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# Latham Letter

VOLUME XXX, NUMBER 1

WINTER 2009

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

SINGLE ISSUE PRICE: \$5.00



## Latham Visits BEST FRIENDS

▶ See Page 12



Celebrating



YEARS  
OF PUBLISHING

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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***

Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities

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The Latham Foundation, 1826 Clement Avenue, Alameda, California 94501

# The Latham Letter

Volume XXX, Number 1, Winter 2009

**BALANCED PERSPECTIVES ON  
HUMANE ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES**



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

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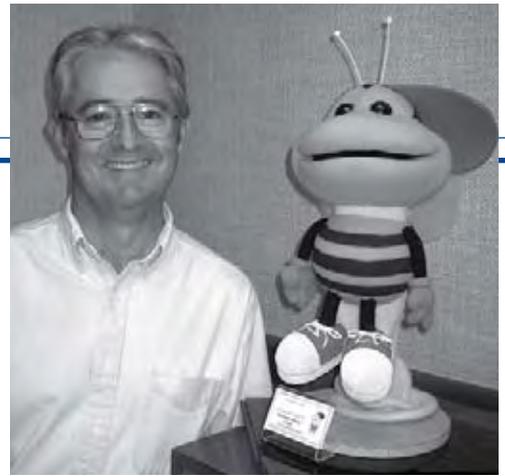
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# Editorial

Hugh H. Tebault,  
President with  
Brother Buzz



## Expectations – January, 2009

As The Latham Foundation continues in our 90th year of operation, much as been written by Latham members that continues to strike a resonant chord and deserves to be remembered.

The article below was written by Mrs. A. Wilson Robb, the Humane Education Chairman at the Latham Foundation in 1935. It is titled "Humane Education as a Character Builder" and was published in the December, 1935 issue of the Parent-Teacher Journal.

A portion of that article is excerpted and shows that the use of Humane Education to pass on good values to children continues from generation to generation. – HHT

### *Humane Education as a Character Builder*

The Latham Foundation for the promotion of Humane Education welcomes this opportunity to make clear the purpose of Humane Education, for all too often the subject is viewed by the uninformed as only a silly sentimentality for pets, or at best as a means of ameliorating the unfortunate conditions surrounding animal life.

While the record of man's inhumanity toward all creatures who are not endowed with the kind of language which the human mind can readily understand is such as to excite our sympathy and arouse our protective instincts in behalf of our frequently neglected and abused animal friends, Humane Education does not stop here. Emphatically it is a major factor in the development of the child along all the avenues of his being; and its superiority to other methods lies in the simple fact that nothing so spontaneously arouses in the average child the degree of interest that the animate life about him does. Besides, it assists the expression of the moral and ethical nature as well as the mental growth of the child. It cultivates the positive and constructive qualities of honor, courage, and justice. It gradually develops him not by and for himself alone as a self-centered egoist, but makes him wholesomely perceptive of his relationship to others of his kind. It makes him feel constantly the universal kinship of all living things, and in so doing it broadens his sympathies and raises him above those influences which, starting with apparently innocent games such as cops and

robbers, toy soldiers, and toy machine guns, lead on to killing weapons in earnest and thus very insidiously open the way for the possibility of domestic tragedy and crime.

The child practically trained to perceive the beauties of animal life, is stirred to respect its utter dependence upon human goodness. Bringing happiness to his animal friends delights him, and the influence of these early contacts carries over normally to his later relations with his own kind in social and business responsibilities, assuring good citizenship attitudes and a constructive open-mindedness toward all social problems – in short, a spiritual guidance in the affairs of life.

We say "spiritual guidance" advisedly, for in proportion as the spiritual quality of sympathy can be evolved in the child just so far will he be removed from the possibility of committing any crime which will hurt others. It is easiest to cultivate this quality in his relation to animals because of his acute interest in them and because they are the only associates over whom he can exercise any authority. The parents' unusual opportunity finds here its golden chance of setting the pace of a right beginning, which, expressing itself at an early age in sympathetic understanding of animals stands an infinitely better prospect of becoming a guiding life habit.





# Of Note

## ATTENTION

**Attention  
All  
Humane  
Educators**

**National Conference  
Announced**



A great way to inaugurate new ideas into your humane campaign is quickly approaching.

The 2009 APHE Conference will be held in Alexandria, Virginia on February 25th through the 27th.

You'll learn great ideas from not only our speakers, but from each other!

All the information that you need about the conference including the topics, registering, the hotel, and our optional DC at night excursion are at [www.aphe.org](http://www.aphe.org).

## ATTENTION



In 2009

*The Latham Letter* celebrates 30 years of publishing balanced views on humane issues and activities.

*Thanks to all of our readers and authors.*



**Another important conference:**

**"Experiential Learning in Humane Education: Involve Me and I Will Understand"**

**April 24-25, 2009  
Green Chimneys  
Brewster, New York**

**Hosted by The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) and Green Chimneys**

# I Just Came to Pet a Dog: What Clicker Training Taught Me about Everyday Life

When I was about eight years old, I found out that a clicker training program had started in the community room of my apartment building. At that age, I really loved dogs; I got excited just seeing them. During the clicker training program, I learned how to do small things like petting dogs and training them. Then, step by step, I learned bigger things.

My neighbor, Evelyn Pang, and I were asked to write brochures about clicker training for children. The first brochure, *Teaching with a Clicker: How to Train People and Animals with a Clicker and Treats*, and the second brochure, *Teaching with a Clicker: How to Teach Your Dog Good Manners and Tricks*, were posted on the Latham Foundation's web page, [www.latham.org](http://www.latham.org) and the Pryor Foundation's web page, [www.thepryorfoundation.org](http://www.thepryorfoundation.org). Then they were included in a book by Lynn Loar and Libby Colman called *Teaching Empathy: Animal-Assisted Therapy Programs for Children and Families Exposed to Violence*, published by the Latham Foundation in 2004. Once the brochures were written, we had enough material to write a book. We added a chapter on calming signals, a second chapter on safety around dogs, and a glossary and our book was finished!

Throughout your life you'll eventually encounter hard tasks that you can't solve right away. Clicker training may have been the furthest thing from your mind to solve these tasks. You may think it is only a form of positive reinforcement used to train dogs, learn a sport or play with other people. The use of incremental steps is what makes clicker training so successful. When you are training a dog to sit down, you have to look for a smaller step that may lead to the sit, like the movement of the legs or the lowering of the hindquarters. The dog will eventually know what you are looking for and do the movement. After he accomplishes this movement, you can shape the behavior so that the dog will sit when told. As long as you teach him step by step, clicker training will always be fun and exciting!

The use of incremental steps is also helpful in everyday life. For example, when you have been assigned an essay that you can't seem to write, you can start with a thesis statement that you can put as part of your introduction. You then use your thesis statement to think of ways to back it up. Everything is easier when you have your thesis statement! It helps you with the different topics that you can put in the body of your text.

Next, conclude by summarizing all you have written in your text and also restating your thesis. Finally, reread the essay to check for mistakes in spelling or grammar

to make the essay better. This process of writing a basic essay also uses incremental steps. You use these small steps even when you don't notice it, and by using these small steps you will have written a better essay which will help you get an A in English.

I've encountered many situations in which using incremental steps were the only way to solve my problem. When I'm playing a hard piece on my piano, I usually can't play it with both hands and make it perfect by just playing it once. I begin by looking at the music to see how fast or slow the piece is, which sharps or flats are used and where I have to repeat. Then I start playing with my right hand first and then my left. After doing the same movements with my right and left hand separately, I'll eventually play with both hands. Then I shape the behavior so that I can play the piece with better dynamics, or slower or faster depending on the piece.

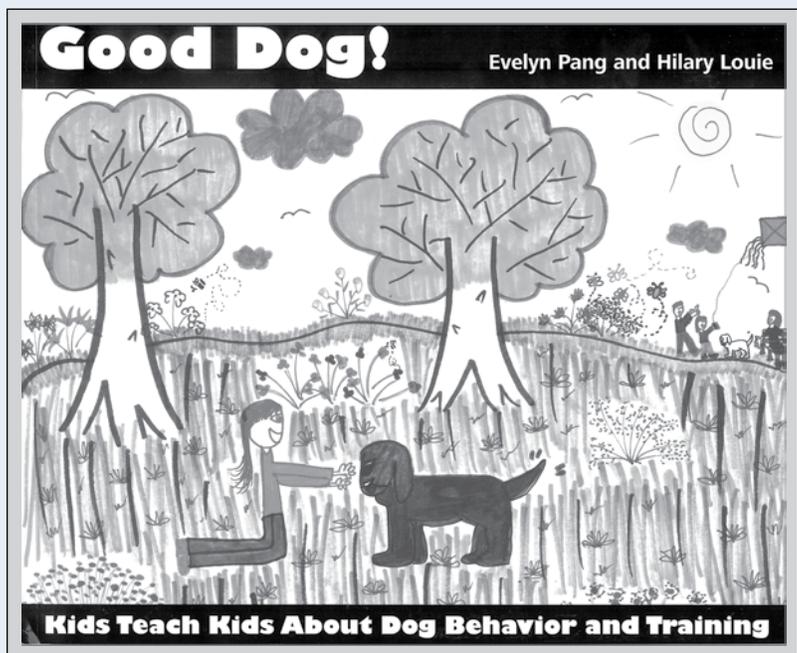
I'm in 10<sup>th</sup> grade now, and thinking about going to college. It could be overwhelming, but I believe that if I use incremental steps to do the difficult tasks in college and the process of getting into a college, it won't be as hard. I'm really glad that I got the privilege to learn how to clicker train. It taught me to go step by step, to be patient and to slowly improve, and I hope to gain more knowledge in the future.

By Hilary Louie

These are only a couple of examples of tasks that apply clicker training to other parts of life. It may not seem like much, but if you ever come across a difficult task you should think about how you can use incremental steps to accomplish it. When you break it down and look at smaller parts, it's always easier than trying to do the whole task in one "click."



Hilary Louie was born in San Francisco, California in 1993. She went to China for a few years and came back to the Bay Area to enter kindergarten. She is now in the honors program in middle school. She loves to play the violin and basketball, but not at the same time. She speaks English and Cantonese fluently. She plans to go to college after high school. Hilary likes clicker training and loves training and playing with dogs and just having fun.



## What kids are saying about **Good Dog!**

Dear Evelyn  
Pang and  
Hilary Louie,

Hi. This is Michelle. Thanks for sending me your finished book. Just so you know, I really enjoyed reading it and learning more about dog behavior and how to train them. I really appreciate that you two thought of sending me a copy...and with both of your signatures too!!! Eeek! So cool! I never, and I repeat never, had a book signed by its author before...until now. Wow! I will cherish this book forever! I mean it!

Anyway, I thought that you guys did a really good job with **Good Dog! Kids teach kids about dog behavior and training**. The book uses precise, yet simple language easy for all ages to understand. The glossary is helpful and I especially liked the test questions that were included at the end of every chapter. All in all, I loved this book and I'll treasure it forever.

Thanks a lot,

Michelle Ma  
San Francisco Bay Area

See the Fall '08 *Latham Letter* (pages 21-22) for a review of *Good Dog* by Barbara Boat, Ph.D. and information about how to order.

# A New Option:

# Mobile Veterinary Hospice Care

## Rainbow Bridge Vet Services

Today, a growing number of veterinary professionals are offering the relatively new option of hospice care as a choice for people wanting a dignified death for a terminally ill companion animal. Pet hospice is a philosophy that promotes a safe, caring, intimate end-of-life alternative to immediate euthanasia or a painful death. It is based on the principle that death can be experienced with dignity, as an animal rests at home with its loving family. Unlike traditional approaches, it is not geared toward curing a patient's disease, but rather toward keeping the disease from causing any discomfort, while simultaneously preparing caregivers for the end of the patient's life.

While pet hospice has been modeled after human hospice, there are some important differences between the two situations. First, the animal patient cannot choose hospice for itself. Human caregivers must make that difficult decision for their animal companions, hopefully keeping the needs of the animal foremost in their thoughts. Some common conditions for which hospice may be appropriate include various types of cancer, organ failure (e.g. kidney, liver, or heart), debilitating arthritis, and neurological problems. Important things one must consider before choosing hospice for an animal include whether or not any pain that is present can be controlled, what procedures caregivers are willing/able to perform at home, and the availability of family resources such as time, money, psychological support, etc. Secondly, as opposed to the human situation, animal hospice frequently ends in euthanasia of the patient when, because of the situation, there would be undue or prolonged suffering, pain, or discomfort.

Another important distinction between human and pet hospice is that with animals the care generally occurs in the home. One reason is that there are relatively few animal "hospice centers" where a pet with a terminal illness could live out the remainder of its life. Even if these centers were commonplace, their use would minimize one of the most important aspects of the hospice process – that is, the intimate bonding that occurs between the animal and its human caregivers during this time. Most people who go through hospice with a companion animal report that it is the closest, most loving, intimate, bonding time in their entire relationship.

Another important reason for home hospice care is that it provides for the comfort of both the animal and the human caregivers. Animals are often so ill that even trips outside are difficult. As a result, visits to a veterinary hospital for care would be not only overly stressful, but physically and emotionally damaging. An animal that is allowed to rest in its own home and familiar environment will be less stressed, more comfortable, experience less pain, and generally have a much better end of life experience. For these reasons, it is important that everyone involved in pet hospice be able to provide care for the terminally ill animal in its own home environment.

By Anthony J. Smith, DVM, MBA

Certainly, hospice care should involve the pet's family, veterinary technicians, counselors, and other professionals. However, terminally ill animals need close supervision, and hospice provision requires frequent assessment of an animal's condition, pain control, and potential need for intervention in the form of euthanasia. Therefore, it is important that hospice care be supervised by an appropriately trained, and ideally, mobile veterinarian who can visit the animal in its own environment.

Unfortunately, providing in-home care for terminally ill pets has potentially significant costs associated with this option. A mobile veterinarian generally must charge more for a home visit than what it costs for a typical hospital visit. The primary reason for this is that the mobile veterinarian is limited in the number of patients that she/he can see in a day. While a typical hospital-based veterinarian might be able to see 20-30 clients in a day, because of travel time, a mobile veterinarian might only be able to see 5-6 clients in the same amount of time. In addition, working with hospice patients is very time intensive. There are frequently multiple problems to evaluate, a variety of unique situations to address, and a whole new paradigm to explain. So, while a typical veterinary visit at a hospital is scheduled for 15-20 minutes, an in-home hospice examination and evaluation usually requires at least 60-90 minutes, not including travel and preparation time. Finally, there are the costs associated with maintaining a mobile practice, not least of which is the constantly increasing cost of gasoline. As a result of these factors, clients should expect to pay at least two to three times the cost of a typical vet hospital visit for a home hospice veterinary or euthanasia visit.

Because most people still pay for veterinary care without the benefit of insurance, providing for the increased cost of in-home hospice care can be a financial challenge. There are several ways that costs can be kept to a minimum. One of the most important of these is by the proper utilization of other hospice care team members. For example, many of the ongoing hospice care tasks can be accomplished by a properly trained veterinary technician, rather than requiring repeated visits from the veterinarian. In addition to the administration of certain medications, fluids, and nursing care, a veterinary nurse may be the best resource for teaching clients how to provide in-home care for their own terminally ill animals. The cost for the veterinary technician visit will generally be much less than that of a veterinarian, and the ability of the technician to teach the family to perform some of the medical care tasks will lower costs even further.

Another way that costs can be reduced is by developing and using an efficient system of telephone consultation. After the initial veterinary visit, much of the care, treatment, re-assessment, and changes to medications or protocols can be accomplished over the phone. This eliminates the time and costs associated with travel, allowing the veterinarian to charge less for this service than for an on-site visit.

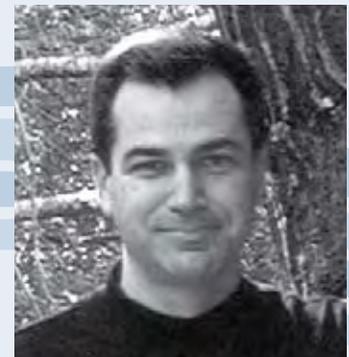
While there are an increasing number of people seeking hospice care for their companion animals, there are relatively few veterinarians who are trained in and comfortable with providing this type of care. Therefore, it is important for clients to discuss this option with their regular veterinarian before the need arises, and for veterinarians to be aware of qualified service providers in their

area. The Nikki Hospice Foundation ([www.pethospice.org](http://www.pethospice.org)) and the American Association of Housecall and Mobile Veterinarians (<http://www.housecallvets.org/>) are excellent resources for this information.

Providing in-home hospice care can be a potentially viable alternative to immediate euthanasia for some terminally ill pets. Although choosing the hospice option requires careful preparation, substantial resources, and a great deal of work, it can be extremely rewarding for veterinarians, clients, and everyone involved in the process.

---

*Anthony J. Smith is the founder of Rainbow Bridge Veterinary Services, a practice specializing in providing in-home end-of-life care (hospice and euthanasia) for terminally ill pets. He earned his undergraduate degree in Biology from Stanford University and graduated from the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California, Davis. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Nikki Hospice Foundation and Wildlife Associates. His outside interests include rock climbing, volunteering, and hiking with his Labrador Retriever, Rio.*



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## Developing a Pet Hospice Care Center

By Dr. Tami Shearer

As the human population ages and gains personal exposure to palliative and hospice care, pet owners are becoming aware that there are benefits to having those services available for pets too. Increasingly, pet owners are requesting palliative and hospice care services for their pets.

The term hospice comes from the Latin word *hospitium*, which means to host. Hospice is defined as a facility or program designed to provide a caring environment for supplying the physical and emotional needs of the terminally ill. The term *palliate* comes from the Latin word *palliare*, which means to cloak or conceal. Palliative care is focused on the relief of suffering to achieve the best quality of life regardless of the disease outcome. Palliative care is not hospice care, but the services may overlap during the approach of death.

The American Veterinary Medical Association recognizes hospice care and has guidelines that support the practice of good veterinary medicine. A copy of the guidelines can be obtained from the AVMA.

A human study of 122 caretakers showed that a lack of preparedness when a person was dying resulted

in a prolonged grieving period of more than nine months, with major depression. Because of the strong bond between some people and their pets, it is reasonable to assume that similar data may apply to the loss of a pet. In many cases pet owners will benefit from palliative and hospice care for their beloved companion animals.

The following information should help any veterinarian utilize the philosophy of palliative and hospice care and perform an added service for their clients.

The first step in offering palliative or hospice care is for an interested veterinarian to define what services they will provide and what services they will refer out. For example, palliative care for mammary carcinoma where there is a large ulcerated mass may include a surgical intervention to remove the lesion to improve quality of life even though cure is not intended. Such surgery would require a full service hospital to provide proper care. However, when offering consultations on care, one could offer advice on the surgical palliation and refer out to a clinic. The latter would require a small office or could even be done on a house call basis.

I recommend veterinarians reserve a special place in the hospital to provide palliative care or hospice consultations. Hospitals with limited space should consider converting a hallway, giving an exam room a face lift, converting a storage room, or even leasing small additional office space. House calls also provide another means to consult with pet owners.

Maybe more important than where the services are provided is ensuring a comfortable environment for pets and their owners. The consultation room should be comfortable and have adequate seating for all of the family members. It should be quiet, and free of distractions and interruptions.

Staffing should include members of the medical staff plus related professions such as social workers, ethicists, psychologists and clergy people. At the very least, access to these professions needs to be available for both the medical staff and pet owner if they are not on site.

Besides what a general practice already has, special supplies need to be available for a pet hospice area. They include but are not limited to:

- *Adequate supply of clean, soft bedding*
- *Disposable under pads, diapers*
- *Assistive mobility devices such as slings*
- *Non-slip flooring*

Once the staff and the environment are prepared, patients can receive care. The Five Step Hospice Care Plan for the non-profit Pet Hospice and Education Center serves as a template to structure the pet and pet owner's care needs.

## Five-Step Hospice Plan

1. Evaluation of the pet owner's needs, beliefs, and goals for the pet
2. Education about the disease process
3. Development of a personalized plan for the pet and pet owner
4. Application of hospice or palliative care techniques
5. Emotional support during the care process and after the death of the pet

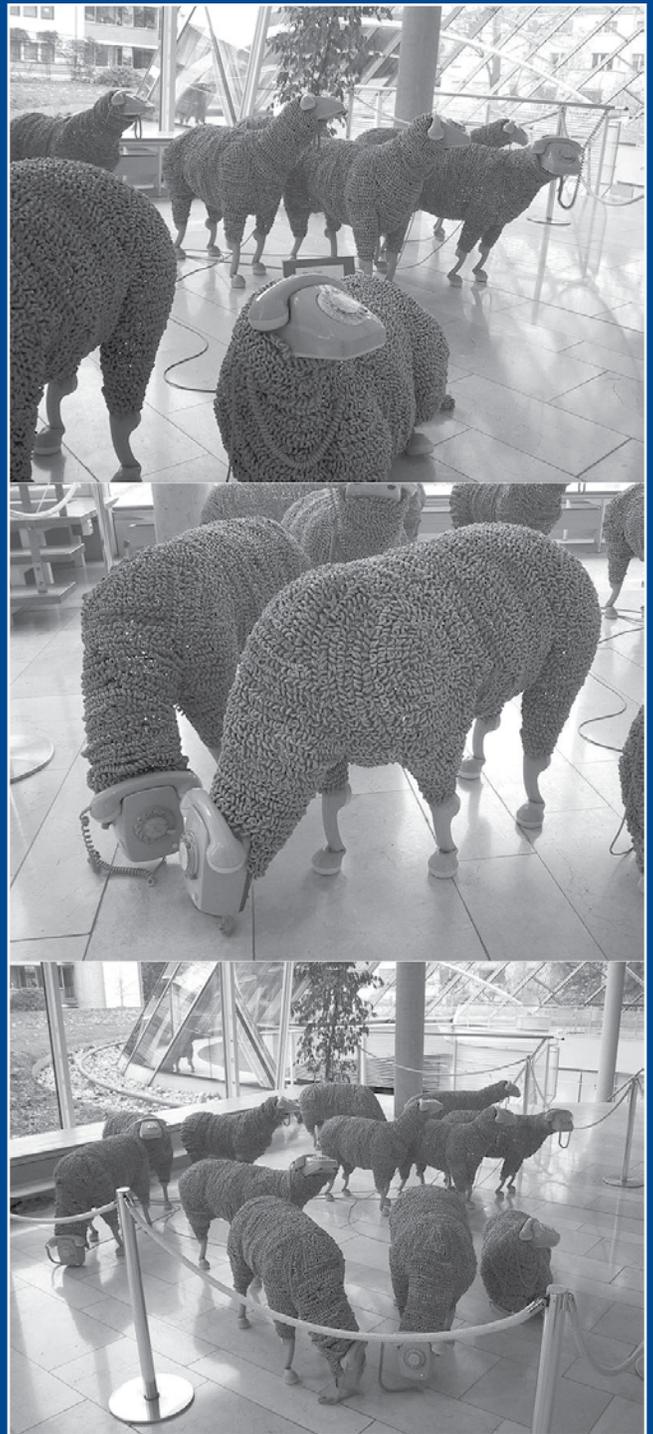
In summary, most veterinarians can apply hospice care techniques, since the foundation of care is based on a philosophy that can be utilized in



*Dr. Shearer has retired from practice and relocated her Pet Hospice and Education Center to 919 Haywood Road, Dillsboro, North Carolina. She lectures throughout the country on all aspects of quality hospice care for pets.*

*Ever wonder where those old telephones go?*

*As found on the internet and contributed by Norma Charette*



## Save the Date

The Second International Symposium on Veterinary Hospice Care will be held September 5-7, 2009, once again at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

Please check our website for updates and registration information towards the end of January, 2009, by visiting [www.pethospice.org](http://www.pethospice.org).

# Latham Visits Best Friends



**About Best Friends Animal Society:**

Best Friends Animal Society operates the country's largest sanctuary for abused and abandoned animals. On any given day, Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, located in southwestern Utah, is home to approximately 2,000 dogs, cats, horses, rabbits, birds, and other animals. Founded in 1984, Best Friends advances nationwide initiatives by working with shelter and rescue groups around the country. The society also publishes Best Friends magazine, the nation's largest general interest, pet-related magazine with approximately 300,000 subscribers. For more information, visit [www.bestfriends.org](http://www.bestfriends.org).

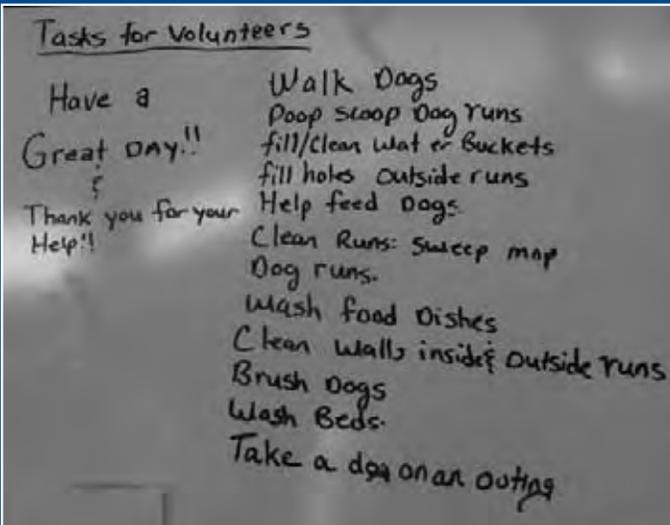


PHOTO BY: Judy Johns



PHOTO BY: Judy Johns

“Kindness to animals builds a better world for us all.”



PHOTO BY: Judy Johns



PHOTO BY: Judy Johns

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



*Except where noted, photographs are by Dana Kay Deutsch (pictured above with Cockatoo), Shelter Manager, Save-a-Pet Adoption Center  
31664 N. Fairfield, Grayslake, IL 60030  
847-740-7799 ext. 108  
fax 847-740-7796  
shelter\_manager@save-a-pet-il.org*



# Lemonade for Unwanted Chihuahuas

By Debra J. White

Ten-year old Jacob Ruiz loves his three Chihuahuas, Carmela, Tinkerbelle and Chloe. So when the Crayons All Natural Beverage Company invited children to the Pink Lemonade Brigade to raise money for their favorite charity, Gilbert, Arizona resident Jacob Ruiz picked Arizona Chihuahua Rescue. "I love animals and wanted to do something good for the homeless Chihuahuas," says Jacob. "Our Chihuahuas have a nice home. I thought I could make a difference for the less fortunate ones."

Of thousands of children nationwide who applied to the special event, only 1,000 were selected. Jacob and seven other children in Arizona made the cut. Along with his parents, Roxanne and Johnny, brothers 8-year-old Dallan and 6-year-old Garrett, the family assembled a lemonade stand using a decorating kit sent by the company. Crayon Beverages also kicked in free pink lemonade.

On June 21, 2008 the Crayon Company united children nationwide in a mega fundraising extravaganza. Children sold lemonade to benefit a variety of personal causes. Jacob set up his lemonade stand outside a Petco store in Gilbert, a Phoenix suburb, on a sweltering Saturday morning. Each cup sold for \$1.00, all proceeds benefitting Arizona Chihuahua Rescue. According to mom Roxanne, "Jacob was profiled in the *Arizona Republic* and on Channel 12, so the advance publicity drew customers out to support my son. They appreciated what he was doing for the homeless Chihuahuas."

So did Barb Rabe, president and founder of Arizona Chihuahua Rescue, an all-volunteer group that takes in about 450 unwanted dogs every year. "Jacob was awesome. On that hot day, he sat outside and sold lemonade, telling



people it was for the Chihuahuas. He thanked everyone, even those who didn't buy anything."

The scorching weather understandably took a toll on young Jacob. After three hours, he packed up and went home. But his efforts paid off handsomely for the rescue.

"He raised \$213 for us and that was outstanding," says Rabe. "We appreciated all his hard work." Rabe plans to invite Jacob and his family to participate in future fundraisers for the rescue.

The Ruiz family built a relationship with Arizona Chihuahua Rescue and recently took in a temporary boarder, a timid gal named Shiloh who needs more time before permanent placement. "Shiloh has made steady gains since she's been with us. When she gets adopted, we'll take another

one because the rescue always needs foster families," Roxanne says.

Besides Jacob's love of animals, he excels in school. He's good in math. "I like building things," he says. When asked what his dreams are, he said, "I want to be an engineer." No doubt the talented, sensitive and compassionate young man will achieve his dreams. With a loving, supportive family surrounding him, including his beloved Chihuahuas, Jacob can reach for the stars.

---

*Seven-year-old Connor Lloyd, son of Crayons Beverage Company CEO Ron Lloyd, conceived the idea for the Pink Lemonade Brigade. Connor wanted children to give back to their communities while using tools provided by his dad's company. According to company spokesperson, Christy Luther, the Pink Lemonade Brigade was a huge success. At least \$156,000 was raised for a variety of charitable causes. The company plans to host the event next year.*



# “The Link” The Devil is Back

By Lesley Ashworth



***Those of us who have worked in the area of family violence and its link to cruelty to animals have long known that while there are countless reported incidents among urban populations, rural communities have the same problems. While the dynamics may be different, the resulting emotional pain and physical torture remain the same.***

*This is a story of success and encouragement:*

As my lecture on the connection between cruelty to animals and interpersonal violence ended, most of the college students came out of their reverie and began to leave the auditorium, but as usual there were several students who stayed to talk with me.

I saw her in my peripheral vision. She caught my attention because she appeared a little hesitant about approaching me. This told me her comments were more than likely personal rather than professional. I smiled to offer encouragement and she proceeded onto the stage. She was neither timid, nor boastful, as she began to speak in words that tumbled out of her – like water falling over a dam. She was excited to hear someone finally talk about things she truly understood. She was the child of an abusive father.

In the brief time she had before her next class began, she asked me if she could send me a poem that she had written several years ago; she seemed thrilled at my encouragement. I sensed she was a very special person – one who had experience yet become empowered rather than cowed – one who was unafraid to speak about the horror she had endured – one who wanted to share with others the knowledge that survival, healing and happiness are possible.

We communicated a couple of times after that class and, as promised, she sent me the poem. Its words, those of a young person, were powerful and spoke volumes about the fear and pain she endured. I was anxious to talk with her in more detail, however between her school and my work schedule, we just couldn't get together.

Recently I was relaying the story of this encounter to friends at dinner and they encouraged me to try once again to connect with her and tell her story. Although several months had passed, one brief phone call found me sitting on a beautiful spring day at an outside table of a local French bakery.

My first question after the usual pleasantries had been exchanged was to ask her permission to tell her story. I assured her of anonymity, although she was not concerned for herself, but for her mother. She told me she had stopped using her father's surname some time ago – part of her healing process – and while she felt no obligation to protect him, she came from a very small community and wouldn't want other family members to feel embarrassed.

I began by asking her about her family background and I will attempt

to explain it here in a way that does not reveal specifics.

Her father was the product of a strict religious upbringing. He attended a fundamentalist theology institute where women were allowed to attend, but not graduate. By his early 20s he had already begun lay preaching. His first marriage was a preview of things to come. His wife ended up in the hospital after a particularly violent incident. She left him but had to return because the church, which was such a prominent part of both their lives, didn't consider the violence a sufficient reason to leave. It wasn't until he was deemed to have committed "indiscretions" that she was finally given the church's blessing to leave and obtain a divorce.

The "indiscretion" is of significance to this story, since it culminated in an out-of-wedlock pregnancy that was the beginning of this story.

The new young wife was naive to say the least. Not a worldly person, she was raised in a very small rural midwest community. He came along and "swept her off her feet." I've found this is a common retrospective statement from a significant number of victims of abuse. She was a young teacher, just 23 when they met. He was a strong pillar of the community whom everyone liked and thought well of. He claimed to be in a loveless marriage, entered into at an early age and clearly a mistake. He was easily able to dispense with any shadows of doubt she may have had. She was in love with him and took him at his word. After all – he was the perfect man. Three years after meeting, she was pregnant and they married.

He worked for the railroad and

was also a farmer. They lived outside of town. Neighbors were few and kept to themselves. If you ran for help you would probably only get to the next field.

Her story is almost textbook. The first time he pushed her down the stairs was during her pregnancy. This is often a time of physical violence with abusers, since the woman's attention goes to her body and the new life it holds. This may be perceived as a threat to the man who is used to being in the position of power and control.

The little girl's first memories were of hiding, something her mother made into a game. But like most children, curiosity eventually overcame caution and she remembers seeing her mother falling down the stairs, being kicked repeatedly by her father, and wondering if her mother would get up again.

Her first grade teacher asked the class to write letters to God. She asked God for a new daddy. The teacher gave the letter to her mother who was also a co-worker. Her mother explained away the incident; however one has to wonder why no one noticed the turtleneck sweaters she wore year-round. Calculating abusers don't hit faces.

**"I would have assumed that animals would have been a source of comfort and love to her in this dysfunctional environment, however this was not so."**

The girl's first beating was when she was about seven. She was playing outside with her cousin and she didn't come immediately into the house when called. Her father dragged her by her hair through the house and up the stairs to her room for her punishment. She distinctly remembered the stairs in our interview. "There were 13 steps, then a landing, and then an additional 15 steps."

Just prior to her first beating, there was a show-and-tell at school. Father proudly bought her prize-winning Rhode Island Red hen. The hen had chicks and as he reached into the cage to take out a chick to show the class, the hen nipped at him. Nothing was said – a calm demeanor prevailed. When she got home, he made her watch as he placed the chicks in newly dug post holes and squashed them. Throughout the remaining school year, the unaware teacher frequently referred to the chicks. She said, "Those chicks you saw would be this big by now" and made similar comments that brought pain and shame to this little girl with a big secret.

The most important rule in her family was to excel. She had to make all As; her animals had to win Four-H competitions; her mother's pies had to be entered into the county fair. Everyone had to envy this perfect family who were seen always as "winners." Little did the community know that what appeared to be the Walton's little house on the prairie was in fact a house of horror.

Punishments included not being allowed food – sometimes for days. She also had to stand outside in inclement weather without benefit of appropriate clothing. One of her father's favorite "games" was to have her stand against

the barn door so he could throw cans at her in an attempt to improve his aim as a pitcher for the local baseball team. Ah yes, the perfect family.

As she got older, she got angrier. Once in her early teens, in the middle of yet another “disciplinary” incident, he threw the canister vacuum at her and was getting ready to beat her with the wand, but she grabbed it first. Although he was 6ft, 250 lbs and she was a slip of a girl, he knew the dynamics of their relationship had changed in that moment of defiance and anger.

I would have assumed that animals would have been a source of comfort and love to her in this dysfunctional environment, however this was not so. She hated animals. They were a source of punishment – she could never let herself get attached. She had to care for them and they had to win competitions but her father didn’t allow pets. They had a dog, a beagle, but he was always on a heavy chain and she was not allowed to play with him.

Finally, after a particularly bad incident in which her father threatened to shoot mother and daughter, the mother left. This wasn’t an easy thing to do in a community that believed they were the perfect family with the perfect father as head of the household.

He fought to get custody of her, not because he “loved her” as he claimed, but to punish the mother for daring to leave. The judge allowed visitation, even though he was well aware of the reason for the divorce.

After the divorce the father began to breed Arabian horses. The last time she went on a parental visitation he became angry with her for falling off her horse. He led the horse home and forced her to walk a couple of miles back to the house with a badly bruised body and a gash on her head. When she finally got back to the house, her beloved horse was almost unrecognizable. The father had beaten it with a 2 x 4.

This incident was the one that finally got the other family members’ and the community’s attention.

Recently the now-grown child was on a ride-along with a local area veterinarian and they happened to drive past her father’s house. The vet had no idea her father lived there, but he did know that the man who lived there was “a jerk who was cruel to animals.” No longer heralded as the “perfect man,” he lives his life knowing his only child not only won’t see or speak with him, but refuses to even use his last name.

*As a postscript: this girl is now a vibrant and successful young woman, a graduate student who loves animals. After extensive and continued therapy, both she and her mother are doing exceptionally well.*

This poem is the legacy of that childhood:

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## **“The Devil is Back”**

By Anonymous

*“They say this story starts long before I did. Before those nine months before March 13.*

*Years of dating and learning almost everything.*

*There they were, two young lovers, and there I was, out of marriage and three months after my creation. I was there at that excited wedding in the safest place I knew. But six months later there I was again safe, warm, and completely loved in her arms*

*Now I tell the story from my point of view as I remembered and lived it.*

*This is the part where the weak of heart must turn back.*

*Those sounds I hear, from my safe little spot with my ragged old blanket and dear dinosaur. Those sounds I hear of breaking glass and cracking wood, pierce my heart as a dagger would. Those sounds of ripping papers and falling books being swept from the table with a giant arm and then the painful yells, as I hear ...*

*THUMP...THUMP...THUMP ...*

*The sound of my mother falling down the stairs another time. Then the merciful cries as she begs him to stop. Then I hear the walls downstairs crack and crumble as she’s thrown up against them. These sounds I hear are worse than a freight train derailing. As I soak the soft little head of my dinosaur, in my safe little place, with my painful tears*

*But thank the almighty, he has finally stopped.*

*I wait a while before I come out to see my mom with the ice packs and bruises.*

*And just as my little hand touches the door knob out of my safe haven...*

*I hear the pounding of the stairs...like a giant’s tearing up them...*

*I quickly turn and hide again just in time ... to hear and know ... THE DEVIL’S BACK!”*

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*Author Lesley Ashworth lives in Ohio and is a member of the National Link Coalition.  
www.nationallinkcoalition.org*



# Latham Letter BACK ISSUES containing "Link" 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). Some of these issues may be downloaded at [www.Latham.org](http://www.Latham.org).

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



___ Exploring the Links: Firearms, Family Violence and Animal Abuse in Rural Communities	Summer 08	___ The Relationship Between Animal Abuse and Other Forms of Family Violence	Winter 97
___ Legislative Roundup: "Link" Measures Enacted Across the U.S.	Summer 06	___ Domestic Violence Assistance Program Protects Women, Children, and their Pets in Oregon	Summer 97
___ Cut, Curl, and Counsel	Fall 05	___ University of Penn. Veterinary Hospital Initiates Abuse Reporting Policy	Fall 97
___ Canadian Veterinarians Adopt Strategic Policy on Reporting Animal Abuse	Summer 05	___ Domestic Violence and Cruelty to Animals	Winter 96
___ "Link" Activities Come to the Windy City	Summer 05	___ Animal Cruelty IS Domestic Violence	Winter 96
___ "Link" Activities Extend to Delaware's Probation and Parole Officers	Spring 05	___ Gentleness Programs (I Like the Policeman Who Arrested that Dog)	Spring 96
___ Latham Brings "Link" Training to Brazilian Police Officers	Winter 05	___ Loudoun County, Virginia Develops Cooperative Response to Domestic Violence	Spring 96
___ Nova Scotia Conference Explores the "Link"	Summer 04	___ And Kindness for ALL (Guest Editorial)	Summer 96
___ Partnerships Formed in Colorado to Stop the Cycle of Violence	Summer 04	___ Should Veterinarians Report Suspected Animal Abuse?	Fall 96
___ Tulane University Symposium Introduces the "Link" to Lawyers	Spring 04	___ Windwalker Humane Coalition's Web of Hope Grows Stronger	Fall 96
___ Crime Prevention Funding Introduces the "Link" to Canadian Groups	Winter 04	___ Update on the Link Between Child and Animal Abuse	Fall 96
___ Gabriel's Angels Breaking the Cycle of Violence in Arizona	Summer 03	___ Report on Tacoma, Washington's Humane Coalition Against Violence	Winter 95
___ New Training Materials Help Professionals Recognize Non-Accidental Animal Injury	Spring 03	___ Animal Cruelty & the Link to Other Violent Crimes	Winter 95
___ Making a Difference for People & Animals in Hamilton, Ontario	Winter 03	___ Univ. of Southern California Conference Addresses Violence Against Children	Spring 95
___ Examining the "Link" in Wellington County, Ontario, Canada	Summer 02	___ Working to Break the Cycle of Violence	Spring 95
___ New Link Resource Book Helping Albertans	Summer 02	___ The Tangled Web: Report on La Crosse, Wisconsin's Coalition Against Violence	Spring 95
___ Making the Connection Between Animal Abuse and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults	Winter 02	___ San Diego, Calif. Child Protection Workers Required to Report Animal Abuse	Summer 95
___ Calgary Research Results: Exploring the Links Between Animal Abuse and Domestic Violence	Fall 01	___ Abuse an Animal - Go To Jail! (Animal Legal Defense Fund's Zero Tolerance for Cruelty)	Summer 95
___ Ontario SPCA's Women's Shelter Survey Shows Staggering Results	Spring 01	___ Milwaukee Humane Society's "PAL" Program: At-Risk Kids Learn Respect through Dog Obedience Training	Winter 94
___ Putting the "Link" All Together: Ontario SPCA's Violence Prevention Initiative	Spring 01	___ Latham Confronts Child and Animal Abuse	Spring 94
___ Canadian and Florida Groups Actively Working on the "Link"	Winter 01	___ A Humane Garden of Children, Plants, and Animals Grows in Sonoma County	Spring 94
___ Latham's "Link" Message Goes to South Africa	Spring 00	___ Bed-wetting, Fire Setting, and Animal Cruelty as Indicators of Violent Behavior	Spring 94
___ Latham Sponsors "Creating a Legacy of Hope" at British Columbia Conference	Winter 00	___ Animal Abuse and Domestic Violence: Intake Statistics Tell a Sad Story	Spring 94
___ New England Animal Control/Humane Task Force	Spring/Summer 99	___ The Veterinarian's Role in the Prevention of Violence	Summer 94
___ Confronting Abuse (a veterinarian and a social worker confront abuse)	Summer 98	___ Results of Latham's National Survey on Child and Animal Abuse	Summer 94
___ The Human/Animal Abuse Connection	Spring 98	___ A Shared Cry: Animal and Child Abuse Connections	Fall 94



# Media Reviews



## ***Animals at Play: Rules of the Game***

By Marc Bekoff

Reviewed by Barbara R Saunders

Every child knows that play is important – more important than adults often seem to understand. In *Animals at Play: Rules of the Game*, ethologist Marc Bekoff makes the case that the lessons of play enable animals, including people, to participate in communities. Bekoff's latest book, from Temple University Press, layers several messages for its intended audience, ages 9-11.

Children who are academically inclined will probably enjoy the book more than those who prefer to be captivated by a good story, as it is not structured as a narrative. Some parents and teachers may be more comfortable than others with the degree to which the author anthropomorphizes animals.

The text lends itself to teaching critical thinking skills by providing information such as the notion of ethology as a discipline and some of the field's terms. The author begins with simple scientific ideas, establishing that play is exercise and practice, in addition to being fun. Animals' "play is for exercise," he writes, "gaining strength and developing muscles" so that predators can chase prey and prey animals can run fast to "avoid being a meal." He adds that, in play, the young learn the social rules of fighting, hunting and mating. Definitions of common scientific words, such as "predator", "species", and "pheromone" run along the pages as footers. Dr. Bekoff, a professor emeritus who works with Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots youth program, explicitly welcomes young readers into his intellectual community and invites them to observe animals in their local parks and the behavior of people as well.

*Animals at Play* also elicits empathy for animals: those with whom we share our homes, those that occupy our backyards, and the more exotic ones that live on faraway parts of the globe. Michael J. DiMotta's illustrations convey the same sense of intimacy, with cats gently teasing one another near a bookshelf and red-necked wallabies boxing in the shade of tall grasses. The connections are

made gracefully in the text. Introducing dolphins, Bekoff writes, "Imagine a dog in the water. Take away the legs and give her flippers and a strong tail."

The most delicate aim of the book is teaching moral ideas without judging or preaching. The strategy is suggesting that rules for positive social contact have a scientific basis. We will be better accepted if we abide by rules, communicate our desires clearly so that others understand, tell the truth, and respect other people's limits. We must know the difference between play-fighting and real-fighting. If we lie and cheat, others may avoid and reject us.

The title belongs to an *Animals and Ethics* series, which will explore the connections between animal behavior, human beings' impact on the natural world, and the ethical concerns that arise in our encounters with the planet's other inhabitants.

The next two titles are both for adults. Bekoff, the series' editor says, "A new one will be out this spring by animal advocate Leslie Irvine, who teaches in the sociology department at the University of Colorado, titled *Filling the Ark: Animal Welfare in Disasters*, and the well-known bioethicist Bernard Rollin will contribute one about ethics, science, and animals."

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Barbara R. Saunders is a freelance writer based in San Francisco. She can be reached at [bsaunders@gmail.com](mailto:bsaunders@gmail.com) or <http://www.barbararuthsaunders.com>.

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***Animals at Play: Rules of the Game***

Author: Marc Bekoff

Illustrations by Michael J. DiMotta

32 pages, 24 color illustrations

Temple University Press

ISBN-13: 9781592135516



## The Manadoob Secret Connection Kit

A co-creation of June A. Salin and Susan R. Cooper

Extensive research studies conclude that the natural bond between humans and animals contributes to a healthier quality of life for both species.

Following the success of her award-winning documentary about the positive benefits of animal assisted therapy for children, June A. Salin created The Manadoob, a team of ancient mystical animals who appear on Earth to befriend children – and help them discover how humans and animals can work together to make the world a better place.

The world of The Manadoob comes alive for children through an illustrated novel and game, together with an interactive website, that invites children to join these mystical creatures on their adventures.

**The Manadoob Secret Connection Kit** includes the illustrated novel, *Manadoob, Mystery of the Moobia Stones*; 16 multi-colored Moobia Stones, uniquely hand-engraved with a special symbol imparting messages of wisdom from the Manadoob; *The Moobia Stone Guide Book*; a fully-lined drawstring Moob-It pouch to hold the stones; and a faux leather “Sadiki” wristband.

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“The Manadoob are a wondrous creation of odd looking animals that are very wise and very loving. These ancient animals nurtured and created magical Moobia Stones to help with some of those tough questions we face every day. This is a wonderful tool for growth and education.”

**Faith Maloney**

An original founder and animal care consultant with Best Friends



“Enchanted and enchanting! ... Manadoob gives voice to the very real feelings and behaviors of children (and adults) and offers wonderfully creative problem-solving approaches with hope and confidence that we can do and feel better. The stories are appealing and colorful, but not sugar-

coated, in recognizing human frailties and problems and embracing all creatures.”

**Barbara W. Boat, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor,  
Department of Psychiatry, University of Cincinnati  
College of Medicine Director, The Childhood Trust,  
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

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Salin is the creator, writer and producer of the award-winning documentary, *Kids & Animals – A Healing Partnership*, which explores the reciprocal healing benefits of the human-animal bond. The documentary aired domestically on Discovery Channel’s Animal Planet and was distributed and released independently in television markets throughout the world.

**The Manadoob Secret Connection Kit** (SRP: \$39.95) and the **Manadoob/Best Friends Celebration Charm** (SRP: \$9.95) are available through the Manadoob website ([www.manadoob.com](http://www.manadoob.com)) and the Best Friends Animal Society website ([www.bestfriends.org](http://www.bestfriends.org)). Also, check there later this Spring for information about their new activity-based learning curriculum. The Manadoob will donate to Best Friends Animal Society up to 50% of gross profits on all purchases.

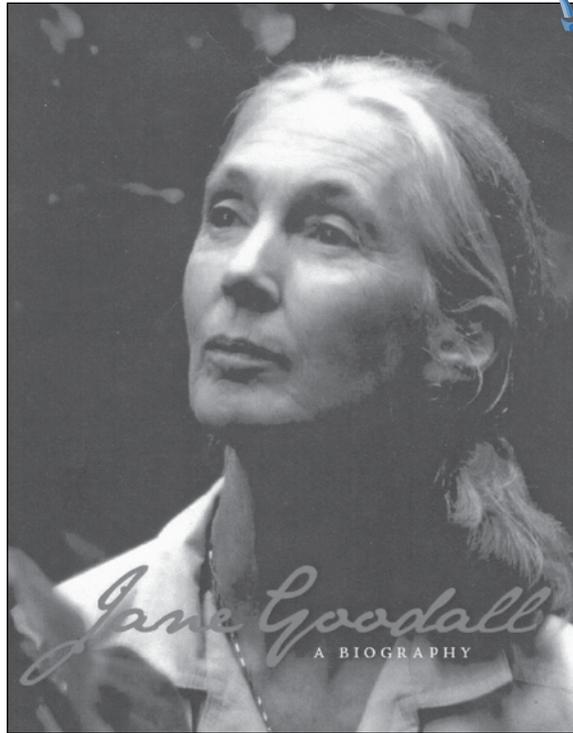
## Jane Goodall A Biography

By Meg Greene

In this insightful biography, Meg Greene tells the story of Goodall's life from her early days growing up in England and under the influence of her mother, through her experiences as a young protégé of anthropologist Louis Leakey with whom she pioneered new techniques of investigating chimpanzee behavior in Africa, to her mature career as an expert on chimpanzee social life and her ongoing efforts today to promote the conservation of wildlife.

Green describes how Goodall's work challenged and changed perceptions of the relations between the primate and human worlds. Contrary to accepted scientific opinion of the time, which viewed chimpanzees as brutish, Goodall found chimps to be capable of a wide range of emotions, including affection, compassion, and love. She also showed that chimps could reason, think, and solve problems. Perhaps most startling, Goodall discovered that chimpanzees could fashion primitive implements from grass, twigs, and leaves, dispelling the notion that humans are the only species that can make tools.

On the personal side, Greene reveals that Goodall found solace in her home at Gombe from the trials of life that included a divorce, the death



of her second husband, criticisms from fellow scientists, and a deep spiritual crisis.

This is a fascinating story of a naïve young woman who started her work without even a college degree and eventually developed into a dedicated scientist and a world-famous conservationist and humanitarian. For more than 45 years, Jane Goodall has reached out to the world to join in her efforts to aid those who cannot speak for themselves, and to promote respect for all living creatures.

### **Jane Goodall: A Biography**

Author: Meg Greene

ISBN 978-1-59102-611-2

\$17.98; 161 pages

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## Trees Without Leaves

*In winter all the broadleaf trees  
lose their leaves unlike trees  
that produce seeds and have  
found ways of staying green all*

*year. It isn't as if evergreens  
don't lose one generation of leaves  
after another. They are often trunk  
deep at the bases of every tree.*

*But broadleavers are very different.  
They lose their green magic, pale,  
change color; then watch their leaves  
drop like flies until every branch,*

*twig, stem and bough is exposed  
to whatever the season has in store  
for them. I worry when hail, rain,  
snow and abuses from the wind slam*

*bits and pieces of the world against  
their nakedness. Does anything look  
more alone or betrayed than a single  
leafless tree profiled against the moon?*

**Fredrick Zydek**  
Omaha, Nebraska

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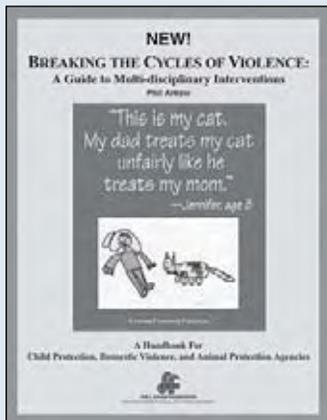
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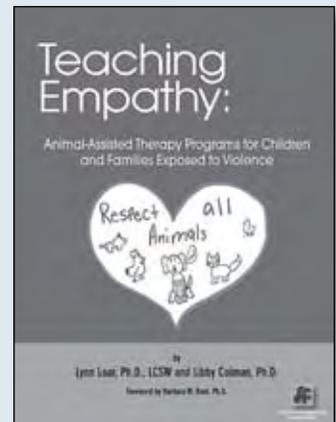
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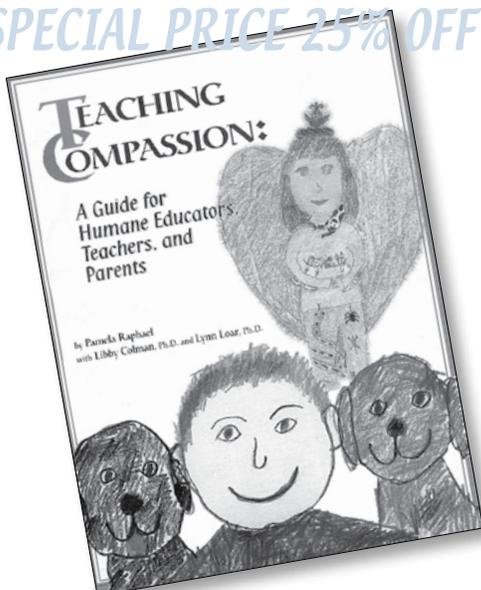
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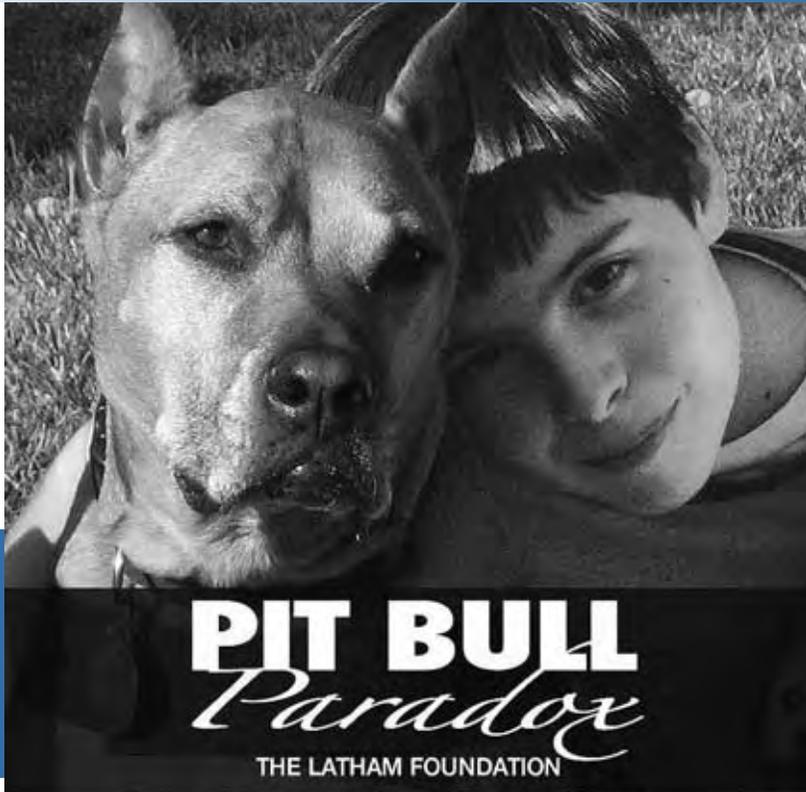
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Produced by the Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education

Written and Directed by Tula Asselanis

The purpose of the **Pit Bull Paradox** is to promote understanding and appreciation of the breed and encourage lifetime adoptions by well-informed, responsible owners/guardians.

*" Mindfulness and heart! I've been waiting for a video like this ... it will be a great tool to help educate potential adopters."*

*Elana Rose Blum, Pasadena Humane Society and SPCA*

It's a tragic sign of our times that in some communities shelters euthanize all Pit Bulls and in others many who would make wonderful additions to a home and family wait in vain for adoption.

*Pit Bull Paradox* puts the breed in historical and contemporary perspective and shows Pit Bulls in a variety of scenarios. It also examines some of the complications that people who choose to share their lives with a Pit Bull may encounter such as fear, prejudice, misunderstanding, and regulations affecting housing, insurance, and licensing.

The *Pit Bull Paradox* offers sound advice from breed experts for successful, rewarding adoptions. It emphasizes the need to consider one's lifestyle and personality, and the dog's need for daily, hard exercise, and thoughtful, consistent training and management.

True, Pit Bulls are not for everyone. Yet as Katie Dinneen of the Peninsula Humane Society reminds us in the film, "There are far more Pit Bulls living happily in people's homes as average companion animals than most people ever suspect."

Latham applauds this fact and honors the many people and organizations who work to help Pit Bulls – and *all* dogs – find loving homes. Hopefully, *Pit Bull Paradox* will contribute to this effort.

The DVD package includes a list of additional resources that purchasers can copy and distribute.

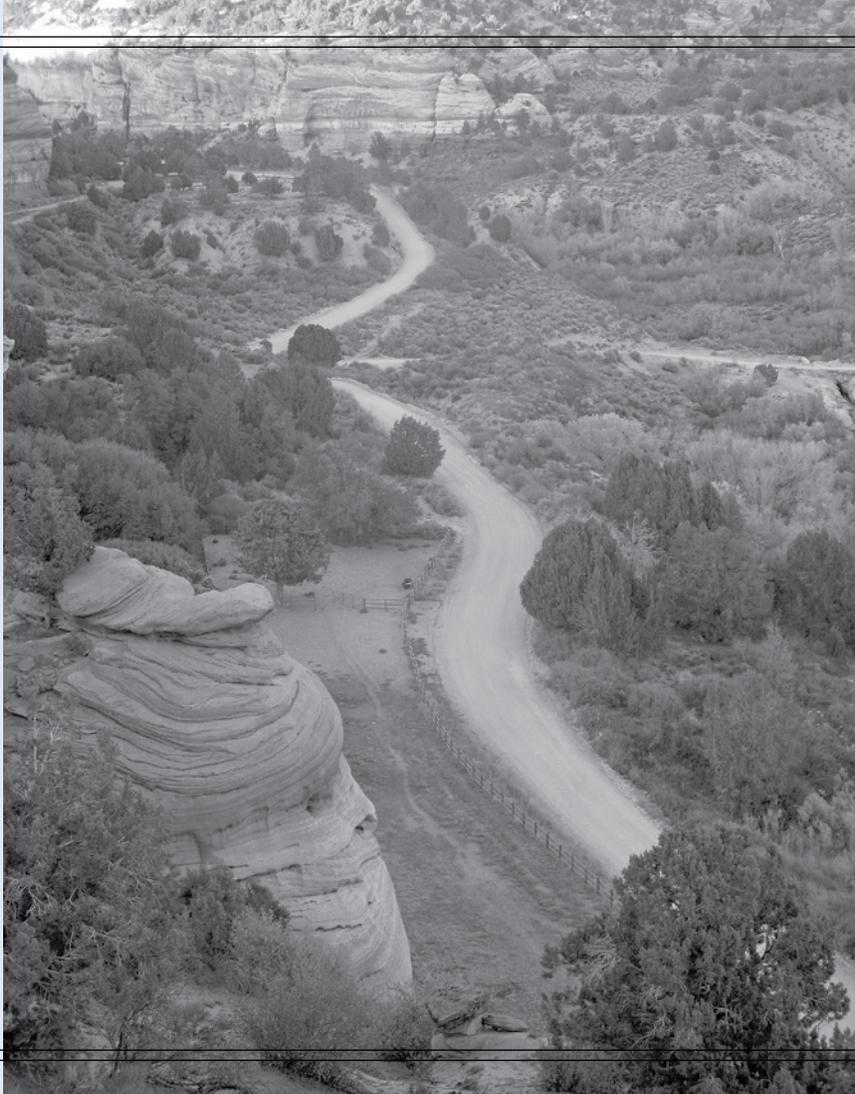
*" Pit Bulls are just dogs. Four legs, two eyes, one heart. Aggressiveness toward humans, severe shyness, and fearfulness are not characteristic of Pit Bulls and are undesirable in any dog."*

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