

THE Latham Letter

VOLUME XLV, NUMBER 1

Winter 2024

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION



BATTLE BUDDIES

Cover Story pp 8-12

THE LINK IN MILITARY FAMILIES pp 13-16

HUMAN-ANIMAL INTERACTIONS pp 17-19

MEDIA REVIEWS & NEWS pp 20-21

SCIENCE & NATURE - Quality of Life pp 23



MANDATE

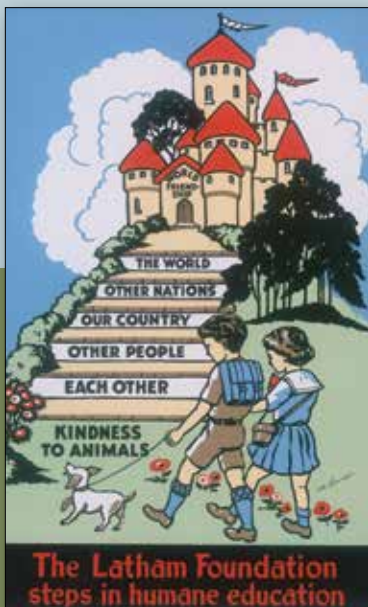
Edith Latham's **MANDATE:**

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



WELCOME BACK, BROTHER BUZZ!

Brother Buzz, star of Latham's
Brother Buzz films and our former
Spokesbee, marks the end of articles.



The Latham Letter

Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities

Search the Latham Letter archives by topic and learn
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www.Latham.org or call 510-521-0920.



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Promotion of Humane Education

The Latham Letter

Volume XLV, Number 1, Winter 2024

**BALANCED PERSPECTIVES ON
HUMANE ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES**



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

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Hugh H. Tebault, President

A BLAST FROM OUR PAST POSTER CONTEST

The Latham Foundation International Poster Contest began in 1925 with 12 art students submitting entries. During the 1930s, we received over 5,000 entries each year. In the 1940s, even with the war underway, we received over 10,000 entries. And in the 1950s we received over 15,000 each year. The poster contest continued until 1964, having run for 39 years.

With so many people involved for so many years and considering that the program ended 60 years ago, it is heartening that we still hear from people, often asking if we have their poster or that of a family member. Due to the volume of posters received over the years, we have to admit that we were unable to keep all of those those submitted. But we are happy to say that those we do have are on our website.



On January 9, 2024, we received an email from a poster contest winner in Japan from about 1960. However, the email address provided apparently was not correct because our response to him failed. I wanted to share his story in hope that someone will recognize him and pass on our encouragement.

From: Taro Kawamura, Date: 1/9/24

This is 77 year old man. During 1959-61 when I was a student at Noborimachi Junior-High School in Hiroshima Japan, I took part in your Competition

of Poster for Peace. And I fortunately got winning a prize of certificate and 1,000 Japanese yen. It's so prouded memory for me. Now if possible, I wish to see my poster. So kindly send me a foto of my poster by e-mail. That's my great pleasure. Sincerely yours. Taro Kawamura, in Kawasaki, Japan.



My email response:

Thank you for contacting Latham, and thank you for your work creating a poster for peace in the Latham International Poster Contest. It is my honor to give you this information, and I am only slightly younger - I am 74.

Let me note that in the late 1950s, we would receive about 15,000 poster entries each year. Our records do show that in 1958 Hiroshima alone sent in 2,015 posters to our contest. We were not able to keep the posters, but did send many out in traveling art exhibits. Only a few have survived and are shown on our website at www.latham.org/about/history/poster-gallery/.

I don't have the artist names on them, but as far as I can tell, many are from 1958-1962. Perhaps you will recognize the style of poster.

I have attached three documents that list the awards for each year: 1959, 1960 and 1961. I have also attached




Continued on next page

the 1959 poster program announcement your school would have received.

Although I don't think we have your art entry, I would very much like to hear from you about the impact the Latham Poster contest may have had on your life. I hope that the message of teaching kindness toward animals and other people helped you develop the same as you grew up. I know some others who have contacted us went onto art careers; others never did more art, but did respect animals and other people more.

Again, my great respect for your work.

I am honored to have heard from him. Unfortunately, email is not as reliable a method of communications as a letter, despite being much more convenient to use.

I would also like to extend an invitation to those of you who have participated in former or current Latham programs to contact us. Please send a letter to the editor about your experience to editor@latham.org. 

WE GET LETTERS

2023-12-20, Janine Hartley wrote:

My gosh, Tula. I just read the article and watched the videos. You made me cry. How you captured what we do and why we do it all (for the good of the horses and the humans), is something no one has ever done.

In just one day, you got it. Your descriptions, your words, your shared feelings, all so very powerful. (The Latham Letter Fall 23)

Your title of Gentled Souls is incredible. Would you be okay if we added that to our Veteran program name? Or changed the program name completely? The word "help" can sometimes be uncomfortable for veterans because a lot of veterans believe they should not need or are not worthy of asking for help. I'm thinking something like, Gentled Souls—a program for Veterans. If you have any other thoughts, please feel free to share.

Thank you for taking the time to come visit us and learn about our philosophy. I'd love to know if it is okay for us to share the article on our website, social media, even advertising for our Equine Partnership Program, which is a

5-day, 8 hours a day, deeper dive for people who want to start or improve their existing equine therapy program. Just let me know.

*Again, thank you. You made my day!!
Much love, Janine*

2023-12-19 Erik Friedl wrote:

Dear Tula,

Hats off to you for this latest superb Latham Letter!

What a meaty issue packed with great articles and announcements including Hugh's topical editorial about hope and the value of volunteerism.

And thank you for the excellent editing/presentation of "New Friend" on page 23! (The Latham Letter Fall 23)

All best Christmas wishes to you and Hugh and the team—

Erik Friedl, Burbank

APHE CONFERENCE 2024

CONFERENCE
ROUNDTABLES

“On The Struggle Bus”



HOST

MONICA KOTHE,
HUMANE SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN
ARIZONA



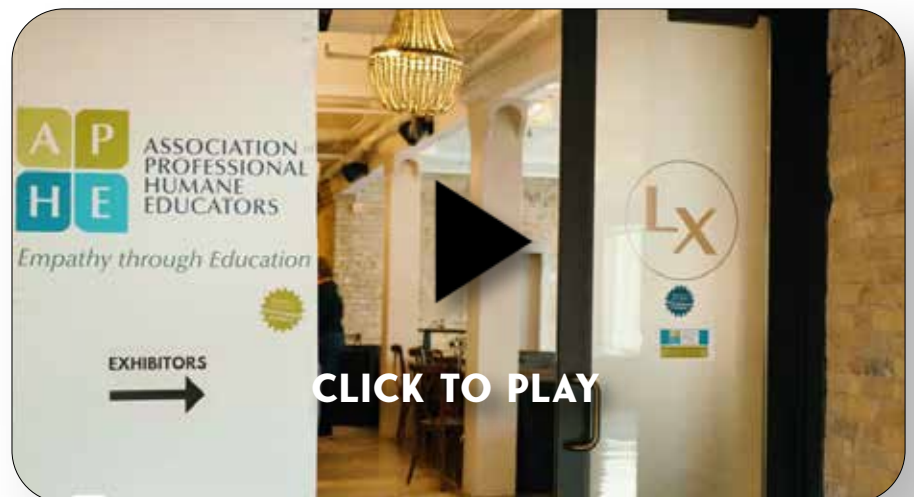
UNLEASHING COMPASSION:
EXPLORING EMPATHY IN ERIE COUNTY

Register Now!

This year’s conference Unleashing Compassion: Exploring Empathy in Erie County on April 24-26 will provide attendees with professional networking opportunities and presentations that will motivate and inspire our work in this important field.

Registration is open for the national conference for humane educators! We encourage you to head over to our conference schedule to see all that’s in store including the speaker session schedule, conference mixer, hotel information, and other event opportunities.

2023 NATIONAL HUMANE EDUCATION CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS





MARCH 20 AND APRIL 3, 2024 FROM 9AM - 1PM PT
CAMP MADDIE: BEHAVIOR EDITION
BARKING UP THE RIGHT TREE WITH DOG BEHAVIOR PROGRAMS
featuring Michael Shikashio

Two free, virtual, half-days that will include presentations, short videos and question & answer sessions about dog behavior.

At Camp Maddie: Behavior Edition, we'll talk about determining which dogs are safe to rehome, keeping dogs happy and healthy while in your care, and finding them homes.

Hear from a wonderful lineup of speakers including Dr. Chris Pachel, Dr. Wailani Sung, Mike Shikashio, Bobbie Bhambree, Ferdi Yau, and more!

Who should attend? This event is perfect for those involved in animal shelters and foster-based organizations, dog trainers, behaviorists, foster caregivers, and veterinarians.

Post Event Workshops: At the end of each event, you'll have the opportunity to apply for a series of follow-up workshops, diving deeper into some of the presentation topics with our esteemed speakers.

Continued Education Credits: Camp Maddie: Behavior Edition participants will be eligible for up to 8 Certified Animal Welfare Administrator (CAWA) and National Animal Care & Control Association (NACA) continued education credit hours.

Come make new friends and unleash your organization's potential, one dog at a time.



Register once for both days:

- Wednesday, March 20, 2024: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Pacific (12:00 pm - 4:00 pm Eastern)
- Wednesday, April 3, 2024: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Pacific (12:00 pm - 4:00 pm Eastern)





WILD HEARTS, GENTLED SOULS

PART 2, BATTLE BUDDIES

EQUINE THERAPY FOR A COMBAT VET AND AN EMBATTLED HORSE.

by Tula Asselanis

Storm is a combat veteran with severe PTSD. Prior to my visit to Wild Hearts Equine Therapeutic Center, Janine Hartley, the Director of Operations, had let me know that I could film him with the horse but that he wouldn't want to be asked questions. Wild Hearts staff respectfully honors the anonymity of their clients, particularly those dealing with PTSD.

It was explained to me that

some vets do not want to admit that they need help or are seeking/receiving treatment. So it was above my expectations and a surprise to Janine as well when she found a Vet participating in their Equine Therapy program who agreed to let me witness his therapy session in person.

We had been planning to use a stand-in person for the filming, but just before I was to arrive, Storm

agreed to be interviewed by me; in fact, he came up with some of his own suggestions of questions that I should ask him.

I don't know much about the horse Goose's background except what founder Jessica Fry told me – almost all their horses were rescued and had to be rehabilitated to some extent. Which, in general means that their life before was not very good. The details of their

Continued on next page



Storm and Goose at Wild Hearts

past didn't matter as much as the fact that they needed some help.

When I finally met Storm in person, he had a kind but firm/protective aura about him, not to be mistaken as shy or sad. Expecting him to be perhaps a bit guarded, I was surprised that he was quite open with me. This has not been his first attempt to find relief from PTSD. He revealed that he had tried all kinds of things to combat his symptoms. I learned that some vets with PTSD

have tried self-medicating, talk therapy, lots of medicines, as well as other therapies, even other equine therapies.

For Storm, this one was different. This place - this staff - this horse worked the best for him. It is the result of the peaceful, spread-out environment, and the

staff who are so welcoming and nonjudgmental, as well as the rescue and ongoing rehabilitation of the horses. As Storm looked at his partner Goose, he commented "We both have PTSD." Now a healthy, strong, chestnut horse with three white socks on his sturdy legs and a large white patch down his muzzle, Goose is still working on his confidence.

And so, the session began. As the facilitator, the trained volunteer (see last issue part 1), and I followed Storm and Goose through the pasture, the facilitator explained the underlying subtleties of what both Storm and Goose were thinking. Storm was gently calming Goose just with his demeanor and thought process.

Here are some basic principles I learned from just observing and asking a few questions.

LOCATION.

Finding the right place and the right environment matters. It needs to be welcoming, where both the Vet and their partner, the horse, are cared for. It needs to be non-judgmental, where the



'Am I safe?'

Continued on next page



"We both have PTSD."

you calm him down?" He answered, "By petting him, which calms me down too."

NO WORDS.

No words are necessary. There is something different in the animal kingdom about horses. They are very sensitive to our thoughts and emotions. Some functions of a service dog are intuitive, or by sense. For instance, they can sense when the person's emotions are rising and they can comfort their human. Or they can

perform other tasks, such as waking their human from nightmares. On the other hand, the horse and person somehow are sharing their thoughts or mind's images of their trauma and then both are working on reining in their anxieties.

participant is not judged on a preconceived criterion of weakness.

"AM I SAFE?"

As she guided the therapy session, I learned from the facilitator that the horse is always thinking "Am I safe?" as it evaluates its situation. It is up to the vet to communicate that they are safe. And I learned from Storm that it needs to be in a place that accepts him as he is. *(See Clip 1, end of article.)*

SIZE.

Size matters. Even though the vet had been an armed, fighting soldier, his strength did not preclude his experiencing anxiety. And this giant, solid, 1,000 pounds of muscle called a horse can be scared too.

CALM X 2.

The principal is: I calm you, you calm me. I asked, "How do

LOOKS EASY.

In theory, therapy sounds easy to do, and in viewing it looks simple -- but in actuality it is

BATTLE BUDDIES.

We both have PTSD. Question: "Why do people with PTSD need a service dog AND equine therapy?" Answer: Relatable trauma. Horses are not tools, but partners. The horse is an equal partner in trauma, whereas a service dog performs daily tasks to assist his human. Both horse and human have experienced their own dramas, but the anxiety from the past traumas is shared.



Facilitator, Goose, Storm and Volunteer

Continued on next page



"I calm him, he calms me"

powerful, as things are happening in the souls and minds of both horse and human that we just can't see by observing the process. But after a while, you can see the subtle differences in the way they stand, or in their eyes, and you can watch their comfort level change as they relax together. It was extraordinary to witness it. (See *Clip 2* at end of article.)

Even though I have witnessed and participated in different equine assisted activities, I did not realize exactly what equine therapy was. I've seen at-risk kids leading a 1,000-pound horse around cones to help build their confidence, or a child with ADHD learning to calm himself in order to interact

with a horse and saddle him up. Having read countless reports describing 'Equine Therapy' and having seen video testimony of it, I thought I knew what it was, but I did not truly understand until I experienced it in person.

How brave of Storm and Goose to get to this point, let alone allow me to share it with you through the Latham Letter.

Please see the videos of Equine Therapy in action.

Clip 1 - Am I safe?:
vimeo.com/915800736

Clip 2 - Storm & Goose - Battle Buddies:
vimeo.com/919854652

Gentled Souls for Veterans, Active Duty & First Responders program was developed by Founder and Director of Client Therapies Jessica Fry, a certified TBRI Caregiver and trained in EAGALA, PATH, Natural Lifemanship, and Eponaquest. The program is unique to Wild Hearts Equine Therapeutic Center, Inc.



ADDITIONAL RESEARCH:

PTSD AND VETERANS: According to Sabino Recovery, a program located in Tucson Arizona: PTSD is a common mental health condition among veterans, especially those who have experienced combat situations or traumatic events during their service. According to the National Center for PTSD, about 10% of male veterans and 19% of female veterans who received VA care were diagnosed with PTSD in fiscal year 2021.

However, not all veterans seek treatment for PTSD. In fact, many veterans may not even be aware that they have PTSD or may be hesitant to seek help due to stigma or other barriers. A study of US veterans found that the prevalence of lifetime PTSD was 8.0%, but only 4.8% had current PTSD.

www.sabinorecovery.com/how-many-veterans-with-ptsd-seek-treatment/#:



WHY HORSES?: While researching Eagala, I learned several things about horses that make them good therapy partners:

They are intelligent prey animals. To evade predators, horses have evolved to be extremely sensitive to their environment. They instinctively analyze and react to our body language and other nonverbal cues, providing us with valuable feedback and insights for other areas of our lives.

They are large and powerful. With their size and presence, it is hard to ignore a horse. We can't just 'control' a powerful horse.

Approaching horses helps us reflect on how we approach our other relationships and how we can face other big or overwhelming things in our lives.

They are herd animals with distinct personalities. Horses are social animals with defined roles within a herd. They have distinct personalities, attitudes, and moods. They can be stubborn or they can be playful. In other words, horses are a lot like us.

Eagala - Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association
www.eagala.org/model



THE LINK IN MILITARY FAMILIES

PART 2: ADDRESSING THE GAPS IN LINK AWARENESS IN THE MILITARY

By Phil Arkow, President & Secretary, the National Link Coalition

The U.S. military's history of addressing the human-animal bond among active and retired service members is relatively recent. In the 1980s, following noted successes with visiting therapy animals in civilian hospitals, there were sporadic and often unsuccessful efforts to bring therapy animals into Veterans Administration facilities; bureaucratic and regulatory obstacles delayed the widespread implementation of these programs until 2003, when the U.S. Army published its landmark manual, DoD Human-Animal Bond Principles and Guidelines to address the many human-animal bond programs that were in various stages of implementation throughout the Department of Defense.

The 2003 guidelines recognized such human-animal bond interests as: the significant impact of pets on families at transfer time; demographics indicating that one-half of military families owned pets; the presence of pets in day care facilities; care of military working dogs and service animals; and units' mascots. The guidelines included a sample animal visitation policy for military hospitals, procedures for implementing human-animal bond programs, and requirements for health assistance animals in the military.

The guidelines were updated in 2015 with the U.S. Army Veterinary Services' Technical Bulletin, Medical DoD Human-Animal Bond Program Principles and



U.S. Army military working dog, Louvre, searches among rubble in Baghdad.

Guidelines. Citing the "rich history" of animals in the military, from cavalry mounts to modern-day working dogs to Navy dolphins, the Bulletin outlined a multi-disciplinary approach to program planning, implementation and evaluation.

Such programs expanded dramatically as the number of service members returning from conflicts in the Middle East with traumatic brain injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder

skyrocketed. Animal-assisted therapy and service animal programs proliferated to assist "wounded warriors" readjust to civilian life. The U.S. Government accelerated the development of these programs through federal grant programs.

While these notable achievements advanced "the bright side" of the human-animal bond, conspicuously absent were references to "the dark side" of the bond – the intersecting Links of animal abuse with interpersonal violence. In fact, it wasn't until 2016 that the Uniform Code of Military Justice criminalized animal cruelty, neglect and bestiality.

Article 134 of the UCMJ now prohibits knowing, reckless or



Sergeant Stubby, WWI hero

defensemедianetwork.com/stories/sgt-stubby-american-war-dog/

Continued on next page



A similar training is planned for November 2024 with the Justice Clearinghouse.

VETERINARIANS AND THE MILITARY

An under-utilized resource in addressing animal abuse and its Links with human abuse within the military are the services' Veterinary Corps Officers (VCOs) and technicians. The U.S. military has had a long history of veterinary involvement in military affairs, including: care of mounted cavalry horses; inspecting food served on military bases; caring for service members' pets; and providing animal care services in war-damaged countries. Yet it appears that many of the nation's 700 military veterinarians are untrained in responding to animal abuse and its potential implications for abuse of service members and their families.

negligent wrongful abuse, neglect or abandonment of an animal that causes serious injury or death that might prejudice the "good order and discipline in the armed forces" or bring "discredit upon the armed forces." Such acts are punishable by dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and confinement for 1 or 2 years.

Article 135 prohibits bestiality -- "unnatural carnal copulation with an animal." It is punishable by dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and confinement for 5 years.

The National Link Coalition has been conducting Link trainings over many years to military personnel and family advocacy units on military bases across all the services. These include: Fort Leavenworth, Kans.; Hurlburt Field, Fla., Cannon AFB, N. Mex.; the Marine Family Advocacy Program at Quantico, Va.; Army Special Victim Prosecutors in

Texas; the Naval Justice School Prosecuting Special Victim Cases in Newport, R.I.; and the CIS Advanced Family Violence School at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick, Ga.

Through a collaboration with the National Organization for Victim Assistance, we have conducted 20 virtual training programs since 2014 for family advocacy programs at military installations in the U.S., Germany, South Korea, and other overseas locations.

The Department of Defense Military Working Dog Veterinary Services at Lackland AFB, Texas, is the only tertiary referral veterinary medical center in the entire DoD. It provides on-site emergency, medical and surgical care and support for nearly 4,000 DoD

The 1st Cavalry Division Horse Detachment



Continued on next page



working dogs at over 400 sites globally and nearly 1,000 working dogs of the Transportation Security Administration and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

An additional mission is the center's veterinary medical education role. Each year, some 40 new VCOs who graduate veterinary college with a service commitment visit the center for a day-long overview. Each VCO is then given a 10-month graduate veterinary medical assignment at a regional veterinary specialty center for advanced introduction to the Army Veterinary Service. Thereafter, these VCOs are assigned around the world, responsible for operating veterinary clinics and hospitals that support military working dogs and pets of service members.

One of my students in the University of Florida veterinary

forensics course on animal abuse and human violence conducted an informal query of these officers. He found that about 20% had never heard of The Link, nor had had any formal veterinary education on this subject. The remainder only either had minimal exposure, either as part of a One Health initiative or witnessing animal abuse with rare mention of The Link during clinical rotations in their final year of training.

A similar lack of exposure to The Link was found in other military areas. The center hosts some 20 military and civilian veterinary college externs for 2-4

week rotations as part of their clinical training; the informal survey reported the same negligible exposure. The center also participates in clinical training for about 450 new veterinary technicians entering the military annually. Current course curriculum for these technicians is not believed to include any training about animal abuse or its Link to intimate partner violence.

OTHER AGENCIES CLOSING THE GAPS

Several agencies specifically address Link-related issues among military service members and their families. Pathways to Safety International is the only nongovernmental organization that specializes in serving Americans experiencing interpersonal and gender-based violence abroad. In addition to providing a toll-free crisis line and holistic case management services for 9,000 Americans living overseas and 80,000 Americans traveling abroad each year, the organization assists 450,000 American military personnel and their dependents overseas. This population, as with any other, is at risk for gender-



Continued on next page

based violence, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and forced marriage.

Their services also include protecting the pets of domestic violence survivors living overseas. The organization strives to keep pets protected from abuse. They are sometimes able to provide food, veterinary certificates, cost of transportation, and kennels. They assist in placing pets in foster homes while working to get victims from danger to safety.

Dogs On Deployment, a nonprofit based in Escondido, Calif., provides vital assistance to military pet owners while they serve our country. The last thing service members should have to worry about when scheduled for deployment is who will care for their pets; Dogs on Deployment provides an online network where

service members can search for volunteers to board their pets during their owner's service commitments. The organization also advocates for military pet owners' rights, provides educational resources, and grants financial assistance to military pet owners needing emergency veterinary care.



The organization also helps military families keep their pets when faced with the expenses, regulations and unique challenges involved during a Permanent Change of Station (PCS) to a new domestic base and especially when the move is overseas. These obstacles include:

- Animal quarantine and import regulations, which may keep animals sequestered for several months.
- Vaccination and health requirements which may be necessary to clear customs.

- Pet travel logistics. Military members may need to coordinate with specialized pet transportation services, which involves arranging flights, ground transportation, and complying with airline pet policies. In addition, the stress of traveling can impact pets' well-being.

- Finding pet-friendly housing, whether on- or off-base, in a new overseas location.

- Costs of relocating animals for overseas assignments can be excessive. Fortunately, as of January 1, 2024, service members going through a PCS within the continental United States can be reimbursed up to \$550 for one household cat or dog, and up to \$2,000 for moves to or from a location outside the U.S. to cover costs related to the transportation of a pet. The DoD, in approving this policy in June 2023, estimated the financial allowance could be used by some 227,000 service members. "This policy reduces that financial burden while recognizing the important role a pet plays in a military family's household," said the DoD in announcing the new policy. 🐾



CARING FOR DOGS IN A REMOTE VILLAGE OF THE AMAZON JUNGLE

By *Cindy Boyer*

My family always had pets as I was growing up and I dearly loved them and often wished I could have more, like maybe a horse or a pony! Through the years we had dogs, cats, guinea pigs, a parakeet, a tortoise, chickens and pet mice. At the age of ten, I made a poster that won a certificate of merit in the Latham Foundation International Poster Contest. I don't remember what the poster was about, but not long ago I came across the certificate stored away with other elementary school mementos. Because I personally knew Hugh Tebault III and his wife, Mary, I wrote them and told them about the certificate I found. They, in turn, encouraged me to write this article, telling about where life has taken me since then.

After college, when I was on my own and had a job teaching elementary school, I had a dog

named Bojie for a few years. On my way to work I would drop him off at my parents' house, where he would keep them company until I picked him up on my way back home. But when I decided to become a missionary in Peru, South America, I had to leave Bojie with my folks when I left the U.S.

I joined Wycliffe Bible Translators and took their training courses to be a literacy specialist and Bible translator. Before going overseas, we new members went to what was called "Field Training Camp," where we were taught things we would need to know on the field. There was a lot about language learning, how to get along with others, how to adapt to a different culture and there was some medical training. A doctor taught us



Continued on next page

things like how to deliver a baby, how to put in a gastric tube, how to give an injection and how to suture wounds.

In Peru, in order to learn the culture and language of the indigenous people I was to work with, I spent many months of the year out in a remote village. Although I never had to deliver a baby or put in a gastric tube, I did have to give a lot of injections, lance some abscesses and suture some wounds. In the city I could buy almost any medication I could ask for, so I always took out a lot of medicines to give to people who would get sick or wounded. With the guidance of a village medical manual and frequent consults with a nurse practitioner over a two-way radio, I learned how to treat a lot of medical problems that presented themselves among the village people.

I suppose that as the people saw what I could do in the area of medical care, they got the idea I could help their dogs, too. Now dogs are important members of the community. Not only do they guard their families' homes,



Amazon Jungle in Lagunas District in Peru

but they usually are good at hunting and chasing down the wild animals men go after to kill for meat. Some wild animals, like boars however, will turn on a dog and attack when it gets cornered. Another animal that can do serious damage to a dog is a coatimundi because it has very sharp teeth. The brush the dogs run through also can rip their hide and leave a gaping wound.



Wild boar are found throughout South America

So out of compassion for my neighbors' dogs, I would stitch up their wounds when their owners would bring them to me. Despite my earnest efforts, success wasn't always guaranteed; some dogs would either chew off their bandages or immediately engage in fights with other dogs over a female in heat. One dog named Rorito was my patient on four different occasions



Coatimundi are about the size of a large house cat.

through the years. He was very patient with my treating him, because he knew that a tasty reward awaited him once the process was complete. I used to sew and pin little shirts on him to try to keep the dressing clean. As I did with my human patients, I'd have the dogs brought in day after day for cleaning the wound and changing the bandage.

I also saw a lot of mange on the dogs, plus they would get jigger fleas in their toes and botfly larva any place on their bodies.



Rorito, the neighbors' dog, ripped up his side while running through the jungle. This was the third time I had to take care of a wound of his! He endured my messing with him because he knew I'd give him a treat when it was over.

Continued on next page



I sewed and pinned little shirts on Rorito every day after changing his bandage. It helped keep the bandage on and keep the flies and dirt off.

So I learned what medicines to get in town to treat those problems, too. I would buy a big container of a black salve and portion it out for the dogs' owners to treat the botflies. I bought injectable Ivermectin to treat them for mange, intestinal parasites and fleas. When I would leave the village for months at a time, I would leave the medicine with one of the villagers so he could continue treating dogs as needs arose.



Rorito at our back steps with his neck bandaged and masking tape around his head to hold it on. Probably wanting a bone or some meat scraps for being a good patient.

One time a neighbor dog suffered a rip in his abdomen and a bit of his intestine protruded out of the wound. I could see no way to push the intestine back in and stitch his hide closed over it. I hardly had the stomach for doing it, either, but I provided the instruments and medicines and his two owners managed to get it

closed while their mother and I held the dog. It really helped that I gave him a shot of a tranquilizer during the long ordeal to get him stitched up. In spite of a most probable infection inside the wound (I gave him an antibiotic daily, too) the dog survived!

A few years after my husband and I finished the translation of the New Testament, we left the village for good. Occasionally, I find myself contemplating the well-being of the village dogs. No one ever requests me to send out medicine for them anymore.

CINDY BOYER - BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

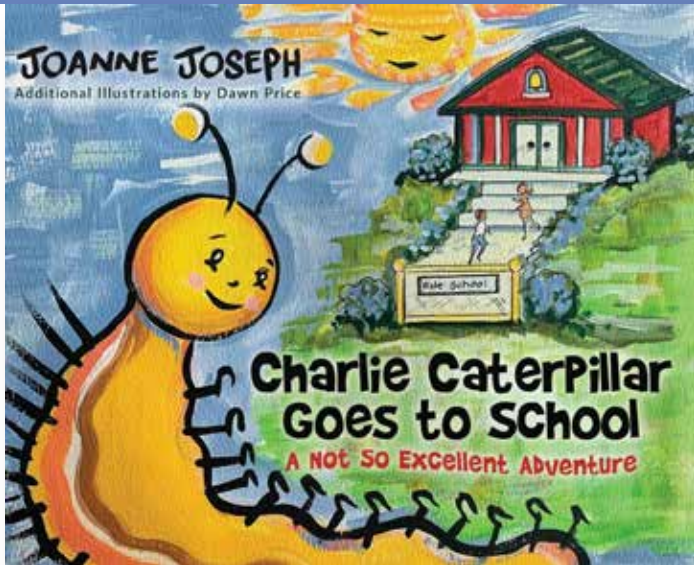
Cindy Boyer, a committed member of Wycliffe Bible Translators, has devoted 38 years of her life to an indigenous people in the jungle area of Peru, South America. Cindy and her husband, Jim Boyer, with whom she has been happily married for 31 years, embraced the challenge of learning the language of Culina Madija, spoken by the Culina people who live on the southeast border of Peru and Brazil, along the Purús River. Cindy and Jim resided in the remote Culina village of San Bernardo for extended periods of time each year, providing support in the realms of healthcare, education,



Cindy with her certificate of merit from The Latham Foundation International Poster Contest of 1963.

material assistance, and spiritual guidance. Besides the development of many reading materials, one of their greatest contributions was the translation of the New Testament into the Culina Madija language, which was delivered to the people in 2015. Post-translation, the Boyers continued their linguistic endeavors, engaging in the development of a grammar analysis of Culina Madija and a comprehensive Culina-Spanish dictionary.





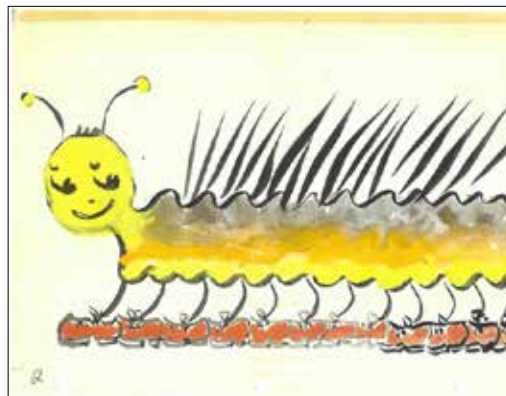
CHARLIE CATERPILLAR GOES TO SCHOOL

by Joanne Joseph

Charlie Caterpillar is a sweet young children’s story about the adventures of Charlie Caterpillar who happens to wander onto a schoolyard full of playing children. Avoiding the feet of the children proves to be quite the adventure for Charlie. Fortunately for Charlie, he is rescued by a little girl who puts him into a paper cup. Charlie finds his way back home and falls asleep under a leaf. When he wakes from his sleep, he discovers that he has become a beautiful butterfly. This sweet little story teaches empathy and compassion for all life, no matter how small.

Charlie Caterpillar Goes to School teaches the value of not owning another creature but rather the joy of setting them free.

All proceeds from this book are donated to The Human-Animal Connection TheHumanAnimalConnection.org



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- Publisher: Human-Animal Connection (November 10, 2023)
- Language : English
- Hardcover : 66 pages
- ISBN-13: 979-8985802634

WHY HORSES AREN'T ‘IT’S’ BY SQUARE PEG FOUNDATION.



AUGUST 21, 2023 BY JOELL
Not An “it” A video essay





THE LATHAM STEPS

We would love to know your thoughts on this issue's articles. If you would like to share your own anecdote, story, photo, or artwork relating to one of the Latham Steps to Humane Education, we would love to see it (and possibly publish it in *The Latham Letter!* Editor@latham.org)



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WANT TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE LATHAM LETTER?

The editors welcome manuscripts relevant to the Foundation's interests and mission but reserve the right to publish such manuscripts at their discretion. The Latham Foundation promotes respect for all life through education; The Latham Letter, which has been published for more than 40 years, presents balanced views on humane issues and activities throughout the world. We are particularly interested in articles that will appeal to the Letter's diverse readership. Subscribers include animal welfare and social service professionals, veterinarians, university students, and individuals interested in humane education, the human-companion animal bond, animal-assisted or animal-facilitated therapy and interventions, and the connection between animal abuse and other forms of violence.

Submissions should be between 500 to 2,000 words and e-mailed as an attached Microsoft Word document with a brief cover letter explaining your submission. The cover letter should include authors' names in publishing order and the name, address, telephone (home and work) and the e-mail addresses for the corresponding (submitting) author.

Photographs, tables, figures and other related graphics such as an organization's logo are encouraged. Photographs should be properly labeled with credit and captions and submitted either as high resolution files or as originals, which will be scanned (and returned if requested). Please include copies of all signed releases.

Tables and figures should be submitted as separate files in their original format.

Please do not integrate them into the electronic text.

Submissions should conclude with a brief biographical paragraph about the author(s) including preferred contact information.

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TO SHARE WITH THOSE WHO NEED IT

Quality of Life Scale (The HHHHHMM Scale)

Pet caregivers can use this Quality of Life Scale to determine the success of Pawspice care.
Score patients using a scale of: 0 to 10 (10 being ideal).

Score	Criterion
0-10	HURT – Adequate pain control & breathing ability is of top concern and outweighs all others. Is the pet's pain well managed? Can the pet breathe properly? Is oxygen supplementation necessary?
0-10	HUNGER – Is the pet eating enough? Does hand feeding help? Does the pet need a feeding tube?
0-10	HYDRATION – Is the pet dehydrated? For patients not drinking enough, use subcutaneous fluids daily to supplement fluid intake.
0-10	HYGIENE – The pet should be brushed and cleaned, particularly after eliminations. Avoid pressure sores with soft bedding and keep all wounds clean.
0-10	HAPPINESS – Does the pet express joy and interest? Is the pet responsive to family, toys, etc.? Is the pet depressed, lonely, anxious, bored or afraid? Can the pet's bed be moved to be close to family activities?
0-10	MOBILITY – Can the pet get up without assistance? Does the pet need human or mechanical help (e.g., a cart)? Does the pet feel like going for a walk? Is the pet having seizures or stumbling? (Some caregivers feel euthanasia is preferable to amputation, but an animal with limited mobility yet still alert and responsive can have a good quality of life as long as caregivers are committed to helping the pet.)
0-10	MORE GOOD DAYS THAN BAD – When bad days outnumber good days, quality of life might be too compromised. When a healthy human-animal bond is no longer possible, the caregiver must be made aware that the end is near. The decision for euthanasia needs to be made if the pet is suffering. If death comes peacefully and painlessly, that is okay.
* TOTAL	*A total over 35 points represents acceptable life quality to continue with pet hospice (Pawspice).

Original concept, *Oncology Outlook*, by Dr. Alice Villalobos, *Quality of Life Scale Helps Make Final Call*, VPN, 09/2004; scale format created for author's book, *Canine and Feline Geriatric Oncology: Honoring the Human-Animal Bond*, Blackwell Publishing, 2007. Adapted for the International Veterinary Association of Pain Management, 2011 Hospice Guidelines. Reprinted for the Latham Newsletter with permission from Dr. Villalobos & Wiley-Blackwell.



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