings, birds, nests, and samples of furry hides, horns, hooves, bones, and feathers.

At the Lindsay Museum we interviewed 102 parents and their 3 through 12-yr-old children. 88% of these parents had visited zoos and museums as children, and 96% had taken their children to zoos or museums prior to the present visit. All of these parents expected museum visits to teach their children about animals and to help them develop appreciation and respect for wildlife.

All of the children at the Petting Circle liked petting the animals and "feeling the fur," and spent more time smiling at and watching the animals than did the children at the live main exhibits even though those children were just as close to the live wild animals and visibility was excellent.

In addition to developing positive feelings about wildlife and despite many previous visits to zoos and museums, 77% of all the children said they learned something

new about animals during each visit. The 3-and 4-yr-olds learned to identify animals they had not noticed previously: "That's a Bobcat....it looks like my kitty at home!" Although these younger children did not distinguish between wild and domesticated animals, the 5-to 7-yr-olds did distinguish wild from tame animals. Among the under 8-yr-olds, the girls made significantly more positive comments learning

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*Although some groups believe that zoos should be abolished, zoos and petting zoos, as well as wild and marine life parks currently provide the only contact most urban children and adults have with wild and non-pet domestic animal life.*

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about specific animal behaviors more frequently.

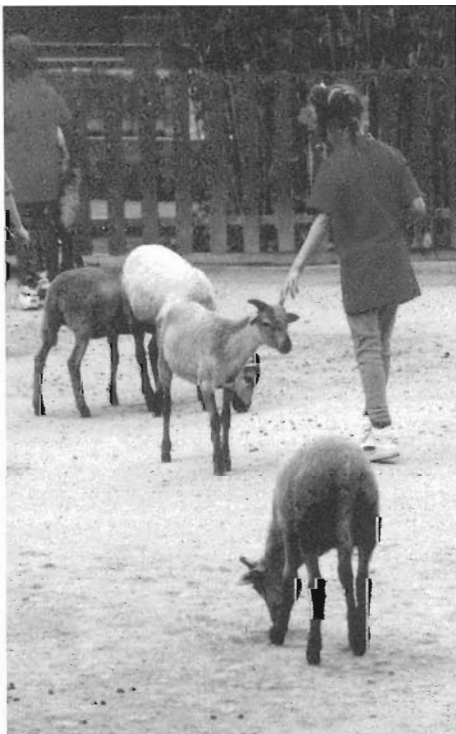
Among the 8-through 12-yr-olds, the 8-through 10-yr-olds were interested classifying ("Hawks and eagles are raptors!"), and in learning more about animal habitats, where they live in the wild, and how and what they eat. The 11 and 12-yr-olds reported learning about caring for and protecting wildlife and animal environments.

Interestingly, the taxidermy exhibits elicited very different responses from the children depending on their ages. The 3-through 7-yr-olds really enjoyed them: "They look real...I can watch them better because they don't move." However, more than half of the 8-through 12-yr-olds disliked the mounted animals—"They may be OK for education, but would be better off alive!" or simply remark "They shouldn't have been killed!"

"Touching" is undoubtedly very important for the development of positive emotions toward animals in general. Certainly, the parents felt

that touching was the best way for their children to develop genuine relationships with animals. It is, however, clearly impossible for a zoo or museum to provide tactile experiences indiscriminately with all wild animals. When children are in close proximity to animals under excellent lighting conditions, they become very interested in learning about animals, and such learning stimulates their interest in and concern for all animal life and its accompanying environment. This means, of course, educating all the adults and children of every ethnicity and culture in the U.S. and the world to full knowledge of these facts and stimulating them into positive attitudes of protective concern and into taking ongoing action toward preservation of our fragile planet Earth.


*Aline H. Kidd, Robert M. Kidd, and R. Lee Zasloff are affiliated with the Center for Animals in Society, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis.* 



*The data suggest that petting zoo experiences generate more favorable attitudes toward wildlife than do main zoo exhibits.*



## GEICO Public Service Awards

**J**oseph Egan, equipment specialist, Naval Aviation Supply, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is the winner of the 1994 GEICO Public Service Award for physical rehabilitation. Egan earned this honor with the help of two partners, Whistle and Bambi, his pet therapy dogs. Egan has been involved in different pet therapy programs since he created the nation's second pet therapy program for the Lower Bucks Dog Training Club eight years ago. The GEICO award is granted by GEICO Philanthropic Foundation to recognize the outstanding contributions to the public good that improve the quality of life in the United States. 



*The Latham Foundation endeavors to comply with a clearly expressed mandate given by its founder, Edith Latham: "To promote, foster, encourage and further the principles of humaneness, kindness and benevolence to all living creatures..."*

# Teaching Not-So-Young Humans New Tricks

*Patty Finch*

I have been intensely involved in humane education for more than a decade: first as the founder of a local nonprofit dedicated to providing humane education presentations in schools in Nevada, and then for nine years as the executive director of the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education.

Now, for about the past year, I have been working for the first time in my career at an animal shelter. The immediacy of the reality of the pet overpopulation problem and animal negligence and abuse provoked an obvious question that somehow had never occurred to me in a decade.

## *Why are we afraid of teaching adults?*

At first, I was not sure I had asked the right question. After all, humane organizations have always targeted adults with numerous brochures, media campaigns, legislation, conferences, radio and television shows, and so on. And certainly, every day, shelter personnel educate adults on a one-to-one basis.

And yet, there is a special meaning attached to the word "teach." It conjures up classrooms, small gatherings of people, listening to an instructor. And "teaching" usually involves more than one session.

As humane educators, many of us have begun to really "teach" children, moving beyond the one-time classroom presentation, by giving multiple presentations, offering special children's workshops, or by enabling and supporting teachers in their efforts to teach humane education on at least a monthly basis.

Some of the rationale for teaching classroom children, as opposed to adults, has been 1) they are fairly captive audience, if you can get



access to classrooms, because they are required by law to be in school; 2) they are the future; and 3) they don't have vested interests, habits, and so on that get in the way of our message.

I suspect an unacknowledged fourth reason has been that children are usually perceived as less intimidating to teach than adults. Obviously, anyone thinking that has not yet faced a group of kindergartners just before recess, or a junior high class at any time of day.

Likewise, while it is true that children are the future, animals are suffering today. Yeah, we know that. That's why we hope that in talking or writing to the kids, the kids will talk to the grown-ups or get the grown-ups to read their worksheets, while also vowing to do the right thing in ten years or so when they are grown up.

And you know, I think that is valid. I think children do influence their parents. Toy companies think so, too. That's one reason they spend so much money on advertising during television programs that I trust no self-respecting adult would watch...at least not regularly. And surely what children learn in school influences their life as adults. That's kind of the whole point of education.

But why not teach the adults as well? Perhaps we have not because it seems harder to get them together and (here is the fear part) we think they won't listen anyway.

At the Arizona Humane Society, we decided to be afraid no longer. We looked around for a place where adults of all ages and races gather together to solve problems, to hear complaints and discuss solutions. We wanted a place where poor people gather, middle income people gather and the rich gather. We wanted a place where people gather in neighborhoods torn by violence and in neighborhoods joined in pride. And we wanted a place where people meet repeatedly.

Churches fit the above criteria pretty well. Then we realized that we also wanted a place where adults would want to hear about animal problems and solutions.

We found it. In Phoenix there are nearly 400 neighborhood associations. Many began a Block Watch programs. The Phoenix City Council gave a real shot in the arm to such associations by implementing a program in which each council person can select a neighborhood association to receive \$80,000 of increased city services to a neighborhood to use to improve their neighborhood. Many council members have selected an association in a neighborhood that seemed, on the surface, unlikely to be able to solve any of its own problems. But the neighborhood associations chosen have proven over the years that they can effectively bring about positive change. Some associations have used the money for street lights, some have built parks and some have hired extra police to patrol their neighborhood. While not all cities or towns around the nation

provide such strong assistance to neighborhood associations, in almost every locale you will find neighbors organizing together to fight crime or bring back a sense of community to their neighborhood.

I called the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department and asked if I could attend one of their meetings. When I walked into the roomful of representatives of the different districts of neighborhood associations, I knew I had found the racial diversity we were seeking. When my turn came on the agenda, I tentatively suggested that neighborhood associations might want information and services about animal problems, and that surely in each neighborhood there is

set of mailing labels for the hundreds of neighborhood associations.

Our neighborhood program, Pet Pal, was underway! It is being rolled out in three stages:

### *Stage One: Advertisement and recruitment.*

We sent out a packet to each neighborhood association, asking that they find a person in the neighborhood that would like to serve as the Pet Pal. We explained that each neighborhood Pet Pal will receive: 1) a Block Watch type card for a front window identifying the home as a Pet Pal home. 2) a comprehensive list of referral phone numbers for just about every conceivable

4) a supply of free I.D. tags for pets, free emergency wallet cards about pets in the home and free window fire stickers about the number of pets to be found inside. (The Arizona Humane Society will replenish the supplies as needed. We found an individual donor who is generously covering many of the costs associated with these items. 5) a pre-printed form to be used to make a confidential, voluntary pet registry for the neighborhood that only the Pet Pal has access to.

No agency, including the Arizona Humane Society, will have access to the registry. It is to be used solely by the Pet Pal to help return animals to their owners as soon as they are spotted loose in the neighborhood, thus saving pets, pet owners and animal care agencies involvement in impoundment or hunting for a lost pet. These benefits are explained to neighbors as a self-serving reason to participate in the registry. Quick relocations can also save a pet's life. Anyone spotting a loose pet in the neighborhood can call the Pet Pal to see if the pet is registered, and if so, the owner can be called by the Pet Pal. (Our program urges people to leave it to the owner to try to capture, contain, or handle the pet, reminding everyone that any pet can bite.) If the animal is not registered, the Pet Pal can call the appropriate agency to rescue the animal. In our particular county, this will help raise awareness that there is no one to call about a loose, uninjured cat, which will help to bring that problem to at least the discussion stage in legislative offices.

Another side benefit of the registry is that it helps neighbors realize that a loose pet is not acceptable, for the sake of the animal's safety, the

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*“... while it is true that children  
are the future,  
animals are suffering today.”*

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a person who is known as the “animal person” who could be given resources by our organization to help their neighbors solve animal problems. Before I could even fully explain the concept I was overwhelmed with enthusiastic support and suggestions. It seems that pet problems are a hot topic at most neighborhood associations! It is a place where adults want to hear about solutions to community pet problems. That self-initiated desire for information is the “teachable moment” every teacher seeks. The City promptly gave the Arizona Humane Society a complimentary

category of animal problems or emergencies. Included is an explanation of how to determine which agency is the most appropriate to call for different emergencies. This will save our agency and others from getting calls that we, in turn, re-route to the correct agency. 3) a numbered list of common dog and cat behavioral problems, requesting a SASE be sent to the Arizona Humane Society for each numbered item requested. Using this list, the Pet Pal can help neighbors obtain quality information about a problem they may be facing, such as a dog that digs out under fences.

*TRICKS, continued on next page.*

safety and peace of the neighborhood, and because, for dogs, it's the law, backed up with fines.

As part of stage one, we are featuring Pet Pal program in our magazine, on our television show, and are seeking further media coverage.

### Stage Two: Supporting the Pet Pals.

We are already beginning stage two, even as we continue to recruit and advertise. We are mailing out packets to the Pet Pals who have volunteered. Those packets contain all the items (window card, referral sheets, give-aways, and registry form) needed to be a Pet Pal.

In our public information department, we have set up a folder for each behavioral guide people can request, with duplicated copies inside, so that volunteers can easily mail out the requested information without staff assistance. We also are prepared to refer calls to the proper agency if a Pet Pal feels mediation is needed in their neighborhood to solve a pet problem. We have stressed that the Pet Pal program does not provide mediation, nor promote vigilantism.

Can we see possible problems arising? Yes, of course. One can also visualize similar problems arising in a Block Watch program. No one wants to feel spied on, for example. Yet despite the potential and reality of some things going wrong, the Block Watch program has been a success and we think the Pet Pal program will be too.

After we have had the program up and running for six months or so, we will send out an invitation to each Pet Pal, inviting them to gather in a school gymnasium for a dessert bar. Besides socializing and extending thanks, we will be soliciting suggestions for improving the program. We will ask if the Pet Pals are willing to share their phone numbers in a Pet Pal listing, so that nearby Pet Pals can contact each

other as they seek to relocate lost pets. We will also tell the Pet Pals about stage three, which is really the heart of the program.

### Stage Three: Teaching.

Our field officers will contact various Pet Pals in neighborhoods where they see recurring problems and offer to come to several neighborhood meetings to 1) describe the problems and formulate a plan of action to resolve the problems, 2) bring resources needed for solving problems, 3) provide support, and 4) evaluate results. Pet Pals can also contact our field officers to request



this service. In some neighborhoods, just showing how to keep a water dish from spilling during the summer heat will help many pets immediately, and reduce the number of cruelty calls we receive. It is much more cost effective to talk to a whole neighborhood at one time than to answer three different cruelty complaints from the area. Such simple help also sets the stage for future meetings that will further upgrade the level of care given to the neighborhood animals and tackle pet overpopulation truly at the grassroots level. After that, we hope to team up with social workers to discuss the cycle of abuse.

Will people respond? We are finding they will. Despite all the problems we see, we know that most people do care about animals. Indeed, most cruelty complaints we receive represent not only someone who is mistreating an animal, but someone who cared enough to call us. Those caring people are the ones who are becoming our Pet Pals.

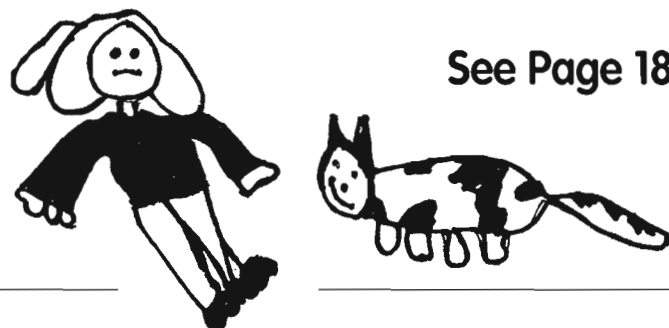
If you are interested in starting a Pet Pal program in your service area, you can write to the Arizona Humane Society for a sample packet of what we send to neighborhoods. A \$5 donation to cover materials and postage will be greatly appreciated.

If Pet Pal program spreads nationally, as the Block Watch program has, it will increase the effectiveness of Pet Pal everywhere it is implemented. So if you decide to implement the program we ask that you please use the Pet Pal name and Pet Pal window cards, which were designed by the award-winning advertising firm, Moses Anshell. We will print the window cards for you, with your organization's name on them in place of the Arizona Humane Society name. We will just charge you the exact printing and mailing costs, which we can estimate ahead of time for you. We are asking a one time fee of \$25 to offset our staff time and the cost of the design and international registration of the logo and name. Working together, we can make a difference.

*Patty Finch is Director of Community Resources at the Arizona Humane Society, P.O. Box 47270, Phoenix, Arizona 85068, 602-997-7585.*



See Page 18 . . .



# WORKING TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

Madeline Bernstein

Violence towards animals inevitably leads to violent acts toward people, and therefore as a humane society serving the greater Los Angeles area, the Los Angeles SPCA/So Calif. Humane Society cannot ignore the crises that breeds from non-intervention.

In 1984 the FBI established a National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime. They've established that a history of cruelty to animals is one of the traits that regularly appears in serial rapists and murderers. Children aren't born bad, but rather cruelty is learned from the environments in which they live, making intervention that much more crucial.

Throughout my career I have championed this cause, met nationally with representatives from child welfare agencies and from other animal agencies on the cycle of violence, and have promised myself to pioneer this issue. I recently became the executive director of the Los Angeles SPCA/SCHS (April, 1994) and have placed breaking the cycle of abuse in the forefront.

Desensitization to the pain of an animal, which result in escalation of violence against humans, begins when a child is born. Children learn cruel behaviors from adults who serve as role models. A home of violence, abuse or neglect produces children who often pass these behaviors on to the next generation, and so on.

The converse is also true. One can become resensitized and build one's self esteem through learning how to care for animals and by receiving some love and affection.

At the Society, we are developing a cycle of violence program that encompasses both resensitization and teaching humane treatment of animals. The program is also seeking a way to intervene where violence is already occurring. Additionally, our new humane education director is putting together a train-



Help us break the cycle of violence! From a poster produced by the Los Angeles Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 5026 W. Jefferson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016. 1-800-540-SPCA.

ing program for school teachers, and is working towards getting a set curriculum, for all grades in the school systems. This also helps satisfy the state law mandate that humane treatment of animals be taught in the classroom.

For the first time, in the summer of 1994 the Los Angeles SPCA/SCHS began the T.L.C. (Teaching Love and Compassion) Program, where "at risk" youth from the inner city schools come to our shelter daily for a three-week course and are taught to work with, care for, nurture and train dogs. Through this process, they learn from positive adult role models the skills of empathy, kindness and responsibility. The first semester of this program was such a success, teachers volunteered in droves to assist with the program.

Ironically, in the month of July, the Los Angeles SPCA/SCHS' humane officers had to close down a farm program at a local high school because the animals were being maltreated, abused and neglected. Beyond the issue of animal cruelty was that the complete opposite message than what was originally intended was being sent to the students - that it's okay to be cruel to animals.

Through our Pet Visitation Program, we take animals into rehabilitation centers, convalescent

homes, youth centers, etc. and reach people from a variety of ages and backgrounds, allowing them to interact with a warm, friendly pet. It's been proven that pets aid in the recovery of sick individuals, and pick up the morale of those who come in contact with them.

But sensitizing people to love animals is only one step. The solution to ending the cycle of violence must be a collaborative effort. Judges, doctors, teachers, social workers, animal welfare staff, police officers, religious and community leaders must work together to train, educate and intervene at the earliest possible time and let a child know that cruelty to animals or people will not be tolerated, and that alternative avenues are available for emotional expression.

One of the most dangerous things is to let a child get away with killing, torturing, or hurting an animal. It's a building block that must be removed if we are to have a more peaceful society. This can only be done when nonviolent problem-solving skills, compassion, and self control are valued by society and passed on to the children.

The first child abuse case prosecuted in America in 1874 was under an animal protection statute. It is not a coincidence that humane societies were also receptacles of unwanted children in the early days of SPCA's and humane societies. There was no alternative avenue to protect a child other than the animal cruelty laws. The crusade for child protection started with animal organizations and it's also not a coincidence that animal organizations are now harkening back to put an end to the cycle of violence, too often started with animal abuse.

Madeline Bernstein is Exec. Dir. of the Los Angeles SPCA/Southern California Humane Society.



# Help!

## H.A.R.T./Muttmatchers Sanctuary Buried by Tons of Mud



*The morning after.*

On Tuesday, January 10th, the relentless downpours in southern California weakened the slopes behind H.A.R.T.'s sanctuary. Waves of mud surged into the kennels, threatening to bury the dogs. Fences groaned; doghouses were carried away; trees toppled. Luckily, all the dogs were rescued and remain safe in foster homes. Rebuilding has begun, thanks to many loyal supporters, but more help is needed. To find out what you can do to help H.A.R.T. continue to provide a safe place for senior, disabled, abused, and hard-to-place dogs, call 805-524-4542.



*Valerie rescuing Little Sara from her roof where she had jumped as the mud advanced.*

CONFERENCE, continued from page 1

As a member of the Latham Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Project Advisory Council, I had the opportunity to attend the conference and then reflect on our collective efforts to understand and prevent the ever-increasing levels of violence confronting our nation's youth. The images of violence against children shared at such conferences can horrify, depress, anger, create terror, and instill fear; yet this conference ended on a note of hope, tempered with realism, that efforts to end or at least reduce such violence can be successful.

The conference topics ranged from the opportunities and dangers that may be present in the infant's first relationship with caretakers (parents can instill trust or fear) to the erosion of our communities both in a physical sense (e.g., loss of economic base in inner cities) and in a relationship sense (e.g., knowing and being able to rely on your neighbors). I will not try to provide a comprehensive overview of the conference but some highlights that may be of particular value when considering child and animal welfare issues.

Patricia Crittenden, an expert on attachment relations in infants and children, described the dilemma faced by abused children when the people who should be protecting them, their parents, are actually sources of danger. In cases where the within-family abuse is sexual, trauma may become a chronic state rather than a single challenge to a child's sense of self. Frank Putnam of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) described the effects of such abuse on children's behavior, thinking, emotions, and even their physiology. When children have to concentrate on protecting themselves from danger, they cannot comfortably explore their physical and social worlds.

Even when children are not the direct targets of family violence, they still suffer its consequences. The landscapes of cruelty children

are exposed to include the abuse of their mothers. We know that children often witness such violence (although parents underestimate how often their children observe relationship violence) and that, in some cases, it may include threats and actual violence against family pets. In some ways, as noted by Gail Wyatt, a psychologist at UCLA, aggression in families is simply a reflection of "America's love affair with violence." When she described how people are violent because "people can get away with it", it reminded me of the frustrations shared by those in animal welfare who have difficulty convincing others that it's important to pay attention to cruelty to animals.

---

*This conference ended  
on a note of hope,  
tempered with realism,  
that efforts to end or at least  
reduce such violence can  
be successful.*

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Children are victims but, unfortunately, children can also victimize. Norma and Seymour Feshbach at USC outlined their research on ethnic prejudice and ethnically motivated violence among school-aged children. Their intervention approach is a school-based curriculum-blended educational program that is reminiscent of a number of humane education programs. The Feshbachs and John Richters, NIMH, stressed the importance of early identification and timely intervention in cases where children are violent toward others. Ron Slaby, Education Development Center in Massachusetts, described a variety of violence prevention and intervention efforts aimed at youth of different ages, efforts based on a

public health model. He described a number of "toxins" related to the "disease" of youth violence including witnessing live and media violence, experience with firearms, substance abuse, prejudice, and coercion. The effects these toxins may have on how one thinks, what one thinks, and how one feels about violence must be considered in designing youth intervention programs.

Although we have become extremely sophisticated in our understanding of the factors underlying violence by and against children, our efforts to reduce violence are not yet consistently effective. Many presenters at the conference lamented the lack of progress our society has experienced in violence reduction (how many decades have we been debating the effects of violent television on children's social behavior and their thinking about problem solving that is non-aggressive??). These laments echo the voices of professionals in animal welfare who see the abuse of animals as more problematic today than ever before.

As with many academic seminars, the conference ended with more questions than answers, questions equally relevant when we consider violence against children and against animals. Questions about social policy included the ways legislation (state and national) may affect children who confront violence in their lives. Other questions dealt with the continuing need to integrate the variety of professionals involved in child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, and community violence. We know that these questions are often relevant for both child welfare and animal welfare programs. How can the myriad agencies that deal with abuse and violence (e.g., law enforcement, education, the judiciary, social services, academia, churches) more effectively coordinate and collaborate? What are the barriers to implementing effective intervention programs and how can these be

overcome? Are we focusing too much attention on detecting offenders and too little on prevention efforts, as noted by David Wolfe of the University of Western Ontario? What modifications in the training of professionals (in animal welfare, social work, psychology, law enforcement, etc.) would increase the effectiveness of violence prevention efforts? Are school-based programs the most appropriate for dealing with violence prevention and intervention? If so, can we document the short- and long-term effectiveness of these programs? The present and future generations of our children await our answers to these challenging questions.

*(Publication of the conference proceedings, in book form, is planned for the near future. We will announce the availability of this book in a future Latham Letter.)*



*Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D. is Associate Professor of Psychology at Utah State University and a member of the Latham Foundation's Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Advisory Committee.*



## **Twelfth Annual Conference on Infancy and Childhood**

### ***Current Directions in Theory, Research, and Applications***

**June 19 - 23, 1995**

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# Animals Reunite the Generations

Alice L. Connell

In past decades grandparents were important and active members of the American family system. Families worked together to meet the needs of each individual, children helped with chores, parents worked and grandparents provided the children with supervision and emotional support. Fewer than 2% of the American families today have grandparents available to them. Many family units are splintered and dispersed across the nation. Children are unsupervised when they come home from school. Their average daily conversation with a parent lasts minutes. Seniors are retiring in segregated communities and have infrequent interactions with children. Family units have limited access to companion animals. Seniors are less able to keep an animal with the restraints of their budgets, homes and health.

For the last decade scientists have demonstrated positive effects of human-animal interactions. They have proven that touching or being in the presence of an animal affects body and mind. There are very few programs that have seniors and children working together with animals.



*Children and seniors come together to stroke the soft fur of a gentle donkey. Animals help create a bond of trust between the generations.*

In order to re-establish healthy interactions between the generations I created an animal-assisted intergenerational project for my Master's practicum. In previous intergenerational projects I had witnessed the bonding that occurs when the generations are united in purpose. Seniors discover that children aren't all self centered

while kids discover interesting things about seniors. In intergenerational programs, animals provide a calming influence. Seniors can model how to treat animals with respect.

My intergenerational project brought together 32 gifted third graders with 18 seniors from local nursing home facilities to study animals together. They met at the school in two groups. In the experimental group the participants shared interactive time with live animals including; a donkey, a goat, a horse, rabbits, and guinea pigs. The participants in the control group studied animal books, fact sheets and engaged in special experimental lessons.

The topic of animals enhanced



*Seniors gain a sense of significance as they share their life experiences working with animals. Enjoying books provides intergenerational participants an opportunity to learn how to treat animals with kindness and respect. Participants exchange information on the proper care of animals based on personal experiences and the knowledge they discover.*

the quality of the interactions between the generations. A high level of interest was displayed by all participants creating a very cooperative learning environment. Participants enjoyed reading aloud to each other and loved sharing stories of their personal experiences with the animals in their lives.

The presence of live animals created a level of enthusiasm and motivation to learn that was not observed in the control group. The children in the experimental group were sitting on the laps of the seniors during the first session. These participants appeared to develop stronger bonds of friendship as demonstrated by their bringing each other treats and calling each other during the week.

At the close of the project, the children saw the seniors as friends rather than helpers. The children also changed their attitudes about aging from very positive or negative to a more neutral perspective. The seniors maintained positive attitudes throughout the project. Senior's comments included, "I want to see them every week," and "They make me laugh". Students said, "I found a new friend with my senior partner," and "We learned that old people did cool things a long time ago."

Questionnaire results showed that 90% of the participants wanted to continue the project. Project successes included the fair sharing of animals. Participants treated the animals with love and respect. The animals were relaxed and appeared to enjoy the attention they received. Recommendations for future intergenerational programs:

1. Maintain a low ratio of seniors and children to animals.
2. Meet frequently with sufficient time for personal sharing.
3. Include reading, singing and pantomime activities.

*The Participants were initially reluctant to get near this horse. After observing his loving manner they gained the courage to pet him and even take a closer look. He was selected as the animal that participants wanted to see again.*



*After the trainer demonstrated the correct technique for grooming a miniature horse, each senior and child had an opportunity to try out their skill.*

the physical closeness of the generations was greatly increased when animals were regularly included in the sessions. Seniors and children when united in purpose have incredible creative energy. This energy has a healing power that transforms children into more caring, loving individuals. Seniors gain a sense of significance seldom encountered in their daily lives. When seniors and children come together with animals they re-establish a

bond of trust and respect that can span the generation gap.

*Alice L. Connell received her Master of Arts in Animal-Assisted Intergenerational Activities from Prescott College, Prescott, Arizona.*



# To Breed or Not to Breed

Judy Johns

**T**ime magazine's December 12th cover story about the genetic problems resulting from breeding dogs for looks and popularity shocked some dog lovers and angered many others. After losing a second beloved Rottweiler to cancer, then reading that 15 to 25 percent of the 20 million pure-bred dogs in America today have or carry a genetic disease, a friend announced that he would never buy another purebred dog. The problem of pet overpopulation aside, I have another friend who is a "reverse snob" about mutts. On the other hand, the American Kennel Club, which took a hard hit in the article, and many responsible breeders reacted vocally to what they considered a hatchet job.

Although space limits preclude our reprinting it here, the article that sparked this debate is "A Terrible Beauty," TIME, December 12, 1994, Time & Life Bldg., Rockefeller Center, New York, NY 10020. A condensed version in the April 1995 *Reader's Digest* is called "What Have We Done to Man's Best Friend?" Further good reading on the subject of inherited diseases that plague purebred dogs is found in *ASPCA Animal Watch*, Winter 1994, "Barking up the Family Tree."

Excerpts from responses to the TIME article follow. They include letters to the Editor of TIME from AKC and individuals in discussions on America Online. \* **My intent isn't to explore the purebred dog controversy in depth, or to defend the AKC or specific practices, but rather, to give Latham Letter readers a taste of the thought-provoking debate that followed the article's publication. Latham continues to encourage shelter adoptions and breed rescue, but the reality is that millions of Americans select purebred dogs (for both good and bad reasons). Our hope is that more and more of the**

**decisions concerning dog ownership will be well-informed ones. As always, we welcome our readers' responses and informed perspectives.**



... We have written *Time* strongly voicing our objections. While it is not our intention to get into a media war on this subject, frankly, we do not want this distorted, myopic, even destructive, misinformation to acquire a life of its own. However, I believe that purebred dogs are too valuable, too important and too much a part of the American way of life for this story to do irreparable harm. I also believe we are either naive or foolish, or both, if we do not recognize the *Time* story for the warning it is. Because we know how important our dogs are, we may have too easily, and for too long, assumed everyone shares our views. I think it's obvious that today there are forces at work that don't like purebred dogs. . .

*James W. Smith, Chairman  
AKC Board of Directors in a  
speech to Delegates*



*To Jason McManus, Editor-in-Chief,  
Time magazine, from Wayne R.  
Cavanaugh, AKC Vice President,  
Communications:*

Dear Mr. McManus:

The article implies that the AKC is a for profit company when in fact it is a non-profit organization that uses its proceeds to fund responsible dog ownership and responsible breeding programs, general public and children's education programs (the AKC elementary school program is in over 20,000 schools), veterinary education, veterinary scholarships, and a large

share of the nation's canine health research. The article also failed to report that the AKC incorporated hip and eye certifications into AKC pedigrees several years ago. . .

The article strongly implies that breeding for the show ring is the reason for an increase in genetic defects. But only a small minority of America's estimated 30 million purebred dogs compete in dog shows each year. While the article painted the AKC as having a central dog show focus, each year the AKC sanctions many more performance events than dog shows; AKC performance events (field trials, herding trials, obedience trials, retriever trials, hunting tests, lure coursing) are hardly events for sick dogs.

The most obvious avoidance of fact evolves around the story's scientific research base. While the article uses Dr. Patterson's research at the University of Pennsylvania as a background for the story, it declines to mention that the AKC funded nine years of that research (along with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals and the Morris Animal Foundation). The article also did not mention that the AKC has been the nation's principal source of funding for canine health research since 1952.



Peace - from one who loves ALL dogs, purebred or otherwise.



... I believe the main reason it seems purebreds have more genetic problems, is because they are tested more often. . .



Most purebred breeds have been around for a long time, many for



PHOTO: KATHLEEN HENDERSON

hundreds of years. They are simply varieties of one species and deserve to continue.

... This article missed an opportunity to tell folks what to look for and how to recognize a good breeder. Making that distinction would penalize unethical, unscrupulous, or misguided folks - and not the good guys. A tiny sidebar, containing the following, would have done SO MUCH to help America's dogs.

I breed dogs because I love my breed. I do not make a profit, and I do everything possible to insure healthy, good tempered puppies. Wish I could say I'm unique or special, but I'm not.

If it makes you feel any better, those of us who show and breed are a lot more aware of the problems, and fighting a lot harder to fix them, than you probably were aware of.

\*The Time article and a 12/18/94 online conference about it can be downloaded from the TIME area in America Online. Use the keyword TIME, then choose the "archives" icon. Click more to get to conference files TOL1213.log. Download is about 1 minute at 9600 bps.

*Judy Johns is Latham's Director of Development and Public Relations.*



## How to Buy a Puppy

L. Auerbach

**B**efore you buy a purebred puppy, go to the library and do some research on the genetic defects known to occur in the breed of your choice. Also, read up on the breed and make certain that it really is suited for your lifestyle.

When you contact breeders, ask about the potential health problems. For breeds prone to hip dysplasia, insist that both parents be certified clear by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals. OFA certifications print on the AKC registration slip (blue slip), or the breeder should have a certificate. Verify that the number on the certificate matches the number next to the parents name on the registration slip.

For breeds prone to eye disorders, ask about certification from the Canine Eye Research Foundation. Again, they print on the blue slip, or else the breeder will have a certificate, and the number can be verified. Realize that some disorders, like PRA, are late

onset, and thus the eyes should be rechecked on a regular basis. Also, realize this is a phenotype check, not a genotype (carrier) one.

Ask about other health and temperament problems. The breeder should be honest and open, and should be familiar with the health and temperament of the dogs in the pedigree for at LEAST 2-3 generations, preferably more. They should be able to explain how they are breeding to avoid the genetic problems your research has told you are found in their breed. While showing is not bad, a breeder should be interested in health and temperament as well as show type. Interest in other canine activities, such as obedience, field trials, therapy work, rescue, etc. is a very good sign. If the breeder dismisses concern about health and temperament, look elsewhere.

There are many good breeders out there. Take the time and effort to find them, and you will greatly improve your chances of getting a healthy, good tempered companion. Rush into things, and you are likely to find heartbreak."



# The Tangled Web: Animal Cruelty and Family Violence Wisconsin Coalition Moves Forward

Chris Miller

**T**he Community Coalition Against Violence (CCAV) was formed in 1993 by a diverse group of La Crosse, Wisconsin area human service, education and humane groups to develop a coordinated response to the tangled web of animal and human violence. Last year the CCAV conference examined the research indicating that most criminals who have been violent toward people share a common history of brutal parental punishment and cruelty to animals. It is now known that children living in a situation where animal cruelty occurs regularly are at a high risk of experiencing violence themselves. Finally, a child who witnesses brutality and violence is likely, in turn, to be cruel and violent.

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*"It took people until 1985 to realize that the prevention of spouse abuse was a major factor in the prevention of child abuse. Well, child abuse and animal abuse are also connected, and maybe we're finally getting a few people to wake up."*

Phil Arkow

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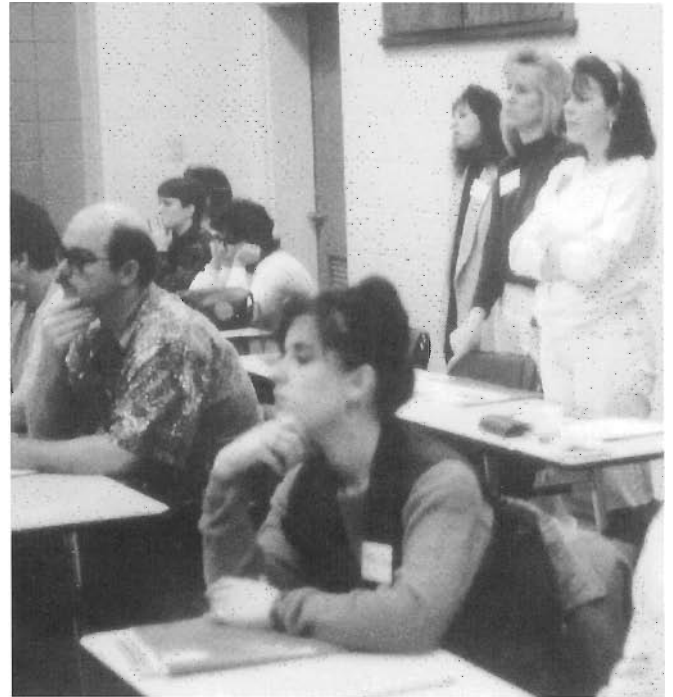
As early as 1986, Dr Randall Lockwood, Humane Society of the United States, wrote "Animal abuse is not just the result of some personality flaw in the abuser, but a symptom of a deeply disturbed family." In fact, as many professionals now realize, family abuse more often than not, forms a triad: domestic violence, child abuse and animal cruelty. Animal cruelty is often the only visible sign of the problem.

However, in our society, animal abuse is rarely taken seriously, rarely investigated, and rarely receives much in the way of a legal penalty. Consequently, the underlying, undetected family violence continues, often for years.

Following the 1994 Tangled Web conference, the CCAV realized that the conference was only a very small first step and decided the next logical step was to see how frequent this link was in our community. CCAV and Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP) formulated and conducted a survey of people in La Crosse seeking shelter from abusers and then later at various Wisconsin violence programs. Not surprisingly the results indicate a strong correlation between animal cruelty and family violence in urban, suburban and rural situations. The complete findings will be shared at a conference May 4-5 at the University of La Crosse in Wisconsin. Contact CCAV c/o DVIP at (608) 785-7670 for more information.

## *Follow-up to 1994 Conference*

As a follow-up to this conference, CCAV contacted the 83 conference attendees about six months after attending and asked them if and how they had utilized the information presented at the 1994 Tangled Web Conference. Some of the results are as follows:



*It was standing room only at the 1994 LaCrosse conference as Dr. Lynn Loar made her sobering, thought-provoking remarks.*

*"... as a child abuse investigator. I have investigated two cases, since attending last spring's training, where animal neglect was an initial indicator of dysfunction [in the family]. In one of those cases I did call the humane society because there were cats in the house that were in the process of dying."*

*"... CDHP is a humane education organization and we have been able to incorporate the information given at the conference into our presentations to local businesses and service groups. The response has been very good. We also have been able to develop connections with other organizations in other states and bring them to an understanding of the abuse link. We are in the process of establishing the beginnings of a network."*

*"[As a police officer] I think the biggest bang would be to get the*

message to trainers of street level cops who are there to see this. I think anyway to heighten their sense of awareness would be helpful.”


“I am a Prevention Specialist in Crawford County and a member of the Crawford County Domestic Violence Task Force that is rather new. I have used the information from the Tangled Web indirectly/ directly in meetings and discussions, as well as prevention programs.”

“[Executive Director of a humane society] I had a “Guest Editorial” in the Dubuque Iowa Telegraph Herald on the link between child and animal abuse and had several comments about it.”

“Do this conference again. Push it to the Department of Human Services and Prosecutors Offices. These are issues people choose not to link or to turn their heads on.”

“[Humane group] We worked with the YMCA and Salvation Army to have [the following] intake question asked, “Do you have any companion animals in your care?”. Lastly, we are fostering

animals for the Dane County Advocates for Battered Women....”

This year the link between family violence and animal cruelty will continue with an exploration of a coordinated response to the problem. Keynote speaker, Dr Lynn Loar of the San Francisco Child Abuse Council, will discuss the cruelty/violence link and how it relates to the on-going cycle of family violence. She will also provide examples of low cost cooperative programs between humane societies and social agencies in her area. How can human service and animal welfare professionals work together to recognize early signs of family violence? How can they effectively intervene? Phil Arkow, Executive Director of the Animal Welfare Association and author of the cross training manual “Breaking the Cycles of Violence”, will premier this manual and videotape produced by the Latham Foundation. Additionally, several speakers will give case histories describing how they were able to cooperate and collaborate with other local agencies to stop violent situations in their communities. 

## The Tangled Web: Animal Cruelty and Family Violence



9 a.m to 4 p.m.  
Thursday, May 4

and

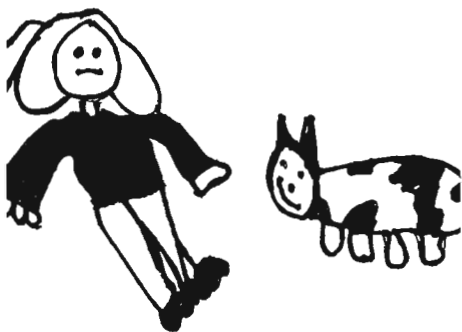
9 a.m to 3 p.m.  
Friday, May 5

University of La Crosse, WI

Fee: \$55,  
includes materials and breaks

\$45 for 3 or more registrations  
from the same agency

For more information  
or brochure, please contact:  
CCAV c/o DVIP (608) 785-7670



See Page 18 . . .

## H.A.R.T./Muttmatchers Winter 94/95 BREED RESCUE LIST (#22) is available.

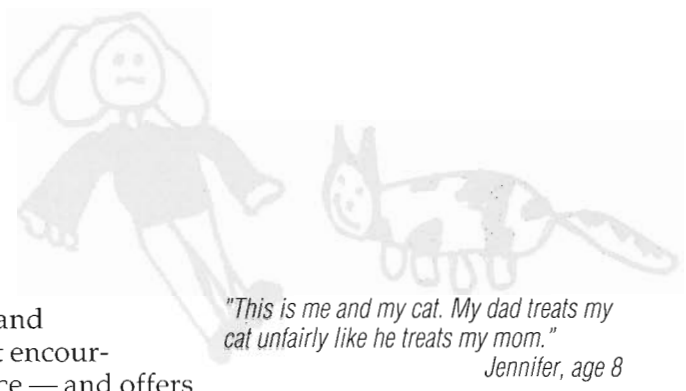
This is the much-used and eminently respected directory of hundreds of names and phone numbers of local individuals active in breed rescue. The list is mailed to humane societies, shelters, and rescue organizations, saving thousands of dogs a year. \$5.00/copy from Muttmatchers, P.O. Box 920, Fillmore, CA 93016.



PHOTO: KATHLEEN HENDERSON

# Coming Soon From Latham —

Latham's newest production is a cross-training manual and video designed to help animal welfare and human service professionals do their jobs more effectively by recognizing, reporting, investigating, and treating their inter-related forms of family violence. "Breaking the Cycles of Violence," (the guide written by Phil Arkow) features resources and an extensive bibliography. It is a practical, "how-to" guide that encourages the establishment of community coalitions against violence — and offers practical techniques to ensure their success.



Chapters include:

- *The Links Between Animal Abuse and Family Violence*
- *Definitions of Cruelty, Abuse, and Neglect (How child protection, domestic violence, and animal care and control agencies define their terms and prosecute cases)*
- *Identifying Cruelty, Abuse, and Neglect (What are the signs? What should one do if one suspects abuse?)*
- *Establishing Cross-Training and Cross-Reporting Opportunities (What are the advantages of an interdisciplinary approach to deterring domestic violence? What can one do?)*
- *Historical and Philosophical Perspectives*
- *Resources, and a Bibliography*

The video sensitively portrays the "human" side of the program and features personal perspectives and a team of experts in shelter and academic fields.

"Breaking the Cycles of Violence" is perfect for:

- Training agency personnel
- Cross-training with other organizations
- Sensitizing community groups to the problem and potential solutions
- Building coalitions



**ORDER NOW — SPECIAL PRE-PUBLICATION PRICE (for orders received before June 1)**

**\$25.00 includes both the video and practical guide.**

**\*Quantity discounts available, call Latham for details. (510) 521-0920.**

THANK YOU FOR PRINTING CLEARLY.

**YES! I want to do something about the links between cruelty to animals and other forms of family violence.**

Please send me:  Complete package(s) of *Breaking the Cycles of Violence*, practical guide and video @ \$25.00\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional copies of the Guide @ \$10.95 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my:



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 FAX: (510) 521-9861

# University Programs in Human/animal Relationships Confirm Growing Respect for HCAB


Thanks to those of you who responded to our request for information about university programs in human/animal relationships (Winter '95 *Latham Letter*, page 8). We are pleased to share the following information with our readers and we invite additional information.

**Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy**, as a result of growing demand, has developed a Master of Science in animals and Public Policy degree program that will be offered (provided sufficient qualified applicants enroll) beginning in the fall of 1995. This is the only graduate degree in the United States in the field of human/animal relationships and related public policies.

To discuss the program further or to arrange for an interview, call the Center for Animals & Public Policy at 508-839-7991 or use their e-mail address: DPEASE@OPAL.TUFTS.EDU.

**Mercy College and Green Chimneys Children's Services** in Brewster, New York announce a joint venture in Pet Assisted Therapy, which grew out of continuing interest in the incorporation of animals in educational and human services facilities. The program is targeted to individuals who either are exploring how to integrate animals into some kind of setting or for individuals already working in the human services field and are considering an animal assisted activities program at their place of work. It is a three-credit course involving four lectures and 40 hours of observational research. Currently being offered in the fall and spring, each class is limited to seven participants accepted on the basis of a personal interview. Green Chimneys is a non-profit agency offering residential services, special education, services for runaway youth, pre-school, farm, outdoor

education, and camping programs. For more information, contact Dr. Susan Brooks at 914-279-2995, Ext. 285.

**Penn State University**, Monroeville Center offers a course designed to introduce the concepts of the human-animal interaction as a health promotion intervention. It is aimed at graduate students in the fields of Health Education and is applicable to those individuals working in rehabilitation, long-term care, environmental or humane education, and those working directly with animal assisted therapies. It is based on the premise that a close relationship among humans, animals, and the environment is critical to health and well being. For further information contact Mary Ann Lauffer, Ph.D., Penn State University, Center for Graduate Education, 4518 Northern Pike, Monroeville, PA 15146. 412-372-4095. 

## DID YOU KNOW?

### *Emergency Help for Pets is Available from the National Animal Poison Control Center*

Parent doesn't think twice about reaching for the telephone when a young child has ingested a household cleaner or any other potentially toxic agent. In such an emergency, the parent can call a human poison control center and instantly receive expert advice and instructions on what to do.

Prior to the late 1970s, a pet owner who sensed their pet had come in contact with a harmful substance would be forced to call the same number if they couldn't reach their veterinarian and hope for the best. Human poison control centers were never designed to make specific recommendations for people whose companion animals suddenly became ill.


Today, pet owners have their own emergency number. The National Animal Poison Control Center (NAPCC) is staffed with licensed veterinarians

and board certified veterinary toxicologists who are familiar with how different species react to poisons and treatment protocols. Operating as a non-profit service of the University of Illinois, it is the first animal-oriented poison control center in the United States and can be reached 24 hours a day.

After providing free service for 12 years, it became necessary in 1990 to charge callers in order to maintain the same level of prompt attention and expert advice to each case. Two options are now available. When reaching the Center at 1-900-680-0000, the caller is charged \$20.00 for the first five minutes and \$2.95 for each additional minute. Or if they prefer, pet owners can receive the service for \$30.00 per case (credit card payment only) by calling 1-800-548-2423. When using the 800 number only, the Center will do as many follow-up

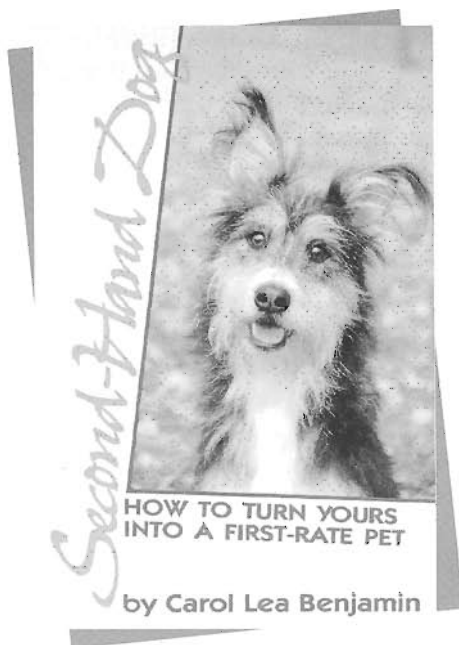
calls as necessary in critical cases.

The formation of its Animal Product Safety Service represents another way the Center is working to improve the health of animals. Offered to manufacturers of animal and agricultural products, the program provides a toll-free animal product safety number which can be printed on product labels and literature. Through the agreement, the Center also consults with the manufacturer's professional staff to improve product safety. Currently, 23 corporate clients participate in the program. "People shouldn't have to worry about how their pet will react to a product," NAPCC Director Dr. William Buck said. "We applaud the effort because that's good corporate stewardship."

*Courtesy of Our Animal WARDS, Winter 1995.* 

## BOOK REVIEWS

### *Second-Hand Dog: How to Turn Yours into a First-Rate Pet*



Somehow this book, which was published in 1988, escaped our attention until now. What a loss. What a book! Carol Lea Benjamin, a highly-regarded author and professional dog trainer, found a need and filled it with this witty and wonderful description of the care,



"Please may I keep him, he followed me home."

training, and rehabilitation of "previously owned" or formerly homeless dogs. *Second-Hand Dog* focuses on the special problems and needs as well as the unique advantages of those unfortunate dogs that have

either never had a home or have been shuttled from one owner to another. This beautifully illustrated rehabilitation guide includes chapters on how dogs learn, an alpha primer, dogs' needs, a mini dog training series, safety considerations for dogs and children, what to do when problems persist, professional secrets any amateur can use, and encouragement to practice. Highly recommended reading, especially for those brave and good-hearted persons who appreciate the joys and challenges of adopting a "used" and sometimes abused dog.

#### *Second-Hand Dog: How to Turn Yours into a First-Rate Pet*

Carol Lea Benjamin  
Howell Book House  
Macmillan Publishing Company  
866 Third Avenue,  
New York, NY 10022  
Collier-Macmillan Canada, Inc.  
ISBN 0-87605-735-0

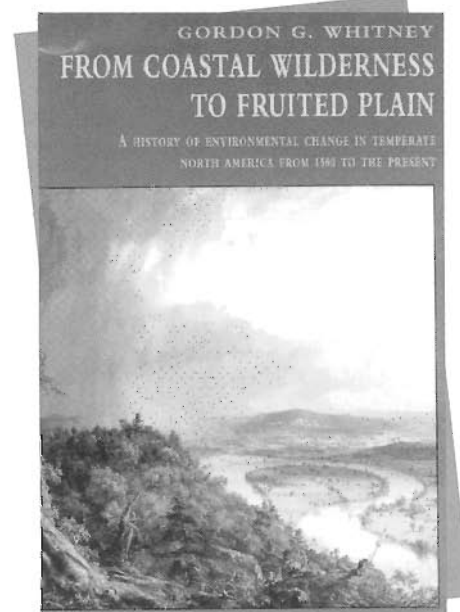
#### *From Coastal Wilderness to Fruited Plain: A History of Environmental Change in Temperate North America from 1500 to the Present*

Gordon G. Whitney

From Coastal Wilderness to Fruited Plain is an account of the making of a large part of the American landscape following European settlement. Drawing upon land surveys, records, and early travelers' accounts, Dr. Whitney reconstructs the "virgin" forests and grasslands of the northeastern and central United States during the resettlement period. He then documents successively the clearance and fragmentation of the region's woodlands the harvest of the forest and its game, the plowing of prairies and the draining of wetlands.

The native American, the trapper, the farmer and the lumberman

all benefited from the land and its resources. The degree to which their activities altered the soil, climate, flora, fauna, and water cycles of the region, and in the process gave rise



to modern forest, farm and urban ecosystems, forms the core of the book. This well-illustrated and referenced work should be of interest to all those concerned about the sustainability of ecosystems, and the imprint of the past on the contemporary landscape.

#### *From Coastal Wilderness to Fruited Plain: A History of Environmental Change in Temperate North America from 1500 to the Present*

Gordon G. Whitney  
Cambridge University Press  
ISBN 0-521-39452-X

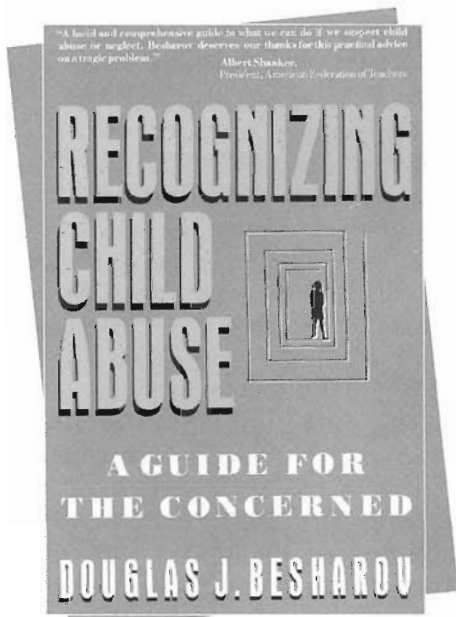
#### *Negotiating Climate Change: The Inside Story of the Rio Convention*

This is a book for the serious and concerned reader, who will be rewarded by a compendium of the views expressed at the United Nations 1994 Rio de Janeiro Climate Change Convention. Each pre-

**Editor's Note:** *The Latham Foundation reviews humane and related environmental books.*  
*To order, please contact the publishers directly.*

sentation thoughtfully expressed by world respected authorities, offers fascinating insight into the scientific, legal, economical, social and intergovernmental political disciplines.

The book which is ably edited by Irving Mintzer and J. Amber Leonard, is a product of the Climate



and Sustainable Development Program of the Stockholm Environment Institute, includes a declaration "to contribute to a secure, equitable and lasting collaboration between peoples of all countries in working towards the development of a sustainable world."

**Negotiating Climate Change: The Inside Story of the Rio Convention**

*Edited by Irving M. Mintzer and*

*J. Amber Leonard*

*Cambridge University Press,*  
*40 West 20th St.*

*New York, NY 10011*

*392 pages Hardback \$59.95 or*  
*paperback \$22.95*

**Recognizing Child Abuse:  
A Guide for the Concerned**

This book, which is appropriate for the layperson as well as the ex-

perienced professional and all individuals interested in reducing child abuse and neglect, focuses on the reporting of suspected child abuse and child neglect. It provides guidelines for deciding when to report and when not to report. Nevertheless, the author is careful to remind us, reporting is only one aspect of what must be a multifaceted, community wide, and long-term effort to prevent and treat this serious problem. The Latham Foundation agrees that a multifaceted approach (broadened to include the eyes and ears of those involved in animal welfare as well) is vital.

*Recognizing Child Abuse*, replete with helpful charts and illustrations, includes sections on the legal framework, deciding when (and when not) to report, the reporting process, and a word to parents.

Author Douglas J. Besharov, J.D., L.L.M., is a Resident Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C. He was first director of the U.S. National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect from 1975 to 1979.

**Recognizing Child Abuse:  
A Guide for the Concerned**

*Douglas J. Besharov*

*The Free Press*

*A Division of Macmillan, Inc.*

*866 Third Avenue*

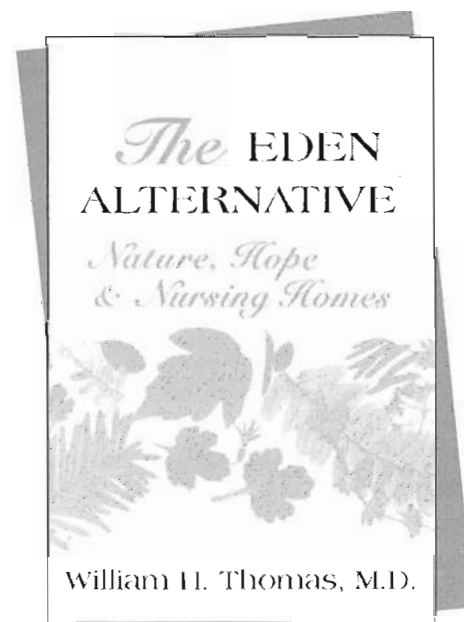
*New York, NY 10022*

*ISBN 0-02-903082-X*

**The Eden Alternative  
Nature, Hope & Nursing Homes**

This 200 page book details the principles and practices which underlie the Eden Alternative approach to nursing home care. Part One reviews the shortcomings of conventional contemporary practice and highlights the current confusion of care, treatment and blandness that governs institutional long-term care. Part Two traces the

development of the human habitat paradigm and examines the role this approach can play in combatting loneliness, helplessness and boredom in the nursing home. The results of preliminary research are reviewed and the concept of the "Eden Alternative Effect" is introduced. The development of the Eden Alternative has coincided with a 50 percent reduction in the use of medications, a 26 percent decline in nurse aide turnover, a 50 percent reduction in infections and a 15 percent decline in mortality. Part Three outlines the tools and techniques that are necessary to bring large numbers of plants and



animals into safe, close and continuing contact with nursing home residents. An Appendix contains policies and procedures and a listing of other useful published information.

A 40 minute video exploring the Eden Alternative paradigm in action and a quarterly newsletter are also available.

**The Eden Alternative  
Nature, Hope & Nursing Homes**

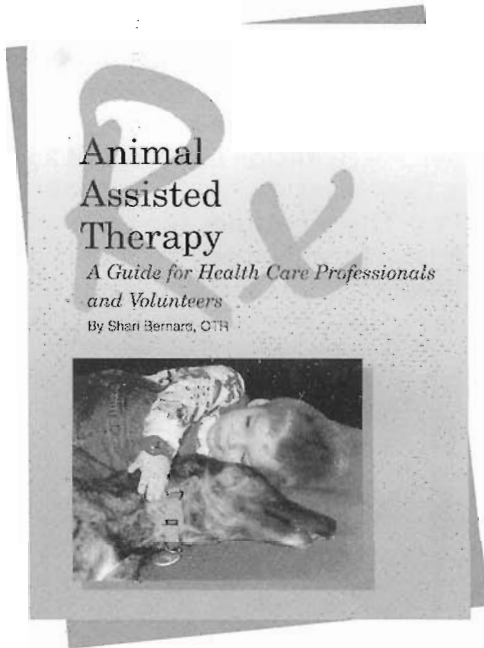
*William H. Thomas, M.D.*

*The Eden Alternative*

*BOOK REVIEWS, continued on next page*

RR 1, Box 31C6  
Sherburne, NY 13460  
607-674-5016  
\$ 20.00 plus \$3.00 shipping.

**Animal Assisted Therapy:**  
*A Guide for Health Care  
Professionals and Volunteers*



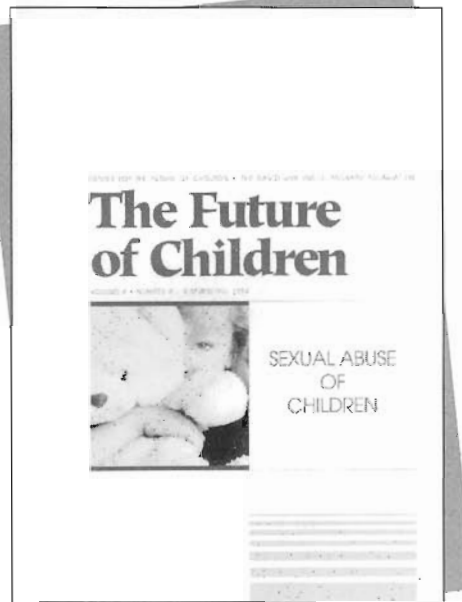
**ANIMAL ASSISTED THERAPY:** *A Guide for Health Care Professionals and Volunteers*, is a comprehensive text enhanced by demonstrative photography, composed by an experienced practitioner. It is particularly unique in detail, covering among other things the recruitment, training, orientation of both humans and animals participants, as well as the preparation and maintenance of appurtenant records. Mundane information dealing with necessary legal, insurance and other practical errata is presented in easily understandable terms. Author Bernard's treatise is highly recommended to all who presently operate or contemplate the establishment of an animal assisted therapy activity. It is especially useful for occupational, speech, or physical therapists in a rehabilitation setting.

**ANIMAL ASSISTED THERAPY:**  
*A Guide for Health Care  
Professionals and Volunteers*

Shari Bernard, OTR  
Paper back, 122 pages with  
b&w photographs  
Therapet L. L. C.  
P. O. Box 1696  
Whitehouse, TX 75791  
\$32.00 plus \$2.00 S & H

**The Future of Children**  
Volume 4, Number 2,  
Summer/Fall 1994  
**Sexual Abuse of Children**

THE FUTURE OF CHILDREN is published quarterly by the Center for the Future of Children, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation. Its primary purpose is to disseminate timely information on major issues related to children's well-being, with special emphasis on providing objective analysis and evaluation, translating existing knowledge into effective programs



and policies, and promoting constructive institutional change. The publication is intended to complement, not duplicate, the kind of technical analysis found in

academic journals and the general coverage of children's issues by the popular press and special interest groups.

This issue of *The Future of Children* focuses on the difficult and emotionally charged problem of the sexual abuse of children. This is an important topic because it compromises the lives of a large number of children, although the precise number is uncertain. There is a pressing need to address this problem more effectively than has been done up to now. This subject also highlights the need for improved coordination between the judicial and child welfare systems in dealing with these children, their families, and the perpetrators. However, the high level of public concern about sexual abuse of children often assumes a degree of knowledge about how to prevent the abuse, ameliorate the harm, and avoid recidivism by abusers that does not exist. Further, because tragically, in many instances, the child victims and the abusers are members of the same family, the interests of protecting the child and preserving the family may be in direct conflict. The Editor hopes that by directing attention to the topic of sexual abuse of children and the possible ways to effectively address the many issues it raises, the lives of children can be improved.

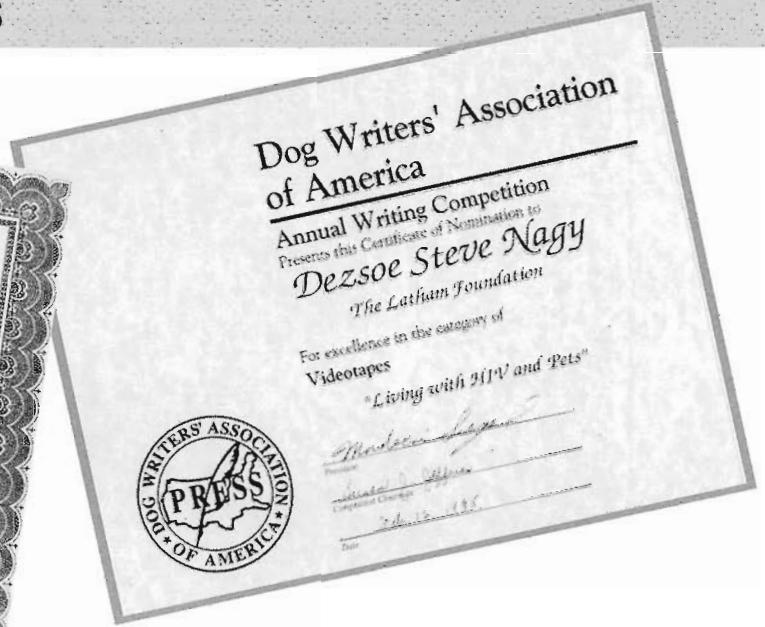
**The Future of Children**  
Volume 4, Number 2,  
Summer/Fall 1994  
**Sexual Abuse of Children**

Published quarterly by the  
Center for the Future of Children  
The David and Lucile Packard  
Foundation  
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Los Altos, CA 94022

*A controlled-circulation publication  
distributed free of charge.*

*To be added to the mailing list,  
write to the Circulation Department  
at the David and Lucile Packard  
Foundation.*

# LIVING WITH HIV AND PETS sweeps Dog Writers' Association of America Awards



The Dog Writers' Association of America voted *LIVING WITH HIV AND PETS* winner of its first place award, the Maxwell, for excellence in the category of videotapes. The sensitive video, which emphasizes the importance of companion animals in HIV-compromised households, also received the Job Michael Evans Award for "outstanding work encouraging proper care and training of dogs as a means of strengthening the relationship between owners and their pets." The Evans family established this award in memory of Job Michael Evans, one of the Monks of New Skete. As a community in Cambridge, New York, the monks have been breeding, raising, and training dogs for more than 20 years. They are authors of *How to be your Dog's Best Friend* and *The Art of Raising a Puppy*.

To order or preview *LIVING WITH HIV AND PETS*, or to request a video catalog, call Latham at 510-521-0920.

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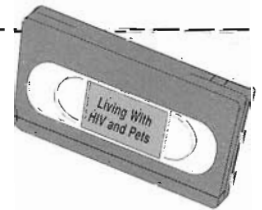
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