

# Latham Letter

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WINTER 1995

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION



PHOTO: CHERYL SMITH

## Animal Cruelty and the Link to Other Violent Crimes

### Utah Conference on Companion Animals in Crisis Surprises Participants

Cheryl Smith

The 100 people who attended the first annual Utah Companion Animals in Crises Conference earlier this fall were shocked to learn about the prevalence of animal cruelty in their state and the ineffective anti-cruelty laws that do little or nothing to punish offenders. The one-day conference, the first of its kind ever held in Utah, was sponsored by Wasatch Humane, an animal welfare organization that rescues and places homeless pets and teaches humane

education in Utah schools.

The conference featured panel discussions on animal-related topics, including "Shelters Kill Animals, Don't They?", as well as guest speakers from the Progressive Animal Welfare Society in King County, Washington and the Animal Foundation of Nevada, who spoke about how the burgeoning communities of Seattle and Las Vegas are addressing and solving their respective pet overpopulation

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- Jenni's Journal, Part IV: Everybody's Favorite Therapy Dog (Page 10).
- The Latest Trends in Humane Education (Page 15).
- What People Like About Cats (Page 18).

## Loneliness and the Single Life: Pets Can Make A Difference!\*

R. Lee Zasloff and Aline H. Kidd  
Center for Animals in Society,  
School of Veterinary Medicine,  
University of California, Davis

Loneliness usually results from a disruption in the ability to relate to others in effective, satisfying ways. It is often associated with feelings of depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, and such self-destructive behaviors as alcoholism, even suicide. Obviously, practical solutions to today's problem of loneliness are needed.

Because studies of the elderly have already demonstrated that pet owners are less lonely than non-owners, pet ownership and attachment to a pet animal may well be a

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## A Year in the Life of the Latham Foundation.

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## Charge-It



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## EDITORIAL

# A Need Recognized and Fulfilled




*Hugh H. Tebault*

I'm not sure if the news media is apathetic or just plain lazy, but have you as I, noticed their in concert inclination to feature a particular item beyond its novelty and at the same time, ignore much or all of its consequences? Take for instance, the ready announcement of names of publicly recognized individuals with HIV and AIDS, their subsequent physical suffering and psychological effect of the malaise's progressive, downhill experience is largely disregarded, as are programs providing relief.

Regular *Latham Letter* readers are aware of the Foundation's long-term promotion of beneficial human-companion animal bond relationships. That relationship is again, proving itself to be of tremendous benefit, in the present case, for many individuals compromised by HIV

and AIDS. The incipient stages of HIV and AIDS are such that an individual is able to care for their companion animal, though, as the disease progresses, and the sufferer becomes more and more needful and dependent on the love involved, they also experience an accompanying incapacity to provide the necessary care for their important companion. Now, in many communities, that task has been assumed by a remarkable volunteer organization, specifically established to provide the needed assistance. Under the appropriate name Pets are Wonderful Support (PAWS), it is busily engaged in various parts of the country, making it possible for HIV and AIDS patients to enjoy a prolonged companionship with their loving animal.

The valuable rewards for the patient, service provider, and companion animal, as well as the need for the program's expansion into areas not presently served, are all explained in Latham's newly produced documentary titled: "Living with HIV and Pets." The 26 minute videotape timed for telecast, describes the benefits as well as necessary precautions involved in the relationship between HIV-compromised individuals and their companion animals. You are urged to assist in the dissemination of the video's valuable information in your community. Copies are available for purchase at \$30.00 (plus \$2.48 sales tax in Californians). 



*The Latham Foundation endeavors to comply with a clearly expressed mandate given by its founder, Edith Latham:*  
*"To promote, foster, encourage and further the principles of humaneness, kindness and benevolence to all living creatures..."*



## The Latham Letter

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**Founding Editor:** Wallace Ness Jamie  
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**Managing Editor:** Judy Johns

**Contributing Editor:** Aline H. Kidd, Ph.D.



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The Latham Foundation is a non-profit operating foundation that makes grants in kind rather than monetary grants but welcomes partnership with other institutions and individuals who share its commitment to furthering humane education.

**The Latham Letter** welcomes manuscripts relevant to the Foundation's interests and concerns, but reserves the right to publish such manuscripts at its discretion.

### The Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education

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Mrs. Laura Thompson

## OPINIONS

### Hawaii's Pets in Housing Program

Dear Latham,

Thank you for the nice article in the Summer '94 Latham Letter about our Pets in Housing Program.

We are very proud of this program and what we have been able to accomplish. In Hawaii, housing for people is very scarce. By using our Pets in Housing material, a ten unit rental building and a 48 unit condominium converted to a pro-pets policy while a 144 unit condominium was able to fight off a no-pets attempt. We are currently working with 600 condominium units to install a pro-pets policy.

Sincerely,

Pamela Burns  
Executive Director  
Hawaiian Humane Society

### Thanks for Videos from Ecuador

Dear Mr. Nagy:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the Latham Foundation for your donation of five videos to Fundacion Antisana.

Without reservation we feel that the videos will prove to be exciting educational material for the people with whom we are working in the buffer zone of the Antisana Ecological Reserve. Presently, our environmental education program is in full-swing and we hope to incorporate the donated tapes into our presentations in the upcoming months.

To reiterate, thank you very much for your support. We look forward to keeping you updated on the success of our environmental education program and the use of the tapes donated by the Latham Foundation.

Sincerely,

Maria Helena Jervis  
Executive Director  
Fundacion Antisana

### Kudos for Working with Families in Shelters: A Practical Guide for Counselors and Child Care Staff

Dear Latham:

Thank you for your most helpful publication by Lynn Loar and John Weakland.

Best wishes,

Anne Grant

**Editor's Note:** Anne Grant is an ordained minister and executive director of the Women's Center of Rhode Island, one of six shelters in the state for battered women and their children. She is a columnist for the *Providence Journal-Bulletin* and often writes on issues concerning overcoming abuse. For information on 24-hour domestic violence hotlines, call the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence at 1-800-494-8100.

### Greetings from the Mikey Fan Club\*

\*Mikey, found waiting beside the road where his former owner had abandoned him, has become the symbol of loyalty and love for all abused and abandoned animals. He is now the "spokesdog" and mascot for H.A.R.T./Muttmatchers in Fillmore, California.

**Editor's Note:** These are two of the many wonderful letters from Ms. Kirschbaum's students at the Haddon Avenue School in Los Angeles. We're sorry we don't have room to print them all. Evelyn, Norma, Rebeca, Fernando, Matthew, Alex, Raul, Omar, Miguel, Robert, Jesus, and Charlotte keep up your good work. We here at Latham are fans of yours and Mikey's too.

Dear Latham,

I think it is great to be in a magazine and in a newspaper. It makes me feel

OPINIONS, continued on next page

special. I hope that all animals get good homes. I have a dog and I am kind to him and all animals.

Your friend,  
Pablo Monteon



Dear Latham,

Mrs. Kirschbaum told us today that she saw a little puppy under a truck yesterday. She stopped her car and rescued it with a blanket. She took it in her car and gave it some water. She brought it to the shelter.

I think it is great to save and help animals. I am happy to be a member of the Mikey Fan Club.

Yours truly,  
Sonia Hernandez

behaviors of wild animals. Animals, I believe, express their culture in ways which are subtle, and not easily identifiable, such as grieving the loss of their dead, ritualistic behavior, ancestral knowledge, and their ability to heal themselves. I want to show that humans are not the only species capable of possessing culture, and that animals have a lot to teach us, particularly in the area of natural healing. If it could be shown that animals do indeed, have a culture of shared information and sophisticated knowledge, (not unlike humans), then perhaps the gap between humans and

animals could be narrowed. Thus, the animals could achieve higher status globally, be more respected and better protected.

Congratulations and thank you for your pioneering efforts in showing us the connections between animal abuse and child abuse in recent issues of the Latham Letter.

Sincerely,  
Susan Martin Payette  
Kenora, Ontario  
CANADA

between veterinarians and their clients. This attention should help to reduce incidents of inhumane treatment.

Thank you for showing your interest. The AVMA wants the public to know what it does.

Sincerely,  
Bruce W. Little, DVM  
Secretary to the AVMA Judicial Council

**\*Editor's Note:** The subject to which the above letter refers is the AVMA's discussion of whether or not to include responsibility to report suspected animal abuse as a standard in their veterinary practice model. We believe Minnesota is the only state to have such a model at this time.

JP

## Where are the College Programs in Human/Animal Relationships?

Dear Mr. Tebault:

I am writing to seek your assistance. I am a recent university graduate to Sociology with several years of experience working in the field of animal welfare. I am in pursuit of a Masters Degree in Human/Animal Interactions but I am discovering that this is a difficult program to find. Do you or any of your staff members know of any Graduate programs in the area of human/animal relationships?

My particular area of interest focuses on the animals and on their "culture" - the "higher order" complex

Dear Mr. Tebault:

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) reviewed your letter of May 3, 1994 and agrees with the basic premises of the Latham Foundation. Thank you for informing the Association through your correspondence and verification of the Foundation's position on this subject.

The AVMA and the veterinary profession in general has always been an advocate of humane treatment to the animals we serve. It is necessary to reaffirm that position periodically, however. Hopefully, by taking the proactive stance of including this responsibility in the veterinary model practice act, this issue will be openly discussed in veterinary circles and



ARRANGEMENTS ARE well underway for the seventh international conference on human-animal interactions to be held in:

**GENEVA,  
September 6-9 1995.**

The final date for submission of papers is:

**1 March 1995.**

The full guidelines are available on request from the SCAS Director, as are details of the 1995 International Distinguished Scholar Award and "Pets in Cities" award.

Guidelines will soon be available for Exhibitors and Presenters of Poster Sessions.

There will be a conference newsletter, including a brochure, issued to every SCAS member in late autumn.

The Conference is being hosted by two of our sister organisations within IAHAIO, namely IEMT (Switzerland) and AFIRAC (France).

The title is ANIMALS, HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE.

7th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON HUMAN-ANIMAL INTERACTIONS



ANIMALS, HEALTH AND  
QUALITY OF LIFE

GENEVA 1995  
SEPTEMBER 6-9

partial solution for some lonely people.

Unfortunately, there have been no adequate studies of the relationship between pet ownership and loneliness among populations other than the elderly. Accordingly, this study was designed to explore the effects of pet ownership on loneliness in an average group of adult women.

We expected to find that very-attached pet owners were less lonely than less-attached owners, and that persons living alone were lonelier than those living with just pets or with pets and other people. We did not expect to find any differences between dog and/or cat owners in either amount of attachment or loneliness.

A total of 148 female graduate and undergraduate students from Temple University and from the University of Pennsylvania participated in this study.

All of the participants were single and not living with a domestic partner or with children under age 18 at the time of the study. The sample included 59 pet owners and 89 nonowners. Altogether, the pet owners had 22 dogs and 37 cats. Fifty-eight participants were living alone and 90 were living with either family members or friends. Of those not living with other people, 24 had pets and 34 did not. Among those living with other people, 35 had pets and 55 did not. All of the participants were at least 21 years old and the average age was 28.4, with the ages ranging from 21 to 53.

To measure pet attachment and relationship, we used the Pet Relationship Scale as devised by Lago, Kafer, Delaney and Connell in 1988. To measure loneliness, we used Russell, Peplau, and Cutrona's 1980 Revised UCLA Loneliness Scale.

We found that women living entirely alone were lonelier than those living with pets only, living with both pets and other people, and living with just other people. We were surprised to find no differ-

ences in the amount of loneliness between pet owners and non-owners.

Of course, as expected, we found no differences in the amount of attachment between dog and cat owners. Among dog owners, however, those living only with a dog were significantly more attached to the pet than were those living with a dog and other people. On the other hand, cat owners living only with a cat were significantly less attached to their pet than those living with a cat and other people.

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*Until now,  
there have been no adequate  
studies of the relationship  
between pet ownership  
and loneliness except  
among the elderly.*

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These findings suggest possible differences in the role of companion animals in single versus multi-person households. Those living alone often find that a dog provides more appropriate and companionable interactions than a cat for taking walks, rides, travelling together, playing outdoors games and other such activities in which an animal can compensate for the absence of some aspects of human companionship. When living with others, especially family members, however, more people are likely to interact with the pet owner and help in caring for and playing with the pet as well.

Nevertheless, interactions with and care for cats really may not be so different for owners living alone and for those living with others. That cat owners living with others

seem to be more attached to their pets than those living alone, however, is very curious. Perhaps the cat serves as a bulwark and diversion from the interactive needs and demands of human and canine companions?

But of course this study had several limitations: men were not included, the participants were not randomly selected, and statistical procedures for determining cause and effect relationships between pet ownership and loneliness could not be used. Nevertheless, the findings provide some interesting possibilities concerning the benefits of having a pet, especially for people living alone. And though pets may not be the ultimate solution for all lonely people, animal companions can provide emotional comfort and pleasurable activity that may help to make life a little better for their human friends.

#### **Authors' Notes:**

\*Data included in the scientific paper published in *Psychological Reports*, 1994, 75, 747-752.

#### **Suggested Readings:**

Goldmeier, J. (1986) *Pets or people: Another research note*. The Gerontologist, 26, 203-206.

Lago, D., Kafer, R., Delaney, M., Connell, C. (1988). *Assessment of favorable attitudes towards pets: development and preliminary validation of self-report pet relationship scales*. Anthrozoos, 1, 240-254.

Rokach, A. (1990) *Surviving and coping with loneliness*. The Journal of Psychology, 124, 39-54. Russell, M.D., Peplau, L. A., & Cutrona, C. E. (1980) *the Revised UCLA Loneliness Scale: Concurrent and discriminant validity evidence*. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 39, 472-480.

Serpell, J. (1991) *Beneficial effects of pet ownership on some aspects of human health and behavior*. Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine, 84, 717-720.

Zasloff, R. L. & Kidd, A. H. (1994) *Attachment to feline companions*. Psychological Reports, 74, 747-752.



# Tacoma, Washington's Humane Coalition Perseveres in the Fight Against Family and Community Violence

Bob Walter

**T**he Humane Coalition, formed in Tacoma, Washington in June, 1989, brought together a wide range of professionals, to look for cooperative ways to reduce the rising level of family and community violence.

Like other communities across the country, citizens of the Puget Sound region were clamoring for an end to the senseless crimes hitting the news headlines. But until that time, little mention was made of how animal victims fit into the picture of human violence - and its solutions. Prevention of cruelty to animals was left to humane societies. Rarely did agencies plan cooperative intervention.

This meeting was different. There were humane society representatives, psychologists, police officers, child protection supervisors, a sexual assault crisis center director, a school principal and dog fanciers. There was a healthy diversity of ideas, but some of those from outside the humane field failed to see a connection worth pursuing. The initial enthusiasm proved to be difficult to maintain, at least among many of the non-animal-related fields.

The humane representatives, however, kept the wheels rolling. Bellingham/Whatcom County Humane Society to the north linked up with a pilot program tracking violent juvenile offenders (SHOCAP), and sent speakers into a meeting of local secondary school teachers to ask them to be aware of the significance of animal cruelty. Workshop themes at the Humane Coalition's February 1990 conferences - an outgrowth of the first meeting - were echoed at conferences in Seattle, Spokane, Bremerton, and beyond.

The Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County traded speakers

with a child abuse prevention group on recognizing the respective types of abuse. The link was discussed at meetings of local school counselors, law enforcement special assault units, in several classes of the state's juvenile offenders' victim awareness program, as well as in classes given for adult felons preparing for release from prison. A workshop on the significance of pets in family violence and its prevention was given at the Child Abuse Prevention Association of Washington's annual training conference.

Severe, deliberate animal cruelty became a felony in Washington through a bill passed in the 1994 legislature, in part due to the unprecedented public outcry after Pasado, a popular donkey at Bellevue's Kelsey Creek Farm Park, was beaten and strangled to death at the hands of three young men in April, 1992.

A turning point came in the summer of 1993 when a representative of the Safe Streets Campaign invited me, as education director at the Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County, to speak at a neighborhood task force meeting in a local suburb. At the meeting, I spoke of the connection between animal cruelty and other violent acts.

The visit helped to get the topic of violence against animals included on the agenda for a Safe Streets Community Forum on Violence in November of that year. Participants were impressed with the accomplishments already achieved by the Humane Coalition, and agreed to continue its mission - to prevent violence to humans and animals - using the same name, but in conjunction with Safe Streets.

The revitalized Coalition's most recent achievement was to have a code for animal cruelty added to Washington's computer tracking system for juvenile offenders, which will provide valuable data on this offense as part of criminal histories. A cruelty issue awareness brochure will go to the printer soon, and local educators and ministers are being asked to join in support of the Coalition's work. Information is being exchanged with the British Columbia Humane Education Society, which hopes to establish a coalition of its own in Vancouver.

*For further information about the Humane Coalition, contact Bob Walter at The Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County, 2608 Center Street, Tacoma, WA 98409. Phone (206) 383-2733 Ext 814, Fax 206-572-3678.*



## Legislative Progress

On September 29 California Governor Pete Wilson signed a bill setting up a "900" telephone number to enable parents to locate the state's estimated 41,000 convicted felony child molesters.

The system, which is based on an estimated volume of 6,000 calls a month, is expected to be self-supporting. It will begin operating on July 1, 1995.

## We're Sorry

*Two lines of Arlene Klein's "Ode to Dusty" were printed incorrectly in the last Latham Letter (page 22, Fall '94). Readers are welcome to contact the Latham office for a corrected copy of the poem.*

problems.

One panel, "Animal Cruelty and The Link to Other Violent Crimes," was especially noteworthy. Psychologist Frank Ascione from Utah State University, Salt Lake City prosecutor Cheryl Luke, and cruelty investigator John Fox addressed various aspects of the significance of animal cruelty and why these crimes should not be overlooked or dismissed as silly childhood pranks by police, parents, teachers, and prosecutors.

"If you want to find out who's capable of heinous violent crimes, check to see how they treated animals when they were younger," Luke told the audience. Despite studies that suggest that childhood cruelty to animals often leads to later violent crimes against humans, animal abusers are rarely convicted in Utah, partly because the crimes aren't perceived as serious enough and because Utah's cruelty laws are notoriously deficient and vague. They are punishable as simple misdemeanors.



PHOTO: CHERYL SMITH

*Animal abusers are rarely convicted in Utah, partly because the crimes aren't perceived as serious enough, and partly because Utah's cruelty laws are notoriously deficient and vague.*

cruelty. He recently took part in helping Washington State make animal cruelty a felony offense, having testified about the dysfunctional nature of these crimes before the Washington Legislature. "Unless it's a felony, people don't seem

then for what it says about the perpetrator."

According to Ascione's findings, most animal abuse in this country is committed by juveniles. Cruelty to animals is defined as socially unacceptable behavior that intentionally causes unnecessary pain, suffering, or distress to and/or death of an animal.

Ascione's research has been partially funded by the Humane Society of the United States and the American Humane Association with cooperation of the Latham Foundation and several child abuse prevention agencies in an effort to find out more about the prevalence and consequences of animal abuse by children. Parents, he's found often torture or threaten to harm or get rid of the family pet as a way to punish, coerce, or control. Furthermore, "children who observe animals being tortured may also be negatively affected and may grow up to repeat what they've seen and heard." For example, he's read of cases in the scientific literature of small children molesting animals, acting out things that were previously done to them. He's also concerned that children who are exposed to such violence are unable to develop empathy for others.

### Animal vs. Human Suffering

Recently there have been several critical comments made in the media by battered-women's support groups and political candidates, including Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-Col), that there are more shelters for animals in this country than for battered women and homeless people. It's an argument that Ascione and other Wasatch Humane board members believe is

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*"If you want to find out who's capable of heinous violent crimes, check to see how they treated animals when they were younger."*

Cheryl Luke  
Salt Lake City Prosecutor

---

"What most people don't understand about the significance of animal cruelty, as if the actual suffering of the animal shouldn't be enough to jolt people to care and act, is what it conveys about the mental state of the perpetrator, the dysfunctional family, and about the pervasiveness of domestic violence in society," said Ascione, Professor of Psychology at Utah State University and Wasatch Humane board advisor.

Ascione is the only known expert in the country studying incidences of childhood and adolescent animal

to pay much attention to these crimes," he said, citing a case last summer in his home town of Logan where a 15-year old boy and his friends were seen dowsing a cat in gasoline, lighting him on fire, and trying to drown him. Onlookers intervened and rescued the cat, but the animal was so badly injured he had to be euthanized.

"The situation was dismissed as a silly childhood prank," Ascione said. "The issue of 15 year-olds torturing animals got dismissed as normal behavior. We should be concerned, if not for the animal,

*CRUELTY LINK, continued on next page*

counter-productive and only serves to demean both groups and divide them on the central issue. "The issue is violence. The comparison takes away from the real question, 'How do we deal with family violence?' All forms of aggression to others must be of concern to us. Child and spouse abuse are no longer seen as personal privileges of marriage or a person's right to privacy, but violence that society will not accept. The issue of how we treat animals is one we're now re-examining. Animals also are a vulnerable group, even more so because they can't speak for themselves," says Ascione.

common than people might think. In domestic violence cases, evidence of animal abuse is one of the indicators of the "lethality factor" (the potential for murder or violence): "There is more likelihood for a homicide if the guy is being cruel to his girlfriend's, child's, or wife's pet," Luke states. "That's a red flag. When we see that, we tell the woman 'You're next'."

The solutions aren't easy. And while it is sometimes slow to work (meaning the animal usually suffers in the meantime), education is the most effective way to help the most animals, cruelty investigator Fox explained to the passionate group of

*"What most people don't understand about the significance of animal cruelty, as if the actual suffering of the animal shouldn't be enough to jolt people to care and act, is what it conveys about the mental state of the perpetrator, the dysfunctional family, and about the pervasiveness of domestic violence in society."*

Dr. Frank Ascione  
Utah State University

But a point of distinction should be made. Animal "shelters," compared to shelters for humans, are not true shelters, but three-to-five day holding facilities for America's 12-18 million unwanted pets, 60-80 percent of which are actually killed. The word "shelter" in this application is a euphemism.

The battered spouse or child and abused dog or cat have more in

animal lovers and animal control professionals. Wasatch Humane, for example takes as much time as needed to educate desperate callers and to counsel pet owners with various techniques to correct specific pet-behavior problems (cats refusing to use litter boxes, dogs urinating in the same spot in the house, barking, digging, and chewing), often resulting in calming the person



PHOTO: CHERYL SMITH

*The Wasatch Humane Society reaches thousands of Utah school children each year with its popular "Lessons in Kindness" humane education outreach program.*

and solving the problem, enabling the person to keep and provide better care for the animal. The non-profit organization also reaches thousands of Utah school children each year with its popular "Lessons in Kindness" humane education outreach program.

"We know that education holds the greatest promise for reversing the tragic trends of pet overpopulation and preventing cruelty in the years to come," said Gina Hoffenbeck, Wasatch Humane educator director. "It's truly rewarding to see that we are making a difference. After we've visited a class, it is evident that the students have absorbed the message that even small acts of kindness are significant."

Wasatch Humane plans to sponsor a symposium annually, to address various animal-related issues pertinent to Utahns. For more information about the conference, contact Wasatch Humane, (801) 299-8508, P. O. Box 17891, Salt Lake City, UT 84117.

*Cheryl Smith is the executive director of Wasatch Humane and a free-lance writer who specializes in animal and environmental issues.*



## Attention Readers:

***Latham seeks information about university programs in human/animal relationships.***

Latham is compiling information about graduate and undergraduate (or certificate) programs in human/animal relationships.

Please contact the Foundation with any information you have, so that we can update our referral files.

*Thank you.*

## What You Can Do to Stop the Cycle of Abuse and Neglect

1. Carefully observe the animal and actions of the owner. Document your findings, taking pictures or video if you can.
2. Talk to other neighbors. Encourage them to file a joint complaint.
3. If an animal doesn't have water or routinely dumps it or continuously barks or whines because it's tied up, approach the owner in a helpful, non-threatening way. Perhaps ask, "Were you aware this was happening?" "Did you know that tying a dog up is the surest way to make him mean and aggressive?" Explain that you want to help them before other neighbors call to report them and before the animal causes problems for the owner and neighbors. If they can't afford to feed the animal, offer to call Wasatch Humane or a similar organization in your locale that will supply food for pets whose owners are experiencing a financial crunch.
4. Some people simply need to be taught basic techniques for solving common problems. If the dog barks all night, it's probably lonely, bored or frightened. Kindly request that they bring him/her inside before neighbors get so frustrated they file a complaint or take out their anger on the animal.
5. If they simply don't want the animal any longer, explain that they owe it to the animal to take him/her to a shelter, where he/she will have a chance of finding another home and a better life.
6. If personal conversations don't work to stop the behavior, call your local humane society or animal control agency. Be sure to tell them your name and phone number. They cannot investigate without it. Ask them to keep you informed of what they find.
7. Be willing to testify in court. Fox and Lake say this is the biggest problem they have when they try to get a conviction, because often the witness refuses to come forward for fear of retaliation.
8. To anonymously educate the pet owner about being a responsible pet owner, pick up copies of free educational materials from your local humane society or animal control agency.
9. Lastly, Fox advises, "Don't take the law into your own hands" by removing the animal; the owner will probably just get another animal and do even worse things to that one. Despite how frustrated you get and how helpless you feel, you can never know how the owner might respond: defensively, angrily, or violently.

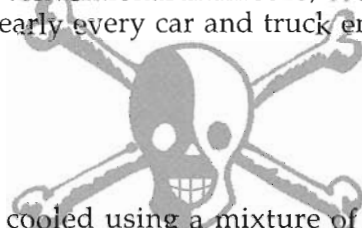
## Four Warning Signs That Should Concern Parents

1. If the child uses instruments or objects to hurt an animal.
2. If a child shows more than casual interest in animals' genitals.
3. If an animal avoids a child or show distress whenever the child approaches.
4. If a child seems to derive pleasure from hearing an animal squeal or seeing it wince or flinch.

## Winter Warning

*Remember, Ethylene Glycol-based Antifreeze can kill.*

**E**thylene glycol (EG) is a toxic substance that when taken internally can cause permanent kidney damage or death. This powerful toxin is the primary ingredient in conventional antifreeze/coolant. Nearly every car and truck engine



is cooled using a mixture of antifreeze and water. Almost all of that antifreeze is formulated with ethylene glycol.

Animals are attracted to conventional antifreeze probably because it has a sweet taste. Two ounces of conventional antifreeze can kill a dog, one teaspoon can be lethal to a cat, and as little as two tablespoons can be harmful to a small child.

It is estimated that thousands of needless pet deaths are caused each year by the ingestion of EG-based automotive antifreeze. Additionally, the literature reports frequent incidents of the antifreeze poisoning and subsequent death of wildlife.

Fortunately, there are alternatives. Several brands of propylene glycol (PG) based antifreeze/coolants are now on the market. PG based antifreeze provides engine protection comparable to that provided by EG-based antifreeze, but PG is much less toxic and therefore safer to use. To help prevent accidental poisoning of children, pets, and wild creatures, look for brands of antifreeze such as Sta-Clean, Uni-Gard Freeze-Proof, SAFE, Eco-3, and Sierra which are based on propylene glycol.



**Remember  
to Recycle**

# Therapy Dog Shares Excerpts from Her Journal: Jenni's Journal Part IV

**T**o those of you who read Part III of my Journal in the Spring 1994 issue, you will remember the story of the miracle of the lady who woke up from a long coma when I visited her. Well, I have some more good news about her. She is now in the Pet Therapy Program herself and visiting patients with her dog! Here is some more of my Journal.



Jenni Dunn, self-proclaimed  
"Everybody's Favorite  
Therapy Dog"

## Thursday, January 7, 1993

Mom took me to the hospital this evening for my 6-month screening and behavior analysis. This is getting to be pretty old hat for me by now. There were four dogs getting tested and we all arrived about the same time. I was last so I lay on the floor and napped until it was my turn. The first three dogs failed to pass as two tried to bite the Veterinarian during pain threshold test and one snapped at him when he just tried to pet her. When my turn came, I really made Mom proud. I was properly well-behaved, obedient and friendly, showed the required submissiveness when rolled onto my back and even wagged my tail a little during the pain threshold test. The Veterinarian was training another doctor to do behavior and temperament screening and he told her he really pinched my feet and ears hard but that I was a prime example of how a dog should respond. In fact, I was "an unusually good dog." I had my throat swab done (I don't like that part) left my fecal sample in its baggie at the lab, then strutted my way through the lobby to the car.

## Wednesday, January 11, 1993

We visited the ICU waiting room today. Sometimes if one of the ICU nurses sees us, we will be asked to come in and visit patients. One lady

waiting was glad to see me and told me what a good program Pet Therapy was. One patient cried when she saw me. She said she missed her own dog so much and my visit made her feel much better. Another patient with a tracheotomy and hooked up to all kinds of tubes couldn't talk to me but got out of bed into a chair so he could be closer to me. He rubbed my ears, scratched

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*One patient wanted to know  
if I was "the coma dog."*

*I guess I am becoming famous  
and I don't even know it.  
But fame won't change me.*

---

my back and gave me treats while I did what Mom calls my "butt dance" for him. It was obvious that his attention was focused on me and not on himself. He couldn't get enough of me and smiled the whole time I was there. Another patient was recovering from brain surgery and was not too responsive but did manage to pet me through the bed rail. His great-granddaughter hugged my neck. She wasn't any

taller than me! The nurses all tell us how much better the patients are after one of our visits.

## Tuesday, January 26, 1993

We visited the surgical floor today and saw lots of open heart surgery patients. They were all delighted to see me. I sure do make patients' eyes light up and their faces smile when I visit them. One patient was evidently mad at her doctor this morning because when we knocked on her door and asked her if she wanted a pet visit, she said, "No, but my doctor sure could use one!"

## Wednesday, February 10, 1993

I visited my favorite floor today - 6th floor Oncology and Hospice. I was "prime" today and wanted to give everyone my undivided attention. In hospice, the staff remembered me and I am now called "the coma dog." One AIDS patient fell asleep with his hand on my head. Several patients insisted I get in bed with them and I am becoming a little more comfortable with that. We always ask at the nurses stations to see if we should not visit a particular room - they said a patient in a certain room was complaining of being allergic to everything and probably wouldn't want to see me. Well - we knocked on his door and guess what? He was one of the patients who wanted me in bed with him! As we were leaving the hospital we ran into a student tour and they took a video of me being petted by some of the students. They were surprised to see a

dog in a hospital so Mom explained the Program to them.

## Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Oncology, Hospice and Surgery was my beat today. As I left one room, the little boy followed me to the door and said to Mom, "I want you to know, I really love that dog" and gave me a big hug. We visited another patient who had heard about me and wanted to know if I were "the coma dog." I guess I am becoming famous and I don't even know it. Fame won't change me. We were visiting one patient when her doctor came in. He got down and petted me and smiled at me. This was quite a feat on my part as this particular doctor has the reputation of not being able to smile, and the nurses were quite surprised. We didn't notice the doctor had a really bad black eye he got from playing basketball. Another patient had me get in her bed and give her a big kiss. She was getting ready to go home and asked me if I wanted to go home with her. Another patient showed me pictures of her dogs. She missed her dogs and really needed a visit and hug from me. Her children were in the pictures, too, but all she talked about was her three dogs and just how much she missed them. I am becoming aware of just how important pets are in people's lives.

## Wednesday, March 3, 1993

There was another fire alert as we visited the Orthopedic floor. This is one of our least favorite floors to visit as the patients are usually pretty immobile and have arms or legs hanging in contraptions. I am not afraid of these contraptions or even curious about them but sometimes it is difficult for the patients to maneuver to pet me. I am careful



about putting my feet on the bed, too, so that my weight doesn't make them hurt. When I entered one patient's room she said, "Hi Jenni. I wondered if I would see you this time." Evidently she had been in the hospital quite a few times and I had visited her each time. She said she

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*I am becoming aware  
of just how important pets are  
in people's lives.*

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had three of my "get well" cards on her refrigerator at home. We knocked on another patient's door to see if she wanted a pet visit. She wanted a visit only if I were a small dog. Mom told her I was "medium". She told us she was very afraid of big dogs but allowed me into her room anyway. She didn't want to give me a treat, so I lay on the floor beside her bed and napped while she and Mom talked. She didn't think I was so bad after all and was proud of herself for being close to a "big dog." Her husband popped in to visit and she smiled proudly as she said "look Honey - a big dog!" After my visits today we stopped on the way home and got our usual hamburger, then I slept all afternoon. These visits really wear me out.

## Wednesday, March 17, 1993

In one room today a Sheriff's Deputy was guarding a patient and

wouldn't let me visit him but he and I had a great time. I arrived at Grandma's room at just the right time - she shared her breakfast with me when the nurse wasn't looking - and I proceeded to take my nap. When the nurse came to check on Grandma she startled me in my slumber and I woofed, (which is a big no no). I am still confused as to whether I was warning Grandma or barked in my sleep (which I do sometimes). At any rate - I scared the nurse, surprised Mom, pleased Grandma and embarrassed myself. I showed my embarrassment by hanging my head and by rolling onto my back to expose my belly. The nurse and the cleaning lady laughed and showed their forgiveness by petting me and rubbing my exposed tummy.

## Wednesday, March 31, 1993

I was such a big hit with the patients today that I had requests to go back and re-visit some of the patients again before I left. I am fast becoming EFTD (Everyone's Favorite Therapy Dog). I had a special request from a nurse in the hospital to visit her little three year old boy in Pediatrics. I love all the children and seem to have a special rapport with them but Nicholas was really special. When we walked into his room he was sitting cross-legged in the middle of the bed and my first impression was just how little he was in this big bed in this big room all by himself. I knew right away that he needed me. I had a wonderful time getting treats from Nicholas and chasing the ball he threw for me until I nearly dropped. He was hooked up to all types of IV's, tubes, and monitors but managed to get out of bed to play with me and giggled and laughed when he threw

*THERAPY DOG, continued on page 14*

# A Year in the Life of the Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education

## About Latham:

**T**he Latham Foundation, established in 1918 through the vision and generosity of Edith and Milton Latham, is the first national organization devoted exclusively to humane education. It is a nonprofit organization that makes grants in kind (rather than financial awards) and it welcomes joint ventures with other organizations or individuals who share Edith Latham's commitment to the following purpose:

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

## 1994 Programs and Progress

**T**he Foundation is a clearing-house for information about humane issues and a source for cost-effective video tapes and publications. In 1994 the Foundation filled more than 40 requests each month for information from students and other individuals, the media, and organizations. It distributed more than 650 video tapes worldwide on topics ranging from animal-assisted therapy to the recognition of animal and child abuse. The *Latham Letter* continues to present balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities. As many as 10,000 veterinarians, students, writers, educators, animal and child welfare professionals, and those persons interested in the interdependence of human and non-human animals read each issue.

Humane education and the prevention of violence remain high priorities for the Latham Foundation. The year 1994 was one of

progress in each of these areas. Highlights include the formation of the Foundation's Humane Education Advisory Committee, the publication of *Working with Families in Shelters: A Practical Guide for Counselors and Child Care Staff* and "Breaking the Cycles of Abuse: A Video, Manual, and Resource Guide to Cross-Train Animal Protection, Child Protection, and Domestic Violence Prevention Agencies for Coordinated Community Responses to Violence Prevention." Evidence of the Foundation's continuing leadership as a producer of award winning videos is The First-Place "Maxwell" Award presented to The Latham Foundation by the Dog Writer's Association of America for "Canine Good Citizen."



## ***What can you do? How can you get involved?***

*Individuals sincerely concerned with humane education as it benefits human and nonhuman life, are invited to consider membership in the Latham Foundation (in addition to their Latham Letter subscription).*

According to the Foundation's By-Laws, "Any individual whose written application for admission contains his/her signature endorsing the declaration of principles of this Corporation and which receives the written approval of two-thirds of the Board of Directors, and who has contributed at least \$25.00 (Associate) or \$40.00 (Active) to the Corporation each year following the adoption of this By-Law."

The declaration of principles referred to above are: "To promote, foster, encourage and further the principles of humaneness, kindness, and benevolence to all living creatures; the doctrine of universal brotherhood, universal justice and benevolence; the prevention and eradication of cruelty to animals and all living creatures, with particular emphasis on the education of children in justice and kindness to animals."

As a Member, one can provide an invaluable service in your community by familiarizing schools, civic groups, humane societies and SPCAs, and human service agencies and organizations with Latham's services, which include video sales and rentals including the Foundation's (no charge) "loan for duplication" science and nature videos for school systems, *Latham Letter* back issues, and reprints of selected studies related to the human companion animal bond. Video topics range from pet care to the life of a honey bee and information about progressive and unique organizations. Call or write Latham for more information.

## SPAY DAY USA

**T**o focus on the importance of having companion animals spayed and neutered, the Doris Day Animal League has designated February 28, 1995, as "Spay Day USA." This event is designed to reduce the pet overpopulation crisis in the United States by encouraging thousands of spays and neuters at veterinary clinics across the country.

### *Facts about the Companion Animal Overpopulation Crisis:*

- Over 50% of all households in the United States own a companion animal. An estimated 54 million dogs and 59 million cats are living with U.S. families.
- Each year we kill one-fourth of the domestic animal population. As many as 17 million dogs and cats are euthanized each year.

- According to a 1986 American Humane Association Shelter Reporting Study, 15.5 million dogs and 11.7 million cats entered shelters in one year. 60% of the dogs and nearly 78% of the cats entering shelters will be killed.
- One cat and her offspring can produce 420,715 cats in 7 years. One dog and her offspring can produce 4,372 puppies in 7 years.
- Purebred animals also contribute to the companion animal overpopulation crises. In 1989, the American Kennel Club registered more 1 million dogs and 550,300 litters. As much as 25% of animals entering shelters each year are purebred.

### **WHAT CAN YOU DO:**

- Take responsibility for having at least one cat or dog spayed or neutered, sponsor a friend's or relative's cat or dog.



**Spay Day USA**  
**FEBRUARY 28, 1995**

- Distribute Spay Day USA materials in your local community. (Start distributing materials as soon as possible.)

For further information and more ideas about how you can help, contact the Doris Day Animal League, 227 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 100, Washington, D.C. 20002. Phone (202) 546-1761, Fax (202) 546-2193



**SCIENTISTS CENTER FOR ANIMAL WELFARE**  
7833 Walker Drive, Suite 340, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

### **PRESS RELEASE**

October 15, 1994  
For Immediate Release

For more information, contact:  
Lee Krulwich, tel: (301)345-3500,  
fax: (301)345-3503

### **"The Well-being of Animal Research Models in Zoos and Aquariums"**

**May 8-9, 1995, New Orleans, LA**

This two-day international conference will focus on areas of concern regarding animals used for research in U.S. zoos and aquariums. The conference is sponsored by the Scientists Center for Animal Welfare (SCAW) and the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

General sessions will include:

*How Are Research Concerns Different in Zoos and Aquariums?*  
*Ethical Dilemmas for Conservation Research*  
*Trends in Environmental Enrichment*  
*The Role of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at Zoos and Aquariums*

For more information, contact: SCAW, 7833 Walker Drive, Suite 340, Greenbelt, MD 20770, tel: (301)345-3500, fax: (301)345-3503.

## **Have You Moved?**

Please notify the  
Foundation of your  
change of address.  
Avoid missing an issue  
of the  
**Latham Letter**  
and save us from  
paying postage  
on your  
returned newsletter.



**Thank You**



the ball and I caught it in mid-air, returned it to him, and dropped it at his feet to throw for me again. Mom told him it was time for us to leave because we didn't want him to get too tired. He told Mom that she could go but had to leave me there. Mom tried to explain that he needed to get back in bed. He said he would if Mom would let me get in with him but Mom told him I was shedding too bad. At that, he suggested that I get into the other bed in the room and he would get in bed with ME! He did everything he could to keep me all day including giving me my remaining treats one by one very slowly to offering to give me a drink from his cup with his straw. Mom finally convinced him that we had to leave and it broke my heart to hear him call, "dog, dog" as we left. I was extremely tired when we got home so I took a long nap wagging my tail and talking in my sleep. Mom was sure I was dreaming about playing fetch with Nicholas.

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## Living with HIV and Pets

*Latham's inspiring, informative, and heart-warming video emphasizes the beneficial aspects of companion animals in AIDS/HIV infected households and describes the important services of Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS) - San Francisco and other similar organizations.*



To order, Call Latham at:  
510-521-0920.

## Latham Laurus



*Help make our world a more humane place  
by reading to a child.....*

**KIDS, ANIMALS and LITERATURE** is an annotated bibliography of children's books developed by The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA).

A nominal donation at the time of your order is suggested to help us cover the costs of shipping and handling.

To order, write to:  
ASPCA Education Department  
Bibliography  
424 E. 92 ST.  
NYC, NY 10128



## Practical Help for Victims of Domestic Violence

Three out of four victims of domestic violence are battered around the face and head. Now, many of those injured seriously have new hope of minimizing the physical scars, which could bring them closer to healing the emotional ones. The American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence have formed the Domestic Violence Project, an organization offering free reconstructive facial plastic surgery to victims of domestic violence. Those in need (men, women and children are eligible) can be referred to participating surgeons by shelters, physicians, hospitals, and social workers or by calling 800-842-4546.

Corporate support: Elizabeth Arden is funding the renovation of the Domestic Violence Services (DVS) shelter in Stamford, CT, and underwriting improvements in services offered there.

# Looking into the Crystal Ball

Michael Kaufmann  
AHA Education Coordinator

**W**hat will the focus of humane education be in the next ten years? Although I can't predict the future, I do see some trends emerging in humane education.

### Teach, Don't Preach!

"Simply talking at people to spay their pet and browbeating those that won't hasn't worked," says Julie Bank, director of education at the ASPCA in New York. In short, old time preaching is out, open-minded and creative teaching are in. For instance, although a humane organization may be against animals in research, its humane educator must present both sides of the issue. Today's audiences are savvy enough to recognize that they're not being fed the whole story. They want to make up their own minds.

How the message is presented has also become more sophisticated. Humane educators are discovering the benefits of being well informed on trends in academic education, sociology, and psychology. By applying this, such as what type of information a child can best integrate at what age, humane educators more effectively relay their messages.

This new professionalism not only makes the message more potent, but it's legitimizing humane education in the eyes of the schools and the communities, and has opened doors to new opportunities to spread humane concepts.

### Teaching Old Folks New Tricks

Although kids still form the primary target for many humane educators, a growing number are trying

to reach adult audiences. "We have to remember that it's not just the kids we need to reach, but grown-ups too," believes Kit Jenkins, director of community education at the Miami Humane Society. "They're the ones that own the pets now. What I try to achieve is a ripple effect, so that our messages reach

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*Old-time preaching is out.  
Open-minded and  
creative teaching are in.*

---

the community in many different ways."

Lectures to PTA's, in-service workshops to teachers, a series of seminars to senior citizens, or brown bag presentations to corporate groups offer multiple chances to bring your message to adults. To entice the general public to learn about animals, try holding dog training classes, pet behavior counseling, evening courses on animal welfare issues, or a community-access cable show.

Adults are listening, if you use the right tool and approach. AHA's humorous PSAs on neutering dogs shows that adults can and must be reached. Two years later, these ads still get plenty of nationwide play by prominent TV stations.

### In Sync with the Times

As director of education at the Washington DC Humane Society, Debbie Duel is often frustrated by the realities in her community. "How can I teach children to be kind

to a puppy when they encounter guns and knives and drive-by shootings in their own neighborhoods?" she asks.

The effects of poverty, public apathy, family disintegration, and breakdowns of social order have not been ignored by humane educators. These pressing issues lend urgency to the humane message and make it relevant far beyond simple pet care. For example, the link between animal and child abuse offers humane educators a bridge between these societal realities and animal abuse.

Through the link, humane educators are showing teachers, school counselors and day care workers how animal abuse by a child is a serious warning and must not be ignored. No more excuses like "boys will be boys," when cats are set on fire or "it's just an animal" when dogs are beaten to death. Abuse is interconnected and wrong, regardless of whether the victim is human or animal.

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*Humane educators are  
discovering the benefits of being  
well informed on trends  
in academic education,  
sociology, and psychology.*

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As a result of this growing connection, communities are forming coalitions of humane professionals, domestic violence specialists, social service agencies, and police officials. The SPCA of Texas, the Washington Humane Society and the Toledo

*CRYSTAL BALL, continued on next page*

Humane Society, have all formed community coalitions to create programs to fight violence.

## Let Us Serve It Your Way

Whereas in the past a humane educator might have droned the same one-note song of loving your kitty, today's educators must be flexible if they want to reach their audience. If someone needs a program on Native American animal lore and endangered species, educa-

## Quality Over Numbers

"My executive doesn't care what I do with the classes, as long as our annual figures show an increase in numbers" laments a humane educator in California. Although some organizations still judge their education program's success by the number of people "reached," many are reducing their number of programs in favor of more focused contact. Repeat visits to one class, summer camps, and after-school

humane educators. Such dangerously negative feelings taint an educator's attitude and presentation and all too easily alienate audiences.

To convince a community to care for the animals, educators must care about the community - for without community goodwill, even the best-intentioned humane educator will not get far. "We can't just be concerned with saving animals," says Mary Pat Boatfield, director of the Toledo Humane Society. "Since animals are part of the family, and families often wind up in crisis with the law, social services, or some other public agency, we can't help the animal without understanding the whole picture. We need to become known as a community resource center."

As a result of this philosophy, Boatfield has built working relationships with social services, the police, the housing authority, the educational system, and the general public. These contacts not only make her agency a part of the community, but the expert sought out by these agencies when they face animal-related issues and problems. As she explains, "We provide a vital service for people by helping them with their animals."

Perhaps the clearest explanation of where humane education should

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tors devise one. A lesson on pets, bite prevention, and the encroachment of rabies into the county? No problem. Humane education has become more "customer driven."

Vicky Mehl, director of education at the Philadelphia SPCA, advocates this multidimensional approach to education. Mehl draws from her broad background of teaching skills, environmental education, wildlife instruction and humane education to design creative presentations. She often links these programs to special events like Earth Day, Be Kind To Animals, or any current issues affecting animals.

Her flexibility allows her to be comfortable with all age groups, alternate presentation styles, and understand current humane issues. Modern audiences, especially children, expect to be entertained - humane educators must hold their own against videos, educational computer games, and electronic media.

programs emphasize quality over quantity.

One unique program encompassing quality is the Wisconsin Humane Society's PAL (People, Animals, Learning) program. Developed for at-risk and disadvantaged youths, this program provides an ongoing, tightly-structured, and goal-oriented humane education experience for a small group of children each summer. Although this focused approach requires commitment, time and energy, it has potential for a more lasting effect on the participants and seems more satisfying to the staff. (Note: For a description of the PAL program, see the Winter 1994 *Latham Letter*, page 12.)

## Animal People For People

Often shelter staff perceive the public as the enemy, because they seem indifferent to the suffering of animals. Subsequently an us-verses-them mentality developed in many

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*Abuse is interconnected and wrong, regardless of whether the victim is human or animal.*

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focus in the future stems also from Boatfield's philosophy - "We just have to reevaluate what we're doing, examine if it works, and if it doesn't find new ways."


*Michael Kaufmann is American Humane Association's Humane Education Coordinator. This article is reprinted courtesy of Shoptalk.*



## Humane Education Conference Scheduled for April

The 1995 American Humane Association National Humane Educators Workshop **TEACHING NOT PREACHING: HUMANE EDUCATION TODAY** will be held in Denver, Colorado, April 28 & 29, 1995.

This year the two-day workshop will focus on age appropriate humane education, the changing role of schools, incorporating the outdoors into humane education programs, the great lesson exchange. The workshop offers professional speakers, interactive discussions and an exciting day of "hands-on" instruction at the spectacular Plains Conservation Center.

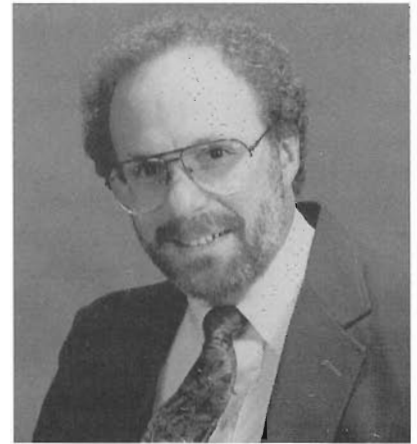
For more information contact: Michael Kaufmann, AHA Coordinator of Education, 63 Inverness Drive East, Englewood, CO 80112. Tel: (303) 792-9900. 

## CONGRATULATIONS


Phil Arkow, Chair of Latham's Child and Animal Abuse Prevention (CAAP) Project, has been named Executive Director of the Animal Welfare Association, Inc. in Voorhees, New Jersey. Arkow is the first full-time administrator in the organization's 46-year history.

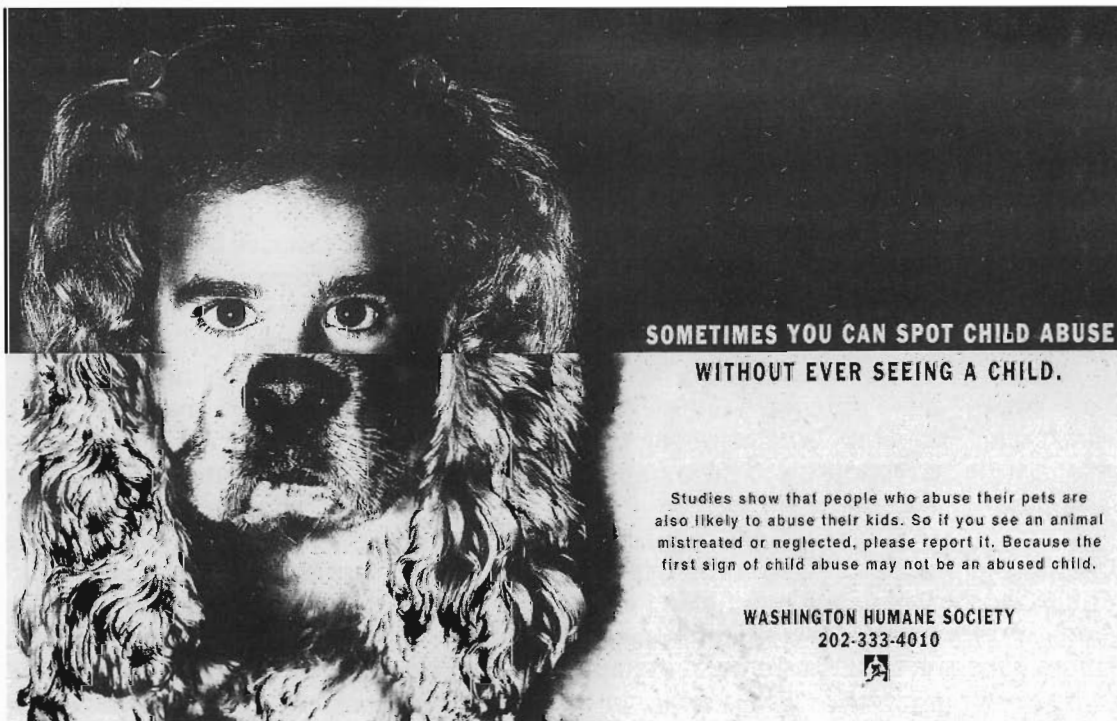
Arkow comes to south Jersey from West Palm Beach, FL., where he headed the Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League and from Colorado Springs, CO., where he conducted community education and publicity programs for the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region. A former newspaper reporter, he entered the animal welfare field in 1973.

He is the author of four books on therapeutic interventions using animals, and has written the Latham Foundation's manual to cross-train child protection and domestic violence personnel and animal shelters on the linkages between cruelty to animals and child abuse. He has also written the national animal shelter operational guidebooks for education and public relations.



He has served in leadership roles with numerous state and national organizations, including the American Humane Association, the National Animal Control Association, the American Veterinary Medical Association, and the Latham Foundation.

The Animal Welfare Association was established in 1948 and operates a modern shelter that cares for more than 6,000 homeless animals each year. The AWA also operates a low-cost spay-neuter clinic; a wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and release program; pet assisted therapy visits to nursing homes and hospitals; and education presentations in schools. 



**SOMETIMES YOU CAN SPOT CHILD ABUSE  
WITHOUT EVER SEEING A CHILD.**

Studies show that people who abuse their pets are also likely to abuse their kids. So if you see an animal mistreated or neglected, please report it. Because the first sign of child abuse may not be an abused child.

WASHINGTON HUMANE SOCIETY  
202-333-4010



### Child Abuse - Animal Cruelty Poster Campaign

Abuse victims, be they children or animals, need strong advocates. Latham congratulates the Washington Humane Society for its poster campaign, which was designed to heighten awareness regarding the all-too-common link between animal and child abuse. The posters, which were created pro bono by Earle Palmer Brown, also encourage reporting of all abusive acts to the proper agencies.

# What People Like About Cats\*

R. Lee Zasloff and Aline H. Kidd  
Center for Animals in Society,  
School of Veterinary Medicine,  
University of California, Davis

Estimates of pet ownership indicate that about 30 million households in the United States today have at least one pet cat.<sup>1</sup> In spite of this extraordinary statistic, few studies have explored relationship between people and their feline companions. The purpose of this study was to increase understanding of human-cat relationships and identify factors associated with attachment to companion cats.

Because the objective was to learn about attachment to cats, individuals who were strongly attached to their cats were needed. For this reason, all participants were cat owners who either were members of a nationwide computer cat club or had attended a cat show in Anaheim, California. Altogether, a

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*"Purring creatures who sit in your lap tend to reduce stress levels."*

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sample of 100 cat owners took part in the study by completing the Survey of Human-Cat Relationships developed at the Center for Animals in Society at the University of California, Davis. Most of the respondents were women, more than half were married or living with a partner, and all had at least one cat at the time of the study. The length of time they had kept cats as pets ranged from two to 60 years.

More than half of the respondents had adopted their cats from various sources such as shelters, friends or family members, veterinarians, or another person who was giving the cat away. Others had

*Although cats have a reputation for being independent, aloof, and less affectionate and interactive than dogs, nearly all of the respondents indicated some form of interactive behavior as a reason for liking their cats.*



been taken in as strays or were purchased from a breeder or pet shop. A few were kittens from a cat currently in the home, cats that were rescued from abusive situations, or cats received as gifts.

The large majority of participants stated that they preferred cats to all other types of pets. The main reasons given for their preference was that cats are easy to care for, provide their owners with affection and companionship, and have interesting personalities. Other reasons reported were liking the cat's behavior and appearance, feeling that the cat provides comfort, and having "always had cats." One person stated that "purring creatures who sit in your lap tend to reduce stress levels."

In spite of the cat's reputation for being aloof and independent, nearly all respondents indicated some form of interactive behavior as what they like best about their feline companion. They especially liked having the cat sit in their lap or sleep with them. Other characteristics that contributed to liking the cat were purring, having a "great personality," and believing that the cat is responsive to their emotional ups and downs.

When asked about what they don't like about their cats, respondents mostly indicated various annoying behaviors such as jumping on furniture, sitting on paperwork, and waking the caretaker early in morning as well as destructive/

aggressive behavior such as damaging furniture and biting. Other things people did not like about their cats were lack of sociability or affection, irritating natural behaviors such as shedding, depositing hairballs on the carpet, fights with other pets, litter box problems, and difficulty grooming or medicating the cat.

The study also explored the benefits of feline companionship as compared with the benefits of human companionship. To do this, two scales were constructed on which respondents rated their relationships with their cats and with their spouse or significant other. The results showed that these individuals felt that their cats provide them with companionship, something to care for, and a feeling of being needed to a significantly greater extent than do their human companions. They also reported that they derive a great deal of enjoyment from watching their cats. On the other hand, human companions were rated significantly higher in providing a feeling of safety and as a motivator for exercise.

Participants were also asked what they get from people that they don't get from their cats and what they get from their cats that they don't get from people. The most frequent responses regarding relationships with people were "conversation and verbal communication" followed by "affection and support," and "intellectual stimula-

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*The results of this study demonstrate that people can and do become highly attached to their cats. The respondents reported that their feline companions fulfilled important needs for companionship, nurturance, and feeling needed to a greater extent than did their human companions.*

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tion." Responses given most often concerning relationships with their cats were "unconditional love and affection," "undivided loyalty and devotion," and "total acceptance." For the most part, human-cat relationships were viewed as having important emotional benefits and human-human relationships produced mainly social and intellectual benefits with the emotional factor also being important.

The results of this study demonstrate that people can and do become highly attached to their cats. The respondents reported that their



*The cat owners in this study saw themselves as having the best of all worlds in their pet.*

feline companions fulfilled important needs for companionship, nurturance, and feeling needed to a greater extent than did their human companions. Watching their cats was also extremely pleasurable for them.

Similar to close human companions, pets demonstrate their affection by greeting us when we come

home, staying close by or sitting in our lap, sleeping with us, and seeking out our company in a variety of ways.<sup>2,3</sup> Although cats have a reputation for being independent, aloof, and less affectionate and interactive than dogs, nearly all of the respondents indicated some form of interactive behavior as a reason for liking their cats. Two individuals even complained that their cats don't come when called.

An important characteristic of animal companions is that they are unchanging in their interactions with us.<sup>4</sup> Unlike human relationships which often involve a variety of interpersonal conflicts, relationships with pets are relatively free of the pets' judgements and critical evaluations. Their affection for their owners seems independent of their owners' social or financial status, appearance, or day-to-day ups and downs and mood swings. This was confirmed by the reports of respondents in this study concerning the differential benefits of cat vs human companionship. However, the comparisons also indicate that both kinds of relationships are important for these pet owners and that companion animals may serve as a complement, not as a replacement, for human contact.

These cat owners saw themselves as having the best of all worlds in their pet ownership. They have an animal that is easy to care for and provides emotional comfort and pleasurable activity without the

conflicts that often accompany close human relationships. Even potentially serious behavior problems, such as destructiveness or misuse of the litter box, did not outweigh the



*For the most part, human-cat relationships were viewed as having important emotional benefits and human-human relationships produced mainly social and intellectual benefits with the emotional factor also being important.*

positive benefits derived from the cat's affection and playfulness. Further research is needed to investigate the particular role of feline companions in contributing to the quality of human life.

1. Handy, G.L. (1992-1993, December-January). *The Year of the Cat* offers excellent opportunities for humane agencies. *Shelter Sense*, P.4.
2. Horn, J.C. & Meer, J. (1984, August). *The pleasure of their company.* *Psychology Today*, pp. 52-57.
3. Serpell, J. (1986). *In the company of animals.* London: Blackwell.
4. Beck, A. & Katcher, A.H. (1983). *Between people and pets.* New York: Putnam's.

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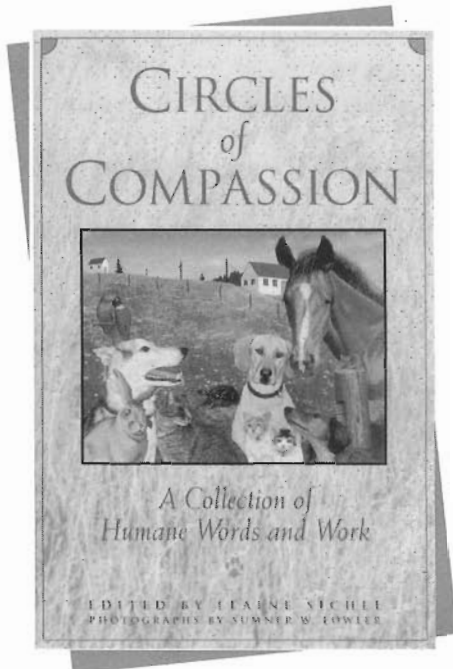
#### **Author Notes**

*\*Scientific paper published in Psychological Reports, 1994, 74, pp. 747-752.*



## BOOK REVIEWS

### *Circles of Compassion: A Collection of Humane Words & Work*



For those who know and understand animals, CIRCLES OF COMPASSION will provide many happy memories as well as a delightfully enjoyable reading experience. In her book, Editor Sichel has assembled the stories of numerous real life animal relationships as well as the thoughtful expressions concerning both companion animals and wild life. Those relationships and the emotions which they espouse can help others to understand the supportive value of the human companion animal bond.

There is a special pre-publication price for Latham member/subscribers of 10% off the regular cover price of \$12.00. Orders must be made before 3/1/95, and must include \$2.50 s/h per book, 75 cents for each additional book, and 7.5% sales tax for orders shipped within California.

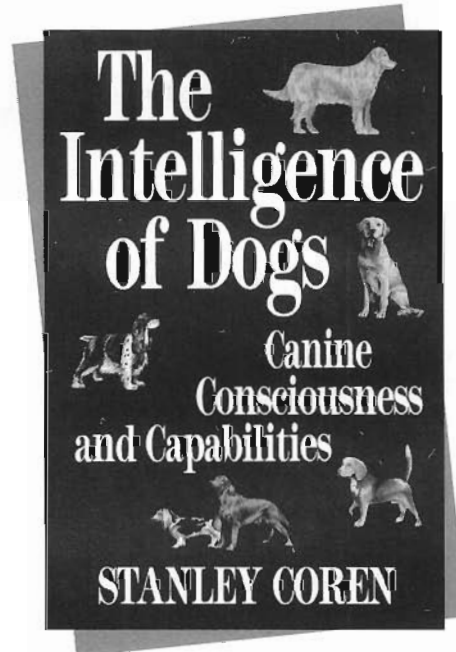
### *Circles of Compassion: A Collection of Humane Words & Work*

*Edited by Edith Sichel  
Photos by Sumner W. Fowler*

\$12.00 Paper Back + tax  
(in California)  
232 pages  
Voice & Vision Publishing  
12005 Green Valley Road  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

### *The Intelligence of Dogs*

- Do dogs of different breeds differ in intelligence?
- How well do they understand human language, and do they have a language of their own?
- Do dogs have memories or anticipate the future?
- Do dogs experience such emotions as guilt, loyalty, joy and sorrow?



Renowned psychologist and award-winning dog trainer Stanley Coren presents us with a compelling new picture of the cognition and capabilities of human's closest animal companion. In addition to describing the history of the dog's association with mankind, the author introduces a unique and comprehensive theory of dog intelligence. Drawing on new research, along with interviews and survey information from North America's

top trainers and breeders, Coren show us that old dogs can learn new tricks and gives us helpful suggestions and tips.

He explodes some cherished myths about dogs and dog training. For example: when a dog licks your face he isn't showing affection, he's asking for food; a canine yawn might denote nervousness instead of fatigue. Coren also provides a small glossary of more than sixty "dog-receptive" terms that dogs readily respond to. His puppy aptitude test is extremely beneficial in choosing a puppy that will fit in with more about his/her intelligence level and specific personality. These tests can help dog owners to gauge their dog's observational learning skills, problem solving skills, and it's ability to adapt itself to different environments. Coren tells you how to interpret your dogs barks and vocalizations, translating every bark, tail position, ear movement and eye signal.

THE INTELLIGENCE OF DOGS ranks the working intelligence of 133 various breeds, providing us with an invaluable chart that reveals which dogs have the greatest thinking capacity and which ones possess the lowest degree of working and obedience capabilities. Further, he goes on to explain that a higher intelligence level does not necessarily indicate superiority when it comes to choosing a dog. The most intelligent breeds demand great amounts of time and attention from their owners. Their problem-solving skills and ability to learn quickly by association can quickly enable the more intelligent dog into becoming a household pest.

For some, a less intelligent breed is a "more intelligent" choice. Dogs with a lesser degree of intelligence may not be able to respond to a sequence of commands, but they are much less likely to become bored and unhappy when left home alone for long periods of time. A lesser-intelligent dog thrives in large, busy

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

households with children, whereas the intelligent dog easily becomes disoriented and confused trying to process and obey a barrage of conflicting orders from a great variety of people. Coren reminds us of the importance of matching a dog's characteristics to its owners requirements. Its temperament, activity level and level of intelligence all should fit its human family's lifestyle.

In the end, Coren not only analyzes dogs relationships with humans, but also explores their modes and patterns of thinking. We have lived, worked and played with dogs over the past 140 centuries, yet the average dog lover still has many questions concerning their pet's behavior, intelligence and conscienceness. Coren delves deeply into the canine psyche and shares his highly thought-provoking findings with everyone interested in better understanding "man's best friend."

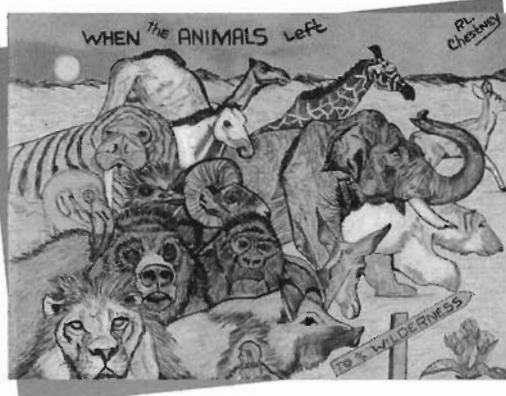
Stanley Coren is a professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia and author of the best selling "The Left Hander Syndrome" (Free Press, 1992). In addition, he is a prize-winning dog trainer and authority on dog intelligence.

### ***The Intelligence of Dogs***

Dr. Stanley Coren  
Hard cover, 271 pages  
\$22.95 ISBN: 0-02-906683-2  
The Free Press  
A Division of Macmillan, Inc.  
866 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10022  
212-702-5577

### ***When the Animals Left***

WHEN THE ANIMALS LEFT, written and illustrated by P.L. Chestney, is a delightful children's book about how the animals, despite the multitude of cruelties they endured at the hands of man,



eventually saved the earth and became the "Friends of Man." In the debate over whether or not to rejoin and help man, Maudie the elephant says, "We can run from man but we cannot hide from the problem. If man destroys the world he lives in, soon he will destroy our world. We must help him learn to live within his environment without destroying it."

WHEN THE ANIMALS LEFT is appropriate for anyone who loves animals and cares about the environment. Its thought-provoking message leads to discussion between children and adults.

This fine teaching tool is available in discounted bulk orders to membership organizations for use as a promotional or educational tool. Call 303-455-2797 for further information.

### ***When the Animals Left***

P.L.&R. Chestney Publishing Co  
P.O. Box 11485  
Denver, CO 80211  
ISBN 1-883533-00-7  
52 pages, 41 illustrations  
\$12.95

### ***Beautiful Joe: The Autobiography of a Dog***

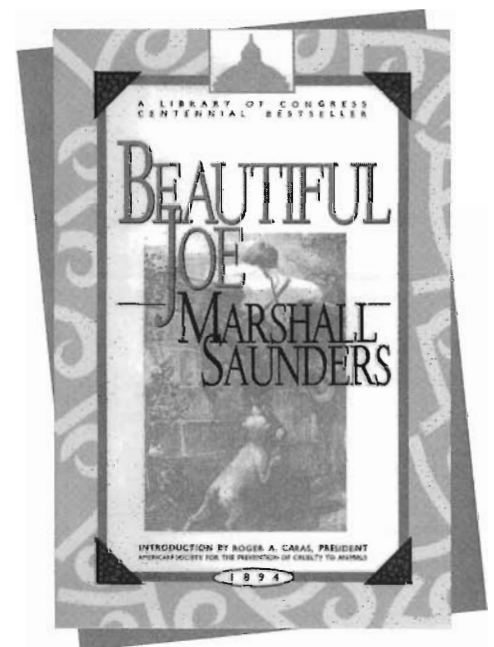
Applewood Books, in cooperation with the Library of Congress, recently re-issued this sobering and heartwarming book. BEAUTIFUL JOE details a "first-hand-account"

of one dog's horrible treatment by a cruel milkman and his eventual rescue by a kind family.

Most Americans have a basic sense of compassion for animals today, yet they may not realize that incredible cruelty to animals was commonplace just a century ago.

In 1894 the automobile was still in its infancy. "Horsepower" referred literally to animals. At the time, animals were considered simply "dumb creatures" and, frequently, terrible abuse took place.

Books changed that. *Black Beauty* was published in England in 1878



and received a tremendous response throughout the world. A few years later, BEAUTIFUL JOE also gained tremendous popularity and contributed significantly to changing public attitudes about the treatment of animals. It sold more than 650,000 copies in the year 1894 alone.

Applewood Books invites you to acquaint yourself with this kind and wise dog and by-gone-days.

*BOOK REVIEWS, continued on next page*

**Beautiful Joe:**

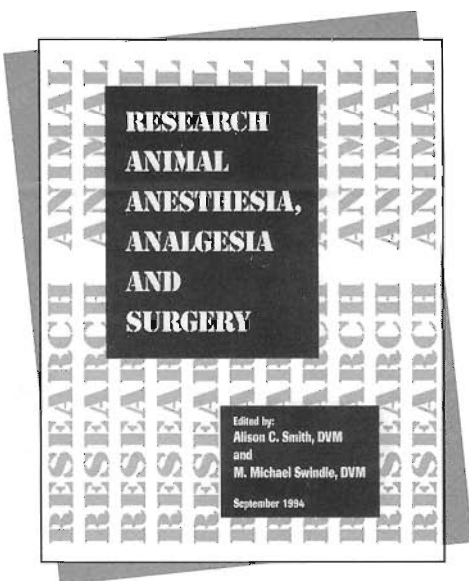
**The Autobiography of a Dog**

Applewood Books  
18 North Road  
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6X9, 304 pp  
6 black & white illustrations  
Hardcover \$24.95  
(617) 271-0055

**Research Animal Anesthesia,  
Analgesia and Surgery**

**Proceedings of Scientists Center for  
Animal Welfare 1994 Conference**

Scientists Center for Animal Welfare has published the proceedings of their conference held on May 12-13, 1994 in Atlanta, Georgia. Topics covered in RESEARCH ANIMAL ANESTHESIA, ANALGESIA AND SURGERY include:



*USDA, NIH and AAALAC Requirements for Surgical Programs*, Timothy D. Mandrell, DVM

*American Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners' Guidelines*, Marilyn J. Brown, DVM, MS

*Surgical Training and Personnel Qualifications*, Melvin B. Dennis, Jr., DVM

*Laparoscopic Surgery Courses*, Lyn Freeman, DVM

*Ethics and Science of Xenotransplantation and Xenoperfusion*, Ernest D. Prentice, PhD

*Recognizing Pain and Distress in Research Animals*, Gerald F. Gebbert, PhD

*Physiologic Effects of Anesthetics and Analgesics*, James Heavner, DVM

*Anesthesia and Analgesia for Specific Species*, Sally K. Wixson, VMD, MS, David Daunt, DVM, M. Michael Swindle, DVM, Thomas Riebold, DVM, Dorcas O. Schaeffer, DVM, MS

*Intraoperative Monitoring and Equipment*, Robert F. Hoyt, Jr., DVM, MS

*Cardiopulmonary Bypass and ECMO*, Richard E. Fish, DVM, PhD

*Cardiopulmonary Complications and Emergencies in Surgery*, James Swearingen, DVM

*Post-surgical Care*, Alison C. Smith, DVM

The editors of the volume are Alison C. Smith, DVM and M. Michael Swindle, DVM of the Department of Comparative Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina.

For more information on this volume, contact: SCAW, Golden Triangle Building One, 7833 Walker Drive, Suite 340, Greenbelt, MD 20770, Tel: (301) 345-3500, Fax: (301) 345-3503.

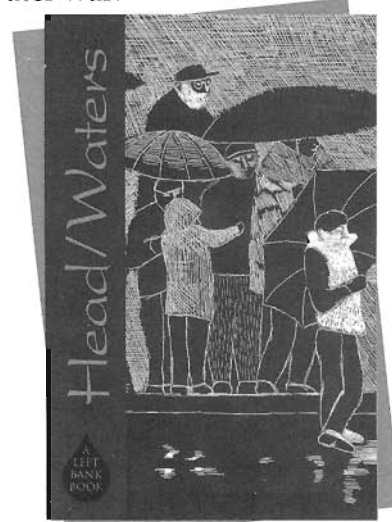
The price of the publication is \$55.00 per copy.

**Head/Waters  
A Left Bank Book**

In HEAD/WATERS, a collection of essays, fiction, poetry, and photographs, William deBuys offers one philosophical rationale for a dried-up American Dream. Seventh in the Left Bank book series HEAD/WATERS contributes to the flow of discussion on the state of water: a wide sweep from political and historical ideologies to the beauty, destruction, and sustenance the liquid portion of the planet provides. In addition, "head/waters" indicates a broader view - the sources of inspiration that change our ways of thinking about the world.

*Cadillac Desert* author Marc Reisner discusses exploitive theories that contributed to the current water crises; he also pursues solutions, coming to terms with rice growers who come to terms with

conservation. Ellen Meloy lays into the follies of dam mentality in her search for a paved-over river: "Las Vegas is the twentieth century's ultimate perversion of the River and the site of a twenty-first-century water war."



Other writers leave the slippery political waves to revel in the wildness and delight of water as setting for bathings, baptisms, sensual companions, and simply as the backdrop for informing our lives. Gary Snyder lures us into the headwaters and mouth of a river; Brenda Peterson swims with dolphins and discovers an intelligence unlike her own; David James Duncan, Jessica Maxwell, and Joan Skogan take us on exotic fishing trips; and Ed Edmo wades into a racist uproar when Indians are allowed in public pools.

Some writers thrive on the temptation of water's ravaging force. Pam Houston, author of *Cowboys Are My Weakness*, risks life for sport and love in a story of white water misadventure; Lorian Hemingway revisits a drowned childhood memory; Rick Rubin imagines a career as a serial-drowner when he gleefully maps the new coastal cities of the world following global warming; and more.

**Head/Waters, A Left Bank Book**

Editor: Linny Stovall

December Publication, 160pp 6X9

ISBN:0-936085-28-2, paper \$9.95

1-yr standing order,

\$16.00 (bi-annual)

Available in bookstores



### Zinc Arginine Field Studies in Mexico Show Promise as Humane and Effective Non-Surgical Sterilization in Dogs and Cats

In January, 1994, Dr. Hugh Wheir conducted the first field trail study on thirty male dogs using zinc arginine as a chemical sterilant. The study took place in Oaxaca, Mexico. The preliminary results of the Oaxaca field study are very good. The efficacy of zinc arginine as a safe, humane and reliable injectable sterilant is very encouraging. All the male dogs were sterile within one week post injection. There was little pain and inflammation and no post injection complications were observed in the dogs. This study was the first of many field applications conducted by Dr. Wheir for Humane Society International. David Wills of HSI came to Oaxaca to witness the work and film the study.

Dr. Mostafa Fahim of the University of Missouri designed the protocols for the study after many years of research. The search for a humane and effective non-surgical method of sterilization in dogs and cats is


essential in the effort to reduce the suffering caused by pet overpopulation. Dr. Fahim has spent over twenty-five years researching and developing zinc arginine, and Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) has helped to fund this work with the hope of finding a solution to the epidemic problem of animal overpopulation worldwide. Dr. Wheir has made two trips to the University of Missouri to meet with Dr. Fahim to plan, review and improve the protocols for all the studies. Zinc arginine could be a revolutionary answer to reducing pet overpopulation. With one, non-toxic, painless injection in a male, the result is rapid sterility and is the equivalent of "tying the tubes" or a vasectomy. Everyone is very excited about the potential of this work.

The next field study is August 7, 1995 at HSI Shelter in Herredia, Costa Rica. David Wills will join Dr. Wheir again to attend this second field study. Other studies are scheduled

for Brazil and Mexico City. On August 15, David and Hugh will meet in Mexico City with Lolita Ayala de Sosa, who is the director of Comit Pro Animal, the leading animal protection group in all of Mexico, to organize a large study for that city next year.

There is much to learn and observe in these field studies and the results will be published. All these studies help contribute to the approval process of zinc arginine by the FDA. David Wills and Hugh Wheir are managing the studies with high standards and humane care of all the animals.

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*Reprinted from the Animal Alliance Newsletter. For further information contact Animal Alliance at 320 Galisto Street, Suite 301, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501. Telephone (505) 986-6007. Animal Alliance is an action oriented nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing suffering in animals and protecting endangered species. *


### Toronto is Vaccinating Raccoons Against Rabies

#### Program Description:

Until 1993 Ontario has consistently reported the highest number of animal rabies cases in North America. However, effective rabies and municipal animal control programs have kept the prevalence of rabies in domestic animals and human exposure to the disease relatively low. The anticipated arrival of "raccoon rabies" in Ontario, and a combination of a large urban raccoon population which is highly adaptable to life in an urban environment, and large domestic dog and cat populations, increase the risk for exposure to rabies by the human population. Considering how "raccoon rabies" has spread in the US, there can be no guarantee

that the control program contemplated by provincial and federal authorities will be able to contain the disease to areas immediately adjacent to the US border. The Toronto program seeks to reduce the risk of human exposure to the disease by achieving "herd immunity" of the City raccoon population through a vaccination program.

Until a licensed oral vaccine for use in raccoons becomes available, vaccination will be accomplished through a Trap-Vaccinate-Release program. The program will be carried out by Department staff under the supervision and with the support of the Rabies Unit of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. The program will use humane traps of appropriate design and dimensions

at the rate of up to 50 traps for each of 101 divisions of the City. All captured raccoons (and skunks) will be hand-vaccinated with IMRAB inactivated rabies vaccine animals will also be identified with a numbered ear tag of appropriate size and released at point of capture. Raccoons captured by private pest control or wildlife removal operators will be transported to and vaccinated by participating veterinarians of the Toronto Academy of Veterinary Medicine. These animals will also be identified and released within their home range. In order to immunize new-born animals and animals that have migrated into the City, the same program will be carried out for three years or until a licensed oral vaccine becomes available. 

THE DAD WHO COMES HOME AND KICKS THE DOG IS PROBABLY JUST WARMING UP.



Studies show that people who abuse their pets are also likely to abuse their kids. So if you see an animal mistreated or neglected, please report it. Because people who abuse animals rarely stop there.

WASHINGTON HUMANE SOCIETY  
202-333-4010



*One of three posters in the Washington Humane Society's campaign against child and animal abuse.*



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