THE

Latham Letter

VOLUME XVII, NUMBER 2 SPRING 1996

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

PHOTO: JOHN CHAN

Korean toddler in San Francisco's Tenderloin district and his new four-footed friend.

I Liked the Policeman Who Arrested that Dog!

Lynn Loar, LCSW, Ph.D.

"I liked the policeman who arrested that dog!" said four-year-old Robbie to his social worker as the animal control officer and his dog headed back to the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control after a class on gentleness at an inner-city housing project. Since then Robbie has talked often about wanting to grow up to be an officer who protects animals. His social worker arranged for him to have a tour of the animal shelter, and has nurtured his interest in animals and his occupational goals. Clearly, these gentleness programs have great potential for directing a child away from the harshness of his present circumstances toward a more compassionate and promising future.

Many other humane organizations are starting similar programs that teach kindness to animals in an attempt to stem the growth of juvenile violence. The purpose of this

ARRESTED DOG, continued on page 4

Motives and Characteristics of Wildlife Rehabilitation Volunteers

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

It's a dirty, emotionally frustrating, and increasingly endless job – but a lot of somebodies are doing it! Why?

Wildlife rehabilitation: With more and more people moving into our ever decreasing wilderness areas, the numbers of displaced and injured wildlife - birds, beasts, and fish - are increasing rapidly. Pollution, oil spills, and natural disasters also add to the number of compassionate wildlife rehabilitators needed.

Established organizations and centers which concentrate on rehabilitating displaced and injured

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INSIDE

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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

On Humane Visitation

Hugh H. Tebault, President

There must be many others like me who visit a permanently home or convalescent hospital bed-ridden friend or loved one with a sincere concern and desire to brighten their day, only to be frustrated by the effort to develop germane discussion. Recognition of the experienced intelligence possessed by many whose active life has been brought to a sudden halt by age or other disability is imperative, but what does one say? Does one ask, "How are you?" when they are mentally or physically miserable? Or does one comment about the weather with which they have little or no contact? Certainly a historical account of one's own past-illnesses is no more in order than over-or-understaying a visit.

To a confined person, a meaningful visit is often the highlight of their day and as such it presents an important preparatory challenge to a thoughtful visitor. What uplifting or interesting subjects should be discussed or reported upon? How many visitors should attend? Should a small gift - perhaps fruit or reading material - be given? Where relevant and permissible should the visit include a companion animal?

The above thoughts have been stimulated by the following suggested activities in support of Hospice patients.

1. Cook a dinner for my family, but offer a choice of two courses; and bring it in disposable containers or marked pots. "A choice of two because one week, we had tuna noodle casserole four nights in a row from well-meaning friends." If I can't return your casserole, I will cry at my powerlessness and confusion.
2. Bake homemade cookies or brownies and bring them frozen so I can have the delight of sending fresh cookies off in a lunch box the next morning and enjoy the fun of feeling like a mama.
3. Make your offer specific. Say "I want to come over Monday at 3:00 to bake cookies or clean your pantry shelf, or whatever." If you say, "Call me any time for anything," I won't know what you want to do or when you are free ... so I probably won't ask."
4. Offer to baby sit ... even if my husband and I stay home. This gives us the freedom of a private adult life in a place my illness can cope with.
5. Help with holidays and birthdays and anniversaries. Ask if there are any special gifts or cards or wrapping papers you could pick up for me. How many times I have wanted to give my husband a special "Thank you" card or put up a holiday decoration, but have been unable.
6. Help my children attend birthday parties by bringing some

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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.

OPINIONS

Response to Domestic Violence

Dear Latham:

Thank you for your mention of Loudoun County's Cooperative Response to Domestic Violence. Shortly after the issue appeared I was contacted by Frank Ascione for more information about the program.

I look forward to receiving the Latham Letter.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information and thank you again for your interest.

Barbara A. Cassidy
Leesburg, Virginia

Congratulations!

Dear Steve Nagy and Latham,

As I explained in my letter to Kathryn Braund, Editor of the Dog Writers Association of America Newsletter, the icing on the cake at the February 11th DWAA Awards Banquet was accepting a Maxwell Award for Best Video of 1995 on behalf of the Latham Foundation for "Breaking the Cycles of Violence."

Thank you for giving me the honor of accepting for you.

Congratulations to all at Latham for your third Maxwell. You well deserve it.

Regards,

Arlene Klein, Moorestown, NJ

Concerning Animal Cruelty

To the Hon. Judge William Polley
Superior Court
41 West Yaney Ave.
Sonora, CA 95370

Dear Judge Polley:

The purpose of these letter is to express our deep concern regarding the felony animal cruelty incident which occurred in Toulumne County.

Unlike most humane organizations, Latham's concern (as well as the writer's) is for the welfare of all living sentient creatures, human and non-human. It is my sincere belief and contention that there are not two kinds of cruelty, one against humans and another against non-humans. And, I've found it of particular interest that almost without exception, willful acts of cruelty are indiscriminately committed by cowardly, stronger individuals on weaker human or non-human prey, unable to retaliate.

If violent crime is to be controlled, I suggest that it is necessary for the punishment handed down for all acts of cruelty, to be predicated entirely on the act itself, without mitigation for the type of victim.

Sincerely,

Hugh H. Tebault, President
The Latham Foundation

Thanks for Shelter Guide

To the Latham Foundation:

Many thanks for your help with and support of the Shelter Guide project.

We are delighted with our new supply of Guides.

Sincerely,

Lynn Loar
San Francisco Child
Abuse Council

Editor's Note: *Working with Families in Shelters: A Practical Guide for Counselors and Child Care Staff* is available from the San Francisco Child Abuse Council, 2757 Waller Street, San Francisco, CA 94117, (415) 668-0494.

From a Researcher. . .

Dear Latham:

Just a note to thank you for taking the time to talk to me today.

I am glad that you are working on programs that are of benefit to animals, people, and the world at large.

Carole Savage,
Farmington, Connecticut

ARRESTED DOG, continued from page 1

article is to assist humane organizations in this worthwhile goal by providing the therapeutic rationale for such interventions, and by offering some precautionary remarks in the interests of safety both for the animals and highly vulnerable children.

Why Are Some Children Likely to be Cruel?

A child is not born compassionate or cruel: compassion is learned. As with most things, children learn best by copying what they see around them. A child in a loving home will likely master the skills involved in teasing but not tormenting a sibling, in playing with but not torturing a pet. A responsible adult will enforce limits until the child can do so adequately on his or her own. In this setting, the child develops a sense of self that is good, the capacity to assess (accurately) the impact of one's behavior on others, and the motivation and ability to defer or deny personal gratification for the good of others.

Thus, compassion is a very complicated and mature behavior developed over time involving identity, empathy and impulse control. Its growth depends on its being modeled by an adult important to the child and the child's opportunity to practice compassion routinely in a safe and nurturing setting. Since compassion does not exist in a vacuum but in connection to others, it is best learned in stable and compassionate long-term relationships.

Children in violent homes and neighborhoods learn very different, indeed antithetical, behaviors. They learn that bullying and violence reap rewards such as compliance and obedience, that big, strong and angry people do not wait to get what they want or restrain themselves to prevent scaring smaller creatures, and that compassion for vulnerability may only provoke the abuser's ire and increase danger. Faced with this modeling, children often look forward to the day when they are big enough and strong enough to avoid being scared and to give rather than get punishment. Their coping strategy is to cut off feelings of vulnerability and sympathy for other victims and aspire to be more like the abuser. (Garbarino, 1992; Miller, 1983, 1984; Straus, 1994; Riak, 1994).

PHOTO: JOHN CHAN

How then do we teach compassionate behavior to a child who daily experiences its opposite, and do so without endangering the child when we send him or her home to a violent and callous setting? The rest of this article will describe how humane interventions using gardens and animals can bring about therapeutic change with abused and neglected children, and offer them alternatives to the violence they have come to know.

What is Therapy?

Therapy is helpful talking. Its aim is usually twofold: to give someone a sense of mastery over a problem he/she thought beyond his/her control, and a sense of greater attachment to others, i.e., empathy and compassion. Especially in work involving children, a third ingredient appears, namely concern for growth and development. Children with problems, or from troubled families, often fail to keep pace with their happier peers in acquiring academic and social skills. Thus, the presenting problem is not only worrisome in and of itself, but because of the normal growth it interrupts (Loar, 1994).

The purpose of this article is to assist humane organizations who are starting programs that teach kindness to animals in an attempt to stem the growth of juvenile violence by providing the therapeutic rationale for such interventions, and by offering some precautionary remarks in the interests of safety both for the animals and highly vulnerable children.

Gardens and Animals?

Children who have been abused or neglected by the most important adults in their lives may not welcome a relationship with another adult. In fact, they may assume that all adults will harm them, and that it is just a question of when. Thus, sending a child for therapy is inherently problematic: what the counselor considers time to establish rapport with the child may instead be for the child a very anxious time waiting for the other shoe to drop.

Moreover, children do not enter therapy without the permission, and often the participation, of their parents (unless a court so orders). Rather than persuading reluctant people to come to weekly meetings that remind them they have a problem, it is far easier to offer an appealing and non-threatening activity that has the potential to teach the same therapeutic skills without challenging the authority or values of the parents.

People enjoy gardens and animals and appreciate the opportunity to work with them. Especially people who live in poverty, in bleak surroundings and substandard housing, may welcome the opportunity to do something involving beauty and growth. Thus, the motivation is theirs, and the program is seen as a valued resource rather than as punishment or criticism. Also, gardening and caring for animals are benign activities that the entire family can enjoy throughout their lives long after therapeutic goals have been accomplished.

Learning to tend a garden or care for an animal involves mastery and self-control. One boy in the San Francisco program lived with his hearing-impaired grandmother, and seemed unable to learn from his teachers (and everyone else) that shouting was not necessary – or welcome – elsewhere. He also was very active and distractable, often being put out of class for these behaviors. One day an animal control officer brought a kitten for a visit. The boy's boisterousness scared the kitten and it cowered at the opposite end of the room. The officer advised the boy that if he could be very still and quiet the kitten might eventually come to him. Mastering unprecedented self control, the child remained still and attentive for more than twenty minutes during which the kitten came to him four times. The boy was thrilled, and enamored with the kitten. Ever since the kitten's visit, when the boy has become disruptive in school the teacher has whispered to him "What if a kitten were visiting?" Not wanting to scare any potential visiting kitten, he has settled himself down immediately. Thus, he has learned more than self-control. He also cares about his ability to scare and hurt a small creature, and has both the motivation and the skill to act on his new knowledge. Moreover, he is learning about planning ahead, looking forward to the weekly visits, and about growth as he watches the kitten turn into a cat.

Children who have been abused or neglected by the most important adults in their lives may not welcome a relationship with another adult. They may assume that all adults will harm them.

Can Anyone Do This?

Working with abused and neglected children demands specialized skill and training, beyond that which the humane educator usually acquires. Therefore, to provide a gentleness program responsibly, the humane society should establish a relationship with a good program that serves such children, with the understanding that the staff of the children's program is responsible for the children and the humane society for the animals. Thus, the humane educators offer their expertise without biting off more than they can chew, and the welfare of both the children and the animals is safeguarded by the clear division of responsibility.

Off to a Good Start

First, get clear on what you can offer and for how long. Don't make a commitment for the school year if you are routinely short-staffed at kitten season, for example. The children need predictability and stability. Get firm commitments of time and resources before contacting a children's program.

Start small to avoid big mistakes. The outstanding program at the Humane Society of Sonoma County (Rathmann and Loar, 1994) began with two children and two volunteers. Asking two people to commit one hour per week for a year is a manageable task. Finding a small program that would like to bring two to four children for weekly lessons in animal care is likewise relatively easy.

Get buy-in from everyone before expanding: the children's agency needs to make a firm commitment to continue the staff support of the program (that is, this is not a free period for the teachers or counselors who accompany the children); the organizer needs backing by the director and the board of directors before the program expands.

Grow slowly and carefully. These children have had enough disappointments and losses. Another adult who breaks a promise or fails to follow through is not helping children who have already learned that the adult world is not trustworthy.

ARRESTED DOG, continued on next page

Transportation, Lack of Space, and Other Obstacles

Lack of transportation prevents many children from taking advantage of opportunities available in the community. If they cannot come to you, scale back your initial plans and see about taking an animal to their program each week. The lines of responsibility are especially clear this way, and lots of staff are around if a child has difficulty. An overcrowded shelter need not find space to house the program.

Starting with gardening allows a child to learn to handle a living thing gently with minimal risk. Begin with a big, sturdy animal that the child cannot readily injure. Delay introducing dogs and cats until the children have mastered the art of safe and gentle touching, and can reign in their enthusiasm. Puppies, kittens and other small, fragile animals come last and only if their safety is assured. The purpose of the program is undermined if a child is allowed to harm an animal (accidentally or deliberately).

Choose people suited to the task of working with difficult children. Staff and volunteers should be screened, finger printed and provided with ongoing supervision (Loar, 1994b) so that the children have the opportunity to relate beneficially to appropriate people.

PHOTO: JOHN CHAN

Neither the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control nor the inner city programs eager to participate have space for a garden. However, SLUG (the San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners) has brought seedlings and flower pots to the programs and taught the children to transplant and grow house plants. An added benefit of the plant room (the counselor's office) is that children who had resisted talking to the counselor quite readily drop by to check on their plant and chat with whoever happens to be there.

Benefits to Children

Children in the program at the Humane Society of Sonoma County come to the shelter each week to garden and tend the animals. They form specific attachments to the animals who live at the shelter permanently and are part of the program. The volunteers must go through extensive screening and training, and then make a commitment of weekly sessions for a year. Thus, the children gradually come to know and trust these dedicated adults. For the participating children, this may be their one outing from the shelter they reside in, and the freedom and space of the garden is a welcome treat.

Compassion is a very complicated and mature behavior developed over time involving identity, empathy, and impulse control. Its growth depends on its being modeled by an adult important to the child and the child opportunity to practice compassion routinely in a safe and nurturing setting.

Such treats are not available to the inner-city participants in the San Francisco program. Officers rather than volunteers work with the children so that they can develop trust in people wearing uniforms. The San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control lacks the space and resources to have the program on site (and the children would not have transportation to the shelter). Thus, this more Spartan program has a different emphasis. Rather than forming attachments to specific animals seen weekly, the children instead meet and learn about a different animal at each visit. They become confident of their abilities to master the new skills needed to handle safely all sorts of animals, and build a relationship with the officer who models kindness and gentleness both to the children and to the animals.

The Family School, which works with severely disadvantaged single mothers and their pre-school children, received eight weekly visits. Sharon Eichinger, the Child Development Center Director summarized the benefits to the children in her program as follows:

1. The children were introduced to a variety of animals in a safe, inviting setting. They were able to get "up close" with many different animals including several dogs and even a snake.
2. The officers offered instruction and advice to the children on proper ways to approach, touch and care for each animal.
3. The children became more comfortable with each animal contact. Even those who were initially fearful gained confidence with the different animals over time. Some children grew noticeably calm and careful when handling the animals.
4. Every animal presented was gentle with the children.
5. The uniformed officers made a positive impression on the children. The officers dispelled the children's fears as well as the myth that they were simply "dog catchers."
6. The officers were informative, patient and able to discuss animal issues and answer questions in a manner that the children could easily understand.
7. The children looked forward to each visit by the officers with excitement and anticipation.
8. The children would talk about their experience with the different animals with the teachers, their parents and amongst themselves long after each visit.

The officers also visited a new housing project in the Tenderloin and met weekly with a group of children ranging in age from eighteen months to mid-teens, representing many cultures and speaking many different languages. One social worker, Susan Phillips, said the visits "gave many of the inner-city children living here their first chance to interact with animals and learn about touching and being touched in a friendly and non-threatening manner. Through this program, the children learned about the habits and natural habitats, the

A child is not born either compassionate or cruel: compassion is learned.

likes and dislikes of other creatures, and, most importantly, they learned respect for life. Because of this program, we were able to introduce the concepts of personal boundaries, good touch and bad touch, to very young children in a manner that made sense to them."

Another social worker in the Tenderloin program summed up the children's experience in a letter to Carl Friedman, the director of the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control:

"Dear Mr. Friedman:

I want to thank you and your department personnel for the excellent animal program you provided our children. Your officers worked excellently with the children, and as uniformed personnel, that is very important. Many of our children had fears of "the man in uniform"; now, they have learned that these same men in uniforms care about animals and children. A four-year-old boy now refers to your officer affectionately as the "policeman who arrests dogs" and would like to become an officer just like him.

More importantly, the children have learned that the animals are not objects, but have their own nature and sensitivities. In the beginning many lunged at the animals, forcefully petting them, generating fear in the animals. And when the animals were afraid, so were the children. Now, they have learned that animals have their private space which must be approached respectfully, and that touching must be sensitive to the animal's feelings. They have become more aware of the things they can do to frighten and hurt these animals. In turn, these same lessons can be transferred to themselves and how they would like to be touched. That is so important in this Tenderloin environment.

One of the strongest impressions I had was during an early session with a dog. She was very afraid of the group of children, mostly aged 9 to 12 years old, who had tried to forcefully pet her and almost confronted her as a group–their hands wildly reaching for her. I could see the puzzlement in their eyes: "Why was the dog so afraid of them?" And they began to fear the dog, who was by now backing away and jumping. Then came a year-and-a-half old Korean boy with his grandmother. You could see the boy was just learning to walk, tottering slowly through the courtyard. When he saw the dog, he began smiling and beaming at the dog, not approaching her for a long time. Simply standing next to the dog, beaming, the child calmed the dog down. When he did approach the dog, it was done very slowly. The dog, much calmed, allowed only him to touch. I could see that the other children were simply amazed. The youngest of

ARRESTED DOG, continued on next page

them had taught them (and myself) a lesson. I stood there dumfounded at the natural sensitivity of that child, that by the age of 9 was already lost in the other children and in myself.

Please thank all the officers involved in your program, including Captain Michael Knapp, officer Mike Holland, and officer Michael Scott.

Yours sincerely,
John Chan"

Benefits to Humane Societies

Work with children and animals is inherently rewarding. Working with high risk children and instilling in them a love for animals and respect for life offers them alternative ways of seeing themselves and other living creatures, and gives them the actual experience of behaving kindly and gently. The adults participating in these programs feel that they are truly contributing to breaking the intergenerational cycle of abuse and neglect.

Working with abused and neglected children demands specialized skill and training beyond that which the humane educator usually acquires.

Uniformed officers usually face angry and abusive people, and maltreated and neglected animals. It is a welcome change of pace for them to engage in preventive work, and gratifying to be awaited and looked up to by a bunch of enthusiastic children. Moreover, work with distressed families in an educational setting broadens the humane officers' experience, understanding of the hardships people face, and increase their abilities to relate to a diverse population.

PHOTO: JOHN CHAN

In addition to boosting the morale of the participants who are often overworked and under-recognized staff, these programs elevate the profile of the organization in the community. Municipal animal control agencies and humane societies can show the participating human service agencies, the supporters and donors to the program, and the community at large how to put humane values into practice for a society that is safer for children and animals.

Lynn Loar is the Educational Coordinator at the San Francisco Child Abuse Council. The Council is located at 1757 Waller Street, San Francisco, CA 94117. Phone (415) 668-0494.

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Early Spay/Neuter

A 20-minute video on early spay/neuter has been produced by the American Humane Association that urges animal shelters to adopt a neuter-before-adoption-policy as young as six to eight weeks old. The video is entitled "The Case for Early Neutering" and is designed for shelter policy makers, but is also relevant for veterinarians and the general public. $14.95 from the American Humane Association, 63 Inverness Drive East, Englewood, CO 80112. Phone 303-762-9900.

Loudoun County, Virginia Develops Cooperative Response to Domestic Violence

Editor's Note: Interest in our brief mention of this innovative program in the Winter *Latham Letter* ("Latham Lauds," page 11) prompted this follow-up article

History

Prior to the development of this innovative solution there was no program in Loudoun County to provide temporary shelter for animals whose owners must seek emergency shelter from an abusive situation. Representatives of the Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS) contacted the Department of Animal Care and Control to discuss the problem they were experiencing on a frequent basis. The problem was that the LAWS shelter could not accept animals and women who needed shelter from an abusive situation were unwilling to leave if they could not take their animal(s) with them. The Loudoun County Department Care and Control (LCACC) does not have a legal obligation to respond to this problem, but the department administrator recognized the need to provide assistance to preclude compounding the problem for the women and animals involved. It was recognized that some women seeking shelter from an abusive situation are unwilling to leave behind a loved companion. It was also recognized that animals living in violent households are also victims of abuse. Additionally, animal abuse has become a recognized indicator of child abuse. Although there was no mandate for animal control to respond to such a problem, we felt that a response was necessary to prevent suffering or abuse to animals left in violent situations that might require future intervention by the department and/or possible prosecution for cruelty to animals.

Description of the Program

Representatives from LAWS and Loudoun County Animal Care and Animal Control (LCACC) met in April 1993 to discuss possible ways in which to solve this problem. The objective was to develop a cooperative program that would provide temporary, emergency shelter for animals whose owners were seeking shelter from an abusive situation at the LAWS. Animal Care and Control Administrator, Barbara Cassidy developed and implemented the cooperative program. The agencies involved are Loudoun County Animal Care and Control and the Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter. LCACC sought and obtained the assistance of 5 private boarding facilities that agreed to provide up to 30 days of foster care for animals owned by women at the LAWS shelter. Foster care is provided by these private kennels at no charge. The role of each agency in meeting the needs of women seeking shelter at LAWS are as follows: LCACC provides emergency service, 24 hours per day, to pick up companion animals needing shelter when requested by LAWS. The animal will be picked up by an animal warden and delivered to the Loudoun County Animal Shelter (LCAS). Within the first two days of being taken to the animal shelter, Animal Care and Control staff will speak directly with the animal owner to discuss options available. The options include placing the animal in foster care for 30 days, placing the animal with a friend or relative of the owner, or giving the animal up for adoption. The owner will sign a release, holding harmless LCACC, LAWS and the foster care provider. The release tracks the animal and requires the owner to sign off on any disposition of the animal. Once the animal is placed in foster care, the owner is not aware of the location and all communication goes through LCACC.

The program provides a new and greatly needed service to the residents of Loudoun County. It represents a very innovative approach to solving the problem of providing temporary shelter for animals whose owners must seek emergency shelter from an abusive situation.

The role of LAWS will be to advise any woman with animals who is seeking shelter that the animals will be picked up by LCACC for emergency shelter and that options are available for the animal while the owner makes decisions about her own welfare. LAWS will contact LCACC at any time a woman seeking shelter also has animals. LAWS now also asks all women seeking shelter if they have animals in the home that might be at risk. This step identifies animals that might be

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left behind in an abusive situation that the woman has not been able to plan for.

Planning for this program took approximately 2 months. Private area boarding kennels were contacted about participation in this cooperative program and the response was gratifying. Five kennels agreed to provide foster care for up to 30 days for an individual animal. Each kennel agreed to take up to 2-3 animals at any given time. The private boarding kennels were all promised anonymity to prevent their involvement in domestic disputes. Both the County Attorney and the Commonwealth Attorney were consulted about this program during it's development.

This program has been fully operational since May 1993.

Program Costs

There were no costs associated with developing the program other than staff time for the department Administrator and Chief Animal Warden. The fiscal impact to the department for operating costs are minimal because the animals never stay at the LCAS for more than 2 or 3 days. Estimated costs per case are based on the cost for board at $8 per animal per day. Calls for service could come at any time. If an animal warden is called to respond while on-call (at night), the additional cost for on-call pay would be $33.67 per incident. All other costs are donated by the boarding kennel. If medical care is needed for the animal, the Humane Society of Loudoun County has agreed to provide emergency medical care.

Success of the Program

This program is highly successful. The objective has been met and a program is in place to provide temporary shelter for animals whose owners must seek emergency shelter from an abusive situation. The program has assisted over a dozen women with animals since it was implemented and countless other women have been made aware of the program's availability should they make a decision to seek shelter at LAWS. It is difficult to provide an exact number of women who have been assisted because many will make contact with the program and then decline assistance because they are not yet ready to leave an abusive situation. A letter of thanks from the LAWS Director is attached which attests to the success of the program. This has served as a model program for other jurisdictions seeking to address similar problems.

Why this program is worthy of recognition

This program is worthy of an award and recognition for several reasons. The program provides a new and greatly needed service to the residents of Loudoun County. It represents a very innovative approach to solving a problem. The program itself has developed a cooperative relationship between County government, the private sector (boarding kennels) and the humane society to deliver a service that is needed. The program has also enhanced the knowledge and understanding of the agencies involved. They are working together on the issue of domestic violence and each agency has become more aware of each others roles in the community and has fostered an improved understanding that violence is random and affects the entire family - spouse, children and animals. The program is also worthy of an award because it demonstrates creativity in solving a problem. This program was developed and implemented without great expense. Almost all aspects of the program have been and continue to be donated. The Loudoun County Department of Animal Care and Control recognized a problem in the community, met with other agencies that could help solve the problem and developed a cost effective solution to the problem that is assisting the residents of Loudoun County.

For further information contact Barbara A. Cassidy, P.O. Box 6159, Leesburg, VA 22075, 703-777-5751 or David Lambelet, Executive Director, Loudoun County Animal Care and Control, Route 1, Box 985, Waterford, VA 22190, 540-882-3211.

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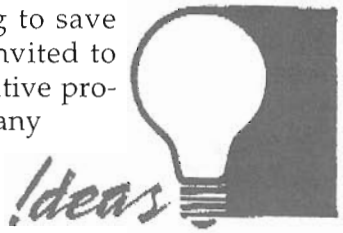
MAY 4-5, 1996

Cooperative Project of Interest to Humane Societies and SPCAs



Animal protection groups wishing to save money while raising funds are invited to participate in two unique cooperative projects in which the purchasing power of many organizations is harnessed to reduce production costs.

The projects are a four-color direct mail development brochure and a four-color wall calendar. By pooling dozens of organizations' orders into an annual printing run, hundreds of thousands of brochures and tens of thousands of calendars are printed, making the unit costs affordable for even the smallest animal care and control organization.

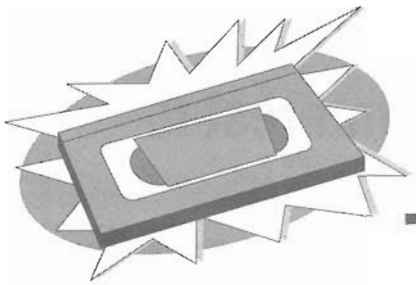
June 30 is the deadline to participate and receive the brochures or calendars by September.

For details contact Phil Arkow at 609-627-5118; fax 609-627-2252; e-mail Arkowpets@AOL.com.

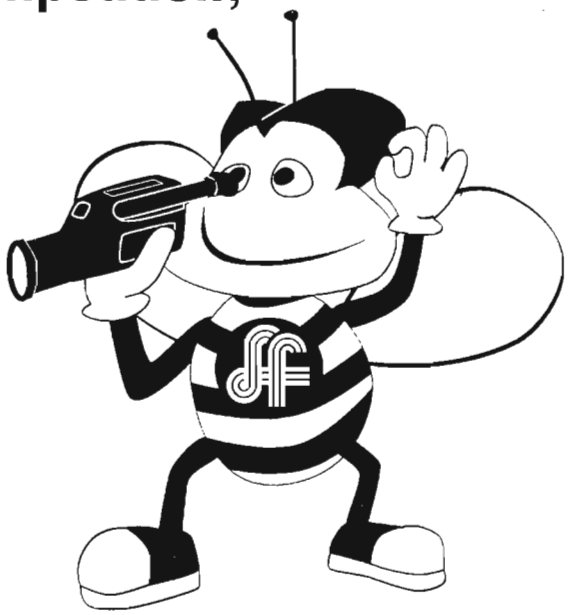
EDITORIAL, continued from page 2

pre-wrapped children's birthday gifts to our home for future use.

8. Ask me who you know that I might like to see and bring them by. Often. I am too shy to approach a friend on my own. My whole life consists of asking favors, and I may just be too tired to make social requests too.
9. Take snapshots of my children over the months. This gives me a feeling that there are permanent records of the temporary happenings I must miss.
10. Offer to run two meaningless errands a week for our family. The small stuff like no hair ribbons or cologne or clean suits fall by the wayside otherwise.
11. Allow me to feel sad, or prepare for the worst. One of the most difficult problems of serious illness is that everyone wants to encourage the patient; but sometimes, having the luxury of a good cry with a good friend who will allow it, lets the tension escape like once the dam is broken. I have one friend who lets me call her when I feel sad or like giving up or just lonely - and by the time I finish dialing her number and she answers "hello" – the fear is gone. Sometimes, the greater part of a cure is the release of fear.
12. Even if the joke is terrible, tell it. Share your humor. Bring Reader's Digest and read aloud. I may relish it. Speak to the part of me that is more alive than dead, for that is the real me.
13. Touch me. The isolation of being an invalid makes the power of love sweeter.
14. Offer to watch TV with me some afternoon when an old movie is on. Bring a book or magazine in case I fall asleep. This gives me the feeling that my company is still enjoyable without the responsibility of entertaining you.
15. Say the word cancer around me and talk about the real life you are living. This helps me feel less like an untouchable and like I am still involved with the world of normalcy. One of the hardest things about being an invalid is the problem of conversation with my husband. If you don't talk to me about the life outside, I am left with only illness and TV to talk about with him and this is hard.
16. Tell me how great I look considering what I am going through. I know I look sick but I still need to feel honestly attractive.
17. Encourage your husband to come over and see my husband in the evenings. One of the greatest gifts I have is my husband; and yet, my illness has eliminated many of his pleasures. How happy I am when I hear him laughing with a friend in his shop or cheering Monday night football and popping popcorn with a pal.
18. Pray for me and say so. The fact you have faith gives me faith.
19. Talk of me of the future. Next week, next year, ten or twenty years. The power of planning is incredible. Talk to me of my baby's senior graduation and I can get through next week. Bring travel folders for my silver anniversary trip or discuss hairstyles for when my hair grows back in. If you look ahead, I can too.



Latham Launches Video Awards Competition, *a search for excellence*



For many years, the Latham Foundation has served the humane movement as a prime producer and distributor of humane education, human companion animal bond-related, and science and nature films and videos. Additionally, the Foundation has been successful experiencing conducting poster, essay, and hero dog contests.

Given the widespread use of camcorders and the availability of affordable, accessible video editing facilities, many excellent video productions are being produced. Therefore, Latham is initiating its Video Awards Competition to search for and recognize excellence in humane education video production.

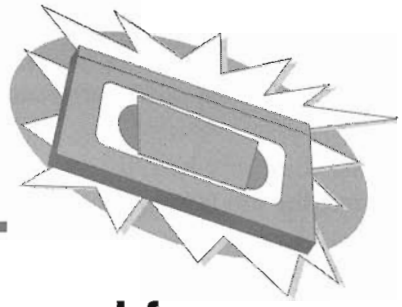
The awards, to be announced in June 1997 for videos produced between January 1, 1990 and December 31, 1996, will culminate in a media blitz and a special issue of the *Latham Letter*. Application and further information will soon be available.

Latham Lauds

The IHS Primary Care Provider

Latham congratulates Grace Briskey of Lummi Island, Washington and the editors of the November 1995 *IHS Primary Care Provider*, who worked together over a period of 14 months to produce an issue devoted to animals as health care issues. *The Provider* is a clinical publication geared toward professionals who provide health care to American Indians and Alaska Natives. It is distributed to more than 6000 health care providers working for Indian Health Service and tribal health programs, to medical and nursing schools throughout the country, and to health professionals working with or interested in American Indian and Alaska Native health care. It is published monthly by the Indian Health Service Clinical Support Center, 1616 East Indian School Rd, Suite 375, Phoenix, Arizona, 85016. Telephone 602-640-2140; fax 602-640-2138. Previous issues beginning with the December 1994 issue can be found on the IHS health care provider home page (http://www.tucson.ihs.gov).

Volume 20, Number 11 clearly demonstrates the relationship between human health and animals. Articles include "Animals as Health Care Issues" by Dr. David O. Wiebers, reprinted here (see page 16); a description of the humane education program developed on the Navajo reservation in Chinle, Arizona with the help of Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, which will be described in the next *Latham Letter*; an overview of some of the diseases that may be transmitted from animals to humans; an article on the importance of spaying and neutering; resource guide; and personal commentaries by four American Indian/Alaska Native professionals about the importance of animals in their own lives and in the lives of other Native Americans. Highly recommended reading!

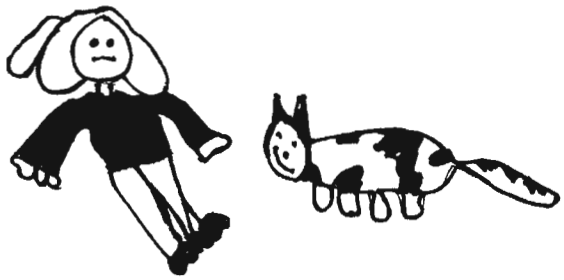


Latham Wins Maxwell Award for Best Video, 1995

Arlene Klein, Latham Foundation Member in New Jersey, accepting a "Maxwell" for "Breaking the Cycles of Violence" at the DWAA Awards Banquet held on Sunday, February 11th in New York City.

Latham's video "Breaking the Cycles of Violence" wins the Dog Writers' Association of America Maxwell for Best Video of 1995. "Cycles" is a sensitive, interview-based production promoting awareness about the links between child and animal abuse. It is accompanied by a 64-page training guide written by Phil Arkow.

Latham videos "Canine Good Citizen" and "Living with HIV and Pets" won Maxwells in 1993 and 1994, respectively. All three videos are available from the Latham Foundation. Call 510 521-0920 to order.



Found on the Internet. . .

"Rules of Etiquette for Inexperienced Cats"

1. If you have to throw up, get into a chair quickly. If you can't manage this in time, get to an Oriental rug. Shag is also good.
2. Determine quickly which guest hates cats. Sit on that lap during the entire evening. He won't dare push you off and will even call you "nice kitty." If you can arrange to have cat food on your breath, so much the better.
3. For sitting on laps or rubbing against trouser legs, select colors that contrast with your own.
4. Always accompany guests to the bathroom. It is not necessary to do anything. Just sit and stare.
5. For guests who say, "I love kitties," be ready with aloof disdain, claws applied to stockings, or a quick nip on the ankles.
6. Do not allow closed doors in any room. To get one open, stand on hind legs and hammer with forepaws. Once the door is opened for you, it isn't necessary to use it. You can change your mind. When you have ordered an outside door opened, stand half in and half out and think about several things. This is particularly important during very cold weather or mosquito season.
7. If one person is busy and the other is idle, sit with the busy one. For book readers, get in close under the chin, unless you can lie across the book itself.
8. For people doing homework, sit on the paper being worked on. After being removed for the second time, push anything moveable off the table – pens, pencils, stamps, etc. – one at a time.
9. Get enough sleep during the daytime so that you are fresh for playing at night between 2 and 4 am.
10. When humans are holding the newspaper in front of them, be sure to jump on the back of the paper. They love to jump.
11. When the humans are eating, make sure you leave the tip of your tail in their dish when they aren't looking.

VOLUNTEERS, continued from page 1

wildlife rely heavily on volunteers, but the job is frequently hard, dirty work and is often depressing because over half of the animals brought into the centers die from their injuries or because they cannot be returned to their normal natural environments and cannot adapt to the confined space of captive circumstances.

So what kind of people would commit themselves to this kind of volunteer work? What motivates them to give up leisure time to care for displaced or injured wildlife? What characteristics set them apart from the people who handle the easier, more ordinary volunteer jobs in the business or entertainment worlds?

The research team of the U.C. Davis Center for Animals in Society recently interviewed 80 of the many volunteers who work for the three major wildlife rehabilitation centers in the San Francisco Bay Area. These volunteers had some very enlightening answers to questions about when their interest in wildlife began, their length of service as wildlife rehabilitation volunteers, their motivation for continuing to work as rehabilitators, and their methods of dealing with negative feelings caused by animals deaths.

Some volunteers ranged from 16 to 73 year olds, had done rehabilitation work for times ranging from 6 months to 13 years, had at least two years of college education, and all had taken the training classes and hands-on experience required by the centers where they volunteered. Most of them lived in rural and suburban areas and only 10% were urban dwellers. Seventeen of the suburbanites live near an "open space" where opossums, raccoons, and other such wildlife wandered through the volunteers' yards and provided some direct learning.

Asked when and how they become interested in working with wildlife, three-fourths insisted they had "always" been interested. This is not too surprising since some recent research indicates that childhood interest in domestic animals usually evolves into interest and concern for all animal life. Indeed, 95% of these volunteers had had childhood pets and/or owned pets presently. This is more than average Californians owned or had owned. The volunteers also averaged many more pets per household than other U.S. pet-owning households. Expectably, the volunteers who said they had developed an interest in wildlife as adults had had fewer childhood pets.

As the number of displaced and injured wildlife increases, more concerned rehabilitation volunteers will be needed.

Although 43% said they really enjoyed working with both the animals and the people involved, 8% preferred working just with the other people at the centers, and 40% said they preferred working just with the animals because human-animal interactions were less demanding, less complex, and less argumentative than human-human interactions. Those who liked working with both people and animals enjoyed the added interaction of shared ideas and attitudes toward animals, ecology, and the environment. Those who preferred just working with people stressed the type of communication of verbal interchanges which human-animal interactions lacked.

Basically, these volunteers worked with all types of animals but most frequently mentioned whales, seals, shore and song birds, raptors, and land mammals such as deer, raccoons, opossums, squirrels, and coatimundis. A third of them, however, had specific preferences for all mammals, or all raptors, or all song birds. Only 18% were unwilling to work with a specific type of animal. Five avoided raptors, four disliked raccoons, three would not work with opossums and one disliked all snakes.

These volunteers continue to help rehabilitate injured or displaced animals for three main reasons. Some enjoy working with organizations which share their world views; some want to "pay back" Nature for the harm done by humans, and some simply like working with "Cooperative Others".

The question about dealing with feelings of grief, loss, and sometimes failure when an animal to which they have become attached dies or must be euthanized produced a number of responses. Although 86% felt that death was a natural part of life which often prevented further suffering, a third of the volunteers would nonetheless grieve. Many of them felt that the grief support of other volunteers was very important to them. Others focused on memories of animals they had helped to save or learned something from one death which helped them to save the next animal. Only one volunteer maintained "You never do get used to it".

And so, as the number of displaced and injured wildlife increases, more concerned rehabilitation volunteers will be needed. It is to be hoped that awareness of these characteristics and motivations of dedicated volunteer rehabilitation workers will make it possible for Rehabilitation Centers to continue to recruit enough people who can make a genuine difference in the survival and health of a declining wildlife population.

Authors are affiliated with the Center for Animals in Society, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis.

Jenni's Journal Part Five

Jenni Dunn, therapy dog

Thursday, May 12, 1993

Mom was quite pleased today when a patient said I was very friendly and outgoing. I got in the bed with a lady today. I didn't stay very long but she seemed to love it anyway. One lady was visiting her husband and I gave her a big kiss on the nose. She loved dogs and I could tell. They both said they would take all the pet visits they could get.

Wednesday, June 23, 1993

I hadn't visited patients in quite awhile as Mom had been sick with a cold and didn't want to expose the patients. I had been bugging her for about a week to take me to visit and she finally gave in. I knew I was long overdue and thought she had forgotten to take me. After all, I have a very important job to do.

There wasn't one patient who didn't want to see me today so my visits lasted a long time. I visited one man who used to raise Labrador Retrievers (that's what I am, you know); another patient who owned a Lab; and a lady and her daughter who had 10 rescue dogs at home. I was even asked by the nurses to make special visits to three different patients and I did. One man visiting his wife followed me around out of curiosity watching me from the hall while I visited several patients in their rooms. Finally he walked up to Mom and asked her why she had a "seeing eye" dog if she could see. Mom explained what I was doing and he requested I make a special visit to his wife. She was very ill and tried to lift her head with her hands so she could see me. Mom pulled a chair up beside the bed and I jumped up on it so the nice lady could see me and pet me. Even though she was very weak, she even made an effort to give me a treat. She said that my visit was a "blessing from God"! Boy was I proud! We visited a man in the advanced stages of senility who had pulled out his IV and the nurse was trying to control him enough to stop the bleeding. When we walked into the room, he immediately calmed down when he saw me and she was able to get the job done. The nurse thanked me and Mom for staying during the emergency.

Wednesday, July 7, 1993

Today was a special day. I visited people from the time I got out of the car in the parking lot all the way to the front door. When I finally got inside the lobby, I ran into a lab technician who asked Mom to bring a picture of me for her office. My assignment was all the waiting rooms and the 4th floor. I was still a little wet from my bath so I started at the surgery waiting room. A doctor took time from explaining the surgery he had just performed on a patient to his family just to give me some special attention.

It is so obvious that even these doctors need Pet Therapy. All the people in the waiting room were smiling at me as I left. Waiting for loved ones having surgery is very nerve wracking and my visits always seem to help them too. My next stop was the Pre-Surgery Care Unit waiting room. When one of the nurses saw me, she asked me to come back into the room where she was getting a patient ready for surgery. The patient was really scared and the nurse needed me to take the patient's mind off of getting her IV started. It worked, the patient relaxed and the nurse got her IV started. The nurse thanked me for helping and said I had come at just the right time. The patient asked me to stay with her until she was taken to surgery and asked the nurse if I could accompany her to surgery. That would have been a first!

One patient I visited today really stands out in my mind. The man

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The patient had an injury to his lung and his blood oxygen level was really low. When I entered his room and he saw me, his oxygen level immediately jumped to normal. The nurse proclaimed, "Now Look at that! Don't think that Pet Therapy doesn't work!"

Animals as Health Care Issues

David O. Wiebers, M.D.

How does this relate to animals as a health care issue? A quote from Albert Schweitzer illustrates the essence of this connection: "Until he extends the circle of compassion to all living things, man will not himself find peace." On the surface, this may sound like idle, esoteric philosophy. On further reflection, one discovers a fundamental and diverse applicability to the collective health of our patients and ourselves.

Over the past decade or so, it has been with a sense of deep joy that I have come to know a growing number of health care workers who have become aware of the importance of extending the circle of our compassion to beings other than humans. Still, within the medical community and society at large, others have asked, "Why in the face of so many problems confronting humanity and the earth would a physician such as yourself dedicate so much time and effort to the well-being of animals?" Such inquiries have been very helpful to me because they have led to my examining more carefully the reasons underlying the importance of animal protection to myself and others.

One of the most compelling aspects of this endeavor involves the sheer magnitude of suffering among animals that takes place on a day-to-day basis, much of it occurring at the hands of humans. When one adds up the sum total of unnecessary death and suffering of sentient beings on this earth, the vast majority of it involves animals.

Why does the death and suffering of beings other than humans matter that much to a practicing neurologist?

In the medical profession, one is continuously mindful of the value and sacredness of human life and of the virtue in promoting and enhancing it. This applies not only to the most intelligent and articulate human beings, but also the least fortunate among us, including those with severe acquired illnesses and developmental defects, some of which may be so profound as to preclude any meaningful communication with others.

Each individual has a unique value, not by virtue of his or her level of intelligence or ability to communicate in a certain way, but by virtue of the energy inhabiting that body that instills recognizable "life" into its protoplasm.

Although scientists are attempting to develop the technology to measure this energy directly, there is currently no consistent way to do so. We can, however, measure many of its consequences. For example, from an electrophysiological standpoint, cerebral electrical activity can be measured via the electroencephalogram (EEG).

The similarity of this energy in the human with that in other animals is, upon reflection, self-evident, particularly for those who have closely associated with animals and observed their personalities carefully over many years. Even without such careful observation, logic would dictate that the life-conferring energy allowing consciousness, thoughts, decisions, pain perception, etc., must reside in other living animals in order to activate their central nervous systems as it resides in living humans.

If more evidence is needed, the EEGs of animals are analogous to those of humans; in fact, the EEGs of gorillas and other primates are nearly indistinguishable from those of humans. This is not surprising given that the brain structure and other central and peripheral nervous system structures and circuitry, down to the cellular level, are analogous in humans and other animals, particularly primates, where again they may be almost indistinguishable. These structures include centers for motor function; associated motor movements; sensory systems for pain and touch perception, vision, hearing, taste, and smell; and, in many cases, centers which mediate mood and personality.

There has been a general tendency among humans, and a specific inclination among scientists and theologians, to draw a very sharp line between humans and other animals while disregarding significant analogies and areas of overlap. As a result, ethical standards have been developed with little or no consideration for sentient beings other than humans, based on certain features possessed by humans but not other animals.

Scientists have usually focused upon the superiority of human intelligence or language function. Yet gorillas and other primates have scored higher on intelligence tests designed by and for humans than have some humans. Almost all animals have some form of easily recognizable communication, and it is now clear that at least some primates can be taught sign language and other forms of language, though none yet can master our exact vocabulary. These animals possess more language function than a child who is less than three months old and considerably more function than a human born without cerebral hemispheres who cannot meaningfully interact with the environment or other beings. Although the latter may survive with a life-force energy activating his or her central nervous system, limitations of the brain restrict the capacity of this energy to express itself.

Theologians have historically

drawn the line between humans and other animals with the underlying premise that animals cannot possess souls or spirits. Yet it is precisely this life-force energy in humans, constituting the soul or spirit, that must also inhabit and activate the central nervous systems of other living animals. Virtually all of the world's major spiritual traditions and a growing collection of scientific data on near-death experiences and related phenomena suggest the capacity for this energy, soul or spirit to transcend (exist separately from) the human body. The primary definition of soul in *Webster's New World Dictionary* is "an entity which is regarded as being the immortal or spiritual part of the person, and though having no physical or material reality, is credited with the functions of thinking and willing, and, hence, determining all behavior." If, in the proceeding sentence the word, "person" were changed to "individual," the resulting definition would fit clearly with what we know about other animals as well as humans.

Few would deny that the mentally retarded child, or even the child born without cerebral hemispheres, has a soul or spirit, yet there has been a reluctance on the part of many to accept that this possibility exists in animals. We humans should be open to the further possibility that the differences we observe between humans and animals may not relate as much to the energy/soul/spirit that inhabits the bodies and brains themselves, which specifically define and limit the expression of this energy. A similar phenomenon can be observed in humans with various impairments. It hardly seems possible that the energy or soul residing within a human who has a stroke or contracts Alzheimer's disease is somehow eternally destroyed or damaged. On the contrary, that part of all of us which is the body should not be damaged by illness or any other structural change to the human body, but rather its expression temporarily limited.

Clearly, there are distinct and major differences between humans and other animals. However, we should not be too quick to judge the significance of these differences since there is a considerable amount of evidence to suggest that, even by human definitions, the most important and enduring elements in humans and animals may be those elements which differ the least.

"The difference in mind between man and higher animals, great as it is, is certainly one of degree and not of kind."

Charles Darwin

Other physicians and scientists have made similar observations about the minds of humans and other animals. The eminent British neurologist Lord Walter Russell Brain (1895-1966) observed, "I personally can see no reason for conceding mind to my fellow man and denying it to animals ... I at least cannot doubt that the interests and activities of animals are correlated with awareness and feeling in the same way as my own." Nearly a century earlier, in his book The *Descent of Man*, Charles Darwin (1809-1882) observed, "There is no fundamental difference between man and the higher mammals in their mental faculties." The difference in mind between man and higher animals, great as it is, is certainly one of degree and not of kind.

As I reflect upon these observations, I cannot help but feel a sense of great obligation, not only to other human life but to non human life as well. Humankind's superior intelligence and capacity for moral judgments do not confer upon us the right to exploit other species (or for that matter other humans with lesser intellectual capacity), but rather a responsibility to show compassion for them and assist them.

I cannot help but wonder how we humans would react if an intellectually superior race of beings with advanced telepathic communication capabilities we would not comprehend were to land on Earth. Would they be morally justified on the basis of these additional capabilities to utilize humans in the ways we presently utilize other animals for the benefit of their "superior" race?

Dr. Albert Einstein (1879-1955) commented, "A human being ... experiences himself his thoughts, and feelings, as something separate from the rest, a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness ... Our task must be to free ourselves from the prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature and its beauty. Nobody is able to achieve this completely, but the striving for such achievement is in itself part of the liberation and a foundation for inner security."

While there is much that can yet be done to decrease human suffering, most humans have become aware of the virtue of not killing or torturing other humans and have learned to think of other humans as ends rather than means. It has become generally accepted in our

HEALTH CARE, continued on next page

society that killing or otherwise causing suffering in other humans is unethical except in cases of self-defense in un-avoidable situations. This applies regardless of the ends or economic impact, regardless of another human's ability to communicate in a certain way, and regardless of the amount of power that individual possesses.

With regard to animals, however, the above activities are condoned by much of society in a variety of venues unless they are applied to specific animals such as our own companion animals. The difference between ones companion animal and another animal that is raised for food or trapped in the wild parallels the difference between our human family members and humans from other families, cultures, or locations. Although most humans in our society recognize the virtue of not killing or otherwise causing suffering in companion animals, there continues to be a failure on the part of humankind as a whole to recognize the deeper identity of other animals, and, as a result, the same priorities have not been established for them. Consequently, to many, the mistreatment of these other sentient beings on such an enormous scale represents the widest gap in what would be an ideal world of harmony among earth's creatures and the world that presently exists.

Another compelling aspect of animal protection is the direct, yet often unrecognized correlation between human-human and human-animal relationships. Mahatma Ghandi called attention to this when he said, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." When humans show compassion toward others because the object of that compassion needs help rather than commands authority, it is the basis for peace on earth and peace within one's soul. If humankind can show compassion and a helping hand for other, less powerful species because it wants to, not because it has to, it will also be able to show these qualities more uniformly to all humans. The final and perhaps most compelling reason proposed herein as an indicator of the importance of extending our compassion to beings other than humans is that it represents the next logical step in the moral, ethical, and spiritual evolution of humankind.

When a human is born, his or her first and foremost concern is with personal comfort and safety. Usually, with appropriate attention and coaching, this concern and priority gradually extends to include one's parents, followed by one's immediate family. From there, as a child grows and learns to grant to others the same feelings and awareness achieved for his or her own self, the circle of compassion widens. This learning process is not automatic, and the extent to which humans are encouraged to see beyond themselves and are taught to recognize the independent value of other beings is a matter of parental and societal influence. This influence can be directed at breaking down the barriers of difference, teaching people that behind externalities of nationality, race, economic class, religion, and ethnicity, there exists in the other a consciousness and set of yearnings that demand uncompromising respect. The next logical step in this pathway is to extend one's compassion and caring to other species besides humans.

Our society is in the process of awakening to the significance of this step so that it might evolve to the next level. The process will be fueled by the energy of love penetrating the barrier of species.

There is much to be done in this world to decrease the suffering and improve the health, safety, comfort, and happiness of all sentient beings. In the process, we make a mistake if we approach the well-being of humans and animals as mutually exclusive. These goals are intertwined to the point where they are difficult to separate. Ultimately, our own inner fulfillment and the very survival not only of other species on the earth, but also our own, will depend upon our ability to foster an atmosphere of compassion for all life.

Reprinted courtesy of the Indian Health Service Primary Care Provider, November 1995 and the author.

David O. Wiebers, M.D. is Professor and Chair of the Division of Cerebrovascular diseases, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. He is a clinician, teacher, and clinical researcher. He has authored over 190 scientific publications and is an internationally recognized authority in the field of cerebrovascular diseases. He is Chair of the Scientific Advisory Council and vice Chair of the Board of Directors of the Humane Society of the United States. He is also a member of the Boards of Directors of Humane Society International and EarthKind.

AHPA Promotes Protection of America's Equines

Phil Arkow

Among the many animal welfare issues affecting creatures in the U.S., perhaps none are as consistently emotional as those affecting horses. Whether used for recreation, transportation, work, sport, entertainment, or living in the wild, horses have historically evoked strong feelings among people and concern for their welfare is widespread. And among the many animal welfare groups doing excellent work to protect America's creatures, none is dedicated solely to equine welfare with the exception of the American Horse Protection Association. This Washington-based national organization has been protecting horses, burros, and other equine species, both wild and domestic, since 1966. It promotes responsible horse ownership, the humane treatment of horses in competition, humane transportation, and the preservation of America's wild horses and burros.

Dr. Karyn Malinowski teaches cruelty investigators how to make an emergency bandage for a horse at the American Horse Protection Association's training seminar on equine rescues and horse care. Dr. Malinowski is an extension equine specialist and associate professor at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J.

Cruelty investigators demonstrate their equine handling techniques during a hands-on workshop at the American Horse Protection Association's training seminar. Fourteen students from SPCAs, equine rescue groups, and racetracks attended this seminar held at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ.

One new component of AHPA's work is an on-going series of training seminars for humane workers, animal control officers, equine rescue groups, and racetrack personnel. These workshops teach the identification and prosecution of equine cruelty, rescue techniques, and basic horse care. These seminars, offered at various colleges around the country, have given more than 250 professionals the skills, confidence, and certification to assess an abuse complaint and follow through in appropriate fashion with the horse, the owners, and the judicial system. The seminars have also exchanged goodwill and networking throughout the horse and humane communities and have brought university-level training into the reach of beleaguered humane workers.

The three-day, hands-on programs have been offered at universities and veterinary schools in such locations as Tennessee, Florida, Connecticut, South Carolina, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Kentucky. At a recent seminar at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J., 14 students received training in such issues as basic equine care, evidence gathering and documentation, search and seizure procedures, violator relations, the connections between cruelty to animals and child abuse, and extrication of horses from toppled trailers.

"We've moved these workshops around the country and made them available to humane workers who have neither the time nor budget to get away for a week and fly to a national workshop," said Robin Lohnes, AHPA Executive Director. Corporate sponsorships help make the seminars affordable.

Working with both the humane community and the horse industry,

AHPA, continued on next page

JOURNAL, continued from page 15

had been severely injured in a car wreck and the nurses were trying to get him stabilized so he could undergo surgery. He had tubes sticking out of everywhere and had on an oxygen mask but I acted like I didn't even notice. His Mom was sitting with him and a nurse was monitoring his vitals. I could tell that the Mom was really worried and gave her special attention. The patient had an injury to his lung and

It is obvious that even the doctors need Pet Therapy.

his blood oxygen level was really low. When I entered his room and he saw me, his oxygen level immediately jumped to normal and remained at a normal level while he petted me and gave me a treat as the nurse proclaimed, "Now look at that!! Don't think that Pet Therapy doesn't work!" His Mom was so impressed that she took my picture with her son and said, "What a wonderful hospital!" (She was from out of town and didn't know about Pet Therapy). After I left, the patient's oxygen level dropped low again but of course I didn't know that. We

Even though she was very weak, the lady made an effort to give me a treat. She said that my visit was a "blessing from God!" Boy was I proud!

went on with our rounds and several patients later the man's Mom was waiting for us in the hall. It seems the nurse had told her I was writing a Journal and wanted a copy as she was a famous writer herself. Mom sent her to the Volunteer office to get copies of the *Latham Letter*. After I finished my rounds we stopped back at the man's room and his Mom was busy reading my Journal to him. The nurse said as long as she was reading about me, his oxygen level stayed normal and when she stopped, it would drop again. We stayed with him as long as we could and his oxygen level stayed normal. The nurse then sent the Mom home to get the man's own dog. Somehow I knew I had really made a difference.

Jenni Dunn is a nine-year old black Labrador Retriever. The first four excerpts of her journal are in Latham Letters *Spring '93, Fall '93, Spring '94, and Winter '94-95.*

AHPA, continued

AHPA also provides humane education materials and has been instrumental in the passage of several important pieces of legislation to protect America's domestic and wild horses and burros. A series of hands-on training seminars is currently being planned for 1996.

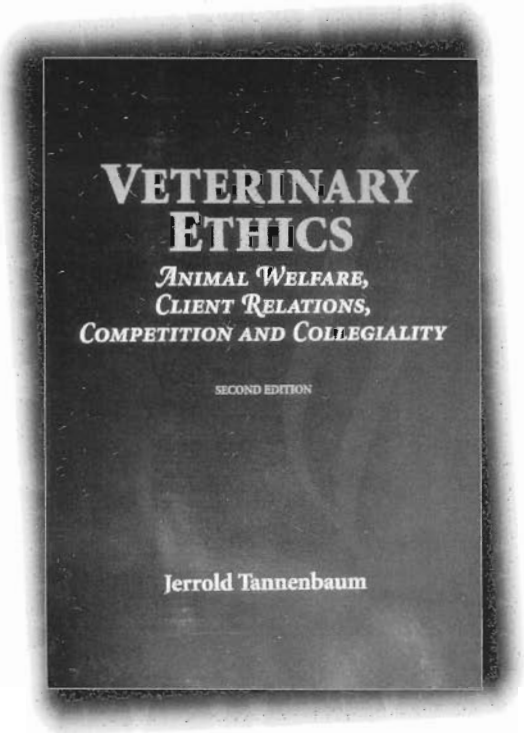
For more information about education and training opportunities, contact American Horse Protection Association, 1000 29th St. N W., Suite T-100, Washington, DC 20007, or call (202) 965-0500.

Wildlife Rescuers

Wildlife Rehabilitation Today is the magazine for people who care for injured and orphaned wild animals, Learn the latest rescue, treatment, breeding, and release techniques. Contact Coconut Creek Publishing Company, 2201 NW 40th Terrace, Coconut Creek, FL 33066. 305-972-6092. Fax 305-977-5158 for sample issue and more information.

MEDIA REVIEWS

Veterinary Ethics: *Animal Welfare, Client Relations, Competition and Collegiality* (2nd Edition)



"The number, range. and difficulty of ethical issues that confront the field of animal welfare are staggering," writes Jerrold Tannenbaum an eminent environmental attorney in Tufts University's School of Veterinary Medicine. Few in the humane field would dispute his claim, and Tannenbaum has crafted a massive exploration of these issues to help veterinarians resolve bioethical dilemmas.

Tannenbaum's expansion of his earlier (1989) treatise on this critical subject remains the only book of its kind. It is provocative, insightful, guaranteed to generate dis-cussion, and concludes with 30, debatable case studies. Along the way, it considers both the the oretical implications and realistic applications of veterinary ethics in many scenarios, from the attending veterinarian at a race track to the

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

researcher conducting genetic engineering. Practice management concerns, such as the size of a Yellow Pages ad or a non-competition clause for an associate, are considered. Personal dilemmas are discussed, such as when lying to a client might be justified or whether to euthanize a healthy pet at the client's request. The issues behind declawing, debarking, ear-cropping, and tail-docking are explored in depth. Tannenbaum argues that veterinary medicine's proper response to the animal rights movement is to not abandon animal rights. He reminds us that there are two sides of the human-animal bond and that animals' interests must be considered lest the "bond" become a cliché. He explores the political correctness of contemporary nomenclature, as in whether "pet" or "companion animal" is preferred or if the personal pronoun "who" should be used in conjunction with non-human animals.

The public perceives veterinarians in four roles which may conflict: as healers, counselors, business-persons, and as economic managers and herd health consultants. While the average client respects the practitioner as the paradigm of admirable values: hard work, dignity, dedication, compassion and clarity of purpose: the profession is experiencing ethical dilemmas that would make physicians cringe with horror. The inherent conflict within veterinary medicine - serving both animals and people - is not resolved in this textbook, but the reader will emerge asking many more questions and with an enlightened sense of the contentious debates and technology-driven challenges facing this caring profession.

Jerrold Tannenbaum is Clinical Associate Professor of Environmental Studies at Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine where he teaches courses and lectures in the areas of law, ethics, and bioethics.

Reviewed by Phil Arkow

Veterinary Ethics: Animal Welfare, Client Relations, Competition and Collegiality
(2nd Edition)
Jerrold Tannenbaum, M.A., J.D.
St. Louis: Mosby-Year Book, Inc.
1995
615 pages

I Never Wanted to Say Goodbye

I NEVER WANTED TO SAY GOODBYE is a collection of poems to comfort those who mourn the loss of a pet, with a foreword by Betty White.

In an ever-growing impersonal world, the personal relationship with our pets is of significant importance. Our pets are trusting companions and members of our family. The dedication and unconditional love they give is beyond compare. All of us who are privileged to share our lives with a companion animal know the joy of having them and the sorrow of losing them. One day we must face the devastating moment when we say goodbye to our beloved friend.

I NEVER WANTED TO SAY GOODBYE pays tribute to the dogs that Arlene Klein has loved and lost. Her poetry is eloquently written and is an expression of deep emotion and grief Arlene shares her loss beautifully and her gentle words can help others live through their grief

Mrs. Klein has a passion for companion animals and a genuine concern for the health and welfare of the animals that share our world. Her video on responsible pet ownership, "A Day in the Life of a Dog," gained national acclaim and in 1991 was nominated for a Dog Writers' Association of America award. She has served on the board of Morris Animal Foundation since 1991.

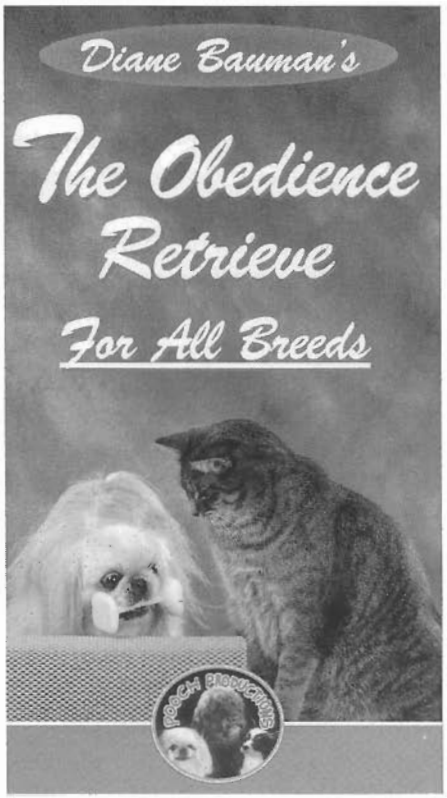
I Never Wanted to Say Goodbye
Arlene Klein
$4.95; quantity discount available for order of more than 25
ISBN 0-9650915-0-3
Paperback, 32 pages
Nu-Sounds, Inc.
P.O. Box 217
Moorestown, NJ 08057
Phone: 609-273-1173
Fax: 609-273-6422

Videotape: The Obedience Retrieve for all Breeds

This new videotape brings the viewer up close to three-time Gaines/Cycle Super Dog winner and best-selling author Diane Bauman. One of the most respected competition trainers in the sport today, Bauman can help any one - with any dog - learn to retrieve.

A twenty year veteran of the obedience ring and winner of sixteen perfect scores of 200, Diane

,MEDIA REVIEWS, continued on next page



Bauman thoroughly teaches the entire retrieving exercise. Using both trained and untrained, Bauman focuses on how dogs learn by allowing them to make mistakes. By thoroughly demonstrating the mechanics and timing of when to help and when to correct, Bauman clarifies many training errors and speeds learning.

To portray each training exercise and to emphasize how any type of dog can excel at this sport, sixteen different dog breeds are seen in the various learning stages of the retrieve.

"The Obedience Retrieve for All Breeds"

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Animals as Teachers & Healers: True Stories & Reflections

Animals as Teachers & Healers presents a new consciousness about animals, and the gifts they have bestowed on their human companions. This book is a collection of such tales, in which people tell of the profound experiences they have had with a pet or wild animal that somehow touched their souls for a moment or for a lifetime. There is a growing awareness of the need for people to reconnect with the animal kingdom and welcome the lessons and hearings that can result. This book is an inspiration and a guide for such journey.

The author, Susan Chernak McElroy, recounts her own successful battle with cancer and the role that animals have played in her healing and recovery. The stories by many others included in this book also share experiences with animals, both subtle and miraculous, that confirm how animals can act as spiritual guides. "So many who wrote to me lovingly referred to their animals as 'angels'," observes McElroy. "It is no wonder that we who have been so touched by the animals in our lives would use a spiritual image of hope, healing, and mercy to describe that love, that bond. The magical moments we share with the animals in our lives sometimes seem to transcend the limits of our day-to-day world."

Susan Chernak McElroy is a writer who has worked with animals all her life, as a veterinarian's assistant, dog trainer, wildlife rehabilitator and zookeeper. She lives on a small farm in Oregon, surrounded by animal companions. The foreword to ANIMALS AS TEACHERS & HEALERS is by Michael W. Fox, a veterinarian since 1962, and with the Humane Society of the United States for twenty years. Fox states, "The ultimate importance of this book is to elevate the status and significance of animals in society, which is long overdue for the good of the animals, and as this book so ably demonstrates, for the good of humanity."

Animals as Teachers and Healers: True Stories and Reflections

Susan Chernak McElroy
$12.95 paperback
180 pages with photos and Illustrations
ISBN 0-939265-27-9
New Sage Press
P.O. Box 607
Troutdale, OR 97060-0607
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Latham Wins Maxwell - Celebrate with Us!

For each of the last three years Latham has been the proud recipient of a first place "Maxwell" award for excellence in videotape production. This award is given by the Dog Writers' Association of America at their annual banquet in New York City.

Canine Good Citizen
Living with HIV and Pets
Breaking the Cycles of Violence

Get your copies of these award-winning videos today. Affordably-priced and beautifully produced, they're "musts" for any individual or organization interested in the welfare of animals, the benefits of the human-companion animal bond, or the prevention of child and animal abuse.

Treat yourself or give them as gifts to friends and colleagues, your veterinarian, your child's school. They're perfect for programs at community service group meetings too.

Canine Good Citizen

This video shows dog owners exactly what the training and evaluation for canine good citizen certification consists of. And what makes a Canine Good Citizen? According to the American Kennel Club guidelines, the following questions should be taken into account: 1) Is this the kind of dog you would like to own? 2) Would it be safe with children? 3) Would you welcome it as a neighbor? 4) Is it the kind of dog that makes its owner happy and does not make someone else unhappy? Most importantly, the Canine Good Citizen program stresses responsibility on both ends of the leash. *(15 minutes; 8th grade through adult; Career counseling; social studies.)*

Breaking the Cycles of Violence

"When animals are abused, people are at risk. When people are abused, animals are at risk." This video (with accompanying training manual) assist animal care and control, child protection, and domestic violence workers in identifying, reporting, investigating, and treating these three interrelated forms of family violence. The video promotes community awareness about the links between various forms of family violence. The manual features techniques for coalition-building, resource guides, and an extensive bibliography. Together they're invaluable. *(26 minutes/64 pages; mature teens through adult; psychology, corrections.)*

Living with HIV and Pets

This 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 who have been breeding, raising, and training dogs for more than 20 years.

Living with HIV and Pets features "Pets are Wonderful Support" (PAWS), a San Francisco organization that provides information and direct services to clients with pets in HIV households. *(26 minutes; mature teens through adult; medicine, psychology, social studies.)*

Order Now: *Quantity discounts available; call Latham for details.*

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"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

Mahatma Ghandi

PHOTO: FRANK R. ASCIONE, Ph.D.

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