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# Latham Letter

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PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

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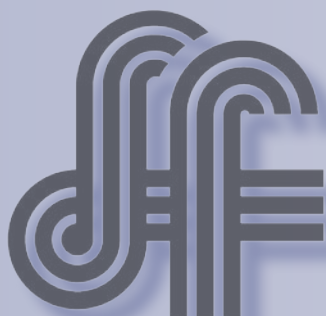


## Clicker Training and Humane Education

### Talk to the Animals – Clicker Training as a Communication Tool

By Joan Orr, M.Sc.

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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."



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Promotion of Humane Education*

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# The Latham Letter

Volume XXVI, Number 1, Winter 2005

**BALANCED PERSPECTIVES ON  
HUMANE ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES**



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# Editorial

## December 2004 Expectations



*Hugh H. Tebault, III, President*

It is closing in on the Christmas season as I write this. The weather has gotten colder with a deep chill in the nighttime air. It was 25 degrees one recent morning, maybe not so cold in some parts, but for coastal California – this is very cold. The day was beautiful, clear blue sky with light winter fog lingering and the sun shining on the hard ground frost. The simplicity of a cold winter morning was refreshing.

The winter season is when I consider how short the year has become. What was it I did this year and why does it seem to go so much more quickly each year?

When I was younger, time seemed much more drawn out. There seemed to be time for everything. Time to go hiking, time to bike, time to visit friends, time to help at home, and time to do anything I wanted. As I grew older, I enjoyed volunteering more until I said “Yes” one time too many. This one last task ultimately helped me learn the wisdom of knowing when to say “No.” I have to focus on a few things, and not try to do everything.

Have you found yourself overwhelmed with guilt when approached for help, and you know the only choice you have is to say “No,” because you know this extra task will limit you in all your other activities. You have to fight the feeling that if you don’t do it, it won’t get done.

At Latham, each year brings new opportunities to share the core principles set down over the past 86 years. This is a slow incremental work that has its rewards in different ways.

We work together to teach kindness to animals, teach respect for each other, and teach how we may each help to improve the community we live in. There are thousands of people who volunteer toward these ends. We have taught humane education for several generations. Yet, with all this work, there is still a feral animal population; still a need for more volunteers in each community assisting the SPCA’s and Family Shelters. There are still families who need shelter from violent situations.

To keep us from becoming discouraged, we need more reminders of

the ways in which people are being responsible. Improving our current society takes working together and remembering that we all support the moral value of kindness to animals and showing respect for each other. We need to focus on these simple, core values and continue our work to achieve them. We should not get distracted by trying to redefine humane education as a fix for all of society’s problems. Just keep your focus simple and concentrate on the core issues.

At Latham we know from our correspondence that new people have discovered humane education, discovered the link between violence against animals leading to violence against other people, and now understand that helping families in a violent environment must include helping the animal members of the family as well.

We are making progress in teaching kindness toward animals and true humane education. This past year has been successful. Thank you all. You are making a difference.





## GOOD NEWS!

**C**alifornia Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed SB 1548 into law. This important bill requires any person licenses under the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act to promptly report any animal abuse or cruelty to the appropriate law enforcement authority whenever there is reasonable cause to believe an animal under his or her care has been a victim of animal abuse or cruelty.

### ***Empathy research:***

*See related article on Page 8*

“Recent research shows that the ability to empathize -- the ability to experience the world from another’s point of view -- is not as sophisticated and complex as we had thought.

Slipping into another being’s (including nonhuman animals) shoes is a basic and developmentally early ability. We can teach empathy to those who have become insensitive to appreciating another’s experience.”

*Kenneth Shapiro*

### **American Humane Association & Del Monte Foods announce winners of their 2004 Pets & Pals Photo contest**



*Congratulations to all the winners.*  
For further information and to view the winning photos visit [www.americanhumane.org](http://www.americanhumane.org).

Models Wolf and Jake by grand prize winner Jennifer Brown depicts the special role animals play in our lives.



## HOW TO REACH US



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# Talk to the Animals—

## Clicker Training as a Communication Tool

By Joan Orr, M.Sc.

**D**r. Dolittle is a fictional character who sparks the imaginations of children and adults alike with his ability to talk to the animals. Into his care come castaways and strays of all description and he befriends them, studies them and learns to speak their language. Dr. Doolittle represents an ideal for the humane treatment of animals and an important reason that his animals are happy is that they can communicate with him. Talking to the animals seems at first glance as a fanciful notion, far removed from reality, but maybe it is not so far-fetched. Maybe there is a way to talk to the animals.

In the 1940s, Harvard psychologist B.F. Skinner began experimenting with the application of scientific principles of animal behavior to the practical training of animals. Keller and Marian Breland, among other students of B.F. Skinner and his followers, utilized the power of a conditioned positive reinforcer as a training tool. The technology, called operant conditioning, is the basis for the spectacular marine mammal shows seen at modern aquarium facilities. The incredible leaps and spins and complex behavior chains exhibited by dolphins in these



shows demonstrates the effect of clear communication between the trainer and the animal. Dolphins cannot be trained with physical force or induced with threats to execute a joyful performance. Instead marine mammal trainers used a marker signal in the form of a whistle paired with food reward to strengthen natural behaviors and put them on cue (hand or voice commands) in order to create the amazing effects seen in the dolphin show. The highly successful use of this method with dolphins led to the popular myth that they are the smartest of all animals, maybe even

close to humans in their level of intelligence.

The Brelands formed a company through which they also trained many other species of animals for television and other commercial applications. They used a marker signal from a handheld clicker (and other markers) with animals such as dogs, cats and birds that were working in closer proximity and not in a large aquarium tank. The term clicker training and the concept of its application to companion animals, particularly dogs, was popularized by Karen Pryor, author of the best selling book, *Don't Shoot the Dog, The New Art of Teaching and Training* which was first published in 1985.

There are now more than 300,000 clicker trainers around the world and the movement is growing quickly. Dog trainers were the first (after the marine mammal trainers) to pick up on this developing technology, but now many zoos and animal shelters are also finding that clicker training can give them results with their animals that were previously impossible. Clicker training provides a humane way to condition zoo animals to accept and even enjoy husbandry procedures. At a recent clicker training conference hosted by Karen Pryor Clicker Training, trainer

Angi Millwood showed dramatic footage of a rhinoceros willingly coming into a small enclosure to accept an injection and a cheetah being trained to present itself for a blood draw. Angi is the Associate Director of Behavior Programs with Natural Encounters Inc. and prior to that was the Animal Training Coordinator at the Fort Worth Zoo, responsible for the Zoo's animal training programs for more than 350 animal species. Through the use of clicker training and by studying and understanding the natural body language and behaviors of zoo animals, Angi and her colleagues around the world are getting closer to talking to the animals. The animals are talking back by offering cooperative behaviors and accepting procedures that previously would have required the highly stressful method of subduing them with a medicated dart.

Clickers are now being used in progressive animal shelters, thanks to the pioneering efforts of Karen Pryor and others. Pryor provides free instructional materials at her website [www.clickertraining.com](http://www.clickertraining.com). The most dramatic effect of using the clicker in a shelter is the noise reduction which in turn reduces the stress level for both animals and staff. One dog is not barking; click and treat. There's another one; click and treat. This one is not jumping at the fence; click and treat. Soon all dogs learn that by their own actions (sitting quietly) they can induce the staff member to produce a click and a treat. This opens up a line of two-way communication between people and dogs and suddenly the dogs are quieter, less stressed, more trainable and most importantly more adoptable. New dogs and new staff



members can quickly learn the procedures from their peers. In a variation of this approach, Andrea Bratt-Frick of B.U.N.S. rabbit shelter in California, uses the click and treat method to encourage bunnies to come to the front of the hutches when people come to visit. She has also taught them to do cute tricks and to accept handling, which makes them more adoptable. Clicker training enriches the lives of shelter animals and gives both animals and handlers something fun and interesting to do while enhancing communication between the species.

Clicker training is not about dominating an animal and bossing it around. It is a way of building a strong bond of love and respect between people and animals. The animals benefit by learning to think and by having their lives enriched and the people benefit by gaining insight into the inner workings of an animal's mind. Clicker trainers begin to understand what their animal is thinking and why it behaves as it

does. A very important side effect of clicker training, especially for children, is the development of empathy. Human psychologists and behavior therapists have developed programs in conjunction with local animal shelters in which youth at risk from violence or at risk from perpetrating violence are given the responsibility of training a shelter dog using clicker training. Children marginalized by early experiences with violence and lacking in trust and empathy for people can learn through the relationship developed in clicker training a dog to understand and empathize with another creature. The processes and effects of one such program is described in the book *Teaching Empathy: Animal-Assisted Therapy Programs for Children and Families Exposed to Violence* by Lynn Loar Ph.D. LCSW and Libby Coleman Ph.D.

The most recent manifestation of clicker training is a teaching method called TAGteach™ in which

*Continued on page 11*

# Identifying and Treating Animal Abuse: The AniCare Approach

By Kenneth Shapiro, Executive Director,  
Society and Animals Forum

## ***“Take animal abuse seriously.”***

Although a mantra to most of us, convincing criminal justice and human service agencies to join us in this chant is a formidable task. Largely through evidencing the relation between animal abuse and other forms of violence, we have made gains in the last decade:

27 states now recommend (several mandate) that judges require counseling for convicted animal abuse, beyond jail time; several professional organizations cite animal cruelty as indicators of disturbed youth (American Psychiatric Association, American Psychological

Association, National School Safety Council, National Crime Prevention Council).

Although recognizing a problem is a critical first step, to get society to take a problem seriously we must provide it with workable and working solutions. That is why, partnering with the Doris Day Animal Foundation, Society & Animals Forum (S&AF) developed AniCare and AniCare Child, assessment and treatment approaches for identifying and counseling adult and juvenile animal abusers.

In this brief article, I would like to introduce the readers of this magazine to the AniCare approach and indicate our efforts to date and plans for the future.

We modeled AniCare, the adult version, after “Intimate Justice,” a treatment approach for working with perpetrators of domestic violence (the kind that only involves humans). Developed by Brian Jory, Intimate Justice has been validated in several studies to be an effective intervention in dealing with that population. With that approach, AniCare shares an emphasis on

accountability. A major block to successful treatment of both spousal and animal abuse is the refusal of perpetrators to take responsibility for their actions. Typically, they develop a “story” that denies, rationalizes, and/or justifies their actions. Until an individual fully owns

the injustice of their actions, counseling is stalled and, worse, only serves to rehearse and refine the story.

AniCare Child grew out of our experience giving workshops on AniCare, as it became clear that the significant differences between adult and

juvenile populations requires a distinct approach. Children have less developed defenses (“stories”) than adults, but they also are less verbal. Talk must be supplemented by nonverbal devices, such as puppets, drawing and describing pictures.

AniCare Child builds on existing validated interventions that are effective in counseling children with various interpersonal and anti-social behavior problems. A group of clinicians and researchers adapted these interventions to the problem of animal abuse.

Both the AniCare and AniCare Child approaches emphasize empathy – the ability to experience the world from another’s point of view. Recent research shows that the ability to empathize is not as sophisticated and complex as we had thought. When a person touches your leg, you watch a video of a person being touched, or, even, of objects colliding, the same sensory center in your brain is stimulated. Slipping into another being’s (including nonhuman animals) shoes is a basic and developmentally early ability. We can teach empathy to those who have



*Continued on page 11*



# Latham Brings “Link” Training to Brazilian Police Officers

By Phil Arkow

São Paulo, Brazil – If someone were to ask you to name the third largest city on the planet, odds are that São Paulo would not come to mind. But this sprawling, bustling megalopolis in southern Brazil is home to 19 million “Paulistas” and three enormous police departments that are interested in using the links between animal abuse and human violence as a way to combat astronomical rates of crime.

The “Link” was the featured topic at the 1<sup>st</sup> Symposium on Actions of Police to Repress Crimes against Animals in November. More than 400 uniformed officers heard Phil Arkow, chair of Latham’s Animal Abuse & Family Violence Prevention Project, give the keynote address, translated into Portuguese, describing how law enforcement officials must give animal crimes greater priority not only to prevent animal maltreatment, but because of growing evidence that animal abuse is a sentinel marker for future crimes of interpersonal violence.

Organized by the Fórum Nacional de Proteção e Defesa Animal (National Forum for the Protection and Defense of Animals), the day-long symposium enjoyed the endorsement of Dr. Saulo de Castro Abreu, Secretary of Public Security for the State of São Paulo, a powerful office which commands over 150,000 military, civil and environmental law enforcement officers covering a state with 646 cities and 40 million residents.

As a result of high unemployment rates, declining wages and high




Latham’s Phil Arkow (left) met with São Paulo Secretary of Public Security Dr. Saulo de Castro Abreu and Debbie Hirst, immediate past president of the National Forum for the Protection and Defense of Animals, prior to the symposium for 400 law enforcement officers. Link training will be extended to reach 2,200 Environmental Police and many of the 150,000 police officers in Brazil’s most populous state.

inflation, São Paulo is seeing massive increases in auto thefts, kidnappings for ransom and drug trafficking. The 911 emergency system receives 150,000 calls each day. Criminals act with impunity since they feel they will never be caught and do not care if they do go to prison, he said.

In response, the state – which had 21 prisons in 1995, now has 122 prisons which are incarcerating 132,000 inmates. Yet despite these numbers, the department is also focusing on animal crimes, 8,000 of which were reported in 2004. Latham’s training materials will be disseminated to the entire 2,200 Policia Ambiental (Environmental Police) who reach 1.5 million residents each year through environmental education and out-reach programs.

The environmental police division is the oldest such force in

Latin America, celebrating its 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary. With responsibilities as diverse as reforestation, protecting wetlands and estuaries, rehoming illegally-caught wildlife, water quality and recycling, the division is interested in companion animal welfare. Col. João Leonardo Mele is enthusiastic about carrying forward the Link training and building partnerships with nonprofit groups.

With financial assistance from the Matthew Eyton Animal Welfare Trust, the Symposium included several animal protection organizations that are promoting the humane message in the world’s fifth largest country, an emerging nation of 180 million people. As one participating group, the Instituto Nina Rosa, proclaimed, “Educação humanitária: um caminho para a paz” (Humane education is a road to peace). 

# 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.

___ Nova Scotia Conference Explores the "Link"	Summer 04	___ Loudoun County, Virginia Develops Cooperative Response to Domestic Violence	Spring 96
___ Partnerships Formed in Colorado to Stop the Cycle of Violence	Summer 04	___ And Kindness for ALL (Guest Editorial)	Summer 96
___ Tulane University Symposium Introduces the "Link" to Lawyers	Spring 04	___ Should Veterinarians Report Suspected Animal Abuse?	Fall 96
___ Crime Prevention Funding Introduces the "Link" to Canadian Groups	Winter 04	___ Windwalker Humane Coalition's Web of Hope Grows Stronger	Fall 96
___ Gabriel's Angels Breaking the Cycle of Violence in Arizona	Summer 03	___ Update on the Link Between Child and Animal Abuse	Fall 96
___ New Training Materials Help Professionals Recognize Non-Accidental Animal Injury	Spring 03	___ Report on Tacoma, Washington's Humane Coalition Against Violence	Winter 95
___ Making a Difference for People & Animals in Hamilton, Ontario	Winter 03	___ Animal Cruelty & the Link to Other Violent Crimes	Winter 95
___ Examining the "Link" in Wellington County, Ontario, Canada	Summer 02	___ Univ. of Southern California Conference Addresses Violence Against Children	Spring 95
___ New Link Resource Book Helping Albertans	Summer 02	___ Working to Break the Cycle of Violence	Spring 95
___ Making the Connection Between Animal Abuse and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults	Winter 02	___ The Tangled Web: Report on La Crosse, Wisconsin's Coalition Against Violence	Spring 95
___ Calgary Research Results: Exploring the Links Between Animal Abuse and Domestic Violence	Fall 01	___ San Diego, Calif. Child Protection Workers Required to Report Animal Abuse	Summer 95
___ Ontario SPCA's Women's Shelter Survey Shows Staggering Results	Spring 01	___ Animals Over Children? (An Editorial by Michael Mountain, Editor, Best Friends Magazine)	Summer 95
___ Putting the "Link" All Together: Ontario SPCA's Violence Prevention Initiative	Spring 01	___ Summaries of Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Conferences	Summer 95
___ Canadian and Florida Groups Actively Working on the "Link"	Winter 01	___ Abuse an Animal - Go To Jail! (Animal Legal Defense Fund's Zero Tolerance for Cruelty)	Summer 95
___ Latham's "Link" Message Goes to South Africa	Spring 00	___ Report on Rhode Island Conference: Weaving a Silver Web of Hope from the Tangled Threads of Violence	Summer 95
___ Crossroads: An Intensive Treatment Program for Adolescent Girls	Fall 00	___ Milwaukee Humane Society's "PAL" Program: At-Risk Kids Learn Respect through Dog Obedience Training	Winter 94
___ Latham Sponsors "Creating a Legacy of Hope" at British Columbia Conference	Winter 00	___ Latham Confronts Child and Animal Abuse	Spring 94
___ New England Animal Control/Humane Task Force	Spring/Summer 99	___ A Humane Garden of Children, Plants, and Animals Grows in Sonoma County	Spring 94
___ Confronting Abuse (a veterinarian and a social worker confront abuse)	Summer 98	___ Education and Violence: Where Are We Going? A Guest Editorial	Spring 94
___ The Human/Animal Abuse Connection	Spring 98	___ Bed-wetting, Fire Setting, and Animal Cruelty as Indicators of Violent Behavior	Spring 94
___ The Relationship Between Animal Abuse and Other Forms of Family Violence	Winter 97	___ Animal Abuse and Domestic Violence: Intake Statistics Tell a Sad Story	Spring 94
___ Domestic Violence Assistance Program Protects Women, Children, and their Pets in Oregon	Summer 97	___ The Veterinarian's Role in the Prevention of Violence	Summer 94
___ University of Penn. Veterinary Hospital Initiates Abuse Reporting Policy	Fall 97	___ Results of Latham's National Survey on Child and Animal Abuse	Summer 94
___ Domestic Violence and Cruelty to Animals	Winter 96	___ Israel Conference Puts the Link Between Animal and Child Abuse on the Public Agenda	Summer 94
___ Animal Cruelty IS Domestic Violence	Winter 96	___ Wisconsin Coalition Organizes Anti-Abuse Conference	Summer 94
___ Gentleness Programs (I Like the Policeman Who Arrested that Dog)	Spring 96	___ A Shared Cry: Animal and Child Abuse Connections	Fall 94

the click sound is used to reinforce human performance. TAGteach is being used with child athletes to fast track athletic skill development and enhance improvement and enjoyment. The click sound is used as an audible “tag” placed on a correct response, action or position and it tells the student when they are right. Mistakes are ignored and there is no punishment or negative terminology used. Students can be the teacher and tag each other and in this way they become kind and caring teachers and demonstrate concern and empathy for their teammates.

Clicker training and TAGteaching are much more than just training methods. Young people learning and

using these methods will grow up to treat all animals and people humanely and with respect. They will learn to use positive reinforcement in all aspects of their lives and view this rather than violence or punishment as a normal way to influence the behavior of others. By promoting and teaching these methods to children we will be encouraging them to follow the example set by Dr. Dolittle to take the time to build positive relationships, understand the communication of others and come as close as possible to being able to talk to the animals. ¶

*Author Joan Orr is a scientist with 20 years of experience in the application of scientific principles to study design and*

*data interpretation. She has trained dogs using positive reinforcement methods for more than 10 years and more recently has instructed others in clicker training techniques. She is a pioneer in the field of clicker training rabbits.*

*Joan holds a Bachelor's degree in Biology and Chemistry from the University of Waterloo and a Master's degree in Biochemistry from MacMaster University. She is the co-inventor, along with animal behaviorist Teresa Lewin, of the family fun board game Doggone Crazy!, a game that teaches children to read dog body language and act safely around dogs. She lives in Campbellville, a small village in Southern Ontario, with her husband, Dave, two daughters, a cat and two bunnies.*

*For additional information, please visit [www.doggonecrazy.ca](http://www.doggonecrazy.ca) and see page 21 for clicker training resources.*

## The AniCare Approach

become insensitive to appreciating another's experience. Using exercises that begin with empathizing with a friend in a positive situation, then one in a difficult spot, then an animal in a positive situation, and, finally, an abused animal, we can help an individual to feel that victim's pain. Such shared feeling is a critical step toward accountability and change.

Another important part of both approaches is learning self-management skills, such as problem-solving techniques and anger management, that do not involve violence. Many children who abuse animals have limited “emotional intelligence” and need alternative ways of dealing with situations. Others, however, have these skills but use them to manipulate other children – typically, they are the instigators of animal abuse. These “leaders” need help with empathy, more than with interpersonal skills.

To date, we have given 28 workshops in 20 states to mental health providers in various settings. To meet the growing demand for workshops, in the spring of 2005 we will hold a “training the trainers” conference. With this first step, we eventually will establish of cadre of certified trainers in different parts of the country. In addition, we

have produced two DVDs, one for AniCare and one for AniCare Child, that supplement the manuals. The DVDs feature role-played interviews of selected assessment and treatment techniques. They facilitate learning whether in a workshop setting or, for really experienced therapists, on their own. Future plans include doing formal evaluation studies of AniCare.

We are aware of three cases in which the judge explicitly has indicated that convicted animal abusers undergo counseling using the AniCare approach. We are helping society to take animal abuse seriously. ¶

*Kenneth Shapiro is founder and executive director of Society & Animals Forum (formerly PSYETA); founder and editor of Society and Animals: Journal of Human-Animal Studies; and co-founder and co-editor of Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science. His most recent book is Animal Models of Human Psychology: Critique of Science, Ethics and Policy. He is a licensed psychologist, with a doctorate from Duke University in Clinical and Personality Psychology. E-mail: [kshapiro@psyeta.org](mailto:kshapiro@psyeta.org) or Mary Ann Lauffer, Ph.D., Managing Director, Society & Animals Forum, [malaufer@psyeta.org](mailto:malaufer@psyeta.org).*

**L**atham, now in its 86<sup>th</sup> year, is understandably proud of its distinguished history as a publisher, producer, sponsor, colleague, clearinghouse, and catalyst for humane education and activities.

However, the Foundation is not content to rest on its laurels. It focuses on what it can do today to promote respect for all life through a variety of relevant programs, projects, and services.

## LATHAM AS PUBLISHER AND VIDEO PRODUCER

The *Latham Letter*'s 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 bring the readership to approximately 7000.

The Foundation's most recent publication is *Teaching Empathy: Animal-Assisted Therapy Programs for Children and Families Exposed to Violence* by Lynn Loar, Ph.D., LCSW and Libby Colman, Ph.D. This new handbook contains information, examples, and tools for creating safe and successful animal-assisted therapy programs.

Each book comes with a compact disc containing all forms and examples.

Demand continues for previous publications. For example, *Great Dog Adoptions: A Guide for Shelters* remains the highlight of recent publishing projects. 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.

The book emphasizes the importance of temperament testing and training in order to find good matches between dogs and potential adopters. It concludes with the author's thoughts on euthanasia, which are also the subject of a new HBO documentary "Shelter Dogs" that premiered in January, 2004.



The HBO video is available for fundraising and home viewing. For further information including screening dates and locations visit [www.shelterdogs.org](http://www.shelterdogs.org).

We have distributed more than 3,000 copies of *Great Dog Adoptions* since its publication in May, 2002.

Last year we revised and updated the widely distributed *Breaking the Cycles of Violence manual*. *The new Guide to Multi-Disciplinary Interventions* by Phil Arkow gives child protection, animal protection and human service professionals tangible tools to identify, report, investigate, and manage cases of abuse and neglect.

This year we released the accompanying updated video: *Breaking the Cycles of Violence II: Successful Interventions*. Cycles II introduces and summarizes the "Link" and highlights two community coalitions (DVERT in Colorado Springs and Milwaukee's anti-violence group) through which humane societies, child protective services, law enforcement, and victim advocates combine their resources to help all victims of domestic violence. There are now more



than 300 sets of the video and manual training tools being used.

*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. Sales have reached more than 1,000.

## VIDEO DISTRIBUTION

We distributed more than 200 Latham videos this year. Favorites include "Breaking the Cycles of Violence," "Dog Bite Prevention," "The Phenomenon of the Human Companion Animal Bond," and "Mona's Ark."

## LATHAM AS COLLEAGUE: OUTREACH THROUGH CONFERENCES AND TRADE SHOWS

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.

The Foundation made new friends and colleagues and met Latham Letter authors and customers through its exhibit booth and program ads at conferences and trade shows. Visitors include humane society directors, shelter managers and staff, humane society board members, volunteers and volunteer coordinators, animal control officers and cruelty investigators, humane educators, veterinarians, wildlife rehabilitators, boarding kennel operators, groomers, trainers, and pet-sitters, newsletter editors, shelter architects, and planners, product manufacturers and distributors

This fiscal year Latham reached approximately 2,500 persons from 50 states and 30 countries with news about its products and services at trade shows and conferences.

## LATHAM AS A CATALYST FOR RESPONSIBLE ACTION

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

It sponsors the **Search for Excellence Video Awards** to encourage and recognize excellence in video productions promoting respect for all life.

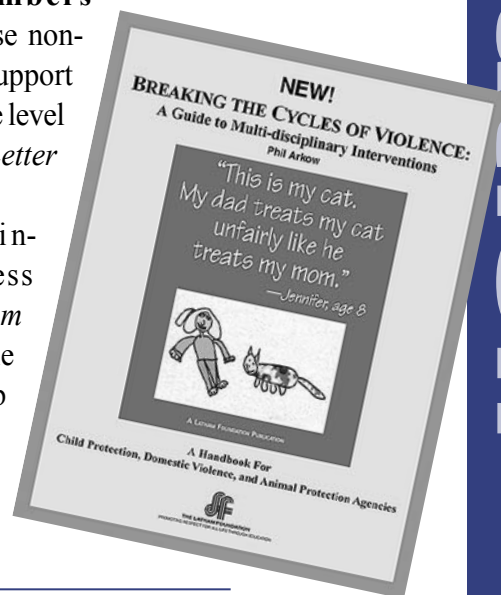
## LATHAM AS A CLEARINGHOUSE FOR INFORMATION

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 in 2003-2004. The majority of these requests for HCAB reprints and back issues of the Latham Letter were received through the Foundation's web site: [www.Latham.org](http://www.Latham.org).

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

The Foundation is proud to include many **Associate Members** on its roster. These non-voting members support Latham beyond the level of basic *Latham Letter* subscription rates.

Benefits include first access to each *Latham Letter* through the Foundation's web site and discounts on video and publication orders.



# The Romania Animal Rescue (RAR) Establishes Animal Welfare in Romania

By Nancy Janes

In 2003 several friends from the San Francisco Bay area and I traveled to Romania to hike the Southern Carpathian Mountains. Once there, we were overwhelmed by the lack of animal care that we witnessed every day and in every city and town. It has been stated that you cannot throw a stick without hitting a dog in Romania, and this is how it appeared to us. We saw starving, parasite-infested dogs everywhere.

The dog over-population crisis is the direct result of the Ceausescu regime. While in power, this dictator moved urban farmers into cities and turned once rural areas into manufacturing centers. The government destroyed farmers' homes and forced them to live in the block housing supplied by the government. Dogs were not allowed in the housing and were kept on the streets. Unaltered, they have been multiplying for decades resulting in disastrous conditions for them and the people who try to care for them.

Often we saw dogs that could barely drag themselves along, having been hit by cars or abused. Amazingly, they loved handling and attention. We fed them and put parasite medication on them and one day a young woman came over to us in a park and thanked us for what we were

doing. I replied that we would find some way to help the dogs when we returned to the United States. The woman, looking at the ground, said, "Everyone says they are going to help the Romanian dogs but then they go home and forget about them." We promised this compassionate stranger that we would not forget the dogs of Romania.

On my return home I enlisted my husband's help and we quickly got involved in the dog crisis of Romania. We began contacting various animal groups in the US and internationally, but no one wanted to deal with Romania because of its political corruption



ROLDA veterinarian receiving a much-deserved kiss.

and lack of animal welfare laws. Finally, we discovered an organization called ROLDA in Galati, Romania and we began regular email communications with its founder, Dana Costin. We helped ROLDA buy a truck and then flew to Romania to check out ROLDA before investing any more support into the organization.

Much to our glee, ROLDA was superior in their commitment to the animals – all animals -- of Romania. Dog welfare is the priority in Romania and ROLDA had dreams of starting a spay/neuter release



This white pupy was hit by a car and paralyzed. He had an infected hind leg that would not heal. After amputation, we gave him a cart and now he is active at the ROLDA shelter as a lifetime resident.



Rory Janes and Ion Roman, adopted from the side of the road in Transylvania (thanks to Kim and Wolf Clifton).

program, building a shelter for post-surgical recovery, offering life care for handicapped dogs, and starting an education program for the people of the city of Galati, Romania (350,000 residents and 14,000 street dogs) as to the importance of “Neuter or Spay, No More Strays!”

After spending two weeks working with ROLDA, we decided to commit to helping ROLDA with our recently incorporated Romania Animal Rescue, Inc. In August of 2003, RAR received its 501 (c) (3) status from the IRS, thus making it a United States tax-deductible educational non-profit organization.


Since then, in a little over one year, RAR has helped ROLDA build the shelter of its dreams! We have been able to help the dogs of Galati, thanks in great part to Rory Janes and his family, Merritt, Kim and Wolf Clifton of *Animal People*, and supporters Jackie Bullette, Margaret Gebhard, Marie Margarone, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Washburn, Jane Courtney, and the Ahimsa Foundation.

ROLDA contracted with a veterinarian Gheorghita Ileana and her husband of Medioviet, Galati, to do

spay/neuter and surgical procedures for ROLDA/RAR as close to cost as possible. Leo Grillo of DELTA Rescue, Inc. gave ROLDA funds to pay for dog food and medications this year. We thank them for all their help.

Humane education activities include bumper stickers with the “Neuter and Spay, No More Strays” message written in Romanian that ROLDA has distributed all over Galati. RAR also created coloring books with the help of grade school children from Sugar Land, TX for ROLDA to give to orphans and children in Galati along with crayons to instill the ideals of animal welfare. Dogs appear in every picture, with

loving handlers. We began a “Community Care” program, whereby RAR will pay for the treatment of any dog for any citizen requiring help. We are raising money for a neuter/spay promotion that will allow us to pay each citizen \$5.00 to bring in a street dog for spay/neuter. This will surely get our message out!

Currently the Romanian government is back to business as usual which includes the horrors of poisoning dogs, slaughtering dogs, and killing them with injections of gasoline into their hearts. If only they would support the legitimate organizations in Romania that have spay/neuter/release campaigns, we could show them rapid progress. But despite setbacks and frustrations, we are determined to continue our work on behalf of Romanian animals. 

*To learn more about Romania Animal Rescue, Inc., visit [www.romaniaanimalrescue.4ever.cc/](http://www.romaniaanimalrescue.4ever.cc/) or e-mail [romaniadogs@joimail.com](mailto:romaniadogs@joimail.com). Phone 925-672-5908; Fax 925-447-0578.*

*Further information about ROLDA is available at [www.rolda.home.ro/](http://www.rolda.home.ro/) [Rolda@care2.com](mailto:Rolda@care2.com).*



Rory and Nancy Janes volunteering at ROLDA shelter. ROLDA has an international volunteer program and is always ready to have you visit. They supply great facilities for your stay in Galati.

# *"Little Things Mean a Lot" -* One Woman's Campaign for Kindness

Is it possible to alter the actions of school children? To take the focus from bullying and that of reporting inconsequential tales of fault finding?

Well one young woman thought so and she worked a year to achieve this goal. Laurie Braun, a concerned and caring mother -- a woman with a lot of imagination and the determination to make a difference -- became the igniting force behind an avalanche of kindness in a Canadian elementary school.

Laurie wanted to help the students to focus on positive actions and words. After gaining the approval of the principal, Laurie developed and operated a program that would do just that. She set about to inspire and motivate hundreds of children to file reports on one another for their kind gestures no matter how small the deed.

"The interesting thing about it all," says Laurie, "is that it truly was the little things that they all began noticing." She picked up two reports at random and read them.

"When I was by myself, Jeffry sat on the swing with me."

"I slipped and cut myself on the ice and Sara sat with me."

These and other similar reports handed in by the school children eventually soared from the hundreds, to well over the thousand mark.

"The children revealed a lot about what their concerns are during these early school years. I saw a noticeable pattern regarding the reports," says Laurie. "They (the children) spoke a lot about their appreciation for being included, their appreciation for having someone to play with and their relief and appreciation when another student comforted them after a spill."

The response was magnificent and participation of the students increased weekly. Subsequently, the load of volunteer work for this one parent, increased leaps and bounds. Students had filed sixty reports of kindness, in one week alone.

"It became a challenge," said Laurie, "to fit everything on the bulletin board and to keep it sparkling and colorful. I think the kids loved the glitter of the displays the most!"

Ms. Braun devoted well over a hundred and seventy hours working both at home and at the school to prepare materials and build weekly displays to keep the children interested.

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***"The elementary school took on a conspicuous change. Kids were sharing lunches and opening doors for one another. Kindness thrived!"***

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The elementary school took on a conspicuous change. Kids were sharing lunches and opening doors for one another. Kindness thrived! Even the crossing guard at the cross walk was reported for her acts of kindness.

"The wonderful thing about this," commented Laurie, "was that the report was put in by a youngster who was so shy he had never even spoken to the crossing guard, although the guard had spoken words of encouragement to this one particular youngster many times."

A child who held the reputation of being arrogant was suddenly helping another clean out her desk. One



lonely child reported on a classmate, "When I needed a friend to play with, she was there."

The reports went up weekly, but not just as ordinary reports. Over the weekend, the innovative and artistically inclined Laurie, chose a theme so that every single report was set on special paper, highlighted with sparkling glitter. One week she placed the names of the youngsters on lightning bolts and another week every report was done on teddy bears and yet another time on little T-shirts, all hanging on a clothesline.

The bulletin board itself was always eye-catching and crowds gathered so that soon parents, teachers and other staff were also gathering around to take in the theme and designs for the new week.

When the school year drew to a close, Laurie took each and every "good deed" report filled in by the students and teachers and attached them to one long continuous roll of paper. Once posted, this was to be the final reminder to all, that little things do make a difference.

She chose a time when only teachers were at the school and she and her young daughter literally wrapped the school walls with over a thousand kindness reports.

What was it that motivated this woman? She says, "It all came about because I could see some of the younger children in the elementary school were worried over bullying. Others concentrated too much energy on reporting the wrong choices of others. I was looking for something to counteract this when I came up with the idea of reporting one another on acts of kindness. I sincerely believed, and still do, that an act of kindness should receive ten times the attention given to a deed that came about because of wrong choices. I wanted my program to encourage both students and adults to focus on the positive, on what is appreciated, not what is annoying or hurtful."

The program also had some unforeseen side benefits. The reports often indicated when problems were at hand and Ms. Braun was able to alert the school authorities.

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**"I wanted my program to encourage both students and adults to focus on the positive, on what is appreciated, not what is annoying or hurtful."**

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**"Laurie set about to inspire and motivate hundreds of children to file reports on one another for their kind gestures no matter how small the deed."**

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"I noticed one week that many of the reports spoke of various individuals being helped up after falling on the ice. I contacted the school and they were able to alleviate the ice problem."

On the final day for that school year, Laurie asked the principal if the children could leave their classrooms and walk about to view this huge accumulated list of their good deeds and thoughtfulness. The students were told that any reports which featured their name could be taken home as souvenirs. Laurie watched as the excited students gathered around the reports, first reading them, then commenting and remembering and finally reaching to retrieve the reports to take them home as mementos.

"I watched those youngsters that day and felt so proud of their accomplishments. I thought, look at the huge amount of kindness you all gave to one another. You all noticed even the smallest of gestures and you have made such a difference in the lives of one another."

Choked with emotion, Laurie felt the tears and an overwhelming warmth of pleasure for the success of her quest.

Is it possible to alter the actions of school children? To take the focus from bullying and fault-finding?

One woman proved that "yes" anything is possible when you follow your instincts and your dreams. 

---

*Ellie lives in Alberta, Canada, and wrote this story about her middle child. She says, "I've always been amazed at Laurie, at her resilience and her determination. I'm proud of her for her willingness to share with others and for the care she demonstrates toward family, friends and even strangers." Ellie has a number of stories and books published and is the author of *A Little Door A Little Light*, a book she was challenged to write following the death of her 17 year old son, Jason. Ellie presents talk on the material from the book, hoping to help ease the pain of others due to a death. You can reach her at [ms.ellie@eaglecreek.org](mailto:ms.ellie@eaglecreek.org)*



# Upcoming Workshops, Conferences & Events

E-mail your listings to [info@latham.org](mailto:info@latham.org)

## JANUARY

### 23rd Annual Feline Medicine Symposium

Sunday, January 30th, 8 am to 5 pm

170 Schalm Hall, UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, Davis, CA

Sponsor: Feline Medicine Club, School of Veterinary Medicine

Registration info: <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/CE/CE.html>

CE credits available

The media contact for this event is student Jill Mikovich, [jamikovich@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jamikovich@ucdavis.edu), (530) 662-6208

## FEBRUARY

### National Animal Control Association Training Academy Level 1

Date Feb 28 - March 4, Portland, Oregon, Tuition \$475

For additional information and to register, call 913-768-1319 or visit [www.nacanet.org](http://www.nacanet.org)

## MARCH

### "Reaching Diverse Audiences" The 7th Annual Humane Education Seminar

Saturday, March 5, \$25

Presented by The Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). Speakers who will address different learning styles, compassion fatigue, distance learning, and animal assisted intervention programs include Dr. Bill Samuels from the ASPCA, Cheryl Weber from the UIUC College of Veterinary Medicine, Lisa Cushing of NAHEE's Humane Society University, and Debbie Coultis of People, Animals, Nature, Inc. For the first time attendees can attend one or more of the presentations online via a webcast thanks to PETsMART Charities. For further information visit [www.ansci.uiuc.edu/events/campanion/humane/](http://www.ansci.uiuc.edu/events/campanion/humane/) or contact Susan Helmink at 217-244-5141 or [susanh@uiuc.edu](mailto:susanh@uiuc.edu)

## APRIL

### Animal Welfare Federation of New Jersey 2005 Conference

April 1 & 2, Ocean Place Resort, Long Branch, NJ

[www.awfnj.org](http://www.awfnj.org) email: [conference@awfnj.org](mailto:conference@awfnj.org)

### California Veterinary Medical Association Animal Care Conference 2005: Collaboration, Cooperation & Partnerships

April 3-5, San Jose, California

[www.animalcareconference.org](http://www.animalcareconference.org)

### HSUS Animal Care EXPO

April 6-9, Atlanta, Georgia

Early Bird Registration (\$125). Deadline is February 18, 2005

[www.AnimalSheltering.org](http://www.AnimalSheltering.org) 202-452-1100

### Clackamas County Sheriff's Office 6th Annual Child Abuse Summit

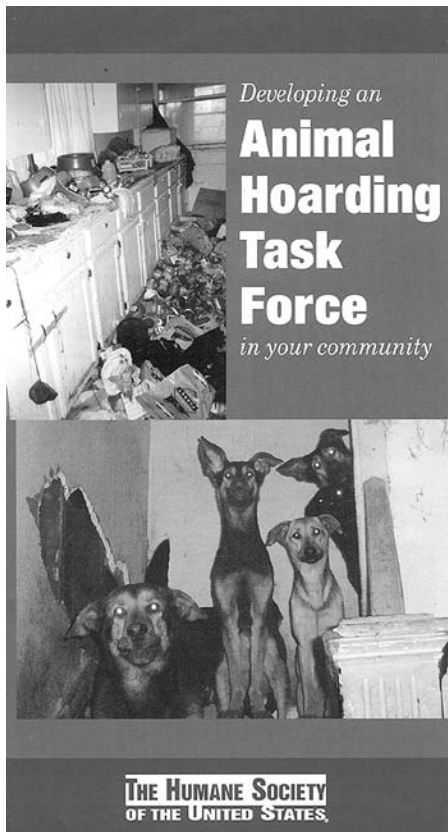
April 27 - 29, Double Tree Jantzen Beach Hotel near Portland, Oregon

[www.co.clackamas.or.us](http://www.co.clackamas.or.us) 503-655-8218





# Media Reviews and Announcements



## Developing an Animal Hoarding Task Force in Your Community – a new video from the Humane Society of the United States

Animal hoarders accumulate large numbers of animals without providing for the health, safety, and welfare of the animals, themselves, or their communities. Traditionally, local animal control agencies or private animal protection organizations address suspected animal hoarding cases, but the problem proves quite resistant to this single agency approach.

The coordinated efforts of multiple agencies specialized in handling the different aspects of the problem are much more likely to successfully meet the needs of the hoarder, the animals, and the community.

This video explains how to develop a task force and how the multiagency approach can address animal hoarding situations in your community.

*Animal Hoarding* informs the audience that hoarding is prevalent across the country and that it is a mental illness that must be monitored even after a seizure of animals takes place. Various viewpoints are represented on camera, including those of animal control officers, a mental health agency employee, and a fire department official.

By its conclusion, *Animal Hoarding* makes it clear that hoarding is far more than a simple “animal” issue. A companion brochure provides a comprehensive description and profile of the typical animal hoarder; it also contains more specific information on the associated safety risks, legal considerations, benefits of team efforts among agencies, and a list of other resources.

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### **Animal Hoarding**

*A Community Task Force Solution*

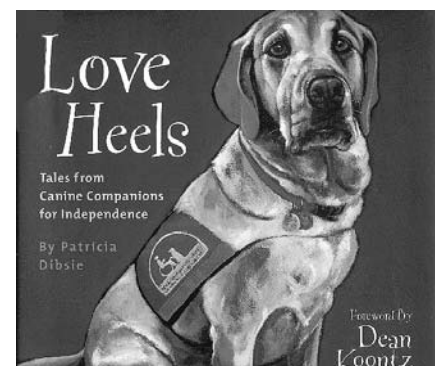
\$7.00

To order, call the HSUS at  
202-452-1100

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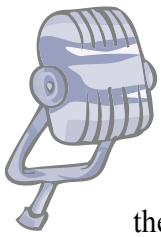
## Love Heals – Tales from Canine Companions for Independence

By Patricia Dibsie



Dogs have, by nature, qualities that we all would do well to strive for: unshakable loyalty, a devotion to service, an infectious exuberance for life. And their example often does bring out the best in us as well. You’ll see these virtues shine in humans and dogs alike in this delightful and deeply meaningful look at Canine Companions for Independence (CCI), a nonprofit organization devoted to providing well-trained, lovable service dogs to assist people with disabilities.

The stories author Patricia Dibsie tells of these dogs, the people who raise and train them, and those they ultimately help will move you to both laughter and tears, and deepen your appreciation of what love in both human and canine form can accomplish. You’ll meet a whole pack of CCI stars as you read



about every stage in their development, from the antics of puppyhood and the foibles of training to the fulfillments of their service years. And you'll almost be able to feel the wet kisses in page after page of marvelous pictures that will set many a heart and tail thumping with happiness.

Each chapter focuses on a different human-canine partnership and the remarkable relationships that develop. You'll smile as you learn who was really to blame when eight month-old trainee Blanche ate the rent money slipped under the door. You'll share the happiness of Mary's parents as the big golden retriever Tattenger (Taffy to his friends) helps bring the little girl further out of her shell of autism into the land of language and laughter. And you'll probably feel the same mixture of pain and appreciation and the deepest kind of love of Tom when he turns for strength one more time to Weaver, his faithful companion of eleven years, as they say their final goodbye.

From beginning to end, these are stories of a special bond with the deepest roots. As best-selling author Dean Koontz, a big fan and supporter of CCI, writes in the foreword: "Each dog seems to know that it is fulfilling a role that had been the destiny of its kind since the morning of creation."

The fulfillment of that destiny makes for a marvelous experience on every page of *Love Heels*, one you'll remember every time you see that look of unconditional love in a dog's big warm eyes.

Yorkville Press  
New York, NY  
\$28.95

## The Super Simple Guide to Houstraining

This book delivers critical information in a "Super Simple" Way

Ask any dog owner what the most challenging part of dog ownership is, and most will say houstraining. It requires time, effort, and patience, things we never seem to

have enough of. Teoti Anderson's new book, *The Super Simple Guide to Houstraining* (TFH Publications, Inc. \$9.95) is a comprehensive how-to guide that helps readers chart a successful course for houstraining their dog.

Studies show that houstraining problems are the primary reason most dogs are given up for adoption. Readers can explore all aspects of houstraining in an easy-to-read format that makes locating information a breeze. Drawing on the professional experience she has acquired over the last decade, Teoti describes proven ways to houstraining your dog, as well as what to do if problems occur. Full-color photos and tip boxes make learning easy and fun.

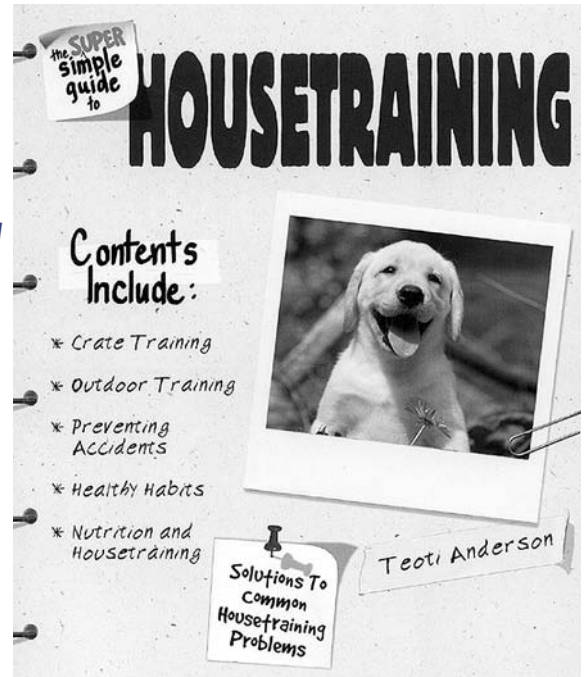
*The Super Simple Guide to Houstraining* includes:

- Step by step instructions for crate training your dog
- The training tools and equipment necessary for success
- Proper nutritional guidelines.
- The Top 12 houstraining problems and their solutions.
- Methods for tackling common behavioral issues

Teoti Anderson's book is accessible to anyone with a dog to train. Whether starting out with a new puppy, or dealing with problem behaviors in an older dog, this will be the one book owners turn to time and time again.

Teoti Anderson has been a professional dog trainer for nearly a decade. She serves as President of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT), the largest organization of dog trainers in the world.

TFH Publications, Inc.  
One TFH Plaza  
Third & Union Avenues  
Neptune City, NJ 07753



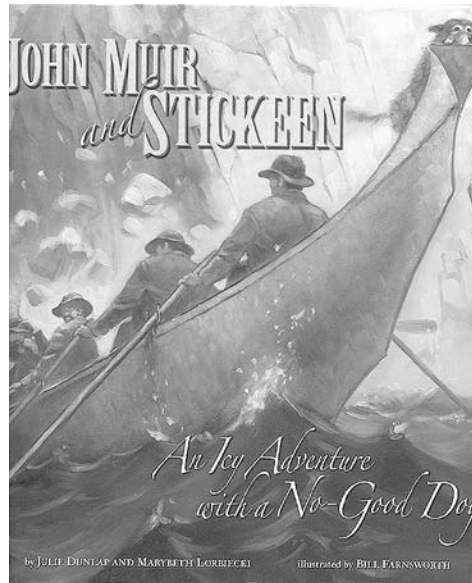


# John Muir and Stickeen: An Icy Adventure with a No-Good Dog

World-Famous Explorer  
"Discovers" The Adventures Spirit  
and Heroic Behavior of a Dog On  
A True-Life Expedition

In the late nineteenth century, few people dared to venture into the wild Alaskan frontier that seemed to offer nothing but peril, fear, discomfort and hardship. Yet in 1880, John Muir, the acclaimed explorer, conservationist, inventor, and writer, was drawn to all things wild with an obsessive fervor. Muir, who later petitioned President Roosevelt to create a national park in California as well as helped to start the Sierra Club, surmised that tame animals and livestock had lost their wilderness, and with it their intelligence and spirit. In *John Muir and Stickeen: An Icy Adventure with a No-Good Dog*, the dramatic true account of a terrifying journey to explore a glacier, Muir's contempt for "man's best friend" was forever altered as he was accompanied by Stickeen, a friend's dog that demonstrated perseverance, determination, and companionship.

From the very first page of this climactic tale, readers become absorbed into the drama and emotion that steer the life-or-death decisions John Muir was forced to make for himself and his unwelcome four-footed escort. Embellished with simulated journal entries, portrait-quality illustrations convey the frigid isolation of the uncharted territory, while capturing the growing bond between an unlikely pair. *John Muir and Stickeen: An icy Adventure with a*



*No-Good-Dog* will challenge readers to think about their own sense of adventure, their perspective on animal behavior, and how their choices can impact others as well as themselves.

### About the Author and the Artist:

Julie Dunlap and Marybeth Lorbiecki are an award-winning team. They have more than 23 children's books to their credit.

Bill Farnsworth is an artist whose realistic paintings have appeared in magazines, advertisements, children's books, and as fine art commissions.

*NorthWord Books for Young Readers*  
\$16.95

### CLICKER TRAINING RESOURCES

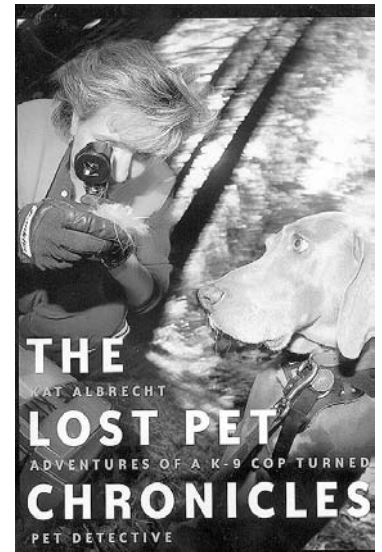
Clicker training in general  
[www.clickertraining.com](http://www.clickertraining.com)  
*Don't Shoot the Dog* by Karen Pryor  
*Clicking with Your Dog* by Peggy Tilman  
*Click for Joy* by Melissa Alexander

Clicker training in the shelter and zoo environment  
[www.clickertraining.com](http://www.clickertraining.com)

TAGteach  
[www.tagteach.com](http://www.tagteach.com)

# THE LOST PET

## CHRONICLES



*The Lost Pet Chronicles* is the story of Kat Albrecht, the nation's first law-enforcement-based pet detective. Disillusioned by a police career where her brilliant search dogs and own dog-tracking techniques rarely got a chance to shine, Kat started training her retired weimaraner to search for lost animals and found a whole new arena opening up. To the amusement of her skeptical colleagues, she decided to transform her newfound avocation into a business.

Using investigative techniques such as probability theory, behavioral profiling, and physical searches by trained dogs, Kat Albrecht has helped more than eighteen hundred pet owners locate their lost dogs, cats, snakes, turtles, parrots, and horses.

She also runs Missing Pet Partnership, a national nonprofit organization working to establish community-based pet rescue services.

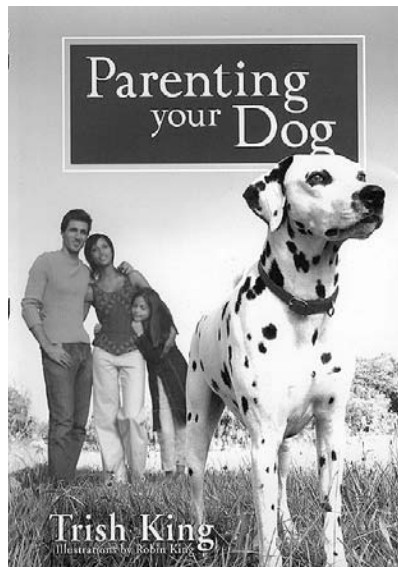
*Bloomsbury Publishers*  
\$23.95  
224 pages  
ISBN: 1-58234-379-9  
[www.bloomsbury.com](http://www.bloomsbury.com)



## Parenting Your Dog

Applying parenting principles to nurture canine development is what *Parenting Your Dog* is all about. You'll learn ways to better understand your dog's demeanor and figure out what's going on inside his head. From practical exercises to perform with your dog to ways of addressing problem behavior, Trish King shows how dogs can adjust and become part of the family dynamic.

Detailing the numerous similarities between child parenting and dog parenting, Trish provides an overview of a dog's physical, mental and emotional development in an easy-to-read format. An internationally renowned animal educator,



Trish also includes way of dealing with aging and problem behaviors in your pup.

*Parenting Your Dog* makes training fun again and explains that sometimes the most important behavior to change is our own.

*Parenting Your Dog* offers tips explaining how dogs can adjust and adapt to the family dynamic, unique

ways to understand the canine psyche, and ideas on how to implement positive, reward-based training.

### About the Author:

Nationally recognized canine consultant, trainer and mother, Trish King knows about "parenting a dog." As the Director of the Animal Behavior and Training Department at the Marin Humane Society in Marin County, CA, she developed the Canine Consultant/Instructor Training Academy for new or interested trainers. Some of her workshops include canine management, temperament assessment, and handling difficult dogs. She has been instrumental in creating programs to screen incoming animals, and train dogs while they wait for adoption.

*TFH Publications, Inc.*  
*One TFH Plaza*  
*Third & Union Avenues*  
*Neptune City, NJ 07753*  
*ISBN: 0-7938-0548-1*  
*\$19.95*  
*www.tfh.com*

## A SHAGGY DOG STORY

A guy sees a sign in front of a house: "Talking Dog for Sale." He rings the bell and the owner tells him the dog is in the backyard. The guy goes into the backyard and sees a black Lab just sitting there.

"You talk?" he asks.

"Yep," the Lab replies.

"So what's your story?"

The Lab looks up and says, "Well, I discovered that I had this gift pretty young and I wanted to help the government, so I told the CIA about my gift and in no time they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping. I was one of their most valuable spies eight years running. But the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger and I wanted to settle down. So I signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security work, mostly wandering near suspicious-looking characters and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings there and was awarded a batch of medals. Had a wife, a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired."

The guy is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog. The owner says, "Ten dollars."

The guy says, "This dog is amazing. Why on earth are you selling him, so cheap?"

The owner replies, "He's a liar. He didn't really do any of that spy stuff."

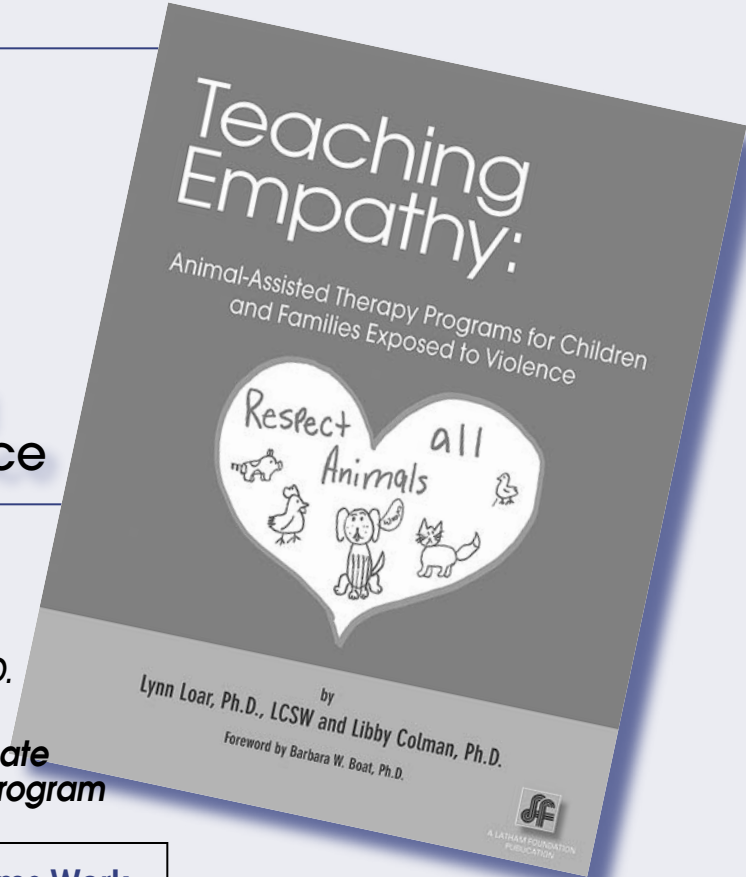
# Teaching Empathy:

## Animal-Assisted Therapy Programs for Children and Families Exposed to Violence

**A Handbook for Therapists, Humane Educators, and Teachers**

By Lynn Loar, Ph.D., LCSW and Libby Colman, Ph.D.

*Information, examples, and tools to help you create a safe and successful animal-assisted therapy program*



- Why Animal-Assisted Therapy Programs Work
- Creating Programs that Work
- Tools for your Programs

*Includes a CD with forms and samples!*

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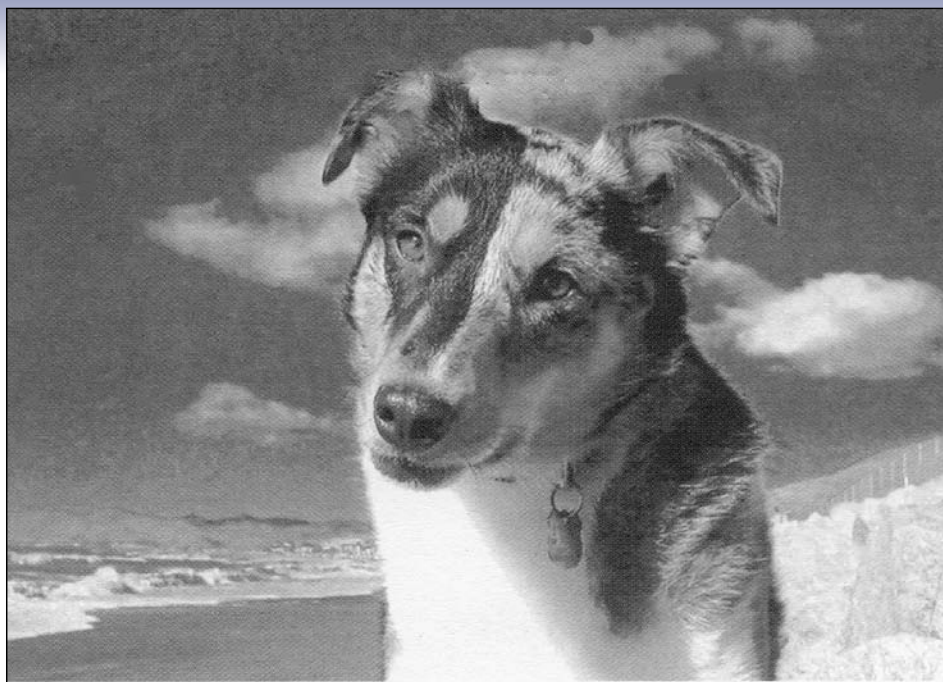


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