

T H E

Latham Letter

VOLUME XXIV, NUMBER 1

WINTER 2003

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

Single Issue Price: \$5.00

Animal Refuge Kansai (ARK) rescues animals in Japan



**Latham Celebrates
85th Anniversary**

Animal Refuge Kansai (ARK) is Japan's network of people who love animals, believe in sharing their lives with them, and work to rescue them from suffering – see pages 14–17 for details about their successful activities.

The Latham Foundation The Latham Foundation



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Promotion of Humane Education*

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The Latham Letter

Vol. XXIV, No. 1, Winter 2003

Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities



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ABOUT THE LATHAM FOUNDATION:

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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Edith Latham's Mandate:

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



Editorial:

Expectations

By Hugh H. Tebault, III, President

“Kindness is the one tongue that all human kind can understand and that all creatures may be made to feel. It is the language that holds the balance of power in settling difficulties between individuals and nations, for, above all, a heart made kind means a mind above crime.”

Jennie R. Nichols,

National Humane Education Chairman of the Parents and Teachers Association.

“Kindness to animals is not mere sentiment, but a requisite of even a very ordinary education. Nothing in arithmetic, or grammar, or any branch of study is so important for a child to learn as humaneness.”

The American Journal of Education.

Starting in the 1920s, Latham used radio to reach students. It provided scripts written by Latham staff for reading over school radio stations. School districts then used these productions in the official class curriculum, teaching kindness to animals and respect for others. A Latham publication from about 1932 states, “The results achieved,” said David E. Martin, Superintendent of Alameda County Schools, “have been remarkable, and the lasting effect of your consistent, definite program will be felt throughout the lives of the children who have had intimate contact with this program.”

Latham also sponsored a world-wide poster contest, encouraging art students to focus on universal kinship and respect for animals. The participation was outstanding and the level of work was amazing. A few of the posters can be seen at our website today at www.latham.org/Local/Posters1940.html

Latham created educational and entertaining television shows starting in the 1950s to carry its message to wider and wider audiences. Brother Buzz and Miss Busy Bee today are in retirement in Oregon, but they remain in the fond memories of all who grew up during their era.

In the 1990s, with the advent of the Internet, Latham was early to establish a web source for sharing humane education. It is heartwarming to hear from so many countries, knowing our information is helping improve the day-to-day activities and programs around the world.

Through all these innovative programs, the message of Latham continues to be steadfast in its purpose. We remain The Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education, dedicated “...to promote, foster, encourage and further the principles of humaneness, kindness and benevolence to all living creatures... with particular emphasis on the education of children in justice and kindness to animals.” - Edith Latham.

Readers of my column recognize I write of my expectations of society as related to current events. This issue provides me the opportunity to let you know that The Latham Foundation is 85 years old and to share with you a few items of interest from our past.

Although I am not 85 years old, for most of my life I have known of and have been associated with the work of The Latham Foundation. Despite the changing times, the Foundation’s core values and goals have remained consistent – *promoting respect for all life through education. The need to respect animals and each other transcends generations, even though the methods used to teach these values may change.*

Early humane educators from Latham used flannel boards in elementary school classrooms to teach. This was the multimedia of the '20s and '30s. It caught the attention of the children and the support of the teachers at that time.

Here are some interesting quotes from a 1929 issue of *The Kind Deeds Messenger*, The Latham Foundation Story Service for the Public Schools, which Latham published from 1924 to 1945.



Remember Brother Buzz?

Dear Hugh:

Thank you for being excited with our concept to show a vintage Brother Buzz episode throughout the run of our upcoming exhibition, "Puppets of the World from the Alan Cook Collection" at the Grace Hudson Museum in Ukiah.*

Alan Cook has some 3,000 puppets in his collection. More than 300 will be on display here at the Grace Hudson Museum beginning December 7, 2002 and through April 27, 2003. A particularly strong area of the collection are the selections of American vaudeville through Las Vegas puppet acts. Additionally, he has many examples of puppets used on television or in the movies. As a youngster watching Saturday morning television in the 1950s, Brother Buzz and Miss Busy Bee are a must to be included in our section on TV puppets.

Thank you again for your support.

Marvin Schenck, Curator

* Grace Hudson Museum
431 South Main Street
Ukiah, California 95482
707-467-2836

www.gracehudsonmuseum.org



CORRECTION

Apologies to Joe Ozier, author of "The True Story of Shep the Wonder Dog" (Fall 2002). His correct e-mail address is sheptwd@yahoo.com. Joe reminds us that he is looking for an agent to promote his upcoming projects. They include the Shep musical and CD and a children's book.

Proclamation

Issued by Governor Rolph of California on Behalf of Humane Education

A definite indication of an advancing civilization is a growing tendency to revere and appreciate the nobler sentiments of people toward each other and to all the lower forms of life.

The nationwide "Be Kind to Animals Anniversary," from April 17th to April 23rd, 1932, therefore offers to the American people an opportunity to again pay tribute to the dumb animals of the United States and to recognize the need for the furtherance of a deeper and more profound humane attitude in the interests of all life.

Kindness to animals is something which should appeal to all classes of society, old and young. In being taught the principles of humaneness, the child is learning a lesson that will bring forth fruit in after years in every aspect of his experience. He will become a better citizen with a wholesome regard for the rights of others, for kindness to animals carries with it the idea of a larger friendliness for one's fellow man.

As Governor of California, I urge all schools in the state, and all representatives of the church and other organizations to observe this period from April 17th to April 23rd, and to exemplify this spirit of friendship each day throughout the year in a more kindly humane attitude toward one another and toward the animals whose inability to speak a language understandable to many of us, places them under our guidance and protection.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this fifth day of April, A.D., 1932.

JAMES ROLPH, JR.
Governor of California

Attest: Frank C. Jordan, Secretary of State



Readers, we welcome your comments.

Jeremy's Hope

by Carol Shiveley

His eyes darted and did a downward spiral whenever I looked at him. His voice was unsure, trembling and barely audible. This black curly-locked, olive skinned child of nine, whose lineage represented four races, was a victim. His father was incarcerated for murder while under the influence of ecstasy. His drug-addicted mom was apprehended for abusing him in public. Under further scrutiny, it was revealed that Jeremy's early months were surrounded in squalor and filth, amid needles and syringes, while strange, violent men visited his mom during the night. An empty, soured milk bottle, wet, soiled diapers and hours without any attention replaced the normal lullabies, cradling and love infants thrive on.

Children and Family Services took Jeremy from his passed-out mom and placed him in residential childcare. Nine years later, Jeremy was used to institutional life where touching was prohibited. When a counselor showed kindness toward him, he immediately gravitated and latched onto them. This was not okay by institutional standards, so either the counselor was reassigned or Jeremy was moved. Much like the many experiments on baby primates deprived of their mothers, Jeremy was not thriving. The only physical contact Jeremy or the other children there knew was being "restrained" by two to four "giant" counselors as they were pinned to the floor and held motionless when they acted out emotionally.

As a humane educator, I wanted to provide a program that linked troubled, at risk children with pets to make a difference through the unconditional, magical therapy that only animals give. Weekly for two years, my little, shaggy,

black with a white apron, dog Tuxedo and I visited a residential treatment center. Every week Tux accompanied me as I taught two separate groups of children, an educational lesson. (My assistant took her dog to two other groups.) Tux seemed to sense the great vacuum and void of affection and love the children so desperately sought. He would "kiss" them as he rolled over and let them descend on him with barely a spot left to breathe. At first Jeremy was aloof and would only watch from the back of the room. One day Jeremy did a flip-flop. He ran toward and grabbed Tux, holding him very tight. When I suggested letting him go, after what seemed like an eternity, he held on tighter and for all his might as Tux bathed his face in licks. Tolerant Tux rolled his eyes toward me as if to say, "Rescue me, please." I remember prying Jeremy's fingers open from his white-knuckle grip to release my goodwill ambassador while assuring the needy boy that Tux would be back. Over the months that turned into years, Jeremy learned to share Tux's love and would allow him freedom to greet and kiss the other children too. He knew Tux would return to love him and shower him with "kisses."

Weekly, I tried to introduce other pets to the children. One spring day I brought in two pet rats, Lexie and Sophie in a Vari-kennel. I set the stage with, "Imagine never ever having been outside in your whole life. Lexie and Sophie don't know what it's like. Let's go outside, sit in a tight circle and open the door of the carrier." Once open, Lexie darted out like a roadrunner. Several of the boys lunged for her and tried to grab her. Jeremy stopped them

with an adamant, "Wait! Give her some space. Let her explore and try the grass, climb on the bush and smell the air. If she is in danger or needs help, we'll be there for her." Meanwhile timid, shy Sophie stayed in the carrier. Several of the boys yelled excitedly, "Get Sophie." Again Jeremy spoke up firmly. "Stop. She needs to take her time. Let her explore on her own." Finally, the little rat inched her way to the front and out the door onto the green, lush grass as she gingerly explored each inch of the fascinating earth.

One Christmas season, Jeremy chanted unrelentingly, "I made something for Tux. Will you come see?" The week of Christmas, the children entertained my assistant and I with a holiday program during a holiday party we had for them. I can still picture a line of intent cherubs in their almost white, crumpled dress shirts, black ties and raggedy jeans. They sang songs of cheer with the clearest, most beautiful tones and bowed proudly to us at the end. Then Jeremy grabbed my hand and Tux's leash as he pulled me with superman strength toward the tiny barren room with two simple cots, that he shared with another boy. There on the floor was a custom made, red plywood doghouse, with the name Tuxedo painted in childlike graphics over the arched doorway. It fit Tux to a tee. (Tux uses it inside our house to this day.) "I made it just for him so he could have a home of his own." Tears welled in my eyes and a lump rose in my throat. I knew that it was Jeremy

Continued on next page.

who wanted a home and family more than anything. Many times he had asked, "Can you adopt me?"

Six years have passed. Jeremy and the little boys I knew and cared about so much never "were selected" for foster homes, as they were risking having been institutionalized their entire lives. I lost track of them after their simple, sweet letters stopped coming from a temporary farm they were sent to.

Just this week, my new canine partner Bessie, a Benji lookalike, and I were leaving after giving humane education presentations at a small rural town high school. As I headed down the concrete stairs, I noted at the bottom, blocking my path, was a handsome young man, with big, baggy pants, looking up at me. Wait a minute! I knew those eyes, that grin. In disbelief, I stammered...Jeremy? "Yep, it's me. I knew it was you by your van. How's Tux?" (Tux is 13 and now a retired couch potato). Jeremy is now 16 and the only boy in a foster home. After

chatting a bit, I asked him if he'd considered raising a service pup like one of his classmates was doing. Jeremy smiled the all so familiar grin of years ago. He explained, "I couldn't do it. You know that discipline thing and not feeding them treats or letting others pet him. I'd be giving it lots of love and feeding it anytime it wanted. I also know my heart would break if I had to give it up. Some day, if I can make it through school (he noted skipping had happened and got him into trouble) until I graduate, I'm going to get a dog." We exchanged addresses and phone numbers with reassurances that we'd keep in touch. I gave him a hug good bye. In my heart, I hope Jeremy will have a dog of his own to love and a family of his very own too. Maybe because valuable life lessons were learned from a little dog named Tux and two little rats.

Carol Shiveley is Director of Education at the Oregon Humane Society and a frequent contributor to the Latham Letter.



HAVE YOU MOVED?

**Please notify
Latham
about your
new address.
Thanks!**

10th Annual Be Kind to Animals Kid Contest

If you know a child between the ages of six and 13 whose love for and dedication to animals deserves national recognition, nominate him or her in American Humane's Be Kind to Animals Kid Contest. Grand prize winners will each receive a \$5,000 college scholarship and a fantastic prize package.

To nominate a young person, you must be 18 or older and have written permission from the child's legal guardian. Then, simply type or print, in 200 words or less, why you think the child deserves to win. Include the name, address, and telephone numbers of you and the child. Photos, videos, or other supporting materials are encouraged. The deadline for nominations is April 1, 2003.

Contest rules and nomination forms can be obtained at www.americanhumane.org or by calling 800-227-4645.

The 2003 winners will be announced during American Humane's Be Kind to Animals Week, May 4 to 10, 2003.



Coming soon!!

BREAKING THE CYCLES OF VIOLENCE: A GUIDE TO MULTI-DISCIPLINARY INTERVENTIONS

by Phil Arkow



A completely new and revised *BREAKING THE CYCLES OF VIOLENCE* Manual.

The new manual is *a guide to multi-disciplinary interventions* for child protection, domestic violence and animal protection agencies.

Breaking the Cycles of Violence, first published in 1995 with an accompanying video, has already done much to help establish common goals and terminologies, overcome communication and service gaps, and create collaborations. This new edition provides professionals in the three disciplines (child protection, animal protection, and domestic violence prevention) with **tangible tools to identify, report, investigate, and manage multi-disciplinary cases of abuse and neglect.**

BREAKING THE CYCLES OF VIOLENCE: A GUIDE TO MULTI-DISCIPLINARY INTERVENTIONS will

- Help agencies fulfill their missions by recognizing related forms of abuse
- Mobilize community forces in a multi-disciplinary approach against all forms of family violence, and
- Stimulate coordinated community responses to violence by better understanding each field's philosophies, systems, and case management techniques.

Chapters include:

1. The "Link": What are the connections between animal abuse and family violence?
2. Incidence: How serious is family violence?
3. Origins: What are the causes of family violence?
4. Defining and Identifying: How do I know when it's abuse?
5. Systems: Who handles abuse cases?
6. Reporting: How do I report suspected abuse?
7. Community collaborations: How can we work together?
8. Prevention and Treatment: How can we reach those who need help?
9. National Resources (to be continually updated at www.latham.org/cycles)
10. Bibliography



Please send THE NEW BREAKING THE CYCLES OF VIOLENCE GUIDE TO MULTI-DISCIPLINARY INTERVENTIONS.

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Making a Difference for People and Animals in Hamilton, Ontario

By Phil Arkow

HAMILTON, Ont. — The Hamilton/Burlington SPCA has instituted a new protocol for cross-reporting incidents of animal abuse and child abuse. The protocol comes on the heels of research that documents how a multi-disciplinary approach to family violence can achieve positive benefits.

The protocol fosters an effective partnership between the SPCA, Children's Aid Society and Catholic Children's Aid Society (C/CAS). The objective is to raise awareness about the connection between animal cruelty and child abuse and to ensure that this increased awareness leads to effective interventions, supports and services for children, their families and their pets.

"Research has found that animal abuse and child abuse commonly occur in dysfunctional families and that maltreatment of animals can predict later violent behavior," says Barry Dowd, Executive Director of the SPCA. "In addition, adults often use animals in their abusive acts or to coerce a child to keep silent about abuse. Such knowledge has led professionals to advocate for cross-training and cross-reporting between child protection and animal cruelty investigators." The new protocol defines the roles of SPCA officers, agents and inspectors, and C/CAS child protection workers. It establishes mutual understandings that the knowledge of each other's roles, mandates, response systems and case management techniques will further enhance a coordinated community response to child abuse and animal cruelty.

Under the terms of the protocol, a simple, uniform Cross Reporting Form was developed. When a child protection worker notes concern about

animals in the home, he or she is to advise the pet owner of the concerns and the need to consult with the C/CAS supervisor about the possibility of a report to the SPCA.

Concerns include the animals' physical and living conditions, aggressive behavior, and the number of animals in the home. If a decision is made to make a report, it is shared immediately by phone with the SPCA and followed up with a fax of the Form.

SPCA inspectors or agents are to routinely make inquiries about children, as their presence may not be evident at the time of the visit. If there are reasonable grounds to suspect physical, sexual or emotional abuse, neglect or risk of harm, he or she is to immediately report the suspicion to the C/CAS by phone and follow it up with a faxed copy of the Form.

"Crimes against animals are not isolated events. Animal cruelty must be seen as an early warning sign, suggestive of the potential for child abuse, neglect and domestic violence. It is a natural step for the same organization that investigates the abuse of animals to partner with the community organizations that are dealing with child abuse, family violence and violent crimes in general," says Dowd.

Research in Hamilton confirms the effectiveness of such partnerships. A 2000-2001 survey of women in three safe houses revealed that 80% of the women owned pets; 30% of the women with pets reported their partner had hurt or killed pets; 50% reported their partner had threatened to hurt or kill pets; and 27% reported that other family members had hurt or killed pets.

What is most significant, however, is that 20% of the women with pets reported that concern over their

pets' welfare had kept them from coming to the shelter sooner. Many of these women were in a shelter that had been included in a 1998 study conducted by the Ontario SPCA in which 50% reported they delayed seeking shelter out of fear of leaving their pets at home.

The decrease from 50% to 20% was attributed to one key factor: after the 1998 study, the safe house began asking residents about their pets at the point of intake. As a result, the safe house now routinely encourages women to do safety planning with their pets including making other arrangements with family and friends for the animals; and the safe house establishes volunteer foster families for the pets of their residents. With these former barriers removed, a greater number of abused women in Hamilton are now free to seek needed safety, says Suzanne Mulligan, author of the research report.

The SPCA also reported receipt of two grants totaling \$135,000 to expand its Pet Assisted Therapy program to include a goal-directed therapy model, and to establish an innovative intervention whereby vulnerable youth train and socialize at-risk shelter dogs to be more adoptable. "Research confirms that animals are the best ambassadors to help youth develop critical life skills which are needed to thrive in our complex society. Animals have consistently and successfully been used to help change behaviors and enhance self-esteem, teach cooperation, communication and positive confrontation skills," says Mulligan.

For details about the protocol, research or grants, contact Suzanne Mulligan, Manager of Special Projects at (905) 574-7722 or through email at firststrike@hamiltonspca.com.



Latham Letter BACK ISSUES containing "Links" Articles

The following back issues containing articles on the connections between child and animal abuse and other forms of domestic violence are available from the Foundation for \$2.50 each, plus \$3.00 Priority Mail Postage and Handling for up to 10 issues (U.S. and Canada).

Foreign orders please add \$10.00. California residents please add 8.25% sales tax. MasterCard and VISA accepted.

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| — Making the Connection Between Animal Abuse and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults | Winter 02 | — Summaries of Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Conferences | Summer 95 |
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Bugs Saves The Day

by Susan Phillips

Often at our gatherings, you can hear over 15 different languages spoken. You see, I'm the Social Director at a 175 unit, inner-city, San Francisco, apartment building, that houses people from all over the world.

International Village, I like to call it. We have residents from Russia, China, Japan, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Peru, Nicaragua, Mexico, Romania, Yemen, India, and Ethiopia, among others.

At times my job is a little like that of a cruise ship social director. I'm supposed to give parties, bring people together, and create a sense of community.

At the last party I gave for seniors only, I didn't hear a buzzing of different languages—I only heard silence. No two seniors present spoke the same language. The party was a complete bust.

The "Winter Holiday" season was approaching, and I'd been instructed to again give a party for the seniors. To be politically correct—we are San Franciscans, after all—we acknowledge celebrations of Hanukkah, Winter Solstice, Ramadan, Christmas, and Kwanzaa under the rubric of Winter Holidays.

I certainly didn't want a repeat of the "Silence Only Party." That kind of Silent Night, I didn't need. The question was, "How do I entertain a group of seniors who can't speak to one another?"

I had learned over time to utilize the universal languages—like the language of art, music, and dance—to bring people together. This year, with a little trepidation, I decided to introduce animals into the mix.

The kids in our building loved having dogs visit, but would the seniors? I've heard stories—you all probably have—of people from country X eating dogs, and people from country Y hating dogs. And who knew whether or not Russians liked dogs?

I threw the party with no prior announcement that Kat Brown, Deputy Director of the SF Dept of Animal Care and Control would be bringing two dogs. I just let Kat and dogs (pun intended) walk into our party room where 30 seniors were eating cookies and drinking hot cider and waited to see the reactions.

One woman shuddered. Chalk one up for fear and loathing, I thought. Maybe that would be the norm. Just then Donna Duford, dog trainer extraordinaire, walked into the room, and the entire group burst into laughter. There in Donna's arms was Bugs—one of the oddest-looking little dogs, I'd ever seen. One of my co-workers described Bugs as looking like "something out of a child's cartoon." Think body of a Corgi, mixed with Pekinese, mixed with German Shepard. Seniors couldn't wait to hold Bugs and have their pictures taken with her.

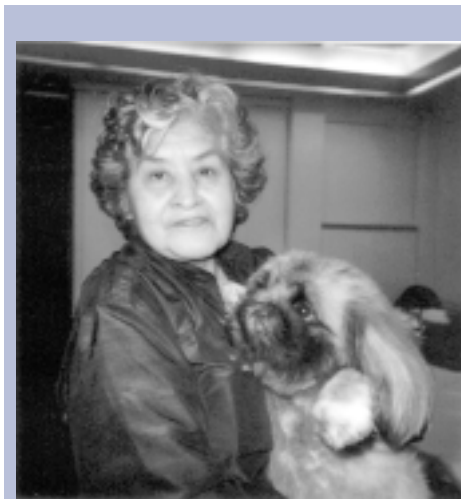
We had Teresa from Peru, Lin from China, Lena from Russia, Lam from Vietnam, and Roberto from the Philippines all clamoring to get their pictures taken. Bugs had broken through the language barrier and saved Christmas. (Oops—the Winter Holidays, I mean.)



Author Susan Phillips and Bugs

Susan Phillips is the Tenant Services Supervisor for Chinatown Community Development Center, a non-profit housing developer, in San Francisco. The building she is describing in her article is 201 Turk Street Apartments, a beautiful, nine-story affordable housing complex in the heart of the Tenderloin—the "red-light district" of San Francisco. Personnel from the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control have been bringing dogs from their shelter to be trained by the children of Turk Street Apartments. The holiday party was the first time seniors from the building had a chance to interact with the dogs.

Susan lives in Marin County, California, with her elderly mother, her sister, her beloved Tibetan Terrier, Sandie, and four cats:



Teresa from Peru



Latham Enters Its 85th Year as a Respected Publisher, Producer, and Catalyst for Responsible

In the wake of the September 11, 2001 tragedy, the guiding principles set forth by Edith Latham in 1918 are even more relevant:

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

LATHAM AS PUBLISHER AND VIDEO DISTRIBUTOR

Great Dog Adoptions: A Guide for Shelters is the highlight of this fiscal year's publishing projects. In it, well-known and respected author Sue Sternberg describes how shelters can provide both behavioral and mental sheltering and better manage and maintain the dogs in their care, whether for days, weeks, months, or years.

Great Dog Adoptions provides practical, step-by-step directions that do not require more space, more people, or miracle dogs or owners. Each chapter focuses on one of four basic approaches:

- Preparing the facility for the dog
- Assessing the dog
- Training the dog
- Finding the right match.

Appendices include suggested return policies, guidance "when something must be done," and a follow-up questionnaire for adopters with children. There is a section of reproducible handouts that shelters can customize and give to adopters which include tips for the first few weeks, information for adopters with children, warning signs, and when to call the shelter for help. The book concludes with author Sue Sternberg's thoughts on euthanasia.

The author owns a kennel and adoption facility in Accord, NY and views each placement as an advertisement for additional shelter adoptions.

Sales continue strong for *Breaking the Cycles of Violence*, a video and training manual package that describes the "why" and "how" of cross reporting. In response to popular demand and in the interest of providing the most useful and comprehensive "Links" resources possible, author Phil Arkow is in the process of revising the manual.

Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Animal Abuse: Linking the Circles of Compassion for Prevention and Intervention emphasizes multidisciplinary intervention for reducing community violence and achieving systemic change. Increasingly, this book is becoming the "bible" of the "Links" field.

Teaching Compassion: A Guide for Humane Educators, Teachers, and Parents contains lesson plans and a teacher's narrative to encourage respect, responsibility, and compassion in elementary-age children. It uses artwork and poetry to examine the meaning of animals in children's hearts.

The *Latham Letter*, which presents balanced perspectives on national humane issues and activities, is in its twenty-third year of publication. Its diverse readership include persons interested in humane education, the human companion animal bond, and animal-assisted therapy; child welfare, domestic violence prevention and human service professionals; law enforcement and the judiciary; educators at all levels; veterinarians, and members of the media. Humane societies, SPCAs, and rescue groups as well as other national and international animal welfare organizations are among its subscribers, bringing the readership to approximately 7500. The Letter is published quarterly.

Facilitator, Sponsor, Colleague, Action



LATHAM AS COLLEAGUE AND FACILITATOR:

Latham co-sponsored the “Using Gardens and Animals to Teach Gentleness to Children from Violent Homes and Communities” conference for the second year. Co-sponsors included The Humane Society of Sonoma County, The Humane Society of the United States, the Pryor Foundation, and The San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control. Last year’s conference, that was held February 7-9 2002, at Fort Mason in San Francisco, featured a pre-conference site visit to Forget Me Not Farm at the Humane Society of Sonoma County.

The Foundation made new colleagues, *Latham Letter* contributors, and customers by exhibiting at:

- *American Humane Association Annual Conference, September 9-12, Washington, DC*
- *Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) EXPO, April 3-6, Miami Beach, FL*
- *California Animal Conference, April 21-23, Anaheim, CA*
- *CHAMP (Conference on Homeless Animals Management Policy formerly Doing Things for Animals/ No-Kill) 2001 Conference, Aug 19-22, Reno, NV*

Phil Arkow, Chair of Latham’s Child and Animal Abuse Prevention (CAAP) Committee, Dr. Frank Ascione, also on Latham’s CAAP Committee and

Editor with Phil Arkow of “Linking the Circles of Compassion,” Dr. Lynn Loar, one of Latham’s prominent Board Members, and Ann Gearhart of the Snyder Foundation for Animals represented the Foundation at a variety of national and international conferences.

LATHAM AS A CLEARING- HOUSE FOR INFORMATION

Latham responded to hundreds of requests in 2001-2002 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. The majority of these requests were for HCAB reprints and back issues of the *Latham Letter* and were received through the Foundation’s web site: www.Latham.org.

This year our fully searchable by topic website has been enhanced with video clips and additional colorful images.

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

LATHAM AS A CATALYST FOR RESPONSIBLE ACTION

As a private operating foundation, Latham uses its resources to highlight the importance of universal kinship and respect for all life through publications and projects which serve as a catalyst for responsible action.

It sponsors The Search for Excellence Video Awards to recognize and encourage excellence in video productions promoting respect for all life. The contest is held every two years. Winners include *Project Second Chance*, Produced by the Animal Humane Association of New Mexico, *Pets & People*, Produced by the Providence Animal Rescue League, *Natural Connections*, Produced by Bullfrog Films, *Witness*, Produced by Tribe of Heart, *Neighborhood Journal* a Cablevision Broadcast, Produced by the Hudson Valley Humane Society, *If You Care, Leave Them There*, Produced by the Humane Society of the United States Northern Rockies Office, and *Your Community At Your Service: The SPCA*, Produced by the Concord High School TV Production Club.

Details about last year’s winners can be found at www.latham.org and in the Summer 2002 *Latham Letter*.



Animal Refuge Kansai (ARK): A voice for animals in Japan

Editor's Note:

One of the pleasures of attending national conferences is learning about organizations such as ARK (Animal Refuge Kansai) in Japan. ARK is a non-profit, non-governmental private organization with the aim of forming a network of people who love animals, believe in sharing their lives with them, and who work actively to rescue them from suffering. ARK was established in 1990 by Elizabeth Oliver and became officially recognized as a NPO (Non-Profit Organization) in September 1999. You can learn more about their rescuing, caring for, and re-homing activities at www.arkbark.net

The following story is just one about the many animals that have touched and been touched by the dedicated volunteers at ARK.

HACHI

Contributed by Elizabeth Oliver

Our first encounter with Hachi was truly memorable, and one could say it encapsulated him, as we knew him for the rest of his life: modest, stoic, and yet droll, with a healthy dose of pride.

One day in February 1990, my husband was driving along a quiet seaside road when he spotted a brown, mid-size dog trotting with light steps toward him. My husband immediately looked for a collar on the dog, but he wasn't wearing one. Slowing to a stop at the side of the road, my husband

quietly got out of the car and, crouching, waited for the dog to reach him. Although he had noticed my husband, the dog showed no sign of fear and continued trotting forward at the same pace, before coming to a stop directly in front of my husband. He didn't appear to be injured, so my husband decided only to give him some food and water. We often picked up stray dogs in those days, and always kept dog food and bowls in the car. The dog ate the food calmly, and then before my husband could stop him, continued on his way, trotting through a tunnel and disappearing out of sight. He had none of the fear or timidity we were so used to seeing in abandoned dogs, nor the fawning servility we often saw either. With an upright, dignified attitude, he had simply departed. It was like watching a movie: my husband actually imagined for a moment that this dog was journeying across the country in search of his master, from whom he'd been parted by some misfortune. "Thanks, I've got to be going now." It was as if he had a mission, some business to attend to.

That was our first encounter with Hachi. We didn't see him again, until a few days later an acquaintance of ours, a girl called Sumie, told us that a dog of the same description had appeared in a village near my husband's company. She said that dogcatchers from the

pound would be coming the next day to take him away. We immediately went off to rescue him before this could happen. As we stood with Sumie on the riverbank looking for Hachi, he suddenly turned up out of nowhere and came running happily toward us. It was then that we noticed a strange rattling sound whenever he shook his head. Stroking his body, we examined him and were shocked to discover that his lower jawbone was broken, and that his mouth did not close straight. The rattling sound we had heard was his loose jaw. Looking more closely, we saw that the back of his head jutted out strangely as a result of some injury, and that he had a long scar running from below his left eye to the edge of his mouth. We figured a car must have hit him, and were appalled to learn from Sumie that the scar on his cheek was the result of being hit by an umbrella just the other day. Shocked by our sudden awareness of Hachi's tragic past, we bundled him into our car and brought him home.

Although we were complete strangers to him, Hachi remained patiently quiet throughout our examination of him. He showed no sign of anxiety being put in the car, and sat perfectly still during the drive home. In spite of doubtless experiencing enough misery at the hands of human beings to hate us all, he maintained a quiet self-



ANIMAL REFUGE KANSAI

possession that struck our hearts. Our bringing Hachi home should have been the start of a happy new life for him, but instead it was the beginning of more trials. We already had two dogs, Korota and Potato, who like Hachi had been strays we had picked up. The size of our house and other circumstances meant we simply could not keep Hachi in our family.

Having brought Hachi home, we realized it was our responsibility to find him a home, and we raced all over the Tajima region looking for prospective owners. Due to Hachi's injuries and age, we had no success. We then contacted animal welfare organizations and even pet food manufacturers to find a shelter that would take him. From the information we got, we called places all over Kansai and even as far away as Saitama, but nothing panned out.

Six days had passed and we were starting to lose hope, when an acquaintance living in Kawanishi told us about ARK. We immediately contacted Oliver-sensei and desperately spilled

out Hachi's story to her. She agreed to take Hachi in. I can't express the relief we felt then; we were simply overcome with gratitude.

Again, what should have been the start of a happy new life for Hachi was the beginning of more hardship. Scarcely had he gotten settled in at ARK when he was discovered to have Parvo. Within a week, he became so weak he could not stand up. He was taken to the Tamura Veterinary Clinic in Ibaraki, and there he stayed for three long months, battling bravely against the disease. It took a terrible toll on him. But his meeting Dr. Tamura changed Hachi's luck for the rest of his life. During his first weeks at the clinic, Hachi suffered continuously from diarrhea and vomiting, and his weight went down from 13kg to less than 7kg. Reduced to just skin and bone, lying inert with no strength to move, he was barely recognizable. Sumie and I visited him at the clinic every Sunday. At the time, Sumie was a junior high school student. She loved caring for animals and drawing pictures, but due

to some events had lost self-confidence and spent most of her time shut away inside her room.

Although Hachi had spent only a week in our home, he remembered us. Not just that, but he seemed to trust and even love us, struggling to crawl towards us whenever we came. With daily IVs and blood transfusions, there was no place left on any of the blood vessels in Hachi's legs to inject a needle. Because he threw up everything he ate, however, the IV drips were his lifeline, and Dr. Tamura sighed that finally they would have to use the blood vessels in his neck. Hachi's eyes were sunken into their sockets from losing so much weight, and Dr. Tamura had had to sew his eyelids open so they wouldn't be pulled into the sockets. Seeing Hachi's face like this, we started to give up hope that he would ever recover.

The thought of euthanasia crossed our minds... but when we saw Hachi gazing steadily at us with those sunken eyes and felt him rubbing his nose against our faces, we felt that he was trying desperately to communicate to us his strong will to live. We decided then to support him in his fight to survive, and asked Dr. Tamura to do everything in his power to bring him back to health. I tied my handkerchief on one of the bars of Hachi's cage and went home. I heard later from Mrs. Tamura that after we left, Hachi pressed his nose against the handkerchief and let out a loud, keening cry. Two months after hovering at the brink of death, Hachi had undergone a miraculous change for the better thanks to the unceasing care and splendid ministrations of Dr. Tamura and his wife.

Sumie's weekly visits also played a large part in his improvement. Once on the road to recovery, Hachi's convalescence progressed amazingly fast. He regained his appetite and grew stronger every day, until he was running around when brought out to



Dr. Tamura's examining room on our visits. Hachi's mouth was no longer wrapped, his lower jaw having been fixed with surgery, and he looked simply charming.

During his three months' stay at the clinic, Hachi's droll character had made him the clinic's star. On July 8 he was finally able to leave Dr. Tamura's clinic. We stopped at ARK to say thank you to Oliver-sensei, and then brought Hachi home to live with us. Hachi's indomitable spirit had a tremendous effect on Sumie.

Through caring for him on her weekly visits to the clinic and drawing posters of him, she had regained her self-confidence. Throwing herself back into her studies, she was able to get into the high school of her choice. We had built a new house specially designed for sharing our life with dogs, and while showing deference to Korota, who had been there before him, Hachi settled in happily.

Potato had died in an accident, and Hachi took her place, getting along well with Korota although both were male. He would run gaily around the garden, digging big holes in the flower beds (happily burying my carefully tended flowers without the least sign of guilt). This might be followed by a nap, or a lazy afternoon in the dogs' sun room, where he would show us his stomach and ask for a brushing. At night, he slept in a basket in our bedroom. Sometimes we would go for a drive together and enjoy the great outdoors of Tajima.

When we had a son, Hachi was very gentle with the baby, and would stay by his side when he played outside on the grass, as if guarding him. Once in a while, though, he would make the child cry by taking his favorite teddy bear and burying it out in the yard. In Hachi's final years, he played a mediatory role between Korota and the newly arrived Milk, a female stray we brought

home. Like a middle manager, he went back and forth trying to keep everyone happy, and while this may have been a little stressful for him, his good humor and patience stood him in good stead.

Thanks to his efforts, we were able to enjoy our life with three dogs. Hachi also seemed to consider himself the family watchdog, and took it upon himself to guard our home. He always alerted us to the presence of any suspicious person, car or animal in front of our gate. All of our friends went to great lengths to curry favor with Hachi and be accepted into the "inner circle" of those who did not trigger his barking. Strong and healthy though he was, early this year Hachi developed a cough that was typical of heart disease. We took him to Dr. Tamura in Ibaraki, and found out this was the legacy of the filaria he had contracted in his time as a stray. Given Hachi's advanced age, Dr. Tamura did not believe a full recovery was possible. Nevertheless, hoping to improve his condition and alleviate his pain, we treated him with Chinese herbal medicine and a full range of other drugs.

By July, however, his abdomen had become swollen with dropsy and he was gradually losing his appetite. In August, his breathing became severely labored and we were forced to drain the dropsy from his abdomen. Hachi's deterioration after that was rapid. We had to give him water with a syringe and feed him through a tube. We tried chopping up his favorite foods, fried chicken and steak fillet, with the hope that these would give him some strength. Even when he became so weak that he could not stand by himself, Hachi was fully conscious. He never became incontinent, instead whimpering quietly to let us know when he needed to relieve himself. Believing this to be a sign of Hachi's strong will to live, we would pick him up whenever he called every two or three hours, day or night and take him out to the garden.

Although he often seemed to be half-dozing, Hachi's ears would prick up at the sound of our voices, and he would follow us with his eyes. Korota, though he'd always been quite selfish and cranky and was now even more so at the ripe age of 16, seemed to sense that something was wrong with Hachi and gave up the prize spot in our bedroom to him. Milk, young and rambunctious though she was, did the same.

All the many people who had loved Hachi over the years came to visit him in his last months. With his modest character, Hachi had never been able to have me entirely to himself, but there on his deathbed, he finally did. On August 22, Hachi passed away quietly, without suffering.

Perhaps because we doted on the dogs and he had always had to vie with them for our attention, our son was quite dry and offhand in his attitude toward them. But he cried and cried when Hachi died, and later placed his old favorite teddy bear, the one Hachi had once buried in the garden, in his coffin.

When Hachi was cremated and the smoke rose up into the sky, my husband and son discovered a cloud that looked a lot like him. We decided that Hachi had turned into that cloud. Hachi's remains are buried on a hill overlooking the sea, alongside those of other dogs who had shared our lives before him. Although we could not know Hachi's age for certain, we guessed it to be about 17 when he died. In Tajima, dogs are honored for their longevity when they reach their 17th birthday. Hachi had also received this honor before he died, at the annual Tajima Wan-wan Festival sponsored by the local veterinarians' association and the Toyooka health and welfare office. Lots of dogs and other animals, including livestock, take part in this festival and mingle with animal lovers young and

old. One of the booths at the festival rehomes puppies to families who are interviewed carefully to ensure they qualify against strict standards. They come back to the next year's Wan-wan Festival with their families, looking happy and showing off their glossy coats.

A little over a decade ago, when we first brought Hachi home with us, people here in Tajima regarded us as eccentric for living with our dogs unchained and inside the house. Today, however, a dog sitting matter-of-factly in a car with the whole family is a frequent sight. More and more veterinarians are opening clinics here, and their waiting rooms are often quite full with dogs and cats accompanied by worried-looking owners.

In 1996, we asked Oliver-sensei to give a speech in Kasumi on the occasion of Chobi's visit to his former home. The people in the audience that day have gone on to help widen the circle of animal lovers in Tajima. Although it is a sad fact that many animals today remain desperately in need of rescue from homelessness and cruelty, these signs of increased understanding and improved conditions give us some consolation. Hachi taught us so much, in countless episodes during our life together, about love and caring. Through him, we came into contact with many wonderful, warmhearted people. There is so much we owe him, so much for which we are thankful to Hachi.

I would like to close by expressing my heartfelt gratitude to Oliver-sensei for her kindness and helpful advice over the years, to everyone at ARK, to Dr. and Mrs. Tamura in Ibaraki for giving Hachi the gift of long life through their dedicated treatment and heroic perseverance 11 years ago, to Dr. Arita here in Toyooka who was Hachi's veterinarian during his many years with us, and finally to everyone else who gave Hachi so much love and support during his life. Thank you.



*Reprinted courtesy of
the ARK Newsletter.
Animal Refuge Kansai
arkbark@wombat.or.jp
www.arkbark.net*

Ann Gearhart Voted Humane Educator of the Year

by Janice Mininberg

The Greater DelMarPa Coalition of Humane Educators recently presented Ann Gearhart, Director of Humane and Environmental Education at the Snyder Foundation for Animals, with the Humane Educator of the Year Award. The award is given annually to the humane educator who demonstrates “dedication and outstanding performance in the field of animal-welfare and for the teaching of respect and compassion toward all living things.”

“Ann is a wonderful role model for animal-welfare, humane education and violence prevention professionals,” said Sheryl Dickstein Pipe, Ph.D., Director of Education from The ASPCA (NY).

Gearhart said, “I am very proud to receive the award and share this moment with the people who have meant so much to me over the years. We have all grown in our profession, and continue to raise the bar of learning as we experience new aspects of our work toward the goal of serving animals and our communities.”

Ann began working as a humane educator in 1989 after 25 years in the classroom. Her accreditation as a teacher and librarian and numerous courses in natural sciences served as an excellent background for classroom and community presentations and staff development for educators. Gearhart’s many initiatives include: member of The Mayor’s Task Force to



Overcome Violence; member of the Domestic Violence Coordinating Committee; Vice President of the Association of Professional Humane Educators (APHE); and consultant for Turnaround’s Safe Homes/Safe Pets initiative (temporary housing for the pets of battered women). She was also the founding member of the Greater DelMarPa Coalition of Humane Educators. She has worked with the Baltimore City Police Department’s cross-training component on the “Link” and provided a seminar on “Police Intervention in Breaking the Cycle of Violence” for the Maryland State Police Command Staff.

For the past seven years, Gearhart has recorded a weekly program for the Radio Reading Network of Maryland entitled “Animals - Pets and Environmental News.” Gearhart also is a certified state facilitator for Council for Environmental Education’s Project Learning Tree, Project WILD and Project WET. Locally, Gearhart conducts humane education programs for schools and social groups such as Girl Scouts with her education assistance dogs, Lucky and Sprit. She is certified by the Delta Society to provide Service Animal Access training. Gearhart has also conducted workshops for several national and international organizations.



Upcoming Workshops, Conferences & Events



Readers — E-mail your listings to info@latham.org

FEBRUARY 2003

February 25 Spay Day USA, sponsored by the Doris Day Animal League. Details at www.ddal.org

February 28 – March 2 The Association of Professional Humane Educators (APHE) Annual Conference. (with a pre-conference session on February 27) Lafayette, Indiana. The theme is “*Creativity and Kindness*,” see details below

MAY 2003

May is “*Pledge to use the spay/neuter stamps and spread awareness*” month. Details at www.americanpartnershipforpets.org

APRIL 2003

April 5 **Tag Day!** For information: www.americanhumane.org

April 27-29 **Sanctuaries 2003:** Focus on the Future (Building and Maintaining Stable and Effective Animal-Serving Organizations,) Portland, Oregon. Sponsored by TAOS, 331 Old Blanco Rd., Kendalia, TX 78027, Taos@gvtc.com or 830-336-3000.

APHE 2003 NATIONAL CONFERENCE — CREATIVITY AND KINDNESS – HOW-TOs FOR HUMANE EDUCATION

February 28 - March 2 Holiday Inn City Centre Lafayette, Indiana Plus a Pre-Conference Seminar on February 27th with Dr. John Pitts **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY:** APHE Members \$100; Non-Members \$125. Space is limited. Registration fee includes the conference, admission and transportation to Wolf Park, vegetarian meals Friday and Saturday lunch, and Sunday breakfast.

Feb 27 Pre-Conference Seminar with Dr. John Pitts “Kids and Critters in the Classroom Together” 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$35 additional.

Conference sponsors include PETsMART Charities, Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, and ASPCA National Shelter Outreach.

Spark your humane education efforts with CREATIVITY—Discover practical solutions for reaching others with your humane message, whether you work in a shelter, on your own, or with a non-shelter organization. This year’s national conference features an exciting line-up of inspiring speakers, practical workshops, and a field trip to Wolf Park, a unique education and research wildlife park. (www.wolfpark.org). Discover the wild side of canine behavior and the imaginative side of humane education.

Conference Hotel: HOLIDAY INN SELECT CITY CENTRE, Single: \$85, Double: \$95; Reservations: 765-423-1000 or 800-423-1137; For other lodging options, visit the Lafayette Convention & Visitors Bureau at www.lafayette-in.com or 800-872-6648. Airport: Indianapolis International. Transportation to Lafayette: Lafayette Limo, a shuttle that runs every two hours. \$21 OW; \$37 RT. The trip takes about 1 hour. Reservations are required: 765-497-3828.

Send registration checks along with your NAME, ADDRESS, DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER (in case there are questions) AND YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS (so we can confirm your registration by February 15th to:

APHE CONFERENCE
JEAN MCGROARTY
P.O. BOX 44
BATTLE GROUND, IN 47920

One Last Fight: Exposing the Shame



A Film by Erik Friedl

Produced by
The Anti-Cruelty Society, Chicago

One Last Fight: Exposing the Shame

Filmmaker Erik Friedl and writer John Caruso in conjunction with the Anti-Cruelty Society of Chicago have produced an excellent video examining the problem of dog fighting. The film, which is recommended for ages 12 and up, explores and exposes the destructive impact that dog fighting has on the animals themselves, people, and on the entire community. Dog fighting is one aspect of what the film calls a “culture of violence,” the result of which can be a fearful and isolated society that is desensitized to suffering. A third teacher who was exposed to dogfighting as a child and a humane investigator discuss the various social and criminal issues that are associated with dog fighting—drug-dealing, gambling, cruelty to animals, children exposed to violence—and suggest ways to help stop the people behind both organized and back-alley dog fighting.

A section offering safety and survival tips to children who encounter potentially dangerous loose or stray dogs is also included.

One caution: the film does include some disturbing and sad footage of fighting dogs.

“*One Last Fight: Exposing the Shame*” is a sensitive and serious portrayal of a community-wide problem. To order, contact the Anti-Cruelty Society at 312-644-8338 or 157 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, IL 60610, www.anticruelty.org.

LapDog Therapy

LapDog Therapy describes the transformation of a dog from an every-day kind of dog to a certified therapy dog and explores the human health benefits that take place when therapy dogs visit elderly people in group residential facilities. Written by Mickey, a perceptive Boston Terrier, the book is a useful guide for dog owners and dogs interested in entering the wonderful world of animal assisted activities.

LapDog Therapy has been published with funding provided by the Widgeon Foundation, Inc. as a joint effort between Boston Terrier author, Mickey, and the Center for Animal Human Relationships (CENTAUR) at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Tech in the hopes that it will be a catalyst bringing together the efforts of professional healthcare/retirement home people with lay dog lovers and professional dog trainers. 5000 copies of the book are being distributed nationally to AKC-affiliated breed, specialty and obedience clubs, veterinary schools, medical schools, and therapy dog groups. Additionally, healthcare facilities, retirement communities, public libraries and 4-H groups in Virginia and Maryland will receive complimentary copies. The book contains original watercolors, pen-and-ink sketches, color photographs, index, bibliography and resource list. Latham applauds all efforts such as this and encourages healthcare/retirement facilities, physicians and veterinarians to cooperate with certified therapy dog organizations and partners.

LapDog Therapy

by Mickey C.G.C.m T.D.I. with
assistance from Anne B. Nock
Watercolors by Paula R. Cameron,
D.V.M.

Foreword by Marie Suthers-
McCabe, D.V.M.

PickMick Publishing Co.

P.O. Box 296

Onancock, VA 23417

757-787-1431

mickey@bostonsworld.com

\$19.95 plus tax, shipping, and handling

LapDog Therapy

BY JIM KENNY (aka COMPANION DOG & THERAPY DOG)



by Mickey C.G.C. T.D.I.

with assistance from Anne B. Nock

Watercolors by Paula R. Cameron, D.V.M.

Foreword by Marie Suthers-McCabe, D.V.M.

Media Reviews, continued on next page.

Therapy Dogs: Training Your Dog to Reach Others

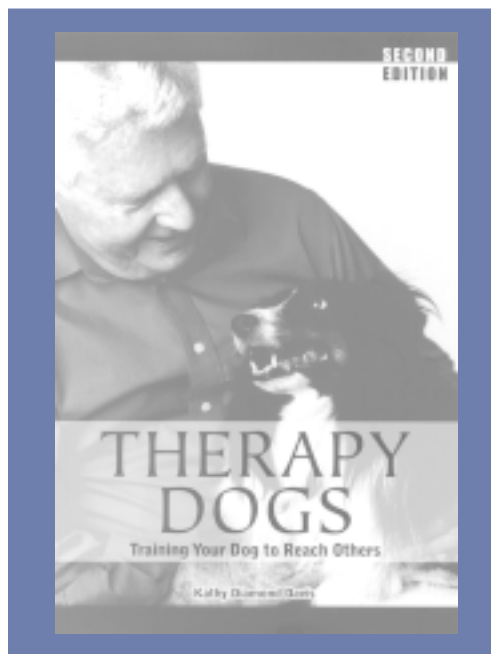
by Kathy Diamond Davis

The book that helped fuel the Animal Assisted Activities movement has been updated and expanded.

Therapy Dogs, Training Your Dog to Reach Others, 2nd Edition gives you all the information you need to select, socialize and train your dog to work with you as a therapy dog team. What better creature than a dog to offer comfort, companionship and even entertainment to those who live in institutions or who are otherwise cut off from nature because of illness or disability? You and your dog can enrich lives by volunteering as a canine “therapist” team.

Therapy Dogs provides the latest information for dealing with health care facilities—how teams train, prevent problems, deal with liability issues and health and safety concerns. *Therapy Dogs* will help you understand what to look for in a program and how to assure success.

The book includes information on what therapy dog work involves and how to train for it; benefits therapy dog work provides for you, your dog and others; various settings in which therapy dog teams do their work; whether your family pet might make a good therapy dog; and tips for selecting and training a puppy for therapy work. It also includes a complete course outline for teaching therapy dog classes. Author Kathy Diamond Davis has owned, trained, and handled five registered therapy dogs in a wide variety of facility settings since 1985. Kathy is a regular contributor to national dog magazines. She answers dog behavior questions for the Veterinary Information Network at www.vin.com



Therapy Dogs: Training Your Dog to Reach Others

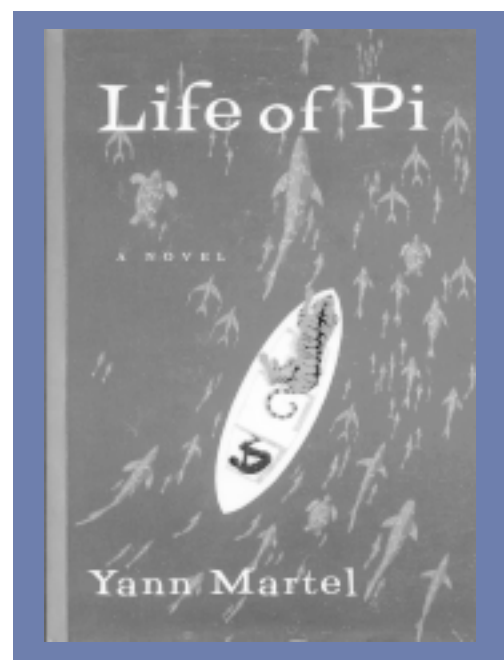
By Kathy Diamond Davis

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P.O. Box 2778
Wenatchee, WA 98801
1-800-776-2665
www.dogwise.com

Life of Pi

By Yann Martel



Life of Pi, winner of the Man Booker Prize (Britain’s equivalent to the Pulitzer or the National Book Awards), is the story of a 16-year-old Indian boy, Piscine (Pi) Patel, who has grown up in his father’s zoo and is shipwrecked with a 450-pound Bengal tiger and other animals as the family and their zoo are moving to Canada to escape the political instability of the 1970s.

Pi, a young man who has adopted Hinduism, Islam and Christianity, sees no reason why he can’t practice three religions at once. He is the sole human survivor when their Japanese cargo ship sinks on their fourth day out of Manila. Only five survivors are able to reach the single lifeboat that doesn’t go down with the

ship: Pi himself, an injured zebra, a prize Borneo orangutan, one very nervous hyena and a tiger. Being the son of a zoo keeper stands Pi in good stead. He is attuned to the intricacies of interspecies cohabitation. "A good zoo is a place of carefully worked-out coincidence," he explains. "Exactly where an animal says to us, 'Stay out!' with its urine or other secretion, we say to it, 'Stay in!' with our barriers. Under such condition of diplomatic peace, all animals are content and we can relax and have a look at each other."

In his July 7 review in the *New York Times*, Gary Krist writes, "Although *Life of Pi* works remarkably well on the

pure adrenaline-and testosterone level of a high-seas adventure tale, it's apparent that Martel is not interested in simply retelling the classic life-boat – survival story (with a Bengal tiger playing the prickly Tallulah Bankhead role). Pi's story inevitably takes on the quality of a parable. He comes to realize that survival involves knowing when to assert himself and when to hold back, when to take the upper hand and when to yield to a power greater than himself. He discovers, in other words, that living with a tiger ultimately requires acts of both will and faith."

In a review in the *Guardian* newspaper, Justine Jordan called the plot "a vertiginously tall tale" that is read "not so much as an allegory or magical-realist fable, but as an edge-of-the-seat adventure. Martel writes with such convincing immediacy, seasoning his narrative with zoological verisimilitude and survival tips about turtle fishing, solar stills and keeping occupied, that disbelief is suspended, like Pi, above the terrible depths of the Pacific Ocean."

Yann Martel, 39, who was born in Spain of a Canadian diplomatic family, lives in Montreal.

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ABUSE: WHY COPS CAN, AND NEED, TO STOP IT

Reviewed by Phil Arkow

Despite ongoing research confirming that animal abuse is linked to interpersonal violence and laws which have made serious animal abuse a felony in 37 states, police agencies have been reluctant to get involved in animal cruelty cases. Typically, cops see such cases as low priorities.

A new training video, *Animal Abuse: Why Cops Can and Need to Stop It*, may change that. Don Marsh and Ron Barber's production company *In the Line of Duty* produces training materials for police departments. Their latest video strongly encourages cops to treat animal abuse seriously.

"As cops, you do everything humanly possible to prevent crime," says Marsh. "Now it's getting vitally important that you do everything animally possible to stop it, too."

"Are you an animal lover?" Barber asks police officers. "Maybe yes, maybe no. But if you wear the badge, animal

abuse or torture is a crime—an imprisonable felony crime in dozens of states.

"Many veteran cops know that, in many cases, nailing a criminal on an animal abuse charge often means you've taken a lowlife from the street who could easily graduate to rape, murder or brutalization of other human beings."

The video includes interviews with Sheriff Joe Arpaio of Phoenix, AZ, who moved 300 jail inmates to road gang tents—so he could use the air conditioned jail cells for abused and seized animals. Criminals don't need the luxury of air conditioning, he explained: victimized animals do.

In Granite City, IL, Chief Dave Ruebhausen's department has zero tolerance for animal abuse, recognizing that animal maltreatment is the first step down a slippery slope of desensitization to other crimes. His special police unit of six officers—10 percent

of the force—handles animal abuse cases.

"Under the laws that you swear to preserve and protect, animals deserve your respect as much as any other living creature," says Marsh.

The 30-minute video contains very graphic footage including teens torturing pets, dogfights, and cruelty investigations. It's not for the faint of heart but appropriate for hardened cops and cruelty investigators who think they've seen everything.

*Animal Abuse:
Why Cops Can, and Need, to Stop it*

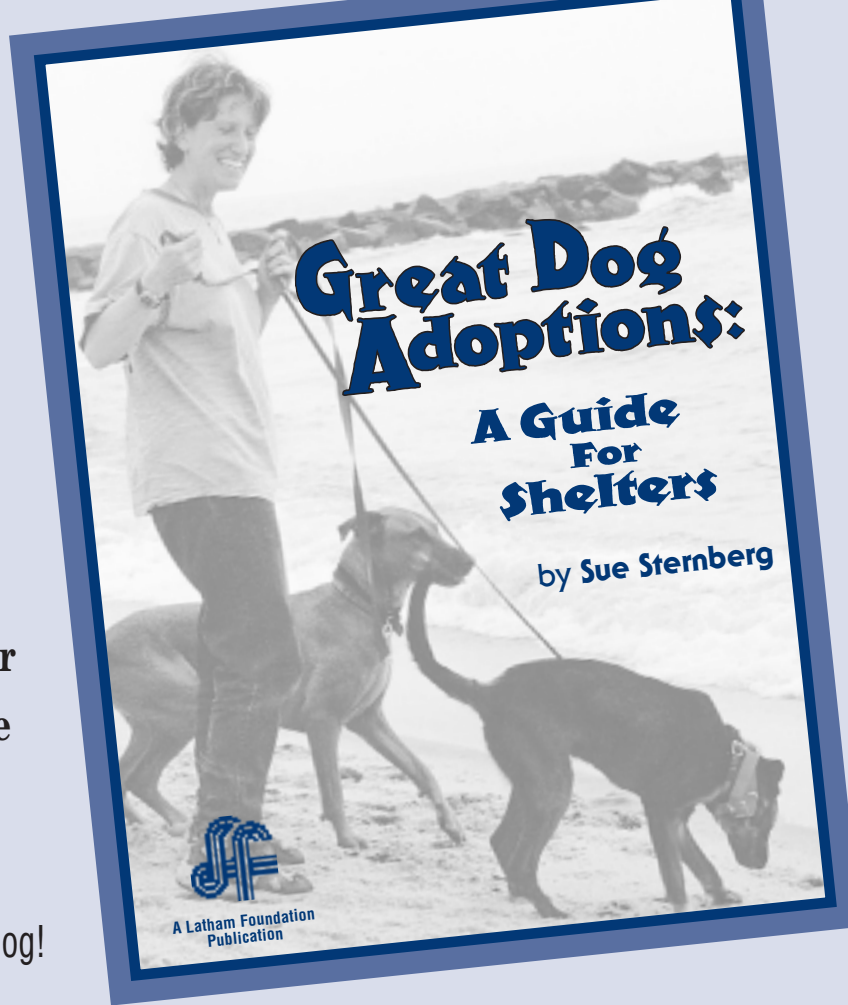
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