

# Latham Letter

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FALL 1996

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

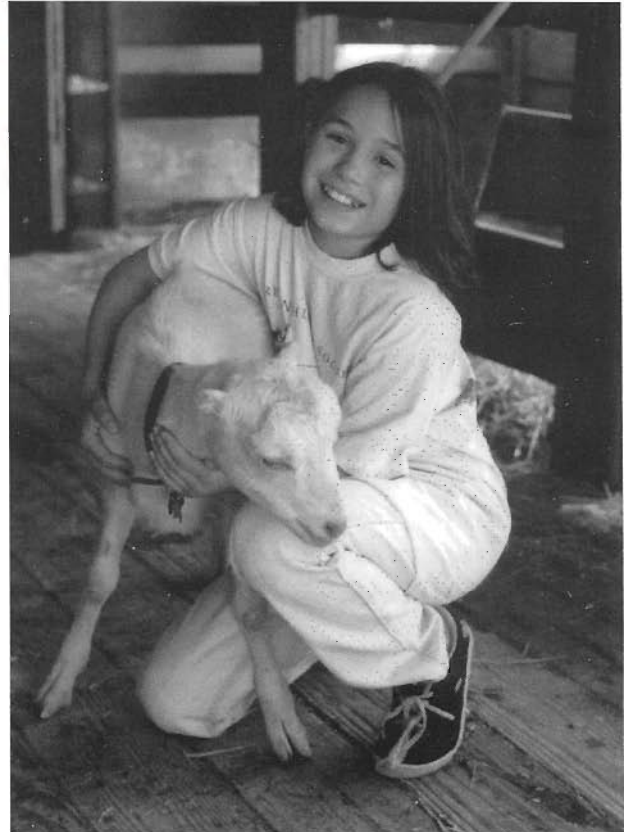
## Part of What Veterinarians Do is Treat Animal Victims of Violence. Should They Also Report Abusers?

Robert Reisman, D.V.M. and Cindy A. Adams

**C**eci, like other victims of family violence all over America, made headlines last year. Ready to give birth any day, the dog was brutally attacked - kicked and stabbed - by her owner's boyfriend in a drunken rage. The attack was reported to the ASPCA, and the owner relinquished the animal to us. After extensive treatment and foster care, Ceci and the 8 puppies she delivered at Bergh Memorial Animal Hospital in New York City were placed into new homes.

The perpetrator in this case accepted a plea bargain for 3 years probation for endangering the welfare of a child. One of the two young children in the household had witnessed the attack. All too often, children in a violently charged environment are victims of emotional, if not physical, abuse. In fact, whenever there are

*VETS, continued on page 8*



*Jennifer Hach at Oregon Humane Society's Alumni Camp with Stubbie the goat, exemplify the human companion animal bond. See page 12.*

## INSIDE

### UPDATES:

- Latham's "Link" Activities (Page 19).
- Windwalker Humane Coalition (Page 14).
- Morris Animal Foundation (Page 6).
- Volunteer Vets in the Tropical Cook Islands (Page 16).
- Latham Lauds Oregon Humane Society's Jr. Aides (Page 12).
- How to enter Latham's Video Competition (Page 23).

## Research Results: "My Grandpa and I Love Cats"

Aline H. Kidd and Robert M. Kidd

**O**f course pets are family members, I got my oldest dog from my parents, and my grandparents gave Dad his first dog, and my kids will have pets long after I'm gone." This was from a 52 year old parent of three, herself a grandmother, who had always owned pets.

"Nonsense! Pets are not only an expensive nuisance, but they're certainly not family members, even if they can do human-like tricks

*RESEARCH, continued on page 4*

## IN THIS ISSUE

Part of What Veterinarians Do is Treat Animal Victims of Violence. Should They Also Report Abusers? <i>Robert Reisman, D.V.M.</i> .....	1
Research Results: "My Grandpa and I Love Cats" <i>Aline H. Kidd and Robert M. Kidd</i> .....	1
EDITORIAL: Words or Action? <i>Hugh H. Tebault</i> .....	2
OPINIONS .....	3
Morris Animal Foundation Continues to Advance Animal Health .....	6
Latham Member Arlene Klein Elected Morris Animal Foundation Canine Vice President .....	7
Latham Video Competition Categories .....	11
Laurels for Jr. Aides at the Oregon Humane Society <i>Carol Shiveley</i> .....	12
The "Web of Hope" Grows Stronger <i>Beth Kuttner</i> .....	14
WSPA's Pet Respect Global .....	15
The Esther Honey Foundation Provides Veterinarians for the Animals of the Cook Islands <i>Cathy Sue Anunsen</i> .....	16
Congratulations to Hero Dog of the Year .....	17
Navigating the Information Highway? .....	18
LATHAM LAUDS .....	18
An Update on the Link <i>Phil Arkow</i> .....	19
MEDIA REVIEWS .....	20
Save The Date - Gentleness Workshop .....	22
American Veterinary Medical Association Honors Latham .....	22
Latham's "Search for Excellence" Video Awards Competition .....	23

### Edith Latham's Mandate:



*"To promote, foster, encourage and further the principles of humaneness, kindness and benevolence to all living creatures; the doctrines of universal brotherhood and justice; the prevention and eradication of cruelty to animals and all living creatures, with particular emphasis on the education of children in justice and kindness to animals."*

## EDITORIAL

### Words or Action?


*Hugh H. Tebault, President*



**T**HE LATHAM LETTER's primary objective is simple: it is in concert with the Foundation's production and distribution of videotaped documentaries to find and publicize worthy humane activities and philosophies. In so doing, its publisher seeks to promote their acceptance and replication. Unlike the publications of some public service organizations, it is not essentially the *Letter's* purpose to advertise other Foundation services and activities. And paradoxically, it is basically directed to a readership largely unsympathetic with the importance or priority of humane education.

Retrospectively and not withstanding the foregoing, we find that failure to more directly address those of like mind concerning the great need for effective humane education and action has occasionally proven counterproductive to the *Letter's* purposes. There is merit in "preaching to the choir" for though few will disagree concerning the significant relevance of humane education to society, sadly, fewer still will volunteer to overtly take an active part to do something in support of their verbalized opinion. To do nothing other than express dismay at reports of murder and other heinous violence to humans or nonhumans serves little but to

prove the truth of the expression "words are cheap" and most certainly suggests insincere concern.

To learn of cruelty in any form — whether suffered by children, the aged, the physically impaired or nonhuman sentient creatures — without taking personal action, is to approve. We all intuitively know that the question posed by, "What can I do? I'm only one person!" is hypocritical and can be answered both positively and negatively, but never as a vindication. There are many agencies dedicated in support of specialized humane education and treatment for children, the aged, the physically impaired, domestic and wild animals, etc. and not one of us is incapable of providing desperately needed assistance. The home bound for what ever reason, can accept and accomplish telephone work assignments; those with limited free time can accept and accomplish various volunteer assignments; and others blessed with special talents can beneficially employ them; while those with otherwise fully filled agenda can give monetary support - yes, even the widow's mite. 



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**The Latham Letter** welcomes manuscripts relevant to the Foundation's interests and concerns, but reserves the right to publish such manuscripts at its discretion.

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## OPINIONS

### College Courses in HCAB

Dear Latham:

Saw your list of course offerings in the Summer '96 Latham Letter. Just wanted to let you know that I teach a course at College of DuPage (near Chicago) called "Overview of Animal Assisted Therapy." This course is Human Services 291 (1 credit hour) and registration for it closed in only three days. It has also been cleared for CEU credits by several professional organizations. For further information you can reach me at SPBRO6B@prodigy.com

Debbie Coultis

### Latham responds:

Thanks for the update, Debbie, and continued good luck with the course.

### Update on the Parsifal Pilot Project (a H.A.R.T. Muttmatchers Program)

Dear Mr. Tebault,

We're pleased to report that Big Brothers of Greater Los Angeles has agreed to refer an appropriate number of unmatched boys to participate in the Parsifal Project.

The Parsifal Institute is dedicated to the exploration of the impact and healing properties of the animal/human relationship.

The violence prevention pilot project of the Parsifal Institute develops and teaches an ethical curriculum by engaging at-risk youth in animal rescue. By engaging young men in a therapeutic relationship with an animal that needs them, we can achieve significant results in reducing aggressive or violent behavior. We can model compassionate behavior

by fostering a care-giving relationship between a boy and a dog, thus strengthening his impulse control and increasing his self-esteem. We will provide a program that organizes and empowers 10-15 at-risk boys to rescue, care for, rehabilitate, and train death-row canines for successful placement in loving homes.

The program is designed to promote behavior change and increase caring, compassionate, and responsible action. The pilot project will result in measurable outcomes, and a program designed to be replicated by violence prevention programs throughout the country.

Sincerely,

Kate Lanier  
The Parsifal Institute  
P.O. Box 1468  
Venice, CA 90294  
310-392-6117

### Latham responds

Dear Kate:

Many thanks for providing us with an update of the Parsifal Pilot Project. The plan's originator is to be congratulated because it is truly inspired. My hope is that the coordinating individuals from Big Brothers of Los Angeles and your fine organization will be successful in the needed follow through and basic effort.

The project holds such exciting potential. Please keep us informed.

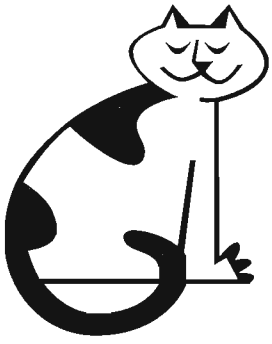
Our very best wishes for success

Hugh Tebault



Remember  
to  
Recycle





RESEARCH,  
continued from  
page 1

or not." This was a 56-year-old parent of one, not yet a grandparent, who had never owned a pet nor had his parents or grandparents.

Earlier studies of human-animal relationships focusing on current pet ownership or non-ownership had produced responses like these which suggested that the attitudes and behaviors adults show toward pet animals were very influential in creating both positive and negative responses toward animals among children. Naturally we assumed that grandparents and parents had passed such attitudes on to their children and these current adult parents then passed the attitudes on in turn. We did not, however, consider that persons who had owned pets only during childhood or only during adulthood might have had strongly different responses and opinions about pet ownership from the "always owned pets" or the "never owned pets" type of person.

In order to cover as long a data time span as possible, we decided to interview several hundred middle to senior-aged adult parents about the pet-keeping attitudes and behaviors of themselves, their parents and their grandparents. The average age of our 200 subjects turned out to be 54 years. We divided them into four groups of 25 men and 25 women each, as to whether they had: 1) always owned pets, 2) never owned pets, 3) owned pets only during childhood/adolescence, or 4) owned pets only during adulthood. We interviewed each person, asking about their own history of pet ownership and the pet

ownership of their parents and grandparents. We also asked about the attitudes and treatment.

We found that subjects who "always owned pets" and those who had "owned pets only during childhood" had more parents and grandparents who were pet owners than had members of the other two groups. Of course these two particular groups did differ somewhat.

The "always owned pets" reported loving their pets as if they were family members and close companions, and stressing the importance of good care by cuddling, caressing, grooming, and exercising them. A 45-year-old mother declared "our cats are our

their childhood pets as messy and destructive nuisances. Several reported having been bitten or savaged by dogs and consequently feared all dogs, especially the "little yappy ones." Most reported that they were forced to take the responsibility for the pets because their parents wouldn't, and that their parents' technical ownership of the animals had restricted their time to play with their own peers and engage in sports and other normal youth activities. One 75-year-old grandmother asserted "I hated my daddy's hounds. They were snappy and quarrelsome and I was forced to take care of them, and when we moved into town from the farm I swore I'd never have another dog

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*Obviously, pet-keeping practices and attitudes  
are influenced originally by grandparents and parents,  
then by the attitudes and beliefs of "significant others,"  
and then by personal positive and negative experiences with animals  
and probably also with the subtle influences of the mass media.  
Anyone truly interested in teaching children (and even some adults)  
how to respect all animal life in general and how to treat pets  
in particular with real love and concern,  
should keep these influences firmly in mind.*

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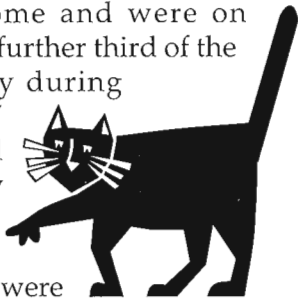
most loving friends!" While a 51-year-old grandfather insisted that "of course all our pets are family members; they reciprocate our love as much as the children do."

Although the "owned pets only during childhood" had as many pet-owning parents and grandparents as those who "always owned pets," the "only during childhood" owners reported that their pets really were too much work and demanded too much space, time, and money to care for properly. Some of them described

or cat to take care of." A 59-year-old male told us "dad used his boxer as a weapon to get me to do things around home. I was sure glad when it died."

Adults who "owned only during adulthood" had fewer parent and grandparent pet owners than those who had "always owned" or who had "owned only during childhood." One-third of the "owned only during adulthood" subjects told us that their parents had expressed decidedly negative attitudes about pets when the subjects

had asked for pets, so they had acquired their own pets after they left home and were on their own. A further third of the "owned only during adulthood" subjects did not really consider owning pets at all but were talked into pet ownership by their marriage partners and/or by their children. These late-owning subjects, however, all commented that they had become extremely attached to the pets once they had acquired them. The final one-third of the "owned only during adulthood" subjects got pets because they were convinced by the popular media and "significant others" that pets could help teach children to care about kindness, concern and responsibility toward animals, themselves and others...especially if the parents would help direct and model the process. These latent owners also reported becoming closely attached to their new pets. As a 50-year-old mother confided, "we got the cocker spaniel for the kids but I got to liking it and ended up taking care of it. Now it's very old, but she's mine!" And a very positive 51-year-old father proudly declared, "I got my dog as soon as I got off on my own. My friends had pet dogs but my mom was afraid of them so my dad and sister went along with not having any pets around."



bitten or attacked by dogs during childhood, all pets were a dangerous liability. Indeed, one-fourth of these subjects stated that both their parents and grandparents disliked pet animals. As a 70-year-old grandfather growled, "no way I'd have a dog around. They're an expensive nuisance and too much trouble and time to take care of. Besides, I hate animals." A 73-year-old grandmother agreed, "I don't like pets and I never wanted any. I talk to my plants when I want companionship."

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*A 70 year old grandfather growled, "No way I'd have a dog around. They're an expensive nuisance and too much trouble and time to take care of. Besides, I hate animals."*

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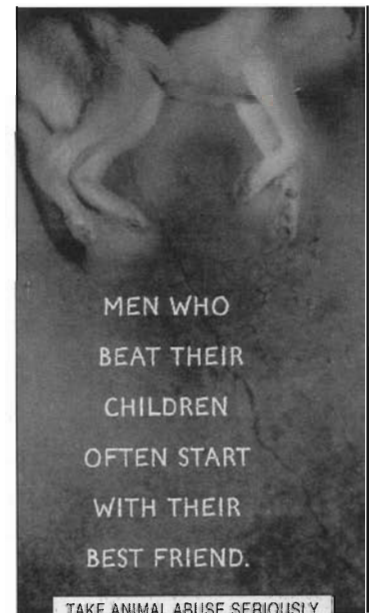
Obviously, positive and negative behaviors and attitudes toward pet animals by their parents and grandparents were important factors in the groups which had "always owned" and "never owned" pets. However, unpleasant childhood experiences with pets were also very important influences on the adults who had "owned only during childhood" and so had inevitably rejected pet ownership as adults.

Among those who had "owned only during adulthood" probably because of contacts with neighborhood pets, about a third wanted pets despite parental and grandparental disapproval of pet ownership. The remainder were apparently influenced by their marriage partners, or their children, or popular media beliefs about the many benefits for children of pet ownership.

## CONCLUSION

Obviously, pet-keeping practices and attitudes are influenced originally by grandparents and parents, then by the attitudes and beliefs of "significant others," and then by personal positive and negative experiences with animals and probably also with the subtle influences of the mass media. Anyone truly interested in teaching children (and even some adults) how to respect all animal life in general and how to treat pets in particular with real love and concern, should keep these influences firmly in mind.

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



TAKE ANIMAL ABUSE SERIOUSLY.

Men who abuse animals often abuse their families as well. So, if you see someone hurting his pet, please report it. The life you save may be a child as well as a dog. For more information, call or write The American Humane Association, 63 Inverness Drive East, Denver, CO, 80112, 1-800-227-4645.

AMERICAN HUMANES ASSOCIATION CAMPAIGN AGAINST VIOLENCE

# Morris Animal Foundation Continues to Advance Animal Health

“For years pet animals have been used for medical research into human ills and it is time something was done for the animals themselves,” said Mark L. Morris Sr., DVM, in the late 1930s. Dr. Morris’ dedication to companion animal health was fully realized in 1948 with the creation of Morris Animal Foundation.

The Foundation evolved from Dr. Morris, pioneering work as a practicing veterinarian in Edison, New Jersey in the late 1930s. He discovered that many canine kidney ailments could be successfully managed by changing the diet from high-protein dog food to a diet containing a low amount of protein and salt. One of his first patients, Buddy, a Seeing Eye, Inc., guide dog, was suffering from kidney disease and responded favorably to the new diet.

Buddy and his owner Morris Frank were the national spoketeam for Seeing Eye, Inc. Frank combined a mixture of dry cereals, vitamins, and minerals with fresh cottage cheese, fat and meat in his hotel room as he traveled. Frank’s blindness made it difficult for him to obtain and prepare the needed fresh foods for Buddy’s diet. At Frank’s request, Dr. Morris’ wife Louise canned the special food for Buddy. The canned dietary pet foods



became popular with other veterinarians eventually launching the Morris family and the veterinarians of America into the dietary management of the diseases of dogs and cats. Other sick dogs became well on Buddy’s diet, and Prescription Diet k/d, as it was known, became an accepted treatment for canine kidney disease.

This early work encouraged Dr. Morris to study other dog and cat diseases such as liver and heart disease, pancreatitis, and obesity. His pioneering work led to the development of a line of foods for use by veterinarians called Prescription Diet.


By committing one-half cent from every can of Prescription Diet food sold, Dr. Morris made funding available to support studies to benefit the health of companion animals. Today, Morris Animal Foundation is one of the largest non-governmental sponsors of health studies for dogs, cats, horses, other

companion animals and wildlife in the United States. Since its inception, the Foundation has sponsored 650 animal health studies with funds exceeding \$13 million at veterinary institutions in the United States as well as other countries.

These studies have contributed to vaccines for the prevention of canine Parvovirus, feline leukemia, and Potomac horse fever. They have revealed new treatments for canine and feline diabetes, bladder stones, heart and kidney diseases, and equine colic. Grants provide for the study of pet overpopulation and animal behavior.

Currently, the Foundation sponsors nearly 75 animal health studies with more than \$1.3 million benefiting dogs, cats, horses, llamas, ferrets, birds, mountain gorillas and other wildlife.

The legacy Dr. Morris leaves for companion animals is improved health through dietary management of their afflictions and the prevention and new treatments for their diseases. Morris Animal Foundation-funded studies continue to fulfill Dr. Morris, vision of a healthier tomorrow for animals.

All unrestricted contributions to the Morris Animal Foundation support programs, not administration. For more information please call toll-free 800-243-2345. 

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# Latham Member Arlene Klein Elected Morris Animal Foundation Canine Vice President

Englewood, CO—Morris Animal Foundation announces the appointment of Arlene Klein of Moorestown, New Jersey, and Sarasota, Florida, as the new Canine Vice President for Morris Animal Foundation's Board of Trustees. A Trustee since 1991, Mrs. Klein assumed her new role at the Foundation's Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, in June. As Canine Vice President, Mrs. Klein will promote the Foundation's canine programs to individuals and organizations involved with canine health issues. She will also coordinate the activities of other Trustees involved in representing the Foundation to those involved in canine interests.

"The past five years that I have served as a Trustee on the board have been a fulfilling and rewarding experience. I am honored to accept this position and I am privileged to work with so many special people that are the life-line of Morris Animal Foundation," comments Mrs. Klein on her recent induction.

Mrs. Klein has had a love affair with animals forever. Deeply concerned for the millions of animals that are neglected, abused, lost and abandoned, she produced a video on responsible pet ownership. "A Day In The Life of a Dog" gained national acclaim. In 1991, it was



Arlene Klein

nominated for a Dog Writers' Association of America Maxwell Award. She has written articles for various publications. Her latest work is a booklet of poems on pet loss. "I Never Wanted To Say Goodbye" is a collection of poems to comfort those who mourn the loss of a treasured pet. She is a member of The Latham Foundation, Delta Society and the Dog Writers' Association of America and many animal-related organizations.

"Morris Animal Foundation is lucky to have Arlene on its Board, and I am excited about her being elected Canine Vice President. Arlene is one of those people who 'gets the job done' and the way we're growing, she'll be busy, but she'll get the job done!" says Executive Director Robert Hilsenroth, DVM.

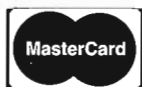
Morris Animal Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving animal health by funding humane health studies for companion animals and wildlife. Since its inception, the Foundation has sponsored over 650 studies with funds exceeding \$13 million. All studies are evaluated by the Scientific Advisory Board, eight of the country's leading veterinary scientists who volunteer their time to advise in the selection and monitoring of scientific studies for Morris Animal Foundation.

Funds for Morris Animal Foundation-sponsored studies are provided by individuals, clubs, organizations and corporations. All annual, unrestricted donations support animal programs, not administration; all restricted donations support only those programs to which they are designated. For more information about Morris Animal Foundation, please call (800) 243-2345.



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multiple individuals - animals, children, spouses or the elderly - in a household where violence is present, each is susceptible to harm.

Headlines scream sensational cases of animal and child abuse daily. And while many react with denial and disgust at the endless barrage of stories, a positive effect of this reporting is a much needed heightened awareness among judges, prosecutors, social workers, educators, law enforcement personnel and health professionals. These are the workers on the front lines, identifying and intervening for the victims. For that reason, they commonly are the groups mandated to report suspected or observed child abuse to the proper authorities. And because intervention in the syndrome of family violence is so important, mandated reporters are virtually always protected from civil or criminal liability as a result of their reporting.

Interestingly, Colorado veterinarians are required to report child abuse, although in all but a few states, veterinarians are excluded from the ranks of mandated health care reporters of child or animal abuse. This would seem to ignore the veterinarian's role in benefiting the welfare of animals and people. Often, the time a veterinarian spends educating and helping the person responsible for an animal's welfare is significantly more than the time spent providing medical care for the animal.

Frequently, veterinarians treat puppies or kittens who have been stepped on, cats who have fallen out of windows, dogs who've fallen off roofs or been hit by cars, animals attacked by other animals. Veterinarians are disturbed by all the trauma they see, and the more they learn about family violence, the more they are forced to think about trauma differently, to at least consider that an injury may have been

intentionally inflicted. Having done so, they must have a course of action available to them. Much thought is being given today to the need for veterinarians to become more involved in identifying abuse, formulate plans to address it and become mandated reporters. Though it doesn't carry the force of law, the Schaumburg, IL based American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) recently issued a policy statement calling for veterinarians to take responsibility for reporting cases of cruelty, abuse and neglect. Further, the AVMA's Executive Board is recommending to the 1996 House of Delegates that the association's Model Veterinary Practice Act include a clause requiring veterinarians to report abuse cases



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*By and large, animal health care practitioners who graduated a decade ago or more from veterinary school emphatically agree that they were not formally trained to recognize and address the issue of violence.*

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within the dictates of state law. It recognizes that "Such disclosures may be necessary to protect the health and welfare of animals and people."

### Seeing is Believing

The first step in identifying abuse is recognizing that it is possible.

A veterinarian's primary focus is medicine. She or he agonizes over the accuracy of diagnoses, choice of treatments and the result of these decisions. But what happens when a veterinarian suspects family violence through child or animal abuse? And how is abuse defined? The basic tenets of state animal cruelty laws are a good place to start. Usually, these outline minimum standards of care regarding such factors as food, water, shelter and the absence of intentional harm.

Ironically, the need to intervene is clearest when intent is impossible to ignore. Ginger now lives a good life in a bucolic setting with other animals and the gentlest of human caretakers. But just a year ago, the cat led a life that surely was filled with agony and terror. She was owned by an affluent white collar worker in New York City, and had been brought three times to one of the city's largest veterinary practices with various injuries to her jaw, back legs and ribs. The last time, she came in with severe chemical burns to her eyes, nose and ears and a hole in one ear from a cigarette burn or hole puncher. Finally, her medical providers could no longer ignore the plight of the bafflingly sweet and trusting creature, and called the ASPCA Humane Law Enforcement division. Faced with certain prosecution due to her medical history and testimony from other household members, her abuser fled our jurisdiction.

### Doctor as Teacher

Even if a traumatic injury was accidental, wasn't at least some level of irresponsibility involved? And when it comes to more subtle suffering, such as neglect in the form of poor shelter or nutrition, one has to ask if the neglect is due to ignorance or carelessness. In cases

of ignorant neglect, most veterinarians opt to act as educator.

John Aldridge, D.V.M., Chief of Staff of the Hospital Department of the San Francisco SPCA (SF/SPCA), reports that at this practice, which sees between 25,000 and 30,000 cases a year, with 35 percent to 50 percent of clients needing some amount of financial assistance, education is key. "The only set policy that guides us (in abuse cases) has to do with the fighting dog law, which a California

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*In regard to mandated reporting, "Veterinary medicine is probably where human medicine was 20 years ago and dentistry was 10 years ago."*

Roland Olson, D.V.M.  
Executive Director, Minnesota  
Board of Veterinary Medicine

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ordinance requires us to report. Other than that, what happens on a regular basis is a constant assessment on neglect and abuse issues. Certainly we recognize abuse and terribly neglectful situations, but we also recognize 'the ignorance rule,'" comments the 20-year SF/SPCA veteran. "(Clients) are allowed to make one mistake. If an owner seems concerned and upset about a neglectful situation, we'll tend to give them the benefit of the doubt. In our day-to-day work we don't see that much of what I'd call deliberate, versus ignorant, abuse."

Such cases warrant a stern lecture about proper care. Likewise, the Massachusetts SPCA has designed a unique way to educate neglectful owners. Two years ago, the

agency's enforcement arm set up as a special division of the state police with search and seizure powers and created a Veterinary Compliance Officer position. As MSPCA Angell Memorial's staff nutritionist, Rebecca Remillard, Ph.D., D.V.M., sees clients who walk in to the busy Boston practice. She also devotes roughly 20 percent of her time to assisting enforcement officers. While this can entail documenting findings so that a court warrant may be obtained, Remillard also is called to the scene when officers are unsure of whether a situation in a home is medically serious enough to intervene. In such cases, says Remillard, "The officers have done a very good job of clearing the way, saying to the client, 'can we bring in a vet to help you?'" Often, this kind of help allows owners to learn how to properly care for their animals and avoid prosecution.

Comments Remillard, "Some of the problem is cultural. Other societies don't view animals in the same way we do. This is why programs like Operation Outreach (an MSPCA literacy program that promotes humane lessons) are needed."

### Teaching the Doctor

Comparison of violence toward animals and children is made because of both groups' vulnerability, but identification of each form of violence is quite dissimilar. There is a wealth of information about child behavioral and physical development that is helpful in verifying or disputing an adult's account of a child's injuries. For example, a fall from a bed is not possible before the child can roll over; a fall down the stairs can't happen until a child can crawl. In addition, depending on the individual, by the age of 3 or so children have a capacity to

speak about their problems and communicate through drawings or other outlets in their social life at school and with other families. This kind of information is never available in the evaluation of an animal's trauma injuries.

By and large, animal health care practitioners who graduated a decade ago or more from veterinary school emphatically agree that they were not formally trained to recognize and address the issue of violence. Comments Dr. Patty Olsen, Director of Veterinary Affairs and Studies at the Englewood, CO-based American Humane Association (AHA), which operates both child and animal protection divisions, "Part of the problem is that (the subject of abuse) does need to be added to veterinary education.

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*"Currently, only three states encourage or require veterinarians to report animal abuse cases, and only 2 of the 3 states grant vets immunity from liability."*

Jamie Cotel Altman  
ASPCA Vice President and  
Legal Counsel

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Veterinarians are well aware of horrific cases, but don't have the expertise to recognize more subtle ones. Forensic pathology, for example, toxicology screening, is not as far along in the veterinary arena. Poisoning is a huge cause of animal suffering, but we don't routinely have screens. We are a long way from where we need to be," Olsen says.

*VETS, continued on next page*

Fortunately, veterinary schools appear to be picking up the gauntlet. Charles Newton, D.V.M., reports that although the issue of abuse is not covered formally and distinctly at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine, where he is Associate Dean, it comes up constantly as students review cases during instruction. The students, who spend their last 12

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*"Having mandated rules and regulations sometimes offers a very handy technique that allows vets to be able to report because they're forced to... It allows you to tell the client that it's the law. It's an easier decision."*

John Aldridge, D.V.M.  
Chief of Staff of the  
Hospital Department  
San Francisco SPCA

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months of schooling in clinical settings on and off campus, also learn about abuse and neglect from discussions among clinicians and interns at the University's bustling hospital. The practice, which handles a caseload of 22,000 to 24,000 per year, includes a 24-hour, 7-day a week emergency room; about 10,000 of the total cases come in as emergencies annually.

Dan Mitchell, Academic Programs Manager at the University of California at Davis Veterinary School, adds that a mandatory, two-term Ethics and Issues class was introduced there in 1991. Guest speakers from a variety of disciplines, including animal welfare and science, involve students in discussions about important issues

throughout the term, including animal abuse and how to handle it.

### The Latest Report Card

In regard to mandated reporting, "Veterinary medicine is probably where human medicine was 20 years ago and dentistry was 10 years ago," says Roland Olson, D.V.M., Executive Director of the Minnesota Board of Veterinary Medicine, the state's licensing board. But Olson, who worked for the Humane Society of Ramsey County for years, and regularly addresses junior classes at the University of Minnesota on ethics and statutes, agrees that change is underfoot.

Since 1993, veterinarians practicing in Minnesota could be charged with non-professional conduct for "failing to report to law enforcement or humane officers inhumane treatment to animals, including staged animal fights or training for fights, of which the veterinarian has direct knowledge."

Pennsylvania's Newton voices frustration with a system that doesn't take animal abuse as seriously as it takes child abuse. He says, "If (authorities) would look for associations, they would take animal abuse much more seriously as a way to intervene before a child becomes involved."

Even veterinarians who are well aware of the implications of animal abuse are discouraged from becoming more involved in intervention, because the system just does not support them. Comments Jamie Cotel Altman, ASPCA Vice President and Legal Counsel, "Currently, only 3 states in the U.S. encourage or require veterinarians to report animal abuse cases, and only 2 of the 3 states grant vets immunity from liability. State laws should not only mandate that veterinarians report animal cruelty, but should also insulate them from

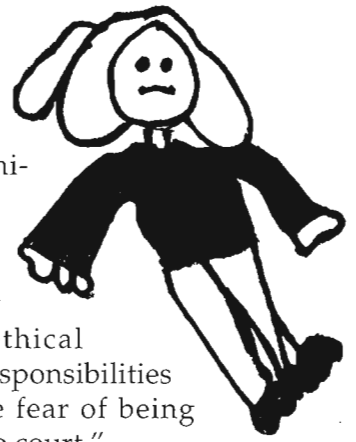
civil liability and criminal prosecution so that they may carry out their ethical and legal responsibilities without the fear of being dragged into court."

West Virginia law reads, "It is the duty of any licensed veterinarian and the right of any other person to report to a humane officer any animal found, reasonably known or believed to be abandoned, neglected or cruelly treated as set forth in this article, and such veterinarians or other persons may not be subject to any civil or criminal liability as a result of such reporting."

This past March 14, Idaho's Governor approved a bill mandating that, "Any Idaho licensed veterinarian shall be held harmless from either criminal or civil liability... for his part in an investigation of cruelty to animals, provided, however, that a veterinarian who participates or reports in bad faith or with malice shall not be protected under the provisions of this section."

SF/SPCA's Aldridge points out that mandated reporting would simplify the decision-making process a veterinarian naturally goes through when confronting abuse. "Having mandated rules and regulations sometimes offers a very handy technique that allows vets to be able to report because they're forced to ... It allows you to tell the client that it's the law. It's an easier and cleaner decision."

Other concerns are time away from a practice for court appearances and retribution from a violent individual. This points to the need for more support from "the system" via meaningful prosecution of and





"This is me and my cat.  
My dad treats my cat unfairly,  
like he treats my mom."

Jennifer, Age 8

rehabilitation programs for animal abusers.

Meanwhile, veterinarians can take steps toward formalizing a plan to handle the issue of family violence when it presents itself in their clinical practice. For example, they can seek training in family violence from a variety of sources, including humane societies and local and state veterinary associations. They can create or become part of a network within the community that can help combat abuse. Clearly, they should know the cruelty laws in their state, i.e. what constitutes abuse and neglect. They also can try to create an atmosphere in their practice that allows clients to feel safe in discussing abuse.

There is no question that the veterinary profession is adopting a broader perspective about family violence. The profession's contribution will be one more step toward making this phenomenon less prevalent in America today.

*Robert Reisman, D.V.M., has been a clinician at the ASPCA's Bergh Memorial Animal Hospital for eight years, and is a contributing editor to ASPCA Animal Watch. Cindy A. Adams is editor in chief of ASPCA Animal Watch.*

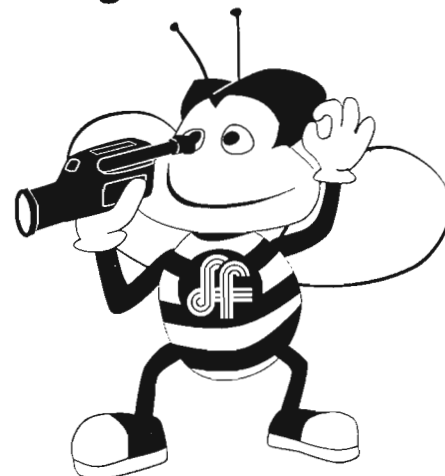
*Reprinted courtesy of ASPCA Animal Watch, Summer 1996. Animal Watch is a publication of the American Society for the Protection of Children and Animals.*



# Video Competition Categories

(See inside back cover for details)

*"Search for Excellence"  
1966 Video Awards*



## FULL-LENGTH PROGRAMS

(15-26 minutes or a series;  
maximum 1 hour)

### #1 Child and Animal Abuse/Domestic Violence Prevention

Videos pertaining to the connections between animal abuse and other forms of violence, including those intended to raise public awareness or describe interventions, or both.

### #2 Humane Education

Videos designed to teach responsible pet care, respect and interconnectedness of all life, traditional humane education values, etc.

### #3 Human Companion Animal Bond

Videos illustrating the benefits of the human companion animal bond including animal assisted therapy, service animals, "hero" animals, etc.

### #4 Advocacy/Public Policy

Videos related to public policy issues i.e. early spay neuter, domestic violence, pets in housing, etc.

### #5 Science and Nature/Animal Behavior/Natural History

Videos documenting the behavior of four-footed animals

- a) *Adult Programming*
- b) *Children's Programming*

### #6 Innovative Programs and Projects — "How-To"

Videos describing innovative programs or projects in humane education — curriculum-related, or instructional — and demonstration projects that are worthy of replication

### #7 Miscellaneous

Videos in this category might include animal health and nutrition, zoonoses, career opportunities, technical assistance areas such as fundraising strategies, humor, or young videographers (under 16).

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS (PSA's)

- PSA I** Child and Animal Abuse Prevention-related
- PSA II** Animal Welfare/H CAB-related

# Laurels for Jr. Aides at the Oregon Humane Society

Carol Shiveley

If cloning and DNA spirals were programmed to represent the 40 youths who attended the Oregon Humane Society's Jr. Aide Training Camp this past June, it would change the world for animals for the better. The aides, many of whom have been Oregon Humane Society campers for years, are motivated, bright, exemplary youth who want to help the animals and proved it with their hard work. They also serve as role models and supervisors for the 64 youngsters who attend the Shelter Friends Day Camp. The aides are divided into pairs and each pair is given four campers to supervise during the two

weeks of camp. A few select Jr. Aides are also invited to help at our Alumni Camp for repeat campers.

During the training camp, the aides enjoyed learning from the many speakers who visit to share their expertise on animal issues ranging from dog training to vet care, career options to compassionate consumer alternatives. In addition to the speakers, the aides learned firsthand what life is like working in an animal shelter. In the morning, the teens were divided into three work groups, similar to the procedure followed by the OHS animal care technician staff. One group scooped poop and hosed



Sean DeMoss and lucky friend.

down kennels, fed and watered dogs and cleaned up the exercise yards. Another team cleaned, watered and fed the cats in the stray room surrounded by a hundred pleading meows and waving paws. They also washed dog bowls, sanitized carriers, hauled trash and made litter boxes. The third team worked in the barn scooping old hay out the chute and putting down fresh, along with watering and feeding the animals amid curious clucking chickens, gobbling turkeys and two goat kids nibbling on their clothing.



LEFT:  
Jr. Aide Saranna  
Weller Boardman  
and cat in their  
almost-matching  
stripes.

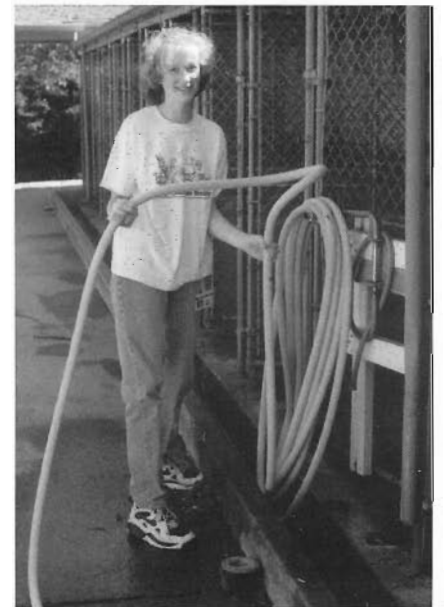


Elliott Bowman and friend.

BELOW LEFT:  
Sean Hanna at  
Alumni Camp and  
Mrs. Hen.



Above: Michelle Casey takes Cody Home. Cody was at the Oregon Humane Society four months while he barked wildly and pulled terribly on his lead, until camp dog trainers discovered he had been trained to heel on the right (instead of the left). Then he was a perfect dog!



Jr. Aide Melissa Monroy.



*A mystery Camper behind her cat mask.*

In their quest to be effective leaders, the aides were also trained in supervisory techniques. Their instruction included conflict resolution skills, positive reinforcement and the camp management's chain of command.

The teens became pacesetters this year when they trained to assist in Delta's Therapy Animal Certification program at the Oregon Humane Society. During their camp training, they learned the purpose of Animal Assisted Therapy and the importance of handlers using pets that are well suited to the situations and people the animals will encounter. Thirteen teens participated in the first certification program in July.



*Jr. Aides Chrissie Gilbert and Marcie Dobyms with Mindy and Max.*

*RIGHT: Erin Ware helps goats reach yummy leaves.*

*BELOW: Jr. Aide Erin Ware and her youth partner Emily Thomas.*



*Eleanor Darlow, Shelter Friends Camper.*

For the rest of the year the Jr. Aides will channel their dedication and compassion for animals by helping with the next Therapy Animal Certification in October and they will attend the Teens for Animals Club once a month. Held the last Thursday of each month during the school year, the club provides youth an opportunity to work in the shelter, learn more about animal concerns and issues and mingle with other animal lovers. By completely various projects and fundraising activities, they will work toward four levels of achievement as they continue to learn and grow in their pursuit of making a

difference for the animals. When they reach the highest level, they are invited to join the Special Project group and may represent OHS and help at educational events and go on special field trips. Many laurels and kudos to these fine young people. It is a privilege to know, encourage, and teach them so that the legacy of caring for animals can go on.

*Carol Shively is the Oregon Humane Society's Director of Education where she continues to work for humane treatment of both youth and animals. For further information contact her at 503-285-7722 ext 206.*



# The “Web of Hope” Grows Stronger

Beth Kuttner

*Editor’s Note: Latham is pleased to report on the activities of humane coalitions in the hopes of encouraging the formation and continuation of other such groups. This reflection by a member of the Windwalker Humane Coalition in Rhode Island details the Coalition’s progress, problems, and prognosis.*

I believe certain things happen for a reason. I try to look for positive outcomes, and I always root for the underdog. With this in mind, it should be easy for you to understand why my dog and I are together. He was born with a congenital birth defect. His right front leg was grossly malformed and there were many horror stories about his prognosis. When I looked at his 1-week-old face, eyes not yet open, I felt that fate had intervened again. I knew there would be hard times, medical bills and possible heartbreak, yet it was my love for him, a living being, that told me without a question that he was mine. I knew from that moment on that any love I gave to him would come back to me many times over, so I named him Echo.

It is with this love and respect for all living things that Pearl Salotto, the woman who brought Echo and me together, spearheaded a state-wide conference in May 1995 to educate people about the link of abuse between people and animals. This conference was the springboard for an informal group who met to discuss the issues brought up at the conference and to actually *do* something about them. Members of this group, all with different reasons for wanting to be involved, had one thing in common: they wanted the world to be a better place for all people and animals.

Thus, the Windwalker Humane Coalition was founded. The name “Windwalker” was chosen for many different reasons – perhaps the most symbolic reason was also the most literal. Members of the Coali-

tion are from all walks of life, or as the Native Americans say, “from the four directions.” The group’s educators, social workers, pet assisted therapists, nurses, doctors, veterinarians, parents, and so on were all striving for a common goal, that of educating and empowering the public about the link of violence between people, animals and the environment.

Today Windwalker’s work is as varied as its members’ knowledge, skills, talents and efforts. Some work is done on an individual basis, some at the community level, and some at the state level with potential for nationwide impact. New legislation is one way Windwalker intends to make a difference in many lives. The Coalition is supported by Rhoda Perry, Rhode Island State Assemblywoman, who will introduce legislation to set up a state-wide commission dealing directly with the link of abuse. Cross reporting will be the first issue to be studied. This commission will look into other states that are already working on cross reporting to hopefully, make cross reporting not only a good idea, but also a mandated reality.



*Maj-En, Pearl Salotto’s second therapy dog, making his classroom debut with Kevin Sanford, Jennifer Ryan, Paul Dutile, Stephen Franklin, and Parent Advisor Priscilla Trudeau.*

Windwalker believes educating children is vital. Pearl Salotto’s unique “D.J., Respect for Living Things” program is ongoing throughout the year. Parents are encouraged to attend with their child in order to build, share, and reinforce the skills and values taught within the program. Denise and John Desanty and their dogs Jesse and Jody have incorporated their “Follow Your Heart” program into Massachusetts schools. The Desantys believe that children who have respect for themselves can more easily make good everyday choices. Explain the Desantys, “We help children understand how to

be what they want to be and how not to be (only) followers."

The Coalition also seeks ways to reach adults. This past spring, members presented a workshop at the "Parenting Matters" conference sponsored by Bradley Hospital and the Rhode Island Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse. They also worked at the Rhode Island PTA conference. In the fall Windwalker members will speak at the Rhode Island Crime Prevention Officers Association meeting. Also, this fall Windwalker members will conduct a seminar series on the link between child and animal abuse and other forms of violence at the Community College of Rhode Island. The series will run for six weeks, highlighting topics such as explaining the link and the ramifications of it, domestic violence, and national violence prevention programs.

The Windwalker Humane Coalition arranges special events. This past spring Neil Trent from the World Society of Protection of Animals gave a dynamic presentation about the plight of endangered animals and the efforts WSPA has made to protect and maintain their quality of life. The next event is in October and will feature Jerry

world a better place. The first recipients were Mary and Bob Gadbois, tireless volunteers in the field of Pet Assisted Therapy.



*Friends Echo and Francesca Gallucci.*

Windwalker members are currently planning an Outreach Meeting to bring together anyone who attended the "Web of Hope" statewide conference and everyone who would like to become active in ending the tragic cycle of violence that we call the link.

The work that Windwalker has before it is important, rewarding and most of all, endless. Not long ago I was visiting friends who have a small stream on their property where neighborhood children like to play. I soon realized that their "play" consisted of killing frogs with bats and sticks, while keeping

police than they were with their own children's behavior. Shouldn't a child be taught to respect all life? Isn't a frog's life as important as any other? At what point do we draw that line? Members of Windwalker Humane Coalition do not draw any lines. All life is revered and respected and we live lives never forgetting that all living things are connected.

*Beth Kuttner is a special educator and one of the founding members of the Windwalker Humane Coalition. For further information about the Coalition, contact her at P.O. Box 187, North Dighton, MA 02764.*



## WSPA's Pet Respect Global

The World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) is making progress on a very special campaign — Pet Respect, which is aimed at protecting companion animals throughout the world.

Millions of dogs and cats globally have never experienced simple human kindness. Overpopulation is leading to starvation, disease, cruelty and barbaric death at the hands of municipal animal control officers.

Through WSPA's Pet Respect campaign, they are working with the World Health Organization, government agencies and other animal protection agencies to change the world for companion animals. Through low cost spay/neuter programs, legislative strides, law enforcement, humane education and government cooperation, they can afford dogs and cats everywhere the same comfort and happiness we bring our own.

In India, Brazil, Kenya, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Taiwan and elsewhere we are already making progress. Much more lies on the horizon. For further information about this or other programs contact WSPA at P.O. Box 190, Boston, MA 02130. Telephone 617-522-7000.



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*"All living things are connected. Pet Assisted Therapy Dogs such as D.J., Maj-En, and Echo, enhance the lives of children — whether in a classroom as part of the curriculum or as part of family fun, exercise, and recreation."*

Pearl Salotto and Beth Kuttner

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Tannenbaum of Tufts University Veterinary School, author of "The Human/Companion Animal Bond: Cliche or Challenge?"

The Coalition presents Awards at these special events to people who have unselfishly made the

score of how many they "got." I stopped this immediately and called the police. When they arrived, only two boys could be found and were brought to their parents. Ironically, both sets of parents were more upset with me for involving the

# The Esther Honey Foundation Provides Veterinarians for the Animals of the Cook Islands

**Editors Note:** *This is a reminder that one person can make a difference*

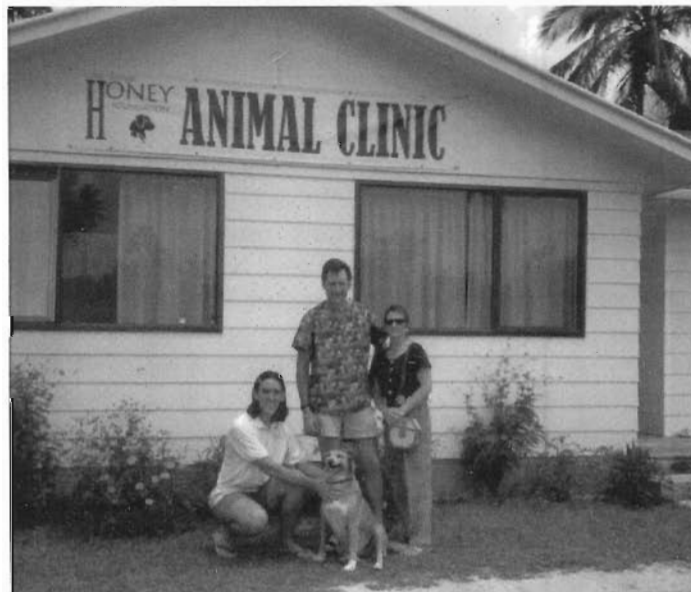
*Cathy Sue Anunsen*

**O**n September 16, 1995, The Esther Honey Foundation Clinic opened its doors. The thousands of dogs and cats of The Cook Islands (about 2,800 miles south of Hawaii) finally have a doctor and a non profit veterinary clinic.

It has been two years since I was in Rarotonga and met Honey, the mesmerizing golden dog. Two years since I first contacted Tom Wichman, President of the Cook Island Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, to inquire about making a small donation to his fledgling organization. After spending a month on the island it was clear to me that the animals needed help. There were so many dogs and cats and many of them appeared to be in desperate need of veterinary care. When Tom asked if I could meet with him for an hour to talk about the island animals I readily agreed.

One hour turned into ten as Tom explained the plight of the animals of the Cook Islands. There was no veterinarian for the domestic animals and often — no veterinarian at all. (A Peace Corps Veterinarian had worked for the country's Agricultural Ministry, but he was hired to work with "production" animals, goats, pigs, etc. He was rarely available for domestic animals and, even if he were, the majority of islanders could not afford the fees.) The most urgent concern, according to Tom, was the dog population. To decrease their ever growing numbers, police simply shot the animals on sight.

People brought injured and diseased animals to Tom and he did what he could (he had once worked as a lab technician in a hospital) but he was not a doctor. The animals needed a veterinarian. Tom obviously cared passionately about the animals of his country. He asked if there was any way I could persuade a doctor from the States to come to Rarotonga. All he could offer the



*Honey who inspired the Project, Jared Sather, Dr. Barry Nicholls and his wife Anna Nicholls in front of the clinic.*

doctor in return for his work was room and board.

I returned to Oregon to begin the search for a doctor while Tom explored island buildings looking for a space that would be suitable for a clinic. After two years of false starts, Tom found the perfect spot for the clinic: A three bedroom home with a yard large enough to exercise the dogs and a covered veranda that was perfectly suited for housing recovering patients. The house is

both a clinic and a home to our staff. Esther Honey Foundation (EHF) signed the rental agreement and the pieces to the puzzle that covered half the globe began to fall into place.

When I first returned to the States, I faxed Tom a note asking for a list of his medical equipment on the island, so that I could determine a starting point for gathering equipment. His return fax was one word: "Forceps." Thanks to caring people throughout the Northwest, EHF started with Tom's forceps and built a "bare bones," but fully functional, veterinary clinic but it requires more than medical supplies to run a veterinary hospital and that's one of the reasons our other donors are vital to the continuation of the EHF Clinic. Rent, utilities, airfare, communication fees are all ongoing expenses.

First, Dr. Byron Maas (a South Salem, Oregon veterinarian) volunteered his time. Then Anniston, Alabama veterinarian Dr. Barry Nicholls volunteered to spend his vacation on the Cook Islands, where dogs and cats outnumber human inhabitants. The volunteer tradition continues today and is vital to the success of the program. Recently, Dr. Kathrin V. Guderian has committed her services to the clinic for a full year, enabling the Esther Honey Foundation to expand its medical care to the surrounding villages and the outer islands.



*A tropical paradise? Companion animals in the Cook Islands might not agree.*

EHF and the Cook Island SPCA have launched our campaign to raise the country's awareness of the importance of compassionate animal care. Clinic Director Chuck Janda visits the schools in villages throughout the island talking with students and teachers. Dr. Maas writes a weekly column about animal care in The Cook Island News. The country's television station has helped publicize The EHF Clinic by airing three different news segments about our services.

The clinic continues to improve at a rapid pace. Tom and Cook Island SPCA members are truly invaluable allies in making the clinic a success. They painted the entire clinic before our arrival and greeted our staff with welcoming gifts of house plants, racks of bananas and boxes of papayas. They built additional

kennels during one of their many "working bees" held to complete clinic improvement projects. Tom, Chuck, the veterinarians, and assistant Jared Sather all make the most out of the little that is available to them. They share a genius for scouring the island and locating bits and scraps of what appear to be worthless items and turning them into valued clinic equipment. For example, they discovered a discarded gurney top in the local hospital's trash and turned it into a gleaming "new" surgery table for our clinic.

Although we don't charge for our medical services, almost everyone donates something in return for the medical care they receive. Perhaps the best example of the success of this system is our new surgery theater. Our first operating room was a picnic table on a verandah. A dilapidated shed used to stand at the end of that verandah. The once crumbling structure is now a totally enclosed surgery room. Two electricians, whose animals received treatment, fully wired the building for electricity, the walls are paneled and the floor is beautifully tiled. There is a stainless steel sink and of course, the "new" operating table. All the materials, time and skills were donated by clients. On

an island where the admonition from a local was, "This is Rarotonga man, if you want something you're going to have to pay for it!", the transformation of this ramshackle shed is a miracle.



*Cook Island clients.*

Cathy Sue Anunsen is President and Founder of the Esther Honey Foundation, named for her grandmother, Esther, and a dog, Honey, that she met on the islands. For more information contact the Esther Honey Foundation, 5778 Commercial St., SE, Salem, Oregon 97306; 503-588-1175.



## Congratulations to Hero Dog of the Year

The Latham Foundation, having initiated a Hero Dog Award many years ago, congratulates Heinz Pet Products on the contemporary success of the Ken-L Ration Dog Hero of the Year Contest.

*The new Ken-L-Ration Dog Hero of the Year is Bailey, a daring mixed breed from the Springfield, Missouri area. This brave canine fought off a 2,000-pound Belgian Blue bull to save the life of Chester Jenkins.*



**VOLUNTEER  
VETERINARIANS NEEDED IN  
THE COOK ISLANDS**

**Interested? Contact the Esther  
Honey Foundation at 503-588-1175  
for further information.**

# Navigating the Information Highway?

Here's a sampling of some of the many on-line services, newsgroups, and bulletin boards that may be of interest. Tell us about one's you've discovered and we'll spread the word. Latham is particularly interested in learning about sites concerned with preventing child abuse and domestic violence.

<http://www.Latham.org>

*Check us out!*

The major on-line services include:

**America Online:** Pet Care Forum and Pet Care Library

**Compuserve:** Pets/Animals Forum, Earth Forum, Pet Care Library  
GO TWPETS

**Prodigy:** Pets BBS, Pet Care Guide, Science and Environment BBS

One can access many additional web sites on the Internet through one of the above services (if you have the appropriate web browser) or opt for connecting directly to the Internet via a provider such as Netcom.

File-transfer protocol (FTP's) sites include:

[rtfm.mit.edu](http://rtfm.mit.edu)

[pub/usenet/rec.pets.dogs](http://pub/usenet/rec.pets.dogs)

[pub/usenet/rec.pets.cats](http://pub/usenet/rec.pets.cats)

Each of those directories has documents on the respective animals.

Thanks to Phil Arkow for pointing the way to the following Web sites:

Some of the best places to start out and to find links to other sites, are:

**Net Vet** (<http://netvet.wustl.edu>), the "Electronic Zoo run by Washington University in St. Louis. Net Vet is divided largely by species, so you'll start with a cow page, and move on to rodents, primates, fish, horses, birds and on and on. The dog page has everything from

breeds and rescue group, to links to Marmaduke and Snoopy (The Beagle Has Landed), to stupid pet photos, to 202 Dalmatians.

Don't confuse Net Vet with **Vet Net**. Vet Net (<http://www-sci.lib.uci.edu/HSG/vet>) comes out of the University of California at Irvine and is a virtual veterinary college, complete with on-line dictionaries, illustrations, photos, journals, and a complete library encompassing parasitology (including the "parasite of the Month"), pathology, databases and management concerns. There are ways to "ask a vet" questions and pursue the idea of a veterinary career.

**Vet Web** (<http://www.vet.purdue.edu>) comes out of Purdue's College of Veterinary Medicine, and

will connect you to the Center for Applied Ethology and Human-Animal Interaction, from which you can launch into animal behavior, pet loss, animal-assisted therapy and human-animal bond sites.

Looking for animal shelters? Try **Save a Pet On-Line** (<http://pasture.ecn.purdue.edu/~laird/dogs>) which will link you to shelters and breed rescue groups coast to coast. There are several virtual shelters which already exist in New Jersey and New England, plus a growing cadre of humane societies and animal control shelters that have their own sites.

Got a health care question? The **American Animal Hospital Association** has a page (<http://www.healthypet.com>). **Good luck. :-)**

## Latham Lauds

### Innovative Humane Education

#### Humane Society in Florida Publishes New Education Curriculum

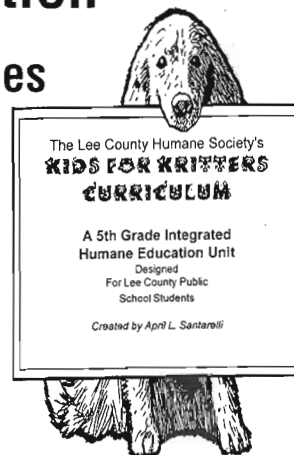
*Phil Arkow*

The Lee County Humane Society, Ft. Myers, FL, has published a new, comprehensive humane education curriculum. This 194-page teacher's guide and activity workbook for 5th graders incorporates humane education into existing language arts, social studies, math, and science academic areas. Most importantly, it is the only humane education curriculum that has been adopted and approved by the State of Florida.

Pet overpopulation, responsible pet ownership, assistance dogs, safety for and around animals, and the roles of the humane society, animal control, and veterinarians round out this project designed for a two-week unit.

The curriculum has spun off a junior humane society called the "Kids for Kritters Club." The club has its own newsletter, and kids' submissions appear in the humane society's general newsletter as well.

For information about these innovative programs, contact Barbara Snow, Executive Director, Lee County Humane Society, P.O. Box 50430, Ft. Myers, Florida 33994.



# An Update on the Link

Phil Arkow

Over the past few years there has been a small but steady ground swell rediscovering an old linkage: the relationship of animal abuse to other forms of family violence. There have been several significant recent developments to share with you.

Abuse directed against animals by juveniles has a pernicious capability of evolving into generalized desensitization to violence and into psychopathological acts of violence in adulthood. Animal abuse has an insidious impact as coercion, control or intimidation when perpetrated by adults and witnessed by children. Child protection, domestic violence and animal welfare organizations need to establish cross-disciplinary protocols to recognize and report each other's forms of abuse.

What continues to frustrate many of us is how difficult it is to convey the concept, particularly to people in child protection, that animal abuse is somehow related to that field. (Regrettably, it is still not even widely accepted that there is a connection between child abuse and domestic violence.) Dr. Frank Ascione spoke in June to the 1st annual Conference on Children Exposed to Family Violence. The bad news is that it took until 1996 to recognize that children are affected by family violence. The good news is that a second conference is scheduled for June 4-7, 1997, in London, Ontario. For details, contact the Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute, 1310 Clinic Drive, Tyler, TX 75701.

The institute also published an extensive article I wrote entitled "The Relationships Between Animal Abuse and Other Forms of Family Violence" in Vol. 12, No.1-2, of their *Bulletin* (Spring/Summer 1996). It's a comprehensive overview and bibliography

to help convince those who haven't made the connection yet. The next *Latham Letter* will feature a reprint of this article.

Several new community coalitions against violence are emerging. Gainesville, GA, held a conference in March, and others are planned for Tallahassee, FL, this fall and Macon, GA, in January.

On the political front, the most exciting news comes from Sen. William Cohen of Maine, who introduced testimony into the Federal Register on May 2, 1996, describing the "link" and asking U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno to accelerate the Department of Justice's research in this area. Sen. Cohen said:

"It is time we took a serious look at animal abuse and its link to crimes against people. Perpetrators of serious animal abuse often lack empathy and respect for life in general. The absence of empathy is often manifested by striking, torturing and abusing an innocent animal. Abusing animals is a despicable act, and psychologists and criminologists tell us those who lack empathy for animals may also lack empathy for humans. As a result they may be predisposed to other violent behavior. Violence begets violence."

On the legislative front, we now have three states in which veterinarians are required to report suspected animal abuse (although Colorado remains the only state in which veterinarians are mandated reporters of suspected child abuse). Since 1993, veterinarians practicing in Minnesota can be charged with non-professional conduct for "failing to report to law enforcement or humane officers inhumane treatment of animals, including staged animal fights or training for fights, of which the veterinarian has direct knowledge." West Virginia law declares, "It is the duty of any licensed veterinarian...to report to a humane officer any animal found, reasonably known or believed to be abandoned, neglected or cruelly treated...and such veterinarians...may not be subject to any civil or criminal liability as a result of such reporting."

This past March 14, Idaho's governor signed into law an act mandating that, "Any Idaho licensed veterinarian shall be held harmless from either criminal or civil liability...for his part in an investigation of cruelty to animals, provided, however, that a veterinarian who participates or reports in bad faith or with malice shall not be protected under provisions of this section."

Meanwhile, the American Veterinary Association recently adopted a policy statement: "Veterinarians may have occasion to observe cases of cruelty to animals, animal abuse, or animal neglect cases of defined by state law or local ordinances. When these observations occur, the AVMA considers it the responsibility of the veterinarian to report such cases to the appropriate authorities. Such disclosures may be necessary to protect the health and welfare of animals and people."

The AVMA in July also approved in adding a clause in the Model Veterinary Practice Act requiring veterinarians to report animal abuse cases within the dictates of state law.

A lot is happening, but much more needs to be done. Dr. Ascione and I are beginning work on a new book for Latham, a sequel to the highly successful cross-training manual and video, *Breaking The Cycles of Violence*.

An area of ongoing concern remains the continuing difficulty of convincing professionals in child protection and domestic violence that this subject should be of critical interest to them. If any *Latham Letter* readers have any suggestions as to how we may convey this message to those specific audiences, please contact me. We need all the help we can get. More importantly, the animals, children and battered women need the help, too.

Phil Arkow chairs the Latham Foundation's Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Program. Contact him at 37 Hillside Road, Stratford, NJ 08084. Fax (609) 627-2252. Phone (609) 627-5118. E-Mail arkowpets@aol.com

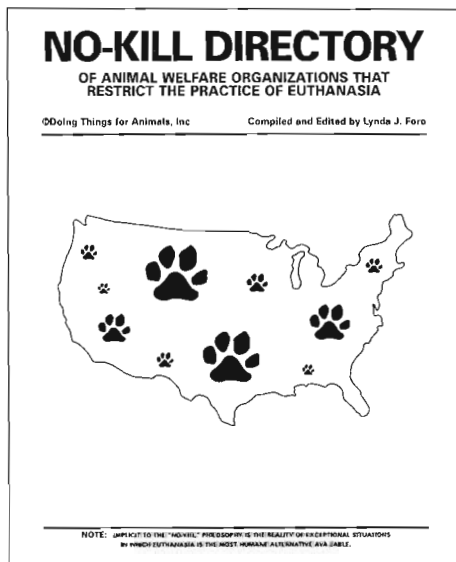


## MEDIA REVIEWS

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

### *No-Kill Directory of Animal Welfare Organizations that Restrict the Practice of Euthanasia*

**Note: It is important to point out that "implicit to the 'No-Kill' philosophy is the reality of exceptional situations in which euthanasia is the most humane alternative available."**



Given the above reality, there is no question that the no-kill directory recently published by Doing Things for Animals, Inc. is a life-saving resource for animal care-givers throughout the United States. THE NO-KILL DIRECTORY is a national listing of humane organizations that do not euthanize animals to control pet over-population. The updated and expanded directory contains 48 pages with 250 listings of animal welfare groups for easy reference.

Persons wanting to turn in a rescued animal, a homeless stray, or adopt a pet can consult the Directory for an organization in their area. The Directory is designed to improve communication between humane organizations and to offer the public an opportunity to access alternative animal care programs

across the nation. For example, an animal shelter in Wisconsin credited the Directory for the successful placement of 700 animals that needed homes in an emergency situation in Alabama.

The Directory is published by the nonprofit Doing Things for Animals, Inc., (DTFA), a humane organization dedicated to serving the needs of the people who provide direct care to unwanted animals. Sales of the Directory support DTFA's activities which include hosting an annual conference that promotes networking among shelters and other animal welfare agencies.

Doing Things for Animals, Inc., is an advocate for unity in the humane community. For more information, contact Lynda Foro by phone/fax at 602-977-5793.

#### **No-Kill Directory**

*Lynda J. Foro, Editor*

*Doing Things for Animals, Inc.*

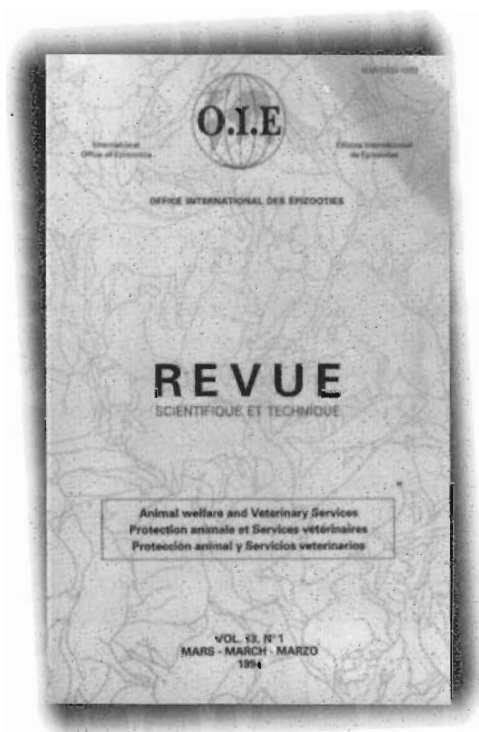
*P.O. Box 2165*

*Sun City, AZ 85372-2165*

*\$15.00*

#### **Animal Welfare and Veterinary Services Scientific and Technical Review**

Readers interested in global animal welfare issues will find this technical review highly interesting. The Office International des Epizooties (OIE) published this edition in the wake of growing concern and legislation regarding the rearing, transportation, and slaughter of animals, particularly in the European Community. In 1993, the OIE's 61st General Session considered animal health and welfare to be inextricably linked. This book encourages exploration of the



many animal welfare issues facing veterinarians.

The 14 chapters, each written in English, French and Spanish, discuss ethical and welfare concerns in intensive-production environments, including cattle, pork, rabbits, ducks, and poultry. Zoo and laboratory animal welfare issues are also considered.

The most thought-provoking chapters are written by Eli Mayer of Israel, who discusses attempting to define well-being across different cultures; and N.S. Ramaswamy of India, who argues that the animal welfare movement itself cannot solve conditions for draft animals around the world but that human self-interest and economic concerns could provide sufficient impetus to guarantee proper animal care.

J.S.J. Odendaal of South Africa describes the 20th Century's paradigm shift in which a mechanistic view of animals was replaced with a theory of global organism: the world is seen by many as a living

organism with intricately intertwined bio-, geo-, hydro-, and atmospheres. The challenge for veterinarians is to find an approach in dealing with animals which makes sense, is fair, is acceptable to people outside the profession, and which is also based on sound scientific knowledge. Odendaal also argues that "cruelty" is too value-laden and implies something negative about the perpetrator; veterinarians may see this as outside their scope of influence and training. Instead, the term "abuse", which refers to the status of the victim, should be used. This semantic change could help veterinarians see themselves as part of the team of humanitarians caring for animals, welfare.

"Animal welfare is a matter for both science and morality, and neither domain alone is sufficient for understanding or action on behalf of animals," writes D.B. Adams of Australia. We couldn't agree more.

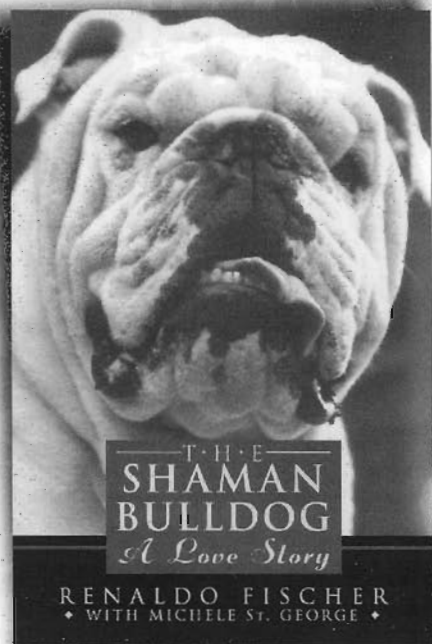
- Phil Arkow

### ***Animal Welfare and Veterinary Services***

*A Scientific and Technical Review*  
Vol. 13, No. 1, March 1994  
International Office of Epizootics  
12, Rue de Prony  
Paris 75017, France  
314 pp., \$46.00

### ***The Shaman Bulldog: A Love Story***

It's axiomatic of course to declare that there are as many reasons for an individual to select and read a particular book as there are titles. Regardless of the number however, two of the most common reasons are to learn, or to vicariously lose oneself through association with a story.



Author Fischer's *THE SHAMAN BULLDOG* is particularly unique in that respect because it satisfies both requirements.

Renaldo Fischer, a medical doctor, relates his progressive, true-life understanding experience and love for a strong-willed and mutually loving, devoted companion English Bull Dog named Faccia Bello.

Those who know and enjoy dogs will find many personal reflections and great pleasure from reading Dr. Fischer's book. Those readers unfamiliar with the reciprocal value and sincerity of a dog's love, can only be benefactors.

As a reviewer, I must divulge that the words Faccia Bello are Italian for "beautiful face" and further, that *THE SHAMAN BULLDOG* is the most enjoyable book that I have read for a long, long time.

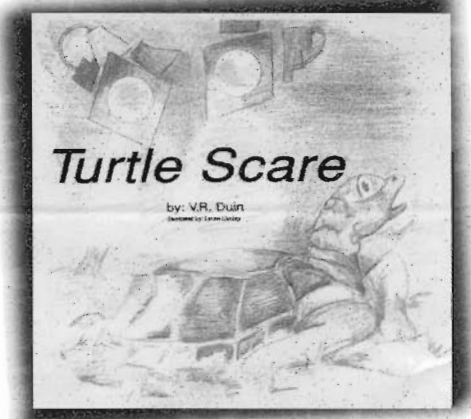
- Hugh H. Tebault

### ***The Shaman Bulldog: A Love Story***

Renaldo Fischer with  
Michele St. George  
Hardbound, 104 pages  
black & white illustrations  
\$12.00  
PFT Warner Books  
1928 E. Highland, Suite F-104-184  
Phoenix, AZ 85016

### **Turtle Scare**

Author V. R. Duin's sea turtle story touches on warm and nostalgic memories. Her beautifully illustrated little booklet *TURTLE SCARE* recalls past and all too short serene periods when as children our parents read fascinating stories to us. There probably have been few human experiences that approached those mutually gratifying relationships, particularly when they occurred just before bed time. *TURTLE SCARE*'s story is perfectly balanced to provide such shared satisfaction by reader and child — it is short, suspenseful, and it has a happy ending. Further, its reading



offers a rare opportunity for a love and affection interlude. Lastly and very importantly, it effectively conveys and stimulates a concern for the feelings and welfare of other sentient beings. We highly recommend this book.

- Hugh H. Tebault

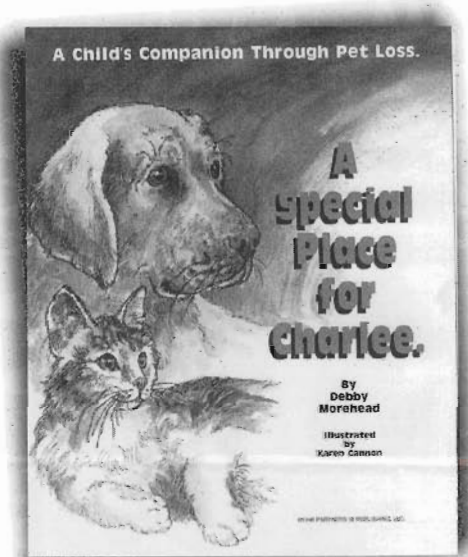
### ***Turtle Scare***

V.R. Duin  
Illustrated by Lynne Liechty  
\$3.95 (quantity discount available)  
ISBN: 1-889384-00-3  
Paperback, 14 pages  
Commercial Graphics Press  
212 Growth Parkway  
Angola, IN 46703

*MEDIA REVIEWS, continued on next page*

## *A Special Place for Charlee - A Child's Companion Through Pet Loss*

Although A SPECIAL PLACE FOR CHARLEE was written especially for the veterinary profession, is an excellent resource for anyone interested in the human companion animal bond. It is sensitively written for all children who have lost a pet to old age, disease, accident or other unfortunate cause. Unlike



most other children's pet loss books, this book includes the veterinarian's key role throughout the life of a pet and reinforces the importance of the veterinarian as a source of support and comfort during pet loss euthanasia.

*A Special Place for Charlee*  
Partners in Publishing, LLC  
5023 W. 120th Ave., Suite 269  
Broomfield, CO 80020  
Tel. 303-438-5894  
Fax 303-526-2479  
Author: Debby Morehead  
Illustrated by Karen Cannon  
7" X 8 1/2"  
\$5.95 retail  
Contact the publishers for  
quantity discounts and  
customized imprinting



## SAVE THE DATE

### Teaching Gentleness with Gardens and Animals to Children from Violent Homes and Communities

May 14, 15, 16 1997

Sonoma County and San Francisco, California

A workshop for management, staff, and volunteers of humane societies, animal care and control agencies, and agencies interested in starting gardening and animal care programs that teach abused and neglected children compassionate alternatives to violence.

Join the Humane Society of Sonoma County's award-winning Garden Therapy Project's staff and volunteers for a hands-on workshop in designing and implementing a program that can make a unique difference.

#### Topics include:

- The need for and impact of gentleness programs
- Recruiting, screening, and supervising safe and appropriate volunteers and staff
- Providing a safe setting
- Ensuring safety of the animals
- Special risks associated with abused and neglected children
- Program design and fundraising

FEE: \$250.00 if received by 4/30/97; \$295.00 after May 1.

Sponsored by the Humane Society of Sonoma County, the San Francisco Child Abuse Council, and the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control

For further information contact the Humane Society of Sonoma County, P.O. Box 1296, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. Phone 707-542-0882.



## American Veterinary Medical Association Honors Latham

"The American Veterinary Medical Association is happy to present you with this plaque in recognition of your work toward improving the humane treatment of animals.

Congratulations and best wishes for continued success in your important endeavors."



# Win prizes and recognition in Latham's "Search for Excellence" Video Awards Competition —



## Recognizing and encouraging excellence in videotaped productions promoting respect for all life

*Deadline: December 31, 1996!*

To be eligible for the First Annual competition, videos must have been completed and released between January 1, 1990 and December 31, 1996. Latham Foundation Directors, Members, and staff (and their families) are ineligible. After review by an independent panel of judges, winners will be announced in June 1997. Videos will be evaluated for presentation of content, production values, creativity, and overall effectiveness. Winners will receive national and local media attention, awards including cash prizes, and publicity in a special issue of the *Latham Letter*. It will be possible to arrange to have awards presented at a winning organization's event.

### HOW TO ENTER

An Entry Form must be completed for each production (or series). You may enter the same video in more than one category; however, each entry must be listed separately and submitted with an additional entry fee (\$20.00) and separate video cassette. Please photocopy the Form below if you need additional

copies, or call, fax, or e-mail the Foundation for a packet containing detailed instructions, categories, and an entry form. See Page 11 for a list of Categories.

### PROTECTION AND RETURN OF ENTRIES

Latham is not responsible for any disputes over entries, or for any losses. Videos may be shown, duplicated for judges, or disposed of as the Latham Foundation deems appropriate. By entering, entrants agree to hold the Latham Foundation harmless for any costs or expenses of any claim arising out of any such use by the Latham Foundation.

No entry material will be returned following judging unless specifically requested and pre-paid delivery charges are included with the entry. Please check the appropriate box on the Entry Form and enclose an additional shipping and handling fee in the amount of U.S. \$10.00 for first video cassette and \$2.00 for each additional one. We will be unable to return videos to countries outside the U.S.

### ENTRY FORM: The Latham Foundation "Search for Excellence" Video Awards

(PLEASE TYPE)

ORGANIZATION, COMPANY, OR INDIVIDUAL ENTERING: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY / STATE / ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS / PHONE / FAX FOR CONTACT PERSON (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE OF ENTRY: \_\_\_\_\_ CATEGORY: \_\_\_\_\_ LENGTH: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that this video was produced between January 1, 1990 and December 31, 1996. I understand and agree to abide by all contest rules, and further agree that the Latham Foundation and/or Special Award sponsors (if appropriate) may use my name and likeness in conjunction with the video for publicity purposes.

I agree to hold the Latham Foundation harmless for any cost or expenses of any claim arising out of any use of this video.

- Yes, please return my video(s) after judging. (U.S. entries only) I have enclosed a check to cover shipping and handling fees in the amount of \$10.00 for the 1st video and \$2.00 for each additional one in addition to my entry fee(s).  
 No, there's no need to return my video(s).

#### ENTRY CHECKLIST:

- ✓ A check or money order for \$20 made out to the Latham Foundation is enclosed for each entry.
- ✓ Each cassette is clearly labeled with the name of submitting organization, individual, or company; the video's title, and its length in minutes and seconds.
- ✓ A stamped, self-addressed envelope is included for acknowledgement of entry receipt.
- ✓ A stamped, self-addressed envelope is included marked "Results" is included for list of winners.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF VIDEO: \_\_\_\_\_

Send entries pre-paid to: **THE LATHAM FOUNDATION**  
Attn: Video Awards, Latham Plaza Bldg, Clement & Schiller Sts., Alameda, CA 95401

For further information about the Latham Foundation's products and services, contact:  
The Latham Foundation Tel: 510-521-0920 Fax: 510-521-9861 E-mail: Lathm@AOL.com



*From the Latham Foundation's  
International Poster Contest  
Archives*



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