

Latham Letter

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PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

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A Lesson in Changing Attitude:

The Montana Spay and Neuter Task Force

by Jean Atthowe



This report is a lesson in how to change attitudes. Evidence indicates that education is a complex operation, not neat, squeaky clean, or looking overtly as efficient as a scientist's laboratory or, for that matter, the average veterinary clinic. This report encompasses a puzzle that the reader will be asked to solve.

See page six.

Inside:

- A Year in the Life of Latham* Page 12
- Frank Ascione's Report:*
- "Creating a Legacy of Hope"* Page 14
- Phil Arkow lists colleges offering*
- AAT and HCAB courses* Page 17
- Lynn Loar reports on California's new*
- law requiring counseling for people*
- who hurt animals* Page 18



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Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities



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The Latham Foundation is a 501(C)(3) private operating foundation founded in 1918 to promote respect for all life through education. The Foundation makes grants-in-kind rather than monetary grants. Latham welcomes partnerships with other institutions and individuals who share its commitment to furthering humane education.

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Contents:

EDITORIAL:

- Expectations
by Hugh H. Tebault, III 4
- Letters to the Editor 5
- A Lesson in Changing Attitude
Jean Atthowe 6
- A Year in the Life of Latham 12
- Latham Foundation Sponsors Symposium
at British Columbia Conference,
"Creating a Legacy of Hope"
Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D. 14
- Upcoming Conferences and Workshops 16
- Colleges Offering AAT & HCAB Courses
Phil Arkow 17
- Providing Treatment for People Who Hurt
Animals: California's New Law
Lynn Loar, Ph.D., LCSW 18
- MEDIA REVIEWS 21
- Teaching Compassion -
New book from Latham! 23

Edith Latham's Mandate

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

EDITORIAL



Hugh H. Tebault, III, President

Expectations

There are times I feel completely at a loss to understand what is happening in society.

Standards of citizenship have become confused. I become more and more like my parents — lamenting the loss of society to the “younger generation” who don’t act rationally. Media reactions to everyday events seem out of step. Standards of community seem ruled by factional protests. Public schools often appear as tools of social engineering at the expense of education. Edith Latham wrote a similar message over fifty years ago in the late 1940’s when commenting on Latham’s publication of “The Gateway.” She stated, “The work promotes the mental and moral growth in the thousands of children we contact; it raises the standard of citizenship in youth, so greatly needed today...”

Recently, newspapers reported the death of a teenage girl hit by a train while she was sitting on the railroad track. Early news reports tried to blame the train for this tragic death. Later reports found that an adult in the area drives by the tracks daily and chases the kids off the tracks. Just three days before the death, this person had called the police to help. Where is the basic understanding that it is dangerous to stand or sit on railroad tracks and the acceptance of responsibility for unsafe actions?

A person I know recently related a story of having a new manager. This manager noticed that one employee constantly pushed off work onto others. The manager gave assignments to the reluctant employee, and when these were pushed off, the manager put them back on the employee’s work list and counseled the employee to change the behavior. This is an example of a manager being a manager, fairly assigning work and holding people responsible for their actions. This company is better for this manager, and the employees are all more content and efficient for her action. Parents have this same responsibility to guide their children, making them effective members of our society.

Societal values are fundamentally what hold us together. Latham was founded to promote Humane Education — kindness to animals and each other. This is a noble cause, but it must be built on top of society’s shared vision of

fundamental right and wrong. To communicate most effectively, we have to understand and share a set of common values and standards. Teaching kindness to animals and to each other is the natural foundation for personal growth and responsibility in society.

It appears that good news is not news and therefore not worthy of reporting. The truth is many neighbors are helping their neighbors. Many employees are helping customers and working very hard to do a good job. Many people honor society by complying in their daily life with all the many laws we share. These are the people who form the backbone of our society. Our strength comes from working together as we share our varied talents. Our many different national backgrounds melt together as we work towards our common goals and interests. Latham focuses on the good core values we share. We highlight the good news — the good programs that help link us with each other.

The phrase ‘many hands make light work’ is very true. If all in our society recognized their individual responsibilities and carried them out with an attitude of kindness towards one another, we would all be better for it. What about you? Are you as effective as you can be? Do your words and your actions match up with the standards you expect in others?



Letters to the Editor

From a reader concerned about the pet lending library concept and practice:



Dear Latham:

For years SPCA's and humane societies have been preaching the concept that a pet is a life-long commitment. This message is completely canceled out by the "pet lending library" concept.

Just like children, animals like consistency. It is a well-known fact that foster children are negatively affected by the frequent moving from foster home to foster home. This same affect is experienced by animals that are placed in different homes. We can see it in the behavior of shelter animals that have gone from a breeder to a pet shop, to a home, and finally to us. We tell clients that the shelter animal needs time to adjust to the different temperatures, smells, sounds, and handling in a new home. Few animals feel secure in their new surroundings in just one week!

The "borrowers" don't have to invest anything personal in making the human/animal bond work. One week isn't a fair relationship test for a pet or new pet parents. What if the "borrowers"

liked their rental pet? Would they purchase a pet of the same species only to discover that its personality was not like the one they got from the library? Do they get rid of it until they find one they can call a "perfect" pet? What message is a parent giving a child about pet responsibility? This is very scary. Any loving and caring relationship (animal or human) takes time to build.

Please tell whoever thought this was a great idea that it is detrimental to the message of life long commitment that animal welfare agencies profess.

Janice Mininberg
Director of Education and Legislative Action, Women's Humane Society Editor: *The Guardian*



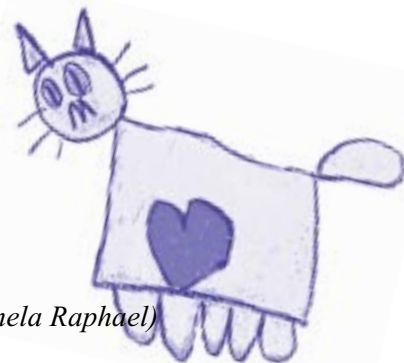
Dear Latham:

In response to Ms. Mininberg's letter, we completely agree that the choice of bringing a pet into the home is a life-long commitment. Unfortunately, the Lindsay Wildlife Museum encounters individuals on a daily basis, who have not taken the proper steps to research and plan for the responsibilities that accompany pet ownership.

Unwanted rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters and rats are often brought to animal shelters that routinely euthanize these animals. Animal

Continued on Page 20

From a new fan of Latham and Teaching Compassion:



(To Pamela Raphael)

Hi Pam.

Thank you so much for sharing your book with me. I'm elated that you are doing this kind of work. It is so valuable ... Also, I was totally enthralled with the Latham Letter. I will subscribe!

Here is my endorsement of Teaching Compassion:

The instinctual bond that exists between children and animals is a continual reminder of how close our lives are linked to all living things. This bond provides a basis for understanding many of life's lessons. For example: the relationship between loving a pet and accepting the responsibility for its care, seeing how vulnerable animals are and realizing that they (the children) are vulnerable too, comprehending the consequences of abuse and neglect, and dealing with birth and loss.

As a veterinarian, I encounter a wide range of attitudes toward pets and animals in general, from indifference to a mutual respect and love. Often times these attitudes reflect one's own perceived value of life and self-respect.

I am renewed when I see the love between a child and a puppy or a

Continued on Page 20

A Lesson in Changing Attitude

Jean Atthowe



(All photographs in this article are courtesy of the Montana Spay Neuter Task Force and its friends.)

This report is a lesson in how to change attitudes. Resulting evidence below will indicate that education is a complex operation, not neat, squeaky clean, or looking overtly as efficient as a scientist's laboratory or, for that matter, the average veterinary clinic. For you, the reader, this report encompasses a puzzle that you will be asked to put together to find the answer and the real story.

History

The Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force mobile service S.P.O.T. (Stop Pet Overpopulation Today) was launched by invitation of the Blackfeet Nation at Browning, Montana in November 1996. The First Annual Blackfeet Pet Care Week featured, as its centerpiece, a free, demonstration spay/neuter clinic using one surgery table in a makeshift space in Pete Berger's heated and enclosed garage. Pete Berger had been assigned the task of instituting Blackfeet Animal Care/Control. Blackfeet Country was infamous for its roving bands of dogs, fighting dogs, biting dogs, starving, sick and

mangy dogs. You could not look anywhere without seeing at least one of these unfortunate dogs. By May of the following year, with the clinic, a low cost certificate program, and collection and destruction of the sick dogs, one hardly could find a dog wandering the streets of Browning, the Nation's capital. If one did find a dog, it was fed, healthy and wearing an animal control license tag.

Since then, in the past three years, the Task Force has helped create events, at the invitation of local councils and groups, in six of the seven Native American nations in Montana, and twenty three events altogether throughout Montana in rural towns as well as the Nations. These occasions are called "events," not spay/neuter clinics, because the mission is to help locals regain the ancient respect for their dogs, and cats, pull together their own resources to help create the event and, by owning the solution, become empowered to continue providing the solution. In the case of the Task Force, the public apathy regarding the overwhelming pet overpopulation and resultant killing of

healthy, adoptable cats and dogs is the problem addressed. The approach of the Task Force in these communities is to reach the people through their own culture, Native American, rural ranch, and logging communities. It is working on educational materials that do so. The Task Force carries in a small van all the supplies and equipment to set up a spay/neuter clinic in an existing building, helps with publicity, educational materials, locate veterinarians and volunteers and is in charge of the events. The host community finds a building - a school, firehouse, community center, empty tribal housing, for example. They find donations of food to feed the volunteers, arrange with the schools for Task Force volunteers to teach, find housing for the out of town volunteers and veterinarians, even find donated laundry facilities for the huge amounts of soiled bedding created at the clinics. Many communities donate the services of their paid employees, as well as finding volunteers. Most welcome are the children of the community, pet owners of all ages, and town leaders. The clinics themselves are an education not only for volunteers and



pet owners but for the more than 45 veterinarians who have come from all over Montana and from as far away as Slovakia in Europe and the four corners of the United States and who share, teach and learn from each other and perfect their skills in spay/neuter.

The Task Force now often runs six surgery tables and has provided surgery on its record day for 251 cats and dogs.

In the past three years the Task Force has provided free surgeries for 5,500 cats and dogs at a cost of \$65,000 counting only supplies, or \$85,000 counting fixed items such as van, surgery tables and the like. Some of the impact of its visits are evidenced in statistical graphs and in letters accompanying this report.

But the numbers are not the big story: It's the attitude!

These occasions are called "events," not spay/neuter clinics, because the mission is to help locals regain the ancient respect for their dogs, and cats, pull together their own resources to help create the event and, by owning the solution, become empowered to continue providing the solution.

Encouraged to write her "Impressions of the First Annual Fort Peck Pet Care Week" in July 1999, Kali Lien, of Wolf Point, Montana, a volunteer and coordinator of the four day event created for the Fort Peck Tribes, home of Sioux and Assiniboine peoples, wrote the following:

Something very beautiful happened here the last week in July that I still can't totally figure out. It was like all of our hearts were open wide, giving and receiving something we all need. My conclusion is that it was love. Love for each other and for all the animals. It appeared to be total chaos to someone who walked in the door to the demonstration, free spay/neuter clinic, but it couldn't have been to have spayed and neutered that many animals. Everything we needed we received. The town became one big family like it was when I was a kid.

My initial goal was to help the animals, which we did, but what happened was something totally unexpected and was left in our hearts. A goodness that affected each person which will affect the town, which will affect the world. To me it is one of the first steps in making this a better world. It made my heart smile to see everyone together, to see people without any self confidence jumping in and being responsible for a certain job. You could just tell how good it made them feel. And the people (who probably wouldn't be caught dead with a lot of these people) were sitting on the floor with their recovering dogs in the middle of everyone else.

And the kids — they were made to feel so important. They had jobs, too. Four of them even asked if they could ride with me to the next clinic, the next day, in the next town. I told them I would make sure they got there and they did. I know that it will affect them the rest of their lives. One of their mothers told me she couldn't believe he got up that early to go.

Jean Atthowe of the Task Force told me that I would get to know a lot of the people from the Task Force very well by the end of the week. Well, she was right. What beautiful people they are! I made so many new friends, from my town and the Task Force.

Due to a change in clinic location, the second day we were without food for lunch and supper for the hundreds of volunteers that helped over the four days. The previous night I called someone at the Chamber of Commerce at about 900 p.m. She called around, called me back and said they'd have something there for lunch, which they did. At 9:00 a.m. the morning of the "no-food-day" we went around and got donations from a few people, went to Subs and Such and he donated some food for lunch. Beth at the Sherman Motel threw together a big salad. For supper we went to the Pizza Place. Stephanie, the manager, suggested lasagna, salad and vegetable pizza. She donated the lasagna. Just like that, lunch and supper were there."

What are the Elements Needed to Change Attitude and Behavior?

A goal of the Task Force is to bring about a change in attitude that will thus bring a change in behavior through respecting animals and then other living creatures including members of their family, school classes and community. Lorin Lindner, Ph.D., of Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals starts her talks with a question: Does changing behavior change attitudes? Sounds logical, but think about people whose taxes are raised. They pay the increase, but do they change their attitude about taxes?

A sizable body of literature has been accumulated in the fields of market research and social psychology about changing attitude and behavior. We now know through numerous studies that the old idea that knowing (cognitive change) leads to attitude change which leads to long-term behavior change is simplistic. The process is much more complex. The following must be present to change attitudes and thus changes in behavior: As readers scan the following lists, they are asked to remember Kali Lien's letter.

Elements of a persuasive message:

A persuasive message has the most impact if it contains the following elements:

1. It comes from multiple sources of high credibility (power, trust, expertise, similarity}.
2. It is repeated often and consistently.
3. It is a multiple media message at accessible times and locations
4. It is accompanied by a high level of personal involvement with the issue and is consistent with related attitude and value structure.
5. It has a high level of social support or acceptance in the receiver's environment.
6. It affords opportunities to give expression to the newly formed attitudes (i.e. to act) and ongoing reinforcement for doing so.

Factors needed to contribute to long-term behavior change:

1. It must target specific behaviors to be changed.
2. Address or create a desire to change: target people with the desire, or motivate the desire.
3. Provide multiple alternative behaviors to replace the old behavior.
4. Show concern for making the social environment supportive.

Mass media programs that were successful in effecting behavioral change did the following:

1. Incorporate information pertaining to behavioral alternatives and skills development within the message itself.
2. Provide positive interaction with receiver of the message.
3. Supplemented a mass communication-type message with a face-to-face follow up.
4. Mobilized community resources to make alternatives more easily available.



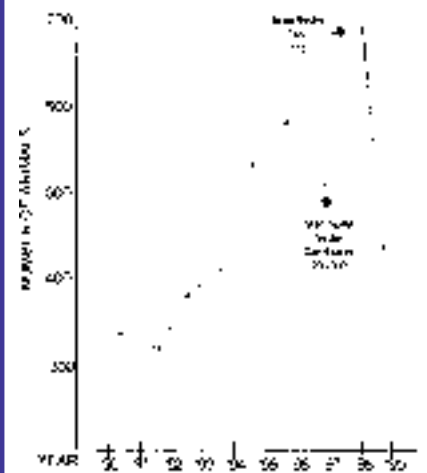
It is a universal given in the field of psychology that few people consistently change their behavior because most people doubt that their behavior will exert a major influence.

We find in Kali Lien's "Impressions" that elements needed to change attitudes and effect change include:

- (1) **Multiple sources of high credibility.** "All our hearts were open wide" including Wolf Point's Chief of Police and his police, the volunteer Fire Chief (who swept and cleaned the fire hall where the clinic was held each night) and fellow volunteer firemen, business leaders, restaurant and other food suppliers, Soroptemists, Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club, Tribal Council members, teachers and neighbors,
- (2) **Message was repeated often and consistently** over a four day period with media and flyers announcing

FIGURE 1
Animals Impounded

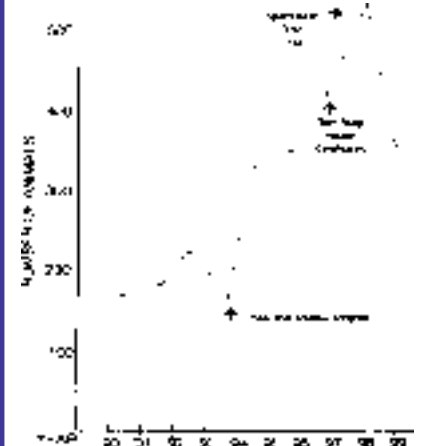
LINCOLN COUNTY, MT
Eureka Animal Shelter (City & County)



Spay/Neuter Clinic held June 6-7, 1998 (116 animals). Decrease 1996-97: 10% when certificates were introduced. Decrease from 1998 to 1999: 34% (Growth from 1998-99: 0.9%). Projected decrease from 1998-99: 44%.

FIGURE 2
Animals Euthanized

LINCOLN COUNTY, MT
Eureka Animal Shelter (City & County)



Population growth of 0.9%. Decrease in animals euthanized from 1998-99 was 34%. Projected decrease from 1998-99: 45%. Eureka Pet Care Week Clinic was held June 6-7, 1998. Total spayed and neutered: 116. Redeemed low cost spay/neuter certificates distributed by Friends of the Shelter: 7/96-6/97: 225; 7/97-6/98: 272; 7/98-6/99: 332. See Figure 2A: Records of only Vet Services in the area.

weeks before, follow up reporting by the media,

- (3) **Message sent by multiple media at accessible times and locations** included radio, newspaper, flyers, in schools, word of mouth, locating the mothers of kittens and puppies brought to the event, door to door visiting in rural areas, offers to give pets rides to and from the fire station, and a fire station located in the center of town,
- (4) **Accompanied by a high level of personal involvement** included long days for volunteers children as well, handling animals, assisting with sterilizing instruments, donors

- (7) **Promote positive interaction** with animals, with neighbor, with family, with role models and leaders in the community,
- (8) **Supplement with face to face follow up** with community and animals through volunteering and donating,
- (9) **Mobilize community resources to work together in promoting alternatives that are more readily available** through the all the elements brought together by the Community and the Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force.

It is a universal given in the field of psychology that few people



of goods, recruiting volunteers from owners who brought pets, and all the community members mentioned above,

- (5) **Promote positive interaction** through the work with and change in the animals, the whole community focused on animal care and awareness,
- (6) **Incorporated skills development** with sensitivity to animal, social interaction, empowerment (that the one is valued, that one's pet is valued),

consistently change their behavior because most people doubt that their behavior will exert a major influence.

After coordinating and volunteering in a Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force Pet Care Event, Kali Lien identified in her own way the elements that research has discovered must be present to change attitudes and effect long-term behavioral change. She observed that people can, through change, exert a major influence. She saw "a goodness that affected each person which will affect the town, which will affect the world. It was one of the first steps in making this a better world."

FIGURE 2A
Spays and Neuters

MOUNTAIN VISTA
VETERINARY SERVICES
EUREKA, MT
Spay/Neuter Statistics

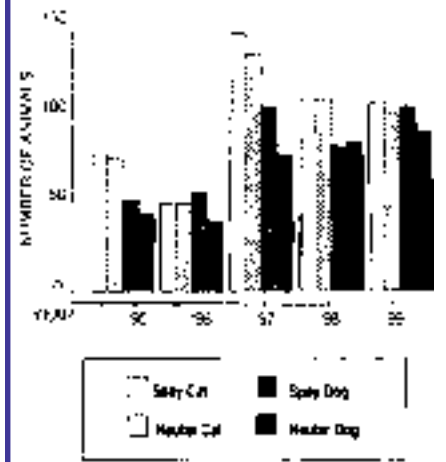
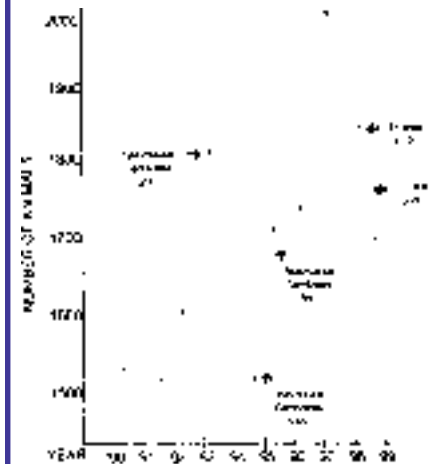


FIGURE 3
Animals Impounded

RAVALLI COUNTY, MT
Bitter Root Humane Society
Animal Shelter



Clinics represented Spay/Neuter Task Force events. In addition, 4 annual public awareness Spay/Day events were held in Feb. 1996, '97, '98, '99. Growth for this period averaged 4.8%.

From the Words of Others:

Kenny Shields, Director of Archives, Fort Peck Sioux and Assiniboine Tribes and great great grandson of Feather Earring who fought at the Battle of the Little Big Horn:

“You impressed me with your work. The pet care week was also impressive, with how the medical people conducted themselves, very professional and above all courteous.

Elroy (his dog) is more of a friend than animal now (since he was neutered during the pet care week). Before he used to chase cars and lie around outside the house all day long. Now you can't seem to keep him still. He likes to explore and bring things home. His appetite is good and he has gained weight, but I think it's muscle. Elroy comes in the house now to show what he brings home and puts it at your feet so that you can inspect it. And sometimes it's the most comical things, like the dinosaur and the kangaroo. His favorites. Other times he will bring a plastic soda bottle for you to throw so he can “play fetch.” It's a real delight to have him with us.

Let me tell you how we got him. A little over a year ago my wife went outside to hang out clothes. While in back of the house she saw this scraggly little dog crouched by the house. His eyes were gummy, his bones stuck out, and he had an odor about him. Thinking nothing of him she came in and forgot



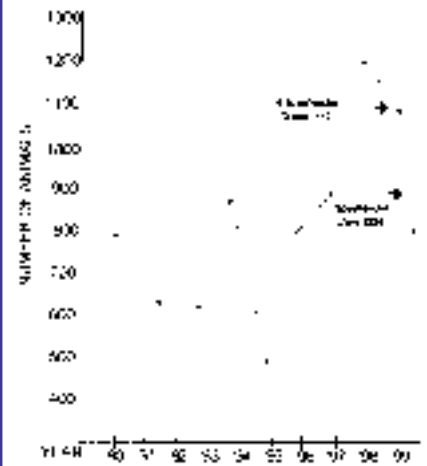
about it. But days passed and she found that was still milling about outside. Since our neighbors had pups she thought he was one of theirs. After asking and confirming that he wasn't theirs, she started feeding him. He was slow in growing at first but soon he began to length. His coat used to be dull, but after nutritious feeding he became shiny. He was still inactive but he grew to like chasing cars. Probably learned it from his friends. They were mongrels. Finally, after hearing of the pet care clinic, we decided Elroy was a good candidate. The rest is history. He is more passive and friendly and likes to play above all. This is completely different from other dogs we've had and enjoyed. Elroy is special.

Again, your staff was very professional and caring. Never before had such commitment been to such an endeavor as the one you set up And the invite still stands. “Come back!”



FIGURE 4
Animals Euthanized

RAVALLI COUNTY, MT
Bitter Root Humane Society
Animal Shelter

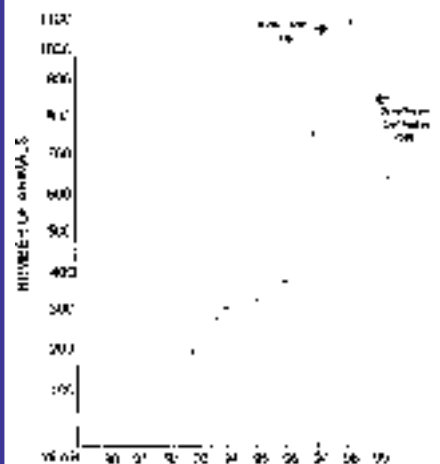


Population growth 1997-1999 averaged 9.6%.
Decrease in euthanized animals from 1997-1999: 19%.
Projected decrease in animals euthanized from 1997-1999: 50%.



FIGURE 5
Animals Impounded

LAKE COUNTY, MT
Mission Valley Animal Shelter/
Flathead Nation



Population growth for period averaged 2.6%.
Decrease in animals received from 1998 to 1999: 35%.
Projected decrease in animals received from 1998 to 1999: 56%.



Ilene Standen, volunteer at Fort Peck Tribes Pet Care event:

“Just a quick note to tell you that I very much enjoyed the Spay/Neuter clinic which was conducted here in Poplar this summer. I enjoyed working with the animals and I learned a lot about handling them.

Please be sure to include me in the next one. Just let me know when it will be. I think it is an extremely valuable service and one which I have been encouraging people to do for many years.

I think that when people here fully comprehend what good has been done, the next spay/neuter clinic will be even bigger.”

Ben Speakthunder, Vice President, Fort Belnap Indian Community Council

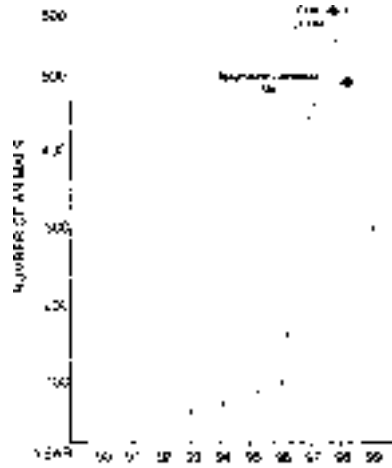
“Thank you for assisting us in our community during Fort Belnap’s Pet Care Week. Your visit with your staff left a lasting impression on all of Fort Belnap. We are now aware of the importance of spaying and neutering mission.”

Joel Dubose, rural community civic leader, Pinesdale, Montana

“Having been a long-term resident of the Bitterroot Valley, specifically a small community of about 950 persons,

**FIGURE 6
Animals Euthanized**

LAKE COUNTY, MT
Mission Valley Animal Shelter/
Flathead Nation

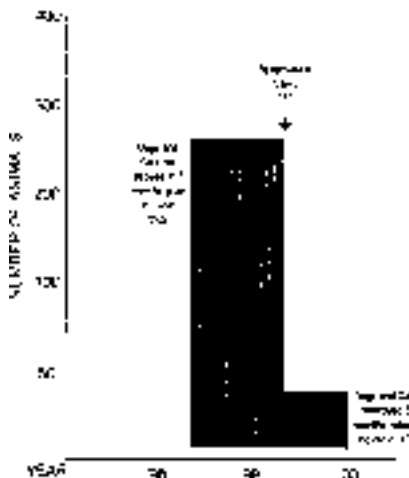


Population growth averaged 2.6% per year. Decrease in animals killed from 1998 to 1999: 51%. Projected decrease from 1998 to 1999: 67%. Spay/Neuter certificates redeemed in 1999: 586.



**FIGURE 7
Animals Destroyed**

FORT BELNAP, MT
PET CARE WEEK



Spay/Neuter Clinic held August 1-3, 1999. Total spays and neuters: 310. Population 5,500. Decrease in animals destroyed: 75%.

I wish to go “on record” as to the enormous benefit that the Task Force has contributed to my community.

Typical of virtually every small community in Western Montana, we have had a history of livestock being chased and mutilated by strays and/or uncontrolled domestic animals. The stock owner retaliates with deadly force - usually with either poisons or 22 caliber shells. Fear races through the community as invariably a few family pets, guilty or not alike, end up in a ditch with several other killed animals. Lawsuits are threatened, mistrust abounds and harmony is nowhere to be found. (May I add that this endless cycle of violence was repeated in Texas where I lived years ago - so it is my perception that this is the reality of how rural America deals with pet overpopulation and lack of ownership responsibility.)

Enter the Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force. The situation takes on an entirely new perception. Children are taught to love and care for their pets. Parents rejoice that the children are “busily engaged in a good cause” and the dogs no longer are viewed as an “endless stream” of unwanted puppies to be disposed of at the end of a rifle or given to irresponsible playmates. The caring and follow-up by the Task Force was effective for I know of several children that have since taken their pets to the training sessions supported by the Task Force.

Realize and recognize that it is the children who are perhaps the greater beneficiaries here. The Task Force is effecting a cultural change in that the animals are to be loved, tended, and respected - not simply used when convenient.”

Jean F. Athowe is President of the Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force. The Task Force was founded in 1994 and its Mobile Service was founded in November 1997.



A year in the life of the Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education --

In October 1998 Latham held a Strategic Planning Meeting that honored its past under the leadership of Hugh Tebault II and solidified its future under the direction of Hugh Tebault III. Now, in the new millennium, Latham continues in its role as respected publisher, producer, facilitator, sponsor, colleague, and catalyst for responsible action while remaining true to the guiding principles set forth by Edith Latham in 1918 – principles that remain relevant today:

- To inculcate the higher principles of humaneness upon which the unity and happiness of the world depend,
- To foster a deeper understanding of and sympathy with animals, who cannot speak for themselves,
- To emphasize the spiritual fundamentals that lead to world friendship, and
- To promote character-building through an understanding of universal kinship.

Latham As Publisher

The *Latham Letter* is now in its twenty-first year of publication. Subscribers now include child welfare, domestic violence prevention and human service professionals, law enforcement and the judiciary, teachers at all levels (pre-school through post-graduate), and media representatives in addition to those persons interested in humane education, the human companion animal bond, and animal assisted therapy.



"This is me and my dog.
My dog treats my hand fairly.
I let her treat my mom."

Jennifer, Age 5

Sales continue strong for *Breaking the Cycles of Violence*, Latham's 23-minute video and 64-page cross training guide.

1999 saw the culmination of another of the Foundation's publication projects: the 498-page *Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Animal Abuse: Linking the Circles of Compassion for Prevention and Intervention*. These 45 original essays by internationally recognized leaders, as edited by Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D. of Utah State University and Phil Arkow of the Philadelphia Foundation, argue that a multidisciplinary intervention strategy holds great promise for reducing community violence and achieving systemic change.

Teaching Compassion: A Guide for Humane Educators, Teachers, and Parents is a teacher's narrative and lesson plans to encourage respect, responsibility, and compassion in elementary-age children. Further information about this book, which illustrates the meaning of animals to children through art and poetry, are on page 23.

Latham As Producer

The Indian Project is about the relationships that Native American Indians have with their animals, including their strong feelings against euthanasia. The project, which started with the Blackfeet Nation, worked with the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Nations and the Montana Spay Neuter Task Force this year.

Mona's Ark, is about Mona Sam's animal-assisted therapy program in Virginia, which uses a menagerie of animals from rabbits to llamas.

A videotape photographed on location in Washington State, titled *Jenni's Journal*, is based on the therapy dog's diary that has been serialized in the *Latham Letter*.

Latham As Facilitator

A September workshop, "Teaching Compassion in the New Millennium" was one of the high points of this year's activities. Humane educators and child welfare professionals gathered at San

Francisco's Fort Mason Conference Center for the unveiling of Latham's newest book, to meet its authors, and to hear keynote speaker Dr. Randall Lockwood (HSUS's Vice President of Training Initiatives) confirm the need for humane education.

Latham As Sponsor

Latham's **Search for Excellence Video Contest** is held every two years, with December 31, 1999 the current deadline. Its purpose is to locate, honor, publicize, and encourage videos promoting respect for all life.

Winners will be announced in the Summer 2000 *Latham Letter*.

Latham As Colleague

In recent years Latham is emphasizing its role as colleague and collaborator. Latham sent representatives to various conferences and sponsored exhibits at national meetings.

Phil Arkow, Chair of Latham's Child and Animal Abuse Prevention (CAAP) Committee, spoke at a multitude of workshops in Pennsylvania, Florida and elsewhere, highlighting the need for cross training and collaborative approaches to violence prevention.

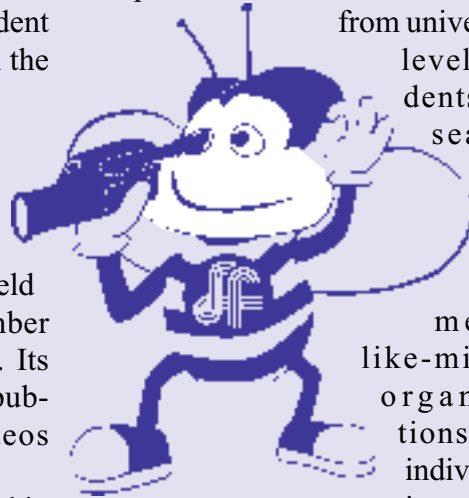
Dr. Frank Ascione, also on Latham's CAAP Committee and Editor with Phil Arkow of *Linking the Circles of Compassion*, represented the Foundation at a variety of academic conferences. (See page 14.)

These activities are consistent with two of the themes that developed during the strategic planning session:

- 1) *Create Strategic Alliances*
- and 2) *Focus on Education and*

Non-Partisanship.

In its continuing role as a clearinghouse for information, Latham responded to hundreds of requests



from university-level students, researchers,

the media, like-minded organizations, and individuals interested

in the benefits of the human animal bond, humane education, and violence reduction and prevention.

Latham is respected as a neutral, non-partisan organization – a respected, non-threatening leader – and this gives the Foundation a unique and valuable niche in its field.

Latham As Catalyst for Responsible Action

The Foundation is a national leader in bringing attention to the similarities between animal abuse, child abuse, and other forms of domestic violence. The following states have initiated legislation or new policies and procedures in this area:

Existing laws in **California** and **Colorado** that mandate psychological or anger management counseling for persons convicted of animal abuse is being modeled elsewhere. In **Nevada** a new law mandates psychological treatment for children who have been convicted of deliberate acts of animal cruelty. In **Virginia**, courts have the

discretion to mandate attendance in an anger management or treatment program for any person who is convicted of cruelty, whether neglectful or intentional.

Illinois created a new offense of Animal Torture as a Class Four felony, defined as when a person inflicts extreme physical pain on an animal with the intent to increase or prolong the animal's pain, suffering, or agony. A subsequent offense is a Class Three felony. Punishment ranges up to ten years incarceration. **New Mexico** enacted legislation that requires counseling programs for persons convicted of cruelty, regardless of whether it was malicious or willful. A similar bill was introduced in **Pennsylvania**.

In **Rhode Island**, incidents or threats of animal abuse are now being documented on standardized forms used by police departments for domestic violence incidents. Information about the animal abuse is captured in the report section dealing with assault, and is obtained by asking questions about verbal abuse of the victim or physical abuse of other family members or pets.

In **Florida**, the Humane Society of Greater Miami, the Miami Police Department, the Safespace Women's Shelter, and the 11th Judicial Circuit's Domestic Violence Court have launched "Safe Families, Safe Pets." This program will train police officers to check for animal abuse when responding to a domestic violence call, and animal cruelty investigators to look for signs of domestic abuse.



Latham Foundation Sponsors Symposium at British Columbia Conference, "Creating a Legacy of Hope"

Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D.



Frank Ascione, Ph.D.

Following a successful workshop on the links between animal abuse and interpersonal violence at a recent international conference, in San Diego, CA on children exposed to domestic violence, the Latham Foundation sponsored a symposium at the "Creating a Legacy of Hope" International Conference held October 27-29, 1999 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

The Conference was organized by the B.C./Yukon Society of Transition Houses (the Canadian term for domestic violence shelters) and was held at the Robson Square Conference Centre. Over 600 participants and presenters from around the world helped highlight the international problem of violence between intimate family members and illustrated diverse approaches to assisting victims of violence – women, children, and animals.

The Latham-sponsored symposium was entitled, "Animal abuse, domestic

violence, and child maltreatment: Collaborative efforts to integrate research, public policy, and applied programs." Chaired by Frank R. Ascione, member of the Latham Foundation's Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Council, the symposium introduced 40-50 attendees to the links among child maltreatment, domestic violence, and animal abuse from a variety of professional perspectives. Members of the symposium team included Dr. Barbara Boat, University of Cincinnati, Mr. Stephen Huddart, Community Relations Director of the BC-SPCA, and Suzanne Barnard, MSW, former acting director of the Children's Division of the American Humane Association. Kim Roberts, MSW, former director of the Humane Society of the United States First Strike Campaign, was involved in the symposium planning but was unable to attend.

Frank Ascione provided an overview of research in this area, including a discussion of studies demonstrating the prevalence of companion animal abuse in homes where domestic violence

is present. This research suggests that it is, unfortunately, all too common for women who are battered and their children to experience the abuse and killing of their pets. Ascione (1998) and others (e.g., Flynn, C.P. (1999). *Woman's best friend: Pet abuse and the role of companion animals in the lives of battered women*. *Violence against Women* (in press) have found that between 20 and 40% of women who are battered who have pets may delay seeking shelter because of their concern for their pets' welfare. He also discussed the recent blossoming of collaborative programs aimed at sheltering the pets of women who are battered while women are at a crisis center or safe house. Ascione (2000) has recently published *Safe Havens for Pets: Guidelines for Programs Sheltering Pets for Women who are Battered*, with the sponsorship of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, which is available free to animal welfare agencies requesting a copy (see note on page 20 in this issue). Copies have already been distributed nationally to domestic violence programs on the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence mailing list (over 1,300 programs). Barbara Boat, a clinical child psychologist at the University of Cincinnati, described her clinical experiences with animal abuse as a component of child physical and sexual abuse and her research on the role of traumatic animal-related experiences in psychological adjustment in children, adolescents, and adults. Dr. Boat describes her work and assessment methods in Ascione and Arkow's (1999) *Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Animal Abuse: Linking the Circles of Compassion for Prevention and Intervention* (available from the Latham Found-

dation or Purdue University Press). Dr. Boat stressed our past failure to acknowledge the importance of companion animal loss, especially through violent means, in the lives of young people and adults. She is currently working with a number of human and animal welfare agencies in Ohio and northern Kentucky to develop collaborative programs on the links between animal abuse and human violence.

Stephen Huddart, director of community relations for the British Columbia SPCA, whose jurisdiction covers an enormous geographical expanse in western Canada, provided the audience with an overview of the SPCA's traditional animal welfare programs (e.g., humane education, wildlife protection, pet population control) and the SPCA's interest in highlighting the animal abuse issue for citizens of British Columbia. Mr. Huddart noted, with chagrin, that the domestic violence agency sponsoring the conference at which we presented the workshop, maintains offices across the street from Mr. Huddart's at the SPCA. However, it was not until this Latham-sponsored symposium that the two agencies' directors had ever had contact! The two agencies have now entered into a dialogue about potential collaborative programs, one of which may be a pet sheltering program for women who are battered.



Frank Ascione, Ph.D.

Mr. Huddart also noted a significant development for animal welfare across all of Canada - the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association has made animal abuse a priority issue for the association



Frank Ascione, Ph.D.

for the next five years. He also described the activities of the Ontario SPCA including replication of Ascione's domestic violence/pet abuse research and development of public service announcements on the link between animal abuse and child maltreatment.

Suzanne Barnard, former acting director of the Children's Division of the American Humane Association ended the symposium with a description of a number of innovative programs that have emerged as a result of emphasis on the link between animal abuse and human violence. These include the Front Porch project, DVERT, passage of a mandatory counseling provision for individuals in Colorado convicted of animal cruelty, and AHA's "LINK" clearinghouse for information about resources concerning animal abuse and human violence. Ms. Barnard noted the dramatic increase in attention to the animal abuse issue in the past 10 years, in part, due to the recent school violence episodes, a number of which were presaged by the perpetrators' violence toward animals. The renewed scientific attention to animal abuse has also facilitated communication with law enforcement and mental health professionals about the significance of animal maltreatment as a public safety and human welfare issue.

Following the symposium, Mary Montminy-Danna and Holly Rice, both from Rhode Island, presented pilot research from a project aimed at assessing

domestic violence victims' qualitative experiences of animal abuse. The case studies they presented illustrated the distress created when women and children experience harm to their companion animals. They also described one of the first statewide efforts to assess the prevalence of animal abuse in cases of domestic violence.

In reflecting on this conference, I am reminded of the world's New Year's Eve celebrations broadcast city by city on January 1, 2000. Our essential similarity as human beings was so evident as the cameras followed the camaraderie and joy displayed across our planet at that special moment in time. Our world is unfortunately also girded by the problem of intimate violence. Presenters in Vancouver reported on domestic violence in New Zealand, Tajikistan, Finland, Mexico, Australia, as well as in the United States and Canada. But we are also joined by a "legacy of hope" that violence toward adults, children, and animals has alternatives, can be prevented, and that its aftermath can result in healing. We have the potential for creating a less violent world and passing on a legacy of hope to future generations, human and animal.

*Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D.
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Logan, Utah 84322-2810
(435) 797-1464
FrankA@COE.USU.EDU*



Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

March

March 23 - 25 – Society of Animal Welfare Administrators Spring Conference. Renaissance Atlanta Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia. For details contact Joe Lory at 303-758-9611.

March 23 – Introductory Euthanasia Training presented by Penny Cistaro, The Marin Humane Society, Novato, California, 415-883-3522.

March 25 – The 2nd Annual Humane Education Seminar, “A Holistic Approach to Humane Education: Animals in the Community.” Sponsored by the Department of Animal Sciences, University of Illinois and The ASPCA, Levis Center, Univ. of Illinois. For information: 217-333-2629 or www.ansci.uiuc.edu/humane

March 26-31 – Animal Law Enforcement Advanced Training Academy (intensive forty hour study of investigation procedures as they relate to California anti-cruelty laws). Sponsored by the Santa Rosa Training Center at the Santa Rosa Junior College. Marin Humane Society, Novato, California. Santa Rosa Junior College 707-776-0721; Marin Humane Society 415-883-4621.

March 30-31 – AHA presents Euthanasia by Injection, Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA. Information: Roxanne Ayala at AHA 800-227-4645 or Liz Baronowski at Pasadena Humane 626-792-7151 x114.

April

April 1-2 – Sowing Seeds, Humane Education Workshop, Sponsored by the Center for Compassionate Living and the International Institute for Global Education, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada. Contact: Center for Compassionate Living, P.O. Box 260, Surry, ME 04684, Phone/Fax 207-667-1025, e-mail: ccl@acadia.net, www.compassionateliving.org

April 10-11-12 – AHA presents two workshops at the Marin Humane Society, Novato, California

10th & 11th: Euthanasia by Injection

12th: Euthanasia of Wildlife & Exotics

For information on either workshop, contact Carma Cervantes, Marin Humane Society 415-883-4621 x250 or Roxanne Ayala, AHA 800-227-4645.

April 14-15 – National Humane Education Workshop, “Being an Agent of Change”. Sponsored by the American Humane Association, Denver, Colorado, 800-227-4645.

April 18 – Second Annual TAG DAY - ID Your Pets! Call AHA for more information 800-227-4645 or www.AmericanHumane.org

April 18-19 – American Humane Society’s Shelter Operations School Pasadena Humane Society and SPCA. Information: Roxanne Ayala at AHA 800-227-4645 or Liz Baronowski at Pasadena Humane 626-792-7151 x114.

April 26-29 – Putting Family Support on the Map for the Next Century, Chicago, IL For information contact the Family Resource coalition 312-338-0900, frca@frca.org

April 30-May 2 – 2nd National Roundtable on Implementing the Adoption and Safe Families Act, AHA Children’s Division. 800-227-4645.

May

May 7-13 – 85th Anniversary of BE KIND TO ANIMALS WEEK! American Humane Association 800-227-4645.

June

June 16 – Introductory Euthanasia Training presented by Penny Cistaro, The Marin Humane Society, Novato, California, 415-883-3522.

July

July 1-15 – 8th National APSAC Colloquium, Chicago, Ill. 312-554-0166 or APSACEduc@aol.com

September

September 9-12 – Healthy Families America: Sharing Our Strengths, Atlanta, Georgia. A national conference presented by Prevent Child Abuse America, 200 S. Michigan Ave., 17th floor, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

September 23-27 – 5th International Conference on Family Violence, Town & Country Hotel and Convention Center, San Diego, CA. Conference Coordinator: Joe Marciano 858-623-2777; e-mail: jmarciano@mail.cspg.edu

September 29 – Introductory Euthanasia Training presented by Penny Cistaro, The Marin Humane Society, Novato, California, 415-883-3522.

October

October 1-5 – 10th Annual National Conference on Domestic Violence, sponsored by the National College of District Attorneys, Anaheim, California. For information contact Candace M. Mosely 803-544-5005.

October 10-13 – Tufts Animal Expo, an outreach event for veterinarians, technicians, and other animal care professionals. Hynes convention Center and Back Bay Hilton, Boston, Massachusetts. Information: 978-371-2200 or e-mail: Mabowen@earthlink.net

October 15-18 – American Humane Association’s Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia. 800-227-4645.

October 27-28 – The Healing Power of the Human-Animal Bond: Lessons Learned from the AIDS Epidemic. SF SPCA, San Francisco, California. For information: KCGorzycza@aol.com

October 27-29 – Sowing Seeds, Humane Education Workshop, Asilomar Conference Center, Pacific Grove, California. Sponsored by the Center for Compassionate Living. Contact P.O. Box 260, Surry, ME 04684, Phone/Fax 207-667-1025, e-mail ccl@acadia.net, www.compassionateliving.org

November

November 30 – Introductory Euthanasia Training presented by Penny Cistaro, The Marin Humane Society, Novato, California, 415-883-3522.

EDITOR’S NOTE: We are glad to publicize relevant conferences and workshops when space and publication schedules allow. Send information to: The Latham Foundation, Attn: Calendar, 1826 Clement Ave., Alameda, CA 94501. Phone 510-521-0920, Fax 510-521-9861, E-mail Lathm@aol.com

Colleges Offering AAT & HCAB Courses

Phil Arkow

Growing interest in the human-animal bond and its therapeutic applications has led to colleges and universities offering coursework in the “bond” and in animal-assisted therapy (AAT). Some of these courses are for credit, others are continuing education or certificate programs, and a few are available in a distance learning mode for students who are unable to travel to the on-campus settings.

Camden County College, in Blackwood, NJ, offers a Spring Semester Survey Course and a Fall semester Independent Study Course in AAT. Each is a certificate program coordinated by the Department of Veterinary Technology.



Phil Arkow has organized the courses through a series of guest lectures by nationally-acclaimed experts and field trips to AAT sites in South Jersey and Philadelphia.

A new offshoot of the course is available for the virtual student in a Home Study videotape format. Students can use the “high-tech” world to learn about the vocational and volunteer “high touch” world of AAT, network with peers internationally, and learn about AAT in such environments as hospitals, nursing homes, emotionally disturbed children, pet loss, service animals, therapeutic riding, and the links between animal abuse and family violence. For details about either the on-campus or Home Study course, contact Arkow at 856-627-5118 or arkowpets@snip.net.

The Center to Study Human-Animal Relationships & Environments (CENSHARE) at the University of Minnesota offers a six-month AAT certificate program, “Animals in Healing



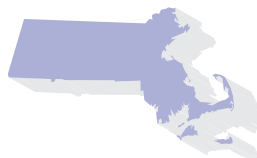
Environments.” The course which uses a multi-media approach and experiential learning techniques is presented by People, Animals, Nature and Minnesota Linking Youth, Nature and Critics. Students meet with Dr. Aaron Katcher and Debbie Coultis for the opening and concluding weekend seminars. The rest of the course consists of bi-monthly meetings and phone conferences facilitated by local instructors. For details, contact Tanya Welsch at 651-699-9558.

The University of Minnesota School of Public Health offers a one-semester course, “Perspectives: Interrelationships of People and Animals in Society Today.” It explores the ecological, cultural, social, psychological, economic, and health and medical dimensions of these interrelationships. The course coordinator is Dr. Gail Peterson, Department of Psychology, peter004@tc.um.edu.

Mercy College has long been an AAT pioneer with its Special and Certificate Programs in Pet Assisted Therapy offered by the Veterinary Technology Department. For details contact Jack Burke, DVM, at 555 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522-1189 or call 1-800-MERCY-NY.



The Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine’s Center for Animals and Public Policy offers the only MS degree in Animals and Public Policy. The Master’s curriculum is a 32 credit hours program over 9-12 months. Students take three core courses, two tutorials, one case study and complete an independent study report. Contact the Center at 200 Westboro Rd., N. Grafton, MA 01536.



Call 508-839-7991 or www.tufts.edu/vet or cfapp@tufts.edu.

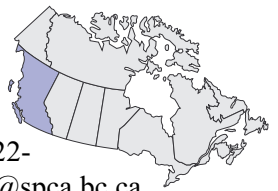
Harcum College in Bryn Mawr, PA, offers a two-semester certificate program in AAT through the veterinary technology department. For details call the school at 800-345-2600 or co-ordinator Ann Stein at 610-287-5722.



Dr. William T. McCullough teaches a course in AAT in the University of Southern Maine’s Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies. Contact him at P.O. Box 9300, Portland, ME 04104-9300, or 207-780-4645, or wtmccull@usm.maine.edu.

Since 1992, Purdue University has offered an interdisciplinary undergraduate program in animal welfare and societal concerns. The Center for the Human-Animal Bond at Purdue’s School of Veterinary Medicine coordinates the curriculum, which includes animal behavior, animal issues and the media, ethics and animals, and seminars and special topics in animal welfare. Contact Dr. Alan Beck at 765-494-0854 or abeck@vm.cc.purdue.edu.

In Canada, a new AAT course is being offered by Langara College, Vancouver BC. Contact Nadine Gourkow at 604-222-2305 or ngourkow@spca.bc.ca.



In Topeka, KS, Dr. Lee Boyd is teaching a new course in AAT at Washburn University (zzboyd@washburn.edu). Topics include conducting AAT visits, AAT in correctional facilities and nursing homes, and zoonoses.



Thanks, Phil!



Providing Treatment for People Who Hurt Animals: California's New Law

Lynn Loar, Ph.D., LCSW

Although the public is horrified when crimes against animals come to light, rarely is much done to prevent repetition of this inhumane behavior. Few cases of cruelty to animals are prosecuted; fewer still receive sentences that make repeat offense less likely. Rather, most law enforcement agencies ignore the connection between cruelty to animals and other crimes and decline to pursue what they consider trivial wrongdoing. District attorneys prosecute only a handful of animal abuse cases, and judges typically order minimal fines and occasional short jail terms as punishment.

Trying to obtain more serious consideration for cases of animal abuse, a number of well-meaning animal advocates have focused their energy on legislation that would charge felonies rather than misdemeanors and increase the length of sentences for cases involving cruelty to animals. Despite laudable motivation, these efforts are misguided: most animal cruelty cases do not go to trial—and people do not come out of jail gentler than they went in, or more likely to be kind to animals or any other living creature.

Out of concern for family and community safety and his desire to draw attention to the role animal cruelty plays in the behavioral repertoire of violent individuals, Senator Jack O'Connell of the eighteenth senatorial district of California added in 1998 to Section 597(g) of the California Penal Code the requirement that the court order counseling for people placed on probation following

a misdemeanor or felony conviction of cruelty to animals. This counseling is in addition to, and may not replace, incarceration and fines. Its aim is to redirect the dangerous behavior of people at large in the community.

Although cruelty to animals has been listed for years as a symptom of conduct disorder in adolescents by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM III-R and IV), the standard reference of psychological symptoms, few therapists, child protective services workers or probation officers are aware of the link between harming animals and human violence. Thus, the requirement that the court order treatment both identified a necessary ingredient for the responsible release of offenders into the community and created a problem, namely the lack of qualified professionals experienced in this area of offender treatment.

To address the need to train therapists and to develop protocols for treating people who hurt animals, Randy Lockwood of the Humane Society of the United States and I provided five day-long training sessions for licensed mental health professionals last September and October throughout California. This training program was jointly sponsored by HSUS and MRI, a research and training institute for mental health professionals located in Palo Alto, CA. Approximately eighty clinicians attended, gave the presentation excellent evaluations, and indicated a desire for additional training and a

willingness to take court-ordered cases. Plans for 2000 include both a basic and an advanced level of the training and the creation of a directory of therapists who have completed the training. The directory will be made available to courts and to district attorneys to facilitate referrals. This year's trainings will be offered in Northern California the third week of May and in Southern California the last week of September.

For more information, contact MRI at (650) 321-3055 or at www.mri.org. There will likely be three broad categories of offenders affected by the O'Connell bill, and different treatment is indicated for each: 1. Hoarders (collectors); 2. Youth and young adult offenders; 3. Adults harming or killing animals as part of family violence (child abuse, elder abuse, spousal abuse).

Hoarders

Hoarders are typically, although not exclusively, older women living alone. They are likely never to have married, to be fairly well educated and to have begun taking in animals in their thirties or forties. Things become unmanageable over time and hoarders' isolation from friends, family and community increases along with the number of animals in their care. By the time an animal control agency becomes involved, situations are horrific and the hoarders' perceptions seriously distorted. Absent treatment and long-term monitoring, recidivism is a certainty.

The key to effective intervention with hoarders is reducing the isolation and giving these bright and lonely women productive ways to use their education and concern for animals. Assessment for anti-depressant, obsessive-compulsive or other psychotropic medication should be done by a qualified psychiatrist. A case manager should be assigned to build a social and occupational or volunteer network for the hoarder. Both the case manager and the monitoring animal control agency should make frequent visits to the home to prevent the acquisition of new animals and ensure that the few already there get adequate care. Many crimes against animals, like crimes in general, are committed by young men. They may act alone or as part of a peer group or gang. With the youngest offenders, their first arrest is likely to be for harming or killing animals. Once they reach adulthood, though, animal cruelty becomes one of several anti-social and dangerous behaviors offenders engage in.

Youth and Young Adult Offenders

Offender treatment programs typically use both individual and group therapy to address violent behavior. A combination of cognitive-behavioral techniques and relapse prevention typically constitute therapy. People learn about their strengths and weaknesses, their vulnerabilities and coping strategies they can use to make safe and responsible choices in the face of temptation to reoffend. Impulsive behavior done on a whim or a dare is apt to be more amenable to treatment than practiced and premeditated acts of violence.

Adults Involved in Family Violence

In the context of family violence, most offenders are again men.

Fathers may threaten to harm, actually harm or kill a pet to control a child or to prevent the child from disclosing the problems at home to someone outside the family. “Don’t tell or I’ll kill your pet” is a classic threat in incestuous families. A husband may use the pet to intimidate his wife or prevent her from leaving. In response to this, many animal shelters have established collaborative arrangements with their neighboring battered women’s shelters so women can flee the abusive situation and have a safe place to leave their



Courtesy of Arizona Humane Society

animals. Adult children may also threaten to harm, kill or give away an aging parent’s pet to exert influence, often to get control of the elder’s financial assets

Children observing a parent’s or older sibling’s upsetting behavior may attempt to understand what they saw by repeating the behavior with other children, with the family pet or other animal available to them. Thus, a child may come to school and throw the classroom hamster against the wall the day after his or her enraged father did something similar at home. It is imperative that these abuse-reactive children get help promptly, before the behavior becomes ingrained and habitual, if we are to break the intergenerational cycle of abuse.

Although counseling often falls short of people’s hopes and expectations, it nevertheless offers opportunity to change for those willing to try. People who hurt or kill animals typically engage in other criminal behavior as well, and may pose risk to their family, friends and neighbors. Also, sentences under PC 597 are typically short (if ordered at all), so offenders will be back in the community to offend again, often having learned from incarceration only anger and more dangerous behaviors. While not the whole answer,

counseling is a vital part of safe probation. It gives the offenders the opportunity to learn impulse control, constructive ways to deal with anger and frustration and coping strategies that do not in-

volve harming living creatures, human or animal. The O’Connell bill is an important step in taking cruelty to animals seriously and treating it as part of the array of dangerous behaviors imperiling families and communities. By re-

Lynn Loar, Ph.D., LCSW, is an expert in child abuse assessment and treatment and a member of the California State Humane Academy faculty where she teaches about the interrelationship of child abuse, domestic violence, and cruelty to animals.



Continued from Page 5, Lindsay Wildlife



Lindsay Wildlife Museum

renovating people and wildlife

shelters that have placement programs or "no kill" policies are often bombarded with unwanted pets and must turn away additional donations. Often, these domestic animals are "disposed" of by being released into public parks and open spaces or local neighborhoods where they meet their demise.

The Pet Library Program addresses the need to provide educational programs that teach families about responsible pet ownership through Pet Care classes, demonstrations of animal health checks, educational brochures, pet care handouts, and petting circle activities. The program also allows families to find out additional long-term pet ownership conflicts such as animal allergies. These programs never victimize the animals for the sake of education.

We agree that these animals need consistency in order to live a fulfilling life. This is why we stress that families keep the animal for one week, in order for the animal to become acclimated to its new surroundings. We also mandate that the animals have 48 hours of rest and relaxation before they are checked out. We do admit that some animals are not able to thrive in the Pet Library Program (less than 5%). These animals usually arrive with behavioral problems due to previous mistreatment. At the first sign of stress, they are immediately removed from the program and every effort is made to find a permanent placement for the animal.

The point raised regarding the

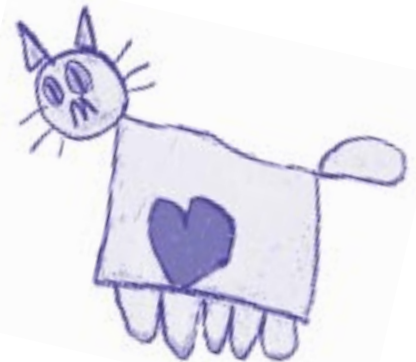
Pet Library encouraging individuals to dispose of pets until they find one that has the same qualities or personality of a Pet Library animal is inaccurate. All of the Pet Library animals are available for permanent adoption by experienced members. In most cases, members using the program permanently adopt the majority of Pet Library animals.

The Lindsay Wildlife Museum's mission is to "foster a living connection between people and wildlife in order to create a deeper commitment to the natural world." Over the last 30 years, Pet Library animals have helped to further our mission by evoking empathy in people, and a better understanding of domestic and wild animals.

Sincerely,

Cassandra Smith,
Youth Programs Manager,

Continued from Page 5, Dr. Walters



kitten. There is a language unspoken and an emotion that is very deep and essential to the health of our being.

"Teaching Compassion" is a valuable tool for shaping children's thoughts and feelings, ultimately empowering them with a sense of tolerance and compassion -- not just for animals, but for all living things. This is a much-needed focus for all educators.

Dr. Nancy Walters,
Veterinarian
Occidental, California



Safe Havens for Pets: Guidelines for Programs Sheltering Pets for Women who are Battered,

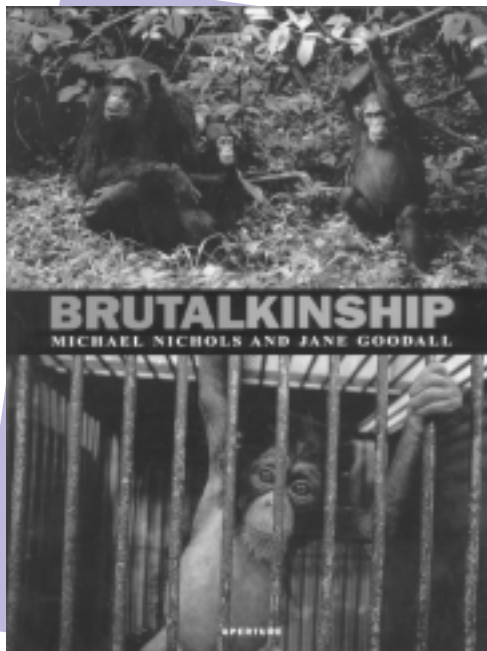
authored by Frank R. Ascione, is available for distribution. This 296 page document includes the results of a survey of 21 domestic violence and 20 animal welfare agencies offering pet sheltering services for women who are battered. It also includes sample policy and procedure documents, liability forms, etc. provided by a number of the agencies interviewed.

With sponsorship of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, a free copy will be mailed to any animal welfare agency making a request. Please send your request, including an adhesive self-addressed mailing label, to:

Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
Utah State University
2810 Old Main Hill
Logan, Utah 84322-2810

BRUTAL KINSHIP

BY MICHAEL NICHOLS
AND JANE GOODALL



This beautiful but disturbing book explores the relationship between humankind and its closest relative, the chimpanzee. It presents these extraordinary animals in the wild, in captivity, and in sanctuaries created expressly for their protection. In his revealing photographs and commentaries drawn from first-hand experiences, Michael Nichols join forces with Jane Goodall to present the ways in which chimpanzees are physically, emotionally, and intellectually closer to us than we ever imagined, and how, paradoxically, we have forced them into a more human yet sadly less humane existence.

“Once we accept or even suspect that humans are not the only animals with personalities,” writes Dr. Goodall, “not the only animals capable of rational thoughts and problem solving ...

and above all, not the only animals to know mental as well as physical suffering, we become less arrogant, a little less sure that we have the inalienable right to make use of other life forms in any way we please.”

In *Brutal Kinship*, Michael Nichols explores the fine line between probing inquiry and abuse, between love and exploitation.

Michael Nichols is a staff photographer for *National Geographic*. His other books include *Gorilla*, *The Great Apes: Between Two Worlds*, *Keepers of the Kingdom: The New American Zoo*, and *The Year of the Tiger*.

Dr. Jane Goodall is a world-famous ethologist whose landmark work with chimpanzees began in 1957 when she first went to Kenya and met the famed anthropologist and paleontologist, Dr. Louis Leakey. Soon after that, Leakey chose Goodall for his pioneering study of wild chimpanzees. In 1965, Goodall established the Gombe Stream Research Centre in Tanzania, and in 1977, she founded the Jane Goodall Institute for Wildlife Research, Education and Conservation to provide ongoing support for field research on wild chimpanzees.

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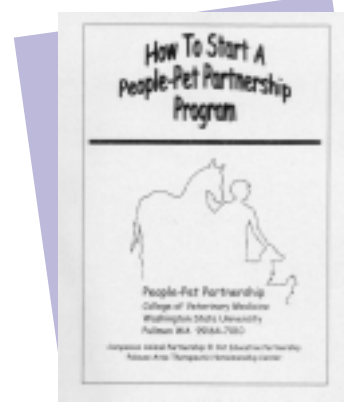
BRUTAL KINSHIP
by Michael Nichols and
Jane Goodall

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HOW TO START A PEOPLE-PET PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Latham is proud to recognize and recommend the latest edition (Copyright © 1999) of this extremely valuable manual. The manual is dedicated to the memory of the People Pet Partnership's (PPP) founder and director, Dr. Leo K. Busted (1920-1998). Dr. Busted was Director of the PPP from 1974-1998.

Truly a soup-to-nuts manual, *How to Start a People-Pet Partnership Program* is based on the experiences of members involved with Washington State University's PPP, both past and present; however, as its authors are careful to point out, the procedures for organizing and implementing a similar program are meant only as guidelines. They will be most useful when modified by careful assessment of each community's special needs.



The First Edition of this manual was written by Linda M. Hines © 1980, titled *The People-Pet Partnership Program* and published by The Latham Foundation.

For further information:
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P.O. Box 64710
Pullman, WA 9916-7010



A NEW BEST FRIEND: WHERE DO I BEGIN?

This is a remarkable little booklet – remarkable for at least two reasons. First because of the amount of valuable information contained in its 13 clear and concise pages; secondly because it represents a successful collaboration between no less than ten organizations united in the interest of responsible dog ownership. Sections include:

- *Do You Really Want a Dog?*
- *Finding Your Special Dog*
- *A Word about Pet Shops*
- *What You Should Know About Puppy Mills*
- *Choosing a Purebred Puppy*
- *Have You Considered an Adult Dog?*
- *Contracts: Read Before You Sign!*
- *How to Select a Dog Trainer*
- *The Benefits of Training*
- *Resources*
- *Benefits of Spaying & Neutering*
- *What to do if you purchased a sick or defective puppy or dog.*

Latham highly recommends this booklet to those new to the joys and responsibilities of dog ownership. As the authors caution, "Acquiring a dog is a decision that will have a major

impact on your life and on the life of the dog. Be fair to yourself, your family, and your canine companion and make this a careful decision!"

The booklet is bought to you through the efforts of the Tri-State Humane Association, a coalition of Humane Societies, SPCA's, and other interested parties in Delaware, South-eastern Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, whose goal is to provide consumers with information that will help them in making the most informed decision possible when acquiring a dog. The Tri-State Humane Association also acts as a certified registry for consumer complaints regarding the sale of sick or defective dogs.

Copies of the booklet, for which there is a nominal charge, are available from the Women's Humane Society in Bensalem, Pennsylvania. Phone:



DANCER ON THE GRASS: TRUE STORIES ABOUT HORSES AND PEOPLE

"I met my first horse when I could barely walk. At two years old, I stumbled into a pasture, drawn to the wonder of the tall, yellow stallion. He stood patiently as I gripped his legs with my

hands, and pulled myself upright. That was my first gift from a horse – support. Later, my relieved parents found me, and it was no surprise to them that my life turned into a career with the four-legged spirits that grace the grass."

So begins Teresa Martino's book on her life with horses – a life rich with adventurous and touching stories that speak to every animal lover.

For more than 35 years Martino has lived and worked with horses. In *Dancer on the Grass*, Martino writes of Casey the horse who jumped a teenage girl over her mother's sports car as a rite of passage; icy the immortal horse who embodied the circle of life; Inniskim, the wild stallion from the Blackfoot Reservation of Montana; and The Corinthian who defined what it is to be a champion. Martino also writes of the horse people – the riders, grooms, coaches, and students that she has worked with over the years.

From classic dressage to bone-breaking cross-country jumping, Martino writes lovingly and humorously of the equine lifestyle, and how unique and profound the relationship between horse and human can be. This book is written with the wisdom of a Native American storyteller, and the humor of Coyote the trickster.

Teresa Tsimmu Martino lives on an island in the Pacific Northwest where she writes, trains horses, and oversees Wolftown, a nonprofit organization dedicated to wolf and horse rescue.

Dancer on the Grass: True Stories About Horses and People
by Teresa Tsimmu Martino

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The meaning of animals in the hearts of children as revealed through artwork and poetry

Teacher's narrative and lesson plans to encourage respect, responsibility, and compassion.

Topics include the emotional connection between children and animals, pet care, pet overpopulation, habitat loss, and the question of hunting. The chapters are illustrated with children's poems and colorful artwork showing the meaning of the lessons to them. The chapters also include poems by well-known writers to expose children to great poetry at an early age. There is a section devoted to handling disclosures of child or animal abuse. **Appendices include** lesson plans, vocabulary lists, innovative homework ideas, techniques for teaching poetry writing, ideas for role plays, and an extensive resource list.



Pamela Raphael: Humane Educator, Humane Society of Sonoma County (1991-97) where she implemented classes on responsible and compassionate treatment of animals in elementary, secondary, and special education schools. Pamela is presently expanding this program to additional schools in Northern California. Published poet and Poet Teacher for California Poets in the Schools (1978-93).

Lynn Loar, Ph.D., LCSW: Expert in child abuse assessment and treatment, and a member of the California State Humane Academy faculty, teaching about the interrelationship of child abuse, elder abuse, domestic violence, and cruelty to animals.

Libby Colman, Ph.D.: Program Director of San Francisco Court Appointed Special Advocates and co-author of seven books on the psychology of parenting.

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