AV magazine

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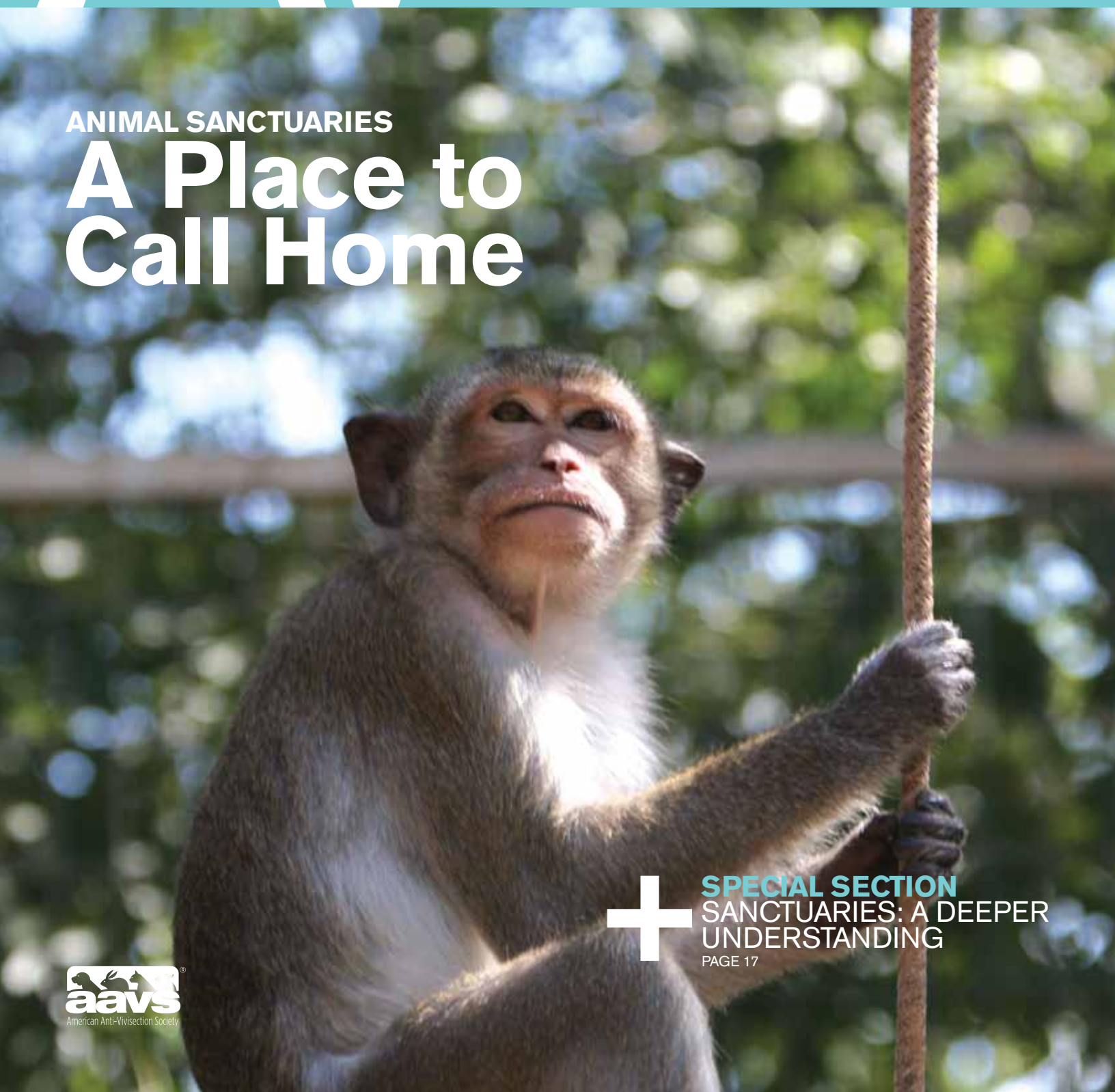

ANIMAL SANCTUARIES

A Place to Call Home

+ SPECIAL SECTION
SANCTUARIES: A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING
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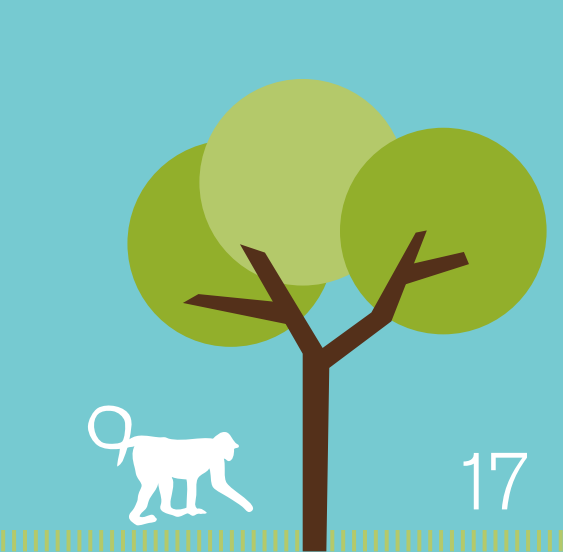

2010 Number 3 & 4

ANIMAL SANCTUARIES

A Place to Call Home

FEATURES

SPECIAL SECTION

SANCTUARIES: A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

DEPARTMENTS

On the cover: Rescued from a lab, this lucky macaque calls Mindy's Memory home.

Founded in 1883, the American Anti-Vivisection Society's (AAVS) mission is to unequivocally oppose and work to end experimentation on animals and to oppose all other forms of cruelty to animals. AAVS is a nonprofit education organization using legal, effective advocacy to achieve meaningful, lasting change.

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First Word

CHANGE OFTEN HAPPENS ONE ANIMAL or one person at a time. I live with animals who badly needed someone to take them home and commit to caring for them. I opened my heart to them and I'm grateful every day when I see their happy faces. I've also looked into the eyes of animals who desperately needed to get out of labs—and who finally found sanctuary with skilled and caring people who can address their special needs.

In this issue of the AV Magazine, you'll hear about some of those lucky animals, who, in defiance of their tragic pasts, are called by light-hearted names, like Burrito and Rudy and Oliver and Stanley.

They are on new paths, discovering days with wonderful flavors (fresh fruit!), wonderful sensations (sun! swinging from the trees!), and wonderful feelings (grooming each other's fur! soft blankets!)

How did they get this second chance at life? Well, it couldn't have happened without people who care; people like you and hundreds of other AAVS members. For over 25 years, we've provided support for animals released from labs all over the country. In 2005, we expanded that support by establishing the Tina Nelson Sanctuary Fund, in memory of AAVS's Executive Director from 1995-2005, who died—much too young—of cancer.

Early in Tina's career, she met Sam, a chimpanzee who was owned by a bar in Ohio that let customers give him beer and cigarettes for kicks. He lived in a barren cement prison, completely alone in his misery and neglect. Tina tried everything to win Sam's release, and secured him a slot at a sanctuary in Texas, anticipating that happy day. Sadly, the legal system failed for Sam and that day never came.

Tina dedicated herself to helping animals like Sam, and through her advocacy at AAVS, including her role in the passage of the CHIMP Act of 1999, which provides for retirement of chimpanzees from federal labs, she fulfilled that mission. When Tina died, I knew instantly that the best way to honor her memory was to establish the Tina Nelson Sanctuary Fund. From that pool of contributions, AAVS provides grants to sanctuaries that are helping animals reclaim their lives. Sam never got the chance, but we can make sure that others do.

Thank you for caring,

Sue A. Leary, President
American Anti-Vivisection Society

ABBY IS HOME!

Thanks to generous donations to our Tina Nelson Sanctuary Fund, Abby and thousands more like her have found home, living in peace in sanctuaries, free from exploitation and abuse.

Join our effort in supporting sanctuaries and the animals living in their care.

www.aavs.org/SanctuaryFund
Please give generously.

News

ISSUES AFFECTING ANIMALS

Problems with Class B Dealers Exposed Again

This fall, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) released its report on the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) oversight of Class B dealers who sell random source dogs and cats to laboratories. The GAO found fault with USDA management of these dealers and recommended improvements to the agency, which is charged with upholding the Animal Welfare Act (AWA).

Among other problems, the GAO discovered that more than one-third of dealer inspections resulted in at least one violation, and seven out of nine dealers had one or more violations. In addition, many tracebacks, which are checks on the sources of animals, remained incomplete. For 2009 alone, 42 out of 326 tracebacks were not completed as of June 2010, despite the fact that Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service guidance states that they should occur within 30 days of dealer inspection. Tracebacks are an important method of enforcing the AWA. For example, a dog who has no documentation may have been someone's lost or stolen pet.

The GAO report recommended that USDA refine its analysis and use of traceback information to ensure that dogs and cats are obtained legally. However, while AAVS appreciates the desire to improve the oversight process, the report speaks to a more fundamental issue.

The GAO report is yet another indication of the complications and costs in random source Class B dealers. AAVS considers this to be further evidence of the need to simply shut down random source Class B dealer facilities entirely, as called for in the Pet Safety and Protection Act.

Readers can still contact their Senators and Representatives to ask their support of the Pet Safety and Protection Act, legislation that would ban random source Class B dealers.

TAKE ACTION AT WWW.AAVS.ORG/PETSAFETY

Puerto Rico Acts to Stop Monkey Facility

Last year, Bioculture of Puerto Rico announced plans to build a monkey breeding facility to supply research subjects to the U.S. It was reported that 4,000 monkeys would be caught and imported from Mauritius, an island off the southeastern coast of Africa. However, "We never knew what the real number of monkeys was," said Senator Melinda Romero. "They were dishonest to us all the time and that's something that we need to report," she continued.

In October, the Puerto Rican Senate voted to send a letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requesting that the agencies deny any importation permits submitted by Bioculture. Without being able to import monkeys, Bioculture cannot set up shop in Puerto Rico.

"I want to make sure that the federal authorities understand the problem here regarding the use of these animals for testing," Romero said. "I'm completely opposed to the issue on the grounds that other things could be done before a life is sacrificed."

In agreement, Senator Jorge Suárez stated, "If the only argument presented to oppose this measure is that of jobs, that is sad. We don't need a monkey farm to generate work. That company and many like them are performing work which goes against our beliefs and that's why I support the resolution."

PHOTOS BY ISTOCKPHOTO

Cosmetic Testing Ban in EU May be Delayed

March 2009 marked the beginning of the end of using animals to test cosmetics in the European Union (EU). Six years prior, the Union committed to a ban that would first prohibit animal testing for cosmetics, and then prohibit the marketing of animal tested cosmetics within the EU. The marketing ban was to come into force in intervals, and culminate with full replacement of all animal tests for cosmetics in 2013. News of the ban received widespread political and public support, and was considered a win for the countless rats, mice, rabbits, and others who suffer and die for products like lipstick, moisturizer, and soap. Now, however, the EU is threatening to weaken the ban by pushing back the 2013 deadline.

The European Commission released a Draft Technical Report considering five endpoints: skin sensitization, carcinogenicity, repeated dose toxicity, toxicokinetics, and reproductive toxicity. Comments were received from industry stakeholders who claim that replacement alternatives for a certain number of tests are not yet available. In other words, they argue that science has not caught up with the law.

However, the Commission's assessment has been challenged by animal advocates and some alternatives experts. They say that only alternatives that mimic a complete test were considered, despite the fact that many alternatives that mimic important components of tests are available and have been shown to be reliable. Because all available alternatives were not considered, suggested deadlines to finalize the ban were unnecessarily expanded.

Despite the fact that new alternative test systems are needed, the 2013 date could still hold. The ban was first introduced because the EU made an ethical decision that the suffering of animals outweighs the need for new cosmetics. There are thousands of existing ingredients that have already been proven efficacious from which cosmetic companies can develop new products. In the coming months, the European Commission will decide whether or not to uphold the moral position of the original ban.

Number of Research Animals Used in Europe Remains Consistent

The European Commission recently released its periodical report on the use of animals in the European Union (EU). This report, covering the year 2008, breaks animal use down by number, species, and type of test, which is an additional category not included in U.S. animal usage reports. Also, unlike the U.S., birds, rats, and mice are included in this report because these animals are covered under the EU's animal welfare laws.

To that extent, nearly 12 million animals were used for scientific research in the EU in 2008. Although the total is similar to the previous report in 2005, the species of animals used has shifted. More than 690,000 additional mice were used in this period, most likely attributed to the rise in using transgenic mice. If a similar shift is happening in the U.S., this does not bode well; since mice are not counted in the total number of animals used, their increase will not be represented.

NEARLY 12 MILLION ANIMALS WERE USED FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THE EU IN 2008.

Of the 27 EU member states, five dominated more than two thirds of animal use (France, the United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, and Italy). Most animals were used in fundamental biology studies; however, no great apes were used at all. The report also shows that the number of animals used to test consumer products has declined (80,000 in 2008, down from 100,000 in 2005, and 140,000 in 2002 when there were only 15 EU member states).

Sanctuary Means HOME

Some days at work are hard. I hear about cruel acts to animals, and I become outraged if I'm lucky, and sad if I'm not. But when I go home, my heart is soothed to be with the animals I love and know are safe. For my two dogs and two cats, our home is their sanctuary.

Sue and Kelly happy together in 1976.

BY SUE LEARY

Home is where Sasha, Romeo, Anita, and Mona feel confident, relaxed, and secure. They know the routines, and they know the members of the household. They have their favorite spots and their favorite things to do. They can live their lives with a balance of comfort and stimulation. Their needs are being met, and they know where to turn if something isn't right, as do I.

That's what we want for all animals—a place where they can live, with or without us, carrying on and fulfilling their natural inclinations. What a contrast to how animals in laboratories or factory farms or roadside zoos exist—cramped into cages, alone, distressed, and worse.

Sasha is the smart one in our household: a young and strong boxer-mix with a little tilt to her head as she tries to discern what's going on. So when there is uncertainty in the air, I remind her, "It's okay; no one will ever hurt you; I'll make sure of that." Suddenly, her confidence returns; she licks my face and grabs a toy while she has my attention. The spell is broken, but I never forget my solemn promise to care for them and protect them as best I can.

A DEEPER MEANING

Solemn promise, sacred oath, sanctuary—these words convey a language of commitment that transcends everyday promises. They are derived from religious terms; we still refer to the holiest part of a place of worship as the sanctuary, and that is the origin of our modern understanding of the word. In a famous scene from the classic novel, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, set in 15th century Paris, the tormented hero, Quasimodo, carries the heroine, Esmerelda, whom he has just dramatically rescued from execution, into the church. He calls and claims, "Sanctuary! Sanctuary!" The concept is widespread. For over a thousand years, English law formally recognized churches as a place where criminals would not be arrested. Today, people we call refugees seek sanctuary as they flee persecution in their own countries.

Sanctuary implies that there is a danger outside the sanctuary, usually life-threatening. But inside is safe because of the recognized authority and strength of the sanctuary provider. The offer of protection is

PHOTOS BY ROB CARDILLO

legitimate, grounded in some common understanding and respect between the pursuer and the protector. Providing sanctuary is itself a sacred trust that bears responsibility.

It is no coincidence that the term sanctuary has been enlisted in the cause for animals, for whom the world is indeed a dangerous place. In his book, *Farm Sanctuary* (Touchstone, 2008), author Gene Baur describes the origins of the organization of the same name that he started with Lorri Bauston: "We hit on a word that resonated with all of us—sanctuary…."

WHAT ARE ANIMAL SANCTUARIES?

Animal sanctuaries are distinguished from shelters in part because the intent is not primarily adoption, as with cat and dog shelters. In fact, animal sanctuaries are usually the last stop for animals who can't be adopted. Sanctuaries are there to serve as permanent homes.

So, who calls an animal sanctuary home? It's helpful to distinguish between animals who need temporary shelter and those who need permanent sanctuary. First, dogs and cats and other animals who are compatible with human home life can be adopted responsibly. Community-based shelters, SPCAs, humane societies, and rescue leagues are best equipped to handle that challenge. Second, horses and other animals generally associated with farms are also accustomed to people, but the number of individuals who have the resources and capability to care for them is much more limited, so these animals need sanctuaries—at least for those who cannot be adopted.

Third, native wildlife may need rehabilitation but, hopefully, with a few exceptions, these creatures can be released safely back into their natural habitat after medical care and recovery. Finally, the animals who cannot be expected to survive without lifelong human care and intervention are non-native wildlife, often called "exotic," which includes all the non-human primates in the U.S., lions, tigers, elephants, and many birds and reptiles, among others.

WHERE THEY COME FROM

Many of the non-native wildlife were born to animals whose misfortune is that humans are able to breed them in captivity. Like puppy mills that wring out puppies from worn out female dogs for as long as they can bear it, there are bird mills that snatch nestlings from their mothers, before they are even weaned, and ship them off to pet stores. The idea is to maintain a flow of baby animals that people will pay to own, or pet, or pay admission to see on exhibition, and worse. When things start to go wrong—bites, escapes, sickness, and lack of funds, to name a few—there aren't many options, ranging from animal auctions to sanctuaries.

Animals who come from labs are usually a little different. First, most animals in labs are mice and rats, and they typically are killed at the end of the experiments rather than released to a sanctuary. However, in a notable exception, we have seen that rats used in college psychology classes to demonstrate conditioning (although there are excellent alternatives for that) occasionally are released to rat adoption groups, like our friends at Rat Chick Rat Rescue in Philadelphia. Along with cats and dogs, any rabbits, guinea pigs, or rats who manage to gain their freedom from a lab will be candidates for adoption, to survive and thrive as companion animals.

Sasha at home in 2010.

It is the increasing number of primates who pose the greatest challenge if their release from labs is won. The big ones, like chimpanzees, are very strong and can be dangerous to people and other chimpanzees. Experienced medical staff, and precautions to prevent transmission of disease between the primates and humans are essential. All primates are smart, and they require stimulation and activity and extra security. They need to become part of a social group, which can be tricky, considering they might be strangers to each other at first. Finally, just like us, they need independence and some degree of self-determination. They need to make their own new home with companions of their choice.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

It takes a lot of attention to detail, dedication, and resources; but, fortunately, the caring community of people for animal protection are united in wanting to "empty the cages," as philosopher Tom Regan puts it. We embrace this challenge of caring for animals who have been harmed. Certainly, AAVS pursues lasting solutions for the problems of animal use in science through education and advocacy, but sanctuaries provide the opportunity of extending safety and kindness to those who are otherwise in danger.

At the entrance to every sanctuary, we could put a sign that says "No more exploitation," meaning, at the least: no selling, no breeding, no experiments, and no demands to perform. That sign might also say, "You are home." **AV**

Sue Leary is the President of AAVS.

SANCTUARY: OUR MISSION THEIR LIVES

BY CRYSTAL SCHAEFFER

Arun Rangsi (L) and Shanti (R) were both used in research, but have been living at IPPL for over 20 years.

PHOTO COURTESY OF IPPL

"They are now free to be monkeys."

Perhaps more gratifying words have never been spoken, especially if you are a rhesus macaque, capuchin, marmoset, squirrel monkey, or cotton-top tamarin rescued from a laboratory.

And certainly no matter who the animal, each deserves and has the right to live not only a life free of pain and misery but also to be who s/he is meant to be—a rabbit, pig, dog, cat, cow, horse, mouse, rat, bird, chimpanzee—and the individual who chooses carrots over lettuce, faces the sun to take a snooze, prefers a red ball over a squeak doll, squeezes into secret spots to catch a ray of sun, plays chase with a goat friend, enjoys a two finger scratch down the bridge of his nose, loves to take morning naps in her food dish, hides in the pink towel but never the blue, greets visitors with a squawk followed by a tune, and laughs as she plays in the water with her best friend.

These are the realities for a precious few who have been removed from laboratories and are now healing from their suffering, living in peace in sanctuaries.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the American Anti-Vivisection Society is to unequivocally oppose and work to end experimentation on animals and to oppose all other forms of cruelty to animals. Part of AAVS's strategy to meeting this mission is a holistic approach to animal advocacy that includes helping to provide haven to animals who have served as involuntary research subjects, forced to relinquish their well-being in exchange for pain and suffering. Retiring animals from laboratory research is a fairly new phenomenon compared to the centuries old practice of animal experimentation that was occurring in the 1880s, when AAVS was established. During a time when dogs were stolen off the street and often no anesthesia was used during painful, invasive procedures, most likely it was beyond the comprehension of our founder, Caroline Earle White, that animals could be removed from laboratories and relocated to places whose sole job was to safeguard them and their welfare. Indeed, throughout the close of the 19th century and most of the 20th century, animals used in research were rarely released from laboratories. The vast majority either died as part of an experiment or were purposely killed after researchers deemed them no longer "usable," while a precious few were relocated to zoos, still held captive and undoubtedly unable to heal fully from both their physical and mental wounds.

Since its first grant in 1982, AAVS has awarded over three-quarters of a million dollars to worthy sanctuaries that provide exceptional care for animals rescued from experimentation and abuse. The criteria to receive an AAVS grant is stringent. Foremost, sanctuaries are required to operate in accordance to AAVS principles, and grants must be used in a manner aligned with our mission to end the use of animals in research, testing, and education. Additionally, sanctuaries must maintain high standards of care (such as those outlined by sanctuary accreditation organizations) for the animals entrusted to them.

One of the things that sets AAVS's grant program apart is our willingness to provide grants for general support, meaning that they are not always earmarked for a specific purpose like building enclosures for newly rescued monkeys. We prefer this approach because oftentimes, it is the costs associated with general operations—electricity, water, sewer, heat, food, staff salaries—that can be the most overwhelming, even for the most successful sanctuaries.

The majority of sanctuaries receiving AAVS grants are those that take in "exotic" animals from laboratories, such as primates, who need specialized housing and diets, environmental stimulation, veterinary treatment, etc. It is also important that these sanctuaries do not operate like zoos, and that animals living there are afforded their privacy with little direct human contact and the right to live a life as close to their wild counterparts as possible. AAVS has also provided funding for facilities like Ryerss Farm for Aged Equines and The Animali Farm, which care for large domestic animals like horses, who, due to their size and cost of care, are not easy to place for adoption. Because they are domesticated, farmed animals often welcome (and need) human touch; but while these sanctuaries may be open to the public, visitors are permitted only to meet the animals, and they are not worked in any way, including for pleasure riding.

TIES THAT BIND

AAVS has been able to build relationships with several sanctuaries with ties to our hometown of Philadelphia, and a prime example is Ryerss Farm for Aged Equines. Our connection is based on more than close proximity; rather, its foundation is over 125 years old. Ryerss' founder, Robert W. Ryerss, was a colleague of Caroline Earle White and one of the original founders of AAVS.

The horses at Ryerss have long benefited from AAVS sanctuary grants. In 1989, AAVS awarded Ryerss $30,000 to "support refuge and rehab of vivisected horses." Less than 10 years later, Ryerss welcomed 34 foals who were rescued from the Premarin industry. (Premarin is a drug used to treat hormone imbalance in women and is produced using pregnant mare's urine, and involves continually impregnating horses.) Considered to be by-products of the industry, the foals were at risk to be sent to feedlots and slaughterhouses. AAVS grants aided Ryerss in offering sanctuary to these animals, including special care and rehabilitation, so that they could be adopted into loving families.

Two other equines at Ryerss benefiting from AAVS sanctuary grants are Ralph and Stanley, who were released from a pharmaceutical company, where they were used in the production of snake and spider antivenom. Today, they live on the green, rolling pastures at Ryerss; and Stanley, handsome sorrel Belgian that he is, has been featured on some of AAVS's promotional materials.

It is worth noting that Ralph and Stanley came from a laboratory located not very far from AAVS. In fact, southeastern Pennsylvania has a

high density of research facilities, one of which is the Buckshire Corporation. Often operating as a supplier, Buckshire bred chimpanzees and leased animals to research labs, as well as those in the entertainment industry. Typically, chimpanzees there lived in isolation in standard-sized 5' x 5' x 7' laboratory cages.

In 1996, 12 chimpanzees were released by Buckshire to Primarily Primates, marking what many consider the first time chimps were permanently retired from research and placed in a sanctuary environment. Dubbed the Buckshire 12, these chimpanzees had lived in isolation for 10-20 years, and the thought of placing them in successful family groups seemed far-reaching for some. As recently as 20 years ago, little was known about chimpanzee relations and socialization, especially outside the confines of a laboratory environment. But a key element in this process was understanding the chimps' personalities and temperaments in isolation versus in social groups.

Caregivers at Buckshire recommended pairing certain chimpanzees, and later they were introduced into larger groups, in larger areas, allowing for observation of their behaviors and insights into who might be best grouped together at Primarily Primates.

Months of hard work, diligence, and patience paid off, and the chimps are still reaping their just rewards, living happily in family groups in sanctuary. This success demonstrated that it was possible to resocialize not only chimps who once lived in families in the wild but also to socialize those who were born in the lab and were unfamiliar with group living. Over the years, AAVS has awarded Primarily Primates with grants that have been used to meet the needs of the Buckshire 12 as well as the many other animals who reside there.

Additionally, AAVS is happy to announce that Buckshire permanently stopped dealing in chimpanzees. The last seven of Buckshire's chimps now reside at Chimpanzee Sanctuary Northwest, another benefactor of AAVS sanctuary grants.

WHO MADE THE NEWS

While the Buckshire 12 may be considered the first chimpanzees released from research for permanent retirement, it was the LEMSIP chimps who made the news. Affiliated with New York University's (NYU) School of Medicine, the Laboratory for Experimental Medicine and Surgery in Primates (LEMSIP) was established in 1965, and hundreds of chimpanzees and monkeys were used in intensive biomedical research. Jan Moor-Jankowski was the Director of LEMSIP, as well as a source of controversy. However, the hullabaloo hit the fan when Moor-Jankowski, editor of *Journal of Medical Primatology*, published a letter to the editor authored by Shirley McGreal, founder of the International Primate Protection League (IPPL), that criticized the use of wild caught monkeys in hepatitis research. Following that, NYU denied him the necessary funding to improve his laboratory for the betterment of the animals. Moor-Jankowski later blew the whistle on the University and Ron Wood, who had been addicting primates to crack cocaine. NYU was charged with 378 violations of the Animal Welfare Act.

In 1997, NYU shut down LEMSIP, and while many of the primates were sent to the Coulston Foundation, another lab with serious welfare violations, over 200 chimps and monkeys were relocated to sanctuaries across North America. Among them was the Primate Rescue Center, an AAVS grantee. Today, the LEMSIP chimpanzees there are living as one happy family unit with another group of chimps who were rescued from the exotic pet industry.

IN HONOR

AAVS has a long history of supporting individuals working at the grass roots level and/or directly with animals. Fittingly, IPPL was one of AAVS's original grant awardees receiving funding to provide haven for animals formally used in research. An organization that advocates on behalf of primates around the world, IPPL also operates a sanctuary that over 30 gibbons call home.

IPPL's first grant was in 1983 and was used to provide care for Arun Rangsi, the sanctuary's first resident, who was relinquished after the lab that used him in cancer research closed. Unlike other primates who live in groups, gibbons form lifelong monogamous pairs, so finding a companion for Arun Rangsi became a priority. He was introduced to Shanti, who had also been rescued from a lab, and proved to be the perfect mate. Arun Rangsi and Shanti still live at IPPL along with other gibbons rescued from labs.

Over the decades, IPPL founder Shirley McGreal, Ed. D., OBE, has maintained a strong dedication and tenacity in advocating for primates, and sharing these same traits with AAVS's founder, in 2008, she became the recipient of the first Caroline Earle White Award.

THEIR LIVES

The face of sanctuaries today is far different than it was just few decades ago, and along with demanding that animals be released from their laboratory misery comes the responsibility for their lives once they are free. To this end, as a leader in the anti-vivisection movement, AAVS is also a leader in the sanctuary movement. In part, this involves supporting the design of a sanctuary accreditation system that creates and outlines high standards of not only care and treatment of animals but also of sanctuary operation, as well as aiding struggling facilities so that they can incorporate these high standards. AAVS has played a key role in this process. Starting with the American Sanctuary Association, AAVS helped to fund and actively participated in its operations. Today, AAVS is part of a coalition of groups that supports the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS), and AAVS President Sue Leary serves on its Board. (See Special Section, page 23)

In 2005, AAVS furthered its goal to support sanctuaries by formally establishing the Tina Nelson Sanctuary Fund, named after our Executive Director from 1995-2005. Tina had a passion for sanctuaries and visited facilities across the country quite often, providing individual attention to help them to continue to succeed. Sharing stories of the many rescued animals she had the pleasure of helping and meeting, it was evident that Tina could see in their eyes the image the animals carried of themselves. So, it seems quite fitting to recognize Tina's efforts in this way.

As AAVS continues to work to end animal experimentation and becomes more involved in the sanctuary movement, the reality of the animals involved becomes abundantly clear. As we call for an end to animal research, we must also call for sanctuary. It is our mission. It is their lives. **AV**

Crystal Schaeffer, MA Ed., MA IPCR, is the Outreach Director for AAVS.

AAVS SANCTUARY GRANTS:
GIVING ANIMALS IN LABS A SECOND CHANCE

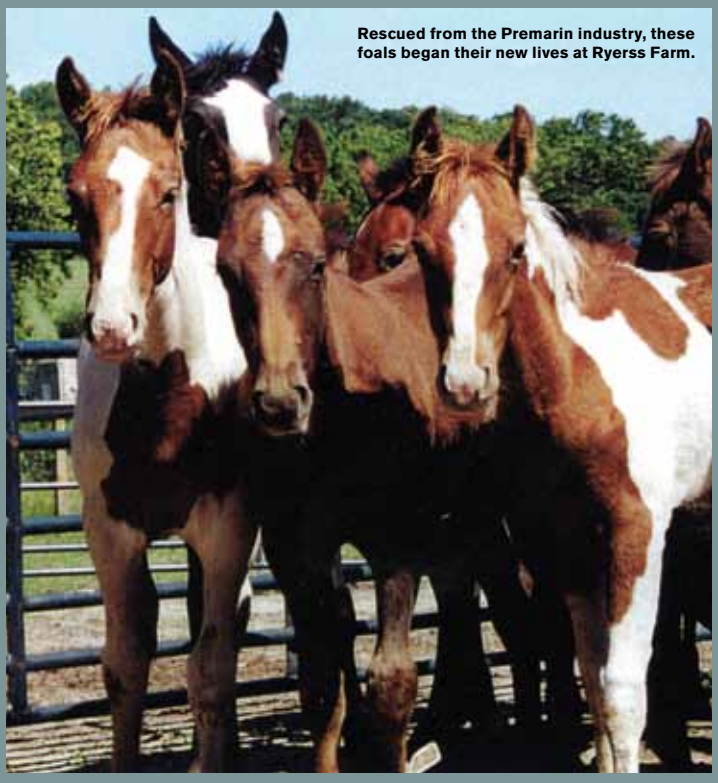
In addition to primate sanctuaries featured in this magazine, the following are some of the past recipients of grants made with donations to the Tina Nelson Sanctuary Fund.

THE ANIMALI FARM

Located in California, The Animali Farm is a horse rescue that finds loving homes for foals and mares used in the Premarin industry. Premarin, manufactured from the urine of pregnant mares, is a drug made to counteract menopause in humans. When these factories go out of business, The Animali Farm takes the animals in, saving thousands of horses from slaughter. Recently, AAVS awarded The Animali Farm a grant in recognition of its dedication and leadership on the Premarin issue. The sanctuary is ideally located to help the horses caught up in this volatile business, due to the predominance of horses and foals kept in the western U.S. and Canada.

RYERSS FARM FOR AGED EQUINES

As a retirement facility for elderly and abused horses, Ryerss has received many grants from AAVS in recognition of its work to protect animals formerly used in the pharmaceutical industry. Horses like Stanley, a handsome sorrel Belgian who was bled for the production of snake anti-venom, require extra care. Ryerss has also rescued Premarin foals. In addition to providing rescue and sanctuary services, Ryerss plays a valuable role working with local cruelty investigators on abuse and neglect cases, and provides emergency care in urgent situations.



Rescued from the Premarin industry, these foals began their new lives at Ryerss Farm.

PHOTO COURTESY OF REYERSS FARM

PEACE RIVER REFUGE AND RANCH

Located in Florida, Peace River Refuge and Ranch is dedicated to the care of abused, neglected, confiscated, and unwanted exotic animals. Although the majority of its residents is other species of wildlife, Peace River Refuge and Ranch also houses primates from laboratories on its 90-acre compound. A timely gift from AAVS helped the sanctuary acquire this new space to care for the animals when it was squeezed out of its original property by new housing developments.

CHENOA MANOR

Chenoa Manor gets its name from the Native American word meaning "white dove." As a harbinger of peace, Chenoa Manor not only provides sanctuary for animals used in research, farming, and other industries, but it also educates children and young adults on issues of compassion and care for animals. The sanctuary houses several rabbits from labs, and received a grant from AAVS to build a special rabbit habitat. Now, lucky rabbits such as Pheobe, who was rescued from a research facility, are allowed to chew, gnaw, burrow, and engage in many other normal rabbit behaviors.

INTERNATIONAL PRIMATE PROTECTION LEAGUE

Over the years, AAVS has made several grants to the International Primate Protection League (IPPL) in South Carolina. Director Shirley McGreal, Ed. D., OBE, is a pioneer in primate rescue, and has focused sanctuary care on gibbons, such as Peppy and Helen, who were retired from research over 25 years ago and still are happy mates. In addition to providing refuge for dozens of animals, IPPL conducts investigations into illegal trafficking of primates and teaches the public about the plight of these animals.

NOAH'S ARK

Noah's Ark is a unique sanctuary that incorporates a residential program for needy children as well as a wildlife rehabilitation center on the same premises. Located in Georgia near the Yerkes National Primate Research Center, it is ideally situated to help as a place for monkeys who have the opportunity to leave research, and AAVS grants have helped it do just that. Over 1,000 animals and dozens of children call Noah's Ark home.

Sanctuary Activist: Care, Education & Advocacy

By Sarah Baeckler and Diana Goodrich

Three years ago, Foxie, Missy, Annie, Burrito, Jamie, Jody, and Negra sat alone in a windowless basement in eastern Pennsylvania, not far from the AAVS offices. This group of seven chimpanzee friends had no fresh air, no sunshine, and no toys to play with or blankets for nesting.

On June 11, 2008, the seven began a two-day trek across the country to Cle Elum, Washington, where their second chance at life awaited. At Chimpanzee Sanctuary Northwest (CSNW), Foxie discovered that she loves troll dolls (yes, those dolls with the crazy hair); Jody perfected the art of relaxing; Negra touched the Earth and felt sunshine on her face for the first time since she was captured in Africa; Missy and Annie decided that spending the whole day laughing and playing really is the ideal lifestyle; Jamie took charge of the chimp group and her new human caregivers; and Burrito, the only male, focused most of his attention on food—fresh fruits and veggies, spaghetti, oatmeal, peanut butter sandwiches, and more.

The Cle Elum Seven arrived at CSNW quiet and aloof. Their skin was pale, their hair was thin, and their eyes were vacant after decades as unwilling subjects of biomedical research. Today, they are confident, silly, noisy, rowdy individuals with plenty of personality. They have choices about their world, like whether to make a nest and nap, play with a friend, or impress our volunteers and staff with dominance displays that involve banging, throwing objects, and pant-hooting. But caring for the chimpanzees is just a portion of what we do at CSNW. Our mission is to provide lifetime quality care for formerly abused and exploited chimpanzees while advocating for great apes. Key to this mission is the fact that CSNW does not "just" provide care. It follows a three-part strategy to bring about tangible progress for chimpanzees everywhere. First, of course, is providing unparalleled care for the chimpanzee residents. Second, CSNW educates the public regarding the plight of captive and free-living chimpanzees. Third, CSNW advocates for chimpanzees.

By combining care with advocacy and education, CSNW is able to participate in the solution. Without advocacy aimed at ending the use of chimpanzees in harmful industries such as biomedical research and entertainment, existing sanctuaries will continue to fill up as chimpanzees are discarded to make room for new subjects. Taking a holistic approach and combining these three elements is crucial to the protection of chimpanzees today. True chimpanzee sanctuaries have the expertise to advocate for chimpanzees from an informed position—we know what their lives are like firsthand. We have seen them transform from zombies to joyful individuals. We have seen the side effects of decades in research. And we know how important our job is: there are about 1,000 chimpanzees currently in biomedical research and over 200 chimpanzees in roadside zoos, private homes, and the entertainment industry who desperately need our voices.

For example, the Great Ape Protection Act (GAPA) would retire chimpanzees in biomedical research supported by federal funding and would outlaw the use of all chimpanzees in invasive testing. CSNW has supported this legislation by informing our supporters and encouraging them to help by meeting with legislators and by inviting representatives to visit the sanctuary to see what chimpanzee retirement is all about. United States Senator Maria Cantwell sent a staffer to visit the sanctuary, and Cantwell's introduction of GAPA to the Senate included the statement, "In my

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHIMPANZEE SANCTUARY NORTHWEST

home State of Washington, I am proud that we have Chimpanzee Sanctuary Northwest."

Advocating for chimpanzees currently in laboratories is a natural fit because the sanctuary is home to former biomedical research chimpanzees. Prior to their lives in research, however, some of the chimpanzees were used in the entertainment industry. Jamie spent her first nine years living with a trainer. After living in a private home, essentially raised as a human child, Burrito was shipped off when he was four and spent two years with a trainer—forced to ride a horse, among other things. Chimpanzees are still used by the entertainment industry for appearances in television shows, commercials, movies, and circuses.

The "training" methods involve abuse and intimidation behind the scenes. Chimpanzees are willful and strong, and instilling fear is a way to get a chimpanzee to perform on command. To fulfill the mission of advocating on behalf of chimpanzees in these situations, CSNW has a robust advocacy program called Primate Patrol, which informs activists of great apes being used by the entertainment industry and organizes letter-writing campaigns. Primate Patrol has had a positive impact. One notable recent victory is the removal of a chimpanzee from a Dodge television commercial and this public statement, "Dodge is firmly committed to never using great apes in our advertisements again."

This holistic approach to chimpanzee advocacy empowers the sanctuary to touch hearts. We share the pasts of the chimpanzees in our care. Most of our residents were used as breeders during their time in research. This means they were repeatedly impregnated but were never allowed to raise their babies. Jody gave birth at least nine times while she was being used in research. Each baby was taken within hours of birth so that she wouldn't have time to bond with (and defend) the baby. One of these babies, Levi, is now a research subject himself. Levi was recently transferred from the Alamogordo Primate Facility (APF) to the Southwest National Primate Research Center. Though APF is not sanctuary, Levi and the other 201 chimpanzees who remained there have been free from biomedical research for almost a decade. Now he faces a possible return to biomedical testing and confinement in a lab cage. We don't know much about Levi. He has lived in the shadows of biomedical research for the entire twenty-six years of his life. His personality, likes, and dislikes have never had a chance to be fully expressed.

Negra now happy and healthy at CSNW.

We share photos, stories and video of the Cle Elum Seven chimpanzees through our blog, website, Facebook, and Twitter pages. It gives us a great deal of pleasure sharing the lives of the chimpanzees we love through these channels, and it is a good way to get people interested in the sanctuary. But there is a larger reason for allowing people to get to know Foxie, Missy, Annie, Burrito, Jamie, Jody, and Negra; connecting with a chimpanzee, even if just through a video, opens up a person to become interested in the issues that all chimpanzees are facing. Our aim is to create many more advocates. We know that we cannot do this job alone. We need the voices of many to be able to help all of the Levi's still out there to one day experience life in a sanctuary, where they have the freedom to express who they really are. AV

Sarah Baeckler, JD, is the Executive Director of CSNW. After several years of working with captive chimpanzees, Sarah worked undercover at a Hollywood animal training compound, where she reported on institutionalized abuse of chimpanzees by the trainers. Inspired by the lawsuit that resulted in the rescue of these chimpanzees, she combined her scientific and hands-on care experience with legal training to improve her advocacy on behalf of chimpanzees.

Diana Goodrich, MS, is the Director of Outreach at CSNW, and has master's degrees in psychology and animals & public policy. For three years, she was a caregiver and executive assistant for the Fauna Foundation, a Canadian sanctuary for chimpanzees released by laboratories and zoos.

PROFILE

Linda Barcklay

Founder, Mindy's Memory Primate Sanctuary

I've had the honor of helping Linda for the last 12 years. When we met, Mindy's Memory was just getting off the ground. In just over a decade, Mindy's has grown from a shoestring operation with only a few monkeys fed with food prepared in Linda's home kitchen to having almost 100 monkeys and all the infrastructure to support them.

In July, we joined forces with several other groups to rescue a group of macaque monkeys from a bankrupt New Jersey lab. Eight of these monkeys, known as the Magnificent Eight, now call Mindy's Memory Primate Sanctuary home. Since then, and with much less fanfare, we have taken in another 10 monkeys—from research, a closing sanctuary, and the pet trade.

Mindy's Memory is one of the very few sanctuaries in the country that takes in research monkeys, and provides lifelong care for them. I am honored to be able to work with Linda Barcklay.

Bob Ingersoll, Board President, Mindy's Memory Primate Sanctuary

AAVS: The obvious first question is: who was Mindy?

LINDA: Mindy Sue was the first rhesus macaque that I accepted. She came from research, was sold to a broker, and brought to us. She was with us for five years. She had severe health problems, she vomited constantly, and the only way I could keep her rehydrated was with electrolytes. The vet said that was the only thing that kept her going. Mindy had a stroke after five years and passed away, and that made me realize that these animals from research need a place to go to.

Did you have other monkeys?

I had two capuchins who I had purchased as pets, and that's really what made me realize they weren't meant to be pets. I had been completely ignorant about how they take them away from their mothers. But I learned in a hurry. I don't believe they should be pets. I don't believe any wild animal should be a pet. And that's how this started.

Why was it important to you to name the sanctuary after Mindy?

I think she deserved it after what she'd been through. And she was the reason I started it. I could have called it anything, but I did it in her memory. She'll always be in my memory.

So, what leads someone down the path from having a pet monkey to being in charge of having a sanctuary for countless animals who have so many different needs?

It's total dedication, believe me. And once you start this, there's no turning back. And once you start building cages, there are more and more and more and more. We've taken in 18 monkeys in fewer than two months. And I turn them away every day.

Can it be hard to give wild animals the distance they need?

Well, they're not my pets; they're no one's pets. Nobody is allowed to touch them. They have the company of each other. They groom, they play, they wrestle, they sleep. We feed them and we care for them, but that's all. They're entitled to spend the rest of their lives in peace, and not be asked to perform for somebody or to be used in any kind of experiments.

Many people don't really know what goes into starting a sanctuary and keeping it running. Does it take more than just good intentions and a few bucks?

It takes a lot of money, believe me. It takes a board, a board that's willing to work to bring

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MINDY'S MEMORY PRIMATE SANCTUARY

the funding in. And it takes a trained staff, people who care and aren't interested in the pay, because the pay is minimal. None of my staff gets paid what they're worth, but they all do it because of the animals.

Emotionally, physically, it must all take a toll.

Well, you know what, you're so mentally happy doing this that nothing else matters. Working outside all day long in the sunshine and fresh air seven days a week makes you healthy, healthy, healthy. Believe me.

What keeps you motivated?

The animals keep me motivated. They're worth it. It gives me joy just to feed them, to give them things they've never had in their lives. Some of them never had peanuts, some of them never had bananas.

What's it like when you give an animal a banana, who has never had a fresh banana before?

You should see them grab it; they know what it is by instinct! We put some corn down for some of them, and they were afraid of it. They'd never seen an ear of corn. Then they'll go up and hit it with their hand, and they'll reach over and sniff it, and then they'll realize that it's food. From then on, they know what it is.

Some monkeys released to Mindy's Memory are from a defunct New Jersey lab—you call them the Magnificent Eight. You were in a video about them, and you got a little choked up when they were arriving. What were you thinking about then?

Well, do you know how frightened those monkeys were? Do you know the fear they felt when they're grabbed out of their pens and jabbed with needles and choked and slammed, and all the stuff that goes on in research–not all labs are that way, but many are. Well, there was one young monkey in particular who was so frightened. He screamed so loud that his rectum prolapsed. And that just tore me up. I mean, you know how hard he has to scream to prolapse the rectum? That's a good muscle, that's a strong muscle, and he screamed that hard out of fright and fear and pain. I just couldn't talk about it. The image, even now, the image of what he went through, it's horrible.

Do you know how these monkeys were used in the lab?

Toxicology is all I know. Some kind of toxic chemicals. It's not clear to me how they were exposed, but it was a pharmaceutical laboratory.

How are the Magnificent Eight doing now?

They're doing great! They play and romp and wrestle. They're sweet. And when we go out there, they rush to the fence and plaster themselves up there like, "What did you bring me to eat?" Food is their favorite pastime.

Well, I bet they're not getting only monkey chow!

No, they get fresh fruits and vegetables and peanuts. We bake potatoes for them on occasion. They get lots of grapes and watermelons, celery, plums, peaches, you name it, green peppers, corn, lettuce. They love spinach.

They haven't been at Mindy's very long, and it seems that they've made a quick transition.

They adapted in just a few days. They had jet lag when they first arrived because it was a long venture. And they slept a lot, but it didn't take them long. We have an entire telephone pole buried in their enclosure, and they go to the top and jump from there to their swing. Of course, they were in cages where they couldn't jump, so it took awhile to learn. They'd tumble and fall. We also have a fire hose, and they'd lose their balance and have to crawl upside down on it, but now they just scatter across. They're being monkeys. That's what this is all about.

That's awesome.

Yeah, we think so. It's enjoyable to see what they're getting. It's also heartbreaking to know that there are monkeys out there who aren't ever going to get this. But they don't let them all go, and we can't take them all. We need more sanctuaries, but right now, with the current economy, there are sanctuaries that have to close their doors.

That must make more worthwhile. And seeing the monkeys come together as a group must be gratifying.

Well, they're all youngsters, and with the amount of room I gave them, nobody owned that cage. When you put these animals in there, nobody owns it. They're not going to fight for their territory, because it's not their territory. And they develop a bond for each other quickly. And they share.

It just proves how much they need each other and companionship.

Yes. The oldest one is kind of food aggressive, but none of them have ever been bitten, none of them have ever been hurt, none of them have ever been injured. They'll wrestle one another to the ground, and then they get off and go about their business. The youngest ones submit to the oldest ones; they learn that in a hurry.

Is there anything else you want our readers to know about primates and sanctuaries?

Support research to better sanctuaries. Support all the anti-vivisection societies because they're the ones that are behind us.

We like that message, too!
Well, thank you so much for spending time with us and for all you do to help primates.

Well, I'm the lucky one. I'll tell you that not everybody gets to enjoy what I'm enjoying. It's well worth it, believe me. I don't need thanks because I really enjoy what I'm doing. **AV**

Mindy's Memory Primate Sanctuary is located in Newcastle, Oklahoma, and is home to nearly 100 primates and other animals rescued from abusive situations. Visit www.mindysmem.org.

The lab tattoo on this boy may still be visible, but he is doing well at his new home at Mindy's.

PROFILE

Kari Bagnall

Founder & Executive Director, Jungle Friends Primate Sanctuary

There are some unlikely residents living in the trees of Gainesville, Florida. Along with insects, butterflies, birds, and squirrels, there are 120 monkeys who call the place home. They live peacefully at Jungle Friends Primate Sanctuary, where they spend their days swinging from branches, munching on leaves, and digging in dirt. They didn't always have it so good. In fact, their current lives are a far cry from the ones they once led before they arrived. Founded in 1996, Jungle Friends provides permanent care for monkeys recovered from research, the exotic pet trade, and other exploitative industries. In the following interview, AAVS talks with Kari Bagnall, Founder of Jungle Friends, about her work as caretaker and advocate for animals.

AAVS: As a sanctuary that has many animals relinquished from labs, how do you walk that thin line of working with the research industry to release primates, while also trying to ensure that new ones will not take their place?

KARI: Some labs will not allow their retirees to come to Jungle Friends because we are considered too "animal rights." But, for the most part, if labs are inclined to retire their monkeys, they want them to go to the best sanctuaries, and Jungle Friends has a very good reputation. When monkeys are released to Jungle Friends, we are usually required to sign a confidentiality agreement, meaning that we are not allowed to publicize where the animals came from. However, to get grants from some foundations, they require a statement from the lab that the monkeys will not be replaced, and some labs have done this.

How do you start communication with the labs?

Actually, the labs always come to us. Someone from the lab usually e-mails or calls me—it can be anyone from a technician to the researcher himself. In one case, the National Institutes of Health was funding a non-invasive study, but told the researcher that in order for him to continue to receive grants, he needed to do brain mapping research, which is very invasive. Well, he opted to find homes for all 70 of the monkeys. It took us a year to locate homes for them and I accepted 10 special needs monkeys. This researcher got the university to pay for their new building here at Jungle Friends Primate Sanctuary, vasectomized all of the males, and he still donates to Jungle Friends every year!

That's wonderful! But we can't just expect labs to willingly turn over monkeys, can we?

We have had some monkeys come to us because USDA told a psych lab that they could not use positive reinforcement any longer. You see, the positive reinforcement they were using was food rewards. To be sure the animals were always hungry, they free-fed them, and then took away 20% of their food. Well, after one group of students moved on and the next group came in, they deducted 20% more of their food. So, in essence, the monkeys were fed only 60% of what they needed. One nearly starved to death. An inspector suggested the monkeys come to Jungle Friends.

Thinking back from when you first started the sanctuary until now, how have your operations evolved?

The sanctuary is unrecognizable! We just keep building bigger and better habitats for the monkeys. They have large naturalistic habitats with birds flying through (yes, they catch them from time to time) and squirrels grabbing their leftover food (they can't seem to catch the squirrels). They dig for worms, climb trees, eat bamboo and banana plants. We do as much as we can, and it is still never enough; they need to be in the wild!

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JUNGLE FRIENDS PRIMATE SANCTUARY

Psychologically, what do these animals need?

Before I got involved with monkeys, I worked as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for abused and neglected children for eight years. I see the same atypical behaviors in these monkeys as I saw in the children—they both self mutilate: children use knives on themselves, and the monkeys bite themselves; they both rock, self-grasp, digit suck, and so on. What needs to happen is that these primates, human and non-human, all need to feel safe. With kids, after three bonds have been broken, they are less likely to bond again; they just do not want to go through another loss. I believe it is the same with these monkeys. Some will never trust again, not a human or another monkey; others will learn to trust. But all need to feel safe. They also need to have the least amount of stress. Grooming is the best stress reliever in monkeys, and for that to happen, monkeys need to live with other monkeys. Overall, monkeys just need to be allowed to be monkeys, and that can be really labor intensive. It is much easier and more efficient to simply hose out a cage with a concrete floor, rather than mow, rake, weed, re-plant, and mulch natural habitats. But it is well worth the effort!

Is the healing process different for monkeys from labs versus animals from the pet and entertainment industries?

The monkeys are so individualized it can be difficult to say for sure; however, we have had the worst luck with monkeys retired from labs. We have nine capuchins who were stolen from their jungle homes and families when they were adolescents, and lived for nearly 20 years in small, species-isolated cages. They were used in iron toxicity studies. We call them The Ironmen. At one time or another, they have all had companions, but in the end, they fight and need to be separated, and then we try again. Another group of squirrel monkeys, coincidentally from the same lab, have had similar problems. We did get them all paired with companions, but it was after several trips to the vet for stitches. It seems that the monkeys who have been species-isolated, even without human companionship, do much worse.

It seems like a balancing act to provide modern care on a small budget, and continue to take in new animals. It must be hard if there is an emergency.

Right now we are in that predicament. We accepted a large group of capuchins from a facility that went under. I was originally told we would receive a monetary gift from a company that did a story on their placement. I was also told that they were one group of capuchins living together so, I would have enough to build two habitats. In actuality, there were three white-faced capuchins in this group of 25 who really lived on the periphery and should be in their own habitat and a mother rejected her baby in transport, so the baby monkey, who was just a few months old, is now being bottle fed by our staff. Fortunately another two-year-old monkey has taken in the baby as her own, he is even riding on her back! To further complicate things, Jungle Friends received just one tenth of the promised gift. I have, however, raised over $7,000 of the $15,000 needed to build the habitats, and I will find donors to help us; but it can be pretty overwhelming. So, yes, it is always a balancing act!

Despite being blind, Buddy Boy enjoyed being outside climbing in the trees.

Another area that Jungle Friends seems to keep in balance is care and advocacy for animals. How do you do that?

We try to save as many monkeys as we can, of course, but we also try to educate everyone to live a more compassionate life. We have screenings for films like Earthlings and The Skin Trade to bring awareness, and we have a Volunteers to Vegans program to promote the vegan lifestyle. We also do presentations at animal conferences, schools, clubs, universities, retirement homes—wherever they will let me.

Why do you include animal advocacy and education in Jungle Friends' mission?

Because all wild animals should live in the wild, and we want to be out of the monkey business! Most people just don't know, so it is our job to inform them. About 20 years ago, I bought a Maltese from a pet shop. I did not go in to buy a dog, but she was just so cute. Well, she had very bad [kennel] cough, so I called my vet. He sat me down and told me all about puppy mills and how these dogs were manufactured for humans. If it were not for him advocating for dogs, I would not have known about the horrors of puppy mills. It is our obligation to make people aware of animal abuse. If more people got involved and advocated for all animals, including the human animal, the world would transform!

Can you tell us about one monkey whose struggles and tribulations in a lab especially resonate in your heart?

Buddy Boy was very close to my heart. He was a favorite here at Jungle Friends, and was such a sweet squirrel monkey with a wonderful soul. He was blind, but always made the best of everything, even to his last day. Buddy was stolen from his home in the rainforest and was housed alone in a lab for nearly 20 years. Because he was blind, we weren't sure if Buddy would want to go outside. It took about a year, but Buddy did go outside and he loved it! He climbed around, and even on his first day outside, didn't seem nervous. We could tell he loved to feel the wind on his face and nearly every warm day, Buddy would spend his time laying in the sun. I'm happy that Buddy was able to spend his golden years out of the lab and at Jungle Friends. **AV**

First Look at Freedom

By Lynn Cuny

Good sanctuaries strive to afford animals released from labs freedom, enrichment, and protection from harm. The following article, describes the arrival of several female rhesus macaques at their new sanctuary home.

The tattoos on this elderly girl fade as the enthusiasm for her new life intensifies.

Several years ago, Wildlife Rescue received a request that we could not refuse, despite the difficulties involved. Twenty-three rhesus macaque monkeys in a midwestern lab were either going to be retired to a sanctuary or put to death, and the lab demanded an immediate decision as to whether we would take them. The image of 23 mostly elderly, female primates, who had lived all their days isolated in small lab cages, enduring heaven knows what, and now facing imminent death, was not an easy one to shut out. It was not a good time for us to take additional animals, but the image of these old girls would not go away. We said yes.

Where would we house them? These girls had never been together in the lab, their lives had been years of solitude: no touch except when they were being taken from their cages for an experiment, no time or opportunity to establish solid relationships with other monkeys. We devised a plan for temporary housing that would allow us to slowly introduce the girls to one another and at the same time have them outdoors, unlike their 20-plus years of life in a lab's basement. Construction began on a one acre enclosure in a natural setting, with an abundance of live oaks for their climbing pleasure.

In only a matter of days, the 23 rhesus girls were here. They arrived late one evening, and early the next morning, WRR staff was ready to move them into their temporary home. It was obvious by their behavior that these girls had been isolated long enough. So, instead of placing them alone and giving them time to get acquainted, we took the chance that they knew better than we did, and placed the girls in three groups. None of us can begin to imagine what over 20 years of solitary confinement is like. We cannot imagine being deprived of the touch of our own kind or what it is like to live deprived of a visit into the outside world of fresh air and warm sunshine. Until now, this was the life for these endearing female monkeys.

As they emerged from their carriers, some were cautious, and others darted out anxious to see what new sights surrounded them. But one emotion was common in each pair of curious, frightened eyes: each girl knew that her life was now quite different, that perhaps this was not a place to be afraid of, that a profound change had taken place, that something here was very different.

How long had it been since their acute sense of smell detected something other than an antiseptic kind of clean? How far back did their memories have to reach to recall the sound of birds singing in the trees? Did each of them instantly recognize the soft feel of a warm summer wind as it caressed their tattooed faces?

As they looked around them, all the girls could see were oak trees and acres of green grass punctuated by rocks and bushes. Grasshoppers and cicadas chirped and called, axis deer meandered past, sniffed at the new monkeys, and moved on. Resident cows and sheep dropped by to see who was occupying the new enclosures. All of these new sights, sounds, animals, and sensations are now part of their world. But most important was the newness of having another monkey to touch, groom, sometimes chase and fuss with, sit and sleep next to, be comforted by, reassure, and finally, after years of solitude, to share a day and a night with. **AV**

Lynn Cuny is the Founder and CEO of Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation. Located in Kendalia, Texas, WRR provides permanent homes for over 600 animals rescued from research labs and other abusive situations. To learn more, visit www.wildlife-rescue.org.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WILDLIFE RESCUE & REHABILITATION

SANCTUARIES
A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

Caring for any animal is not as simple as providing food, shelter, and medical attention. In this section, experts take you behind the scenes to reveal some of the surprising aspects of what it means to provide sanctuary to animals.

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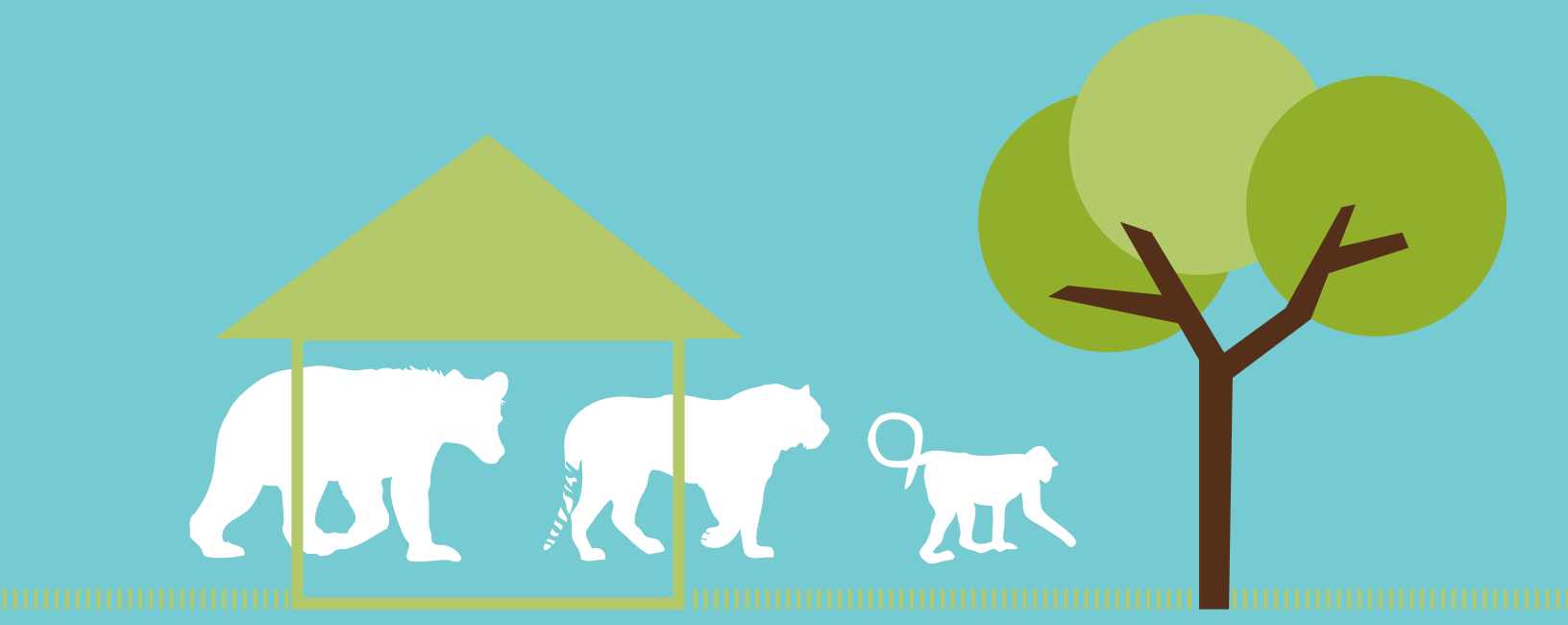
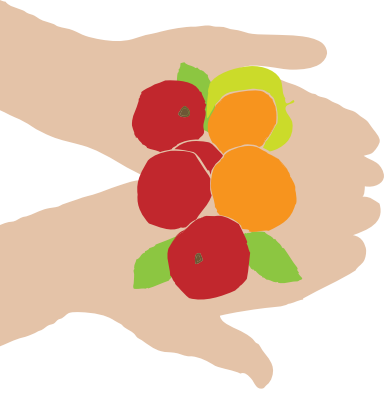


THE JOURNEY HOME
RECOVERY AND RENEWAL IN SANCTUARY

by G.A. Bradshaw and Jill Robinson

Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom.

Viktor Frankl



Jasper is a moon bear. For 15 consecutive years, he lived trapped in a cage no larger than his body. Flattened to the bars, he remained tethered to a five-inch metal tube surgically implanted in his gall bladder to collect bile for use as human medicine. By miracle, Jasper survived to be released to a sanctuary where he has lived for more than a decade. Similar to other rescued bears, Jasper's journey to recovery is the struggle to overcome prison's physical and psychological trauma.

What and how someone recovers from trauma are as person-specific as the meaning of life itself. Even definitions of recovery are unique. Trauma comprises a violent confrontation with the essentials of existence where the survivor is faced with making meaning out of a bewildering past, an uncertain present, and unknown future. Like a butterfly from chrysalis, the survivor emerges fragile, disoriented, and unsure of new surroundings.

Decades of testimony from human political prisoners, concentration camp survivors, and victims of domestic violence reveal that trauma of incarceration differs significantly from repercussions of a single event that are often associated with a diagnosis of "simple" Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The nature of psychological impacts on individuals subjected to multiple, extended, highly invasive traumatic events such as Jasper's led psychiatrist Judith Herman to create the diagnostic category, Complex PTSD.

Traumatology has had a huge effect on the mental health profession by its open insistence on understanding those afflicted by PTSD as victims. While symptoms of Complex PTSD are referred to as disorders, psychologists consider traumatic mental states and behavior as normal responses to abnormal circumstances that have been imposed by another person or institution. "When," as concentration camp survivor Viktor Frankl wrote, "we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves," and changed indeed are animals made captive.

Infanticide, stereotypic swaying, bar biting, hair-picking, lethargy, self injury, incessant screaming, and hyper-aggression are commonly observed in zoo and circus animals. Because they are so typical, these behaviors are often confused as normal ways in which tigers, elephants, orcas, parrots, bears, and other caged animals act. In reality, they are expressions of desperate anguish employed to combat prison's corroding effects. Deprivation and disempowerment distort the prisoner's reality into a house of mirrors whose edges relentlessly scar mind and body until one day, when the strain becomes too much, total collapse ensues. One bear at a sanctuary, Maureen, succumbed to such collapse: biting down to the bone of her own limbs, impervious to limitless medication and loving care, until the decision was made to gently release her from the misery that saturated her mind.

Those fortunate enough to be rescued and welcomed to sanctuary have the opportunity to reverse some of the pernicious effects of harsh confinement. However, sanctuary is still captivity. If captivity is institutionalized trauma, can there be hope for recovery in sanctuary? What makes sanctuary different from other captive settings?

In a word: attitude. Skilled sanctuaries are different from other captive institutions because of what they provide physically–good food, friends, natural vegetation, healthy living spaces–and also for the emotional and psychological atmosphere that sanctuary workers foster. Sanctuary is not just a place; sanctuary is a way of being.

The design and care of skilled sanctuaries share much in common with human trauma therapies. Both allow individuals such as Jasper or the political prisoner, whose lights were nearly quenched by captors, to reignite their soul sparks and rejoin life anew. Many healing properties of sanctuary are invisible to the casual eye. Sanctuary embodies qualities that many of us take for granted: freedom of choice, living with a stable community, exploration and nourishment of the senses, and being an integral part of the natural world. Denied to the prisoner, these essentials of everyday living are vital ingredients for cultivating recovery in human and other animals alike. We refer to them as the **10 Basic Sanctuary Principles.**

10 BASIC SANCTUARY PRINCIPLES

After being captive on a bile farm for 15 years, Jasper now lives free in sanctuary.

First and foremost, **recovery builds on the foundation of a healthy environment (1)** – nutritious tasty foods and novel living space that conform as much as possible to species and individual specific needs to restore psychological and physical damage. Healthy, variable nourishment, and habitat are essential to restore body and mind. However, **a healthy environment also entails social and emotional support (2)**.

The trauma of incarceration comprises a profound rupture and betrayal of the social contract, the innate sense of belonging and connection with those around us that inform our very identity. In most cases, the captive is separated from family and loved ones, sometimes living in complete isolation. As a result of this relational void, the natural inclination to form a relationship creates vulnerability. The total dependence of the prisoner on the captor makes the captor an omnipotent, larger-than-life figure in the prisoner's eyes, someone who is both the agent of life and, potentially, death.

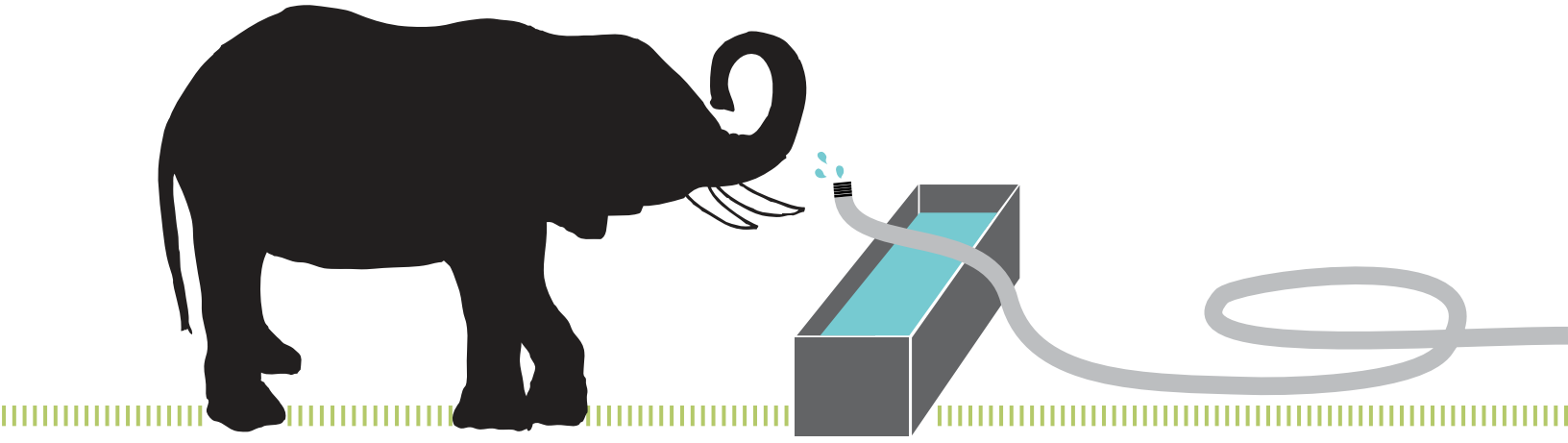
Subsequently, making and reviving healthy relationships in sanctuary are vital for recovery. A sense of belonging and emotional connection with another is key to revive the injured soul, but with whom and how that relationship is formed lies with the trauma survivor. For some, such as Billy, who lived in sanctuary at the Fauna Foundation, emotional support came not in the guise of fellow chimpanzees but with human caregivers. Billy was raised as a young human who enjoyed car rides and human foods with his surrogate family. His sense of self was tuned to the nuances of human psychology and culture. Fauna Director Gloria Grow painstakingly designed and modified Billy's living area and community to match his needs and values. In contrast, Tom, who was reared by a free-ranging chimpanzee mother until his capture, was far more able to integrate into chimpanzee society at the sanctuary. Remarkably, given his horrendous three-decade experience with humans as a biomedical laboratory subject, Tom retained a magnanimous capacity to form a deep friendship with a human in sanctuary.

Implicit to a healthy environment is the absence of threat and domination (3). One of the key elements that Carol Buckley, founder of Elephant Aid International and co-founder of The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee, instills into sanctuary design was an elephant's ability to move, think, and be in her body without fear. In contrast to standard zoo and circus protocols, sanctuary caregivers ask, not demand, that an elephant cooperate with routine procedures such as foot soaks and trunk washes and do so on elephant time. **Creating a threat-free environment fosters what psychotherapists refer to as a safe container (4)**.

Everyone needs a space of retreat, where s/he can take stock and center when the environment overwhelms or threatens. It may be a special place at a park, or sitting on the bed in the comfort of a teddy bear. For someone who has lived at the mercy of captors with little to no privacy, a safe space is even more essential. A place of safety carries a sense of inviolability that helps steady the transition from fear to security. In sanctuary, this space may be a room, a den, or branch where the survivor can control his environment completely and be certain to find rest and peace. A safe container provides refuge and a sense of control that allows the sanctuary resident to assess the meaning of

Jill Robinson, MBE, is the Founder and CEO of Animals Asia Foundation (www.animalsasia.org). Exposing the plight of endangered Asiatic black bears cruelly farmed and milked for their bile, and learning how easily herbs and synthetics could replace bear bile, Jill established Animals Asia in 1998. Since then, the Moon Bear Rescue has seen freedom for 277 bears in China and the opening of a new rescue center for 200 farmed bears in Vietnam.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANIMALS ASIA FOUNDATION



environmental change at his/her own pace.

Everyone has his/her own way of relating to surroundings that may ebb and flow and evolve over time. Effective sanctuary provides for such flexibility and tailors care for resident **individuality** (5). In addition to being socially isolated, the hostage has been denied self-determination. Needs and desires are subordinated to those of the captors. The hostage is silenced, her voice emerging as pained symptom: stereotypic rocking, self-injury, and impotent roars of grief and frustration. Subsequently, **the ability to give voice and be heard (6)** in sanctuary is integral to moving from a victim's sense of powerlessness to recovery. Part of being heard entails having one's needs and values met: receiving healthy foods, safe housing, and opportunities to form intimate, lasting relationships. Being heard promotes **a sense of agency (7), the ability to make decisions and control events that affect one's life**. Knowing that one can ask for something and receive it–wanting and getting more branches to make a nest, choosing to eat fruit, and being provided with a choice–is a revival of the core self. Years after being released into sanctuary dens and enclosures, previously farmed female bears will come into season, or build nests, as if slowly waking into the instincts they were long denied on the farms.

Carol Buckley teaches staff that "the elephants know that we are there listening, seeing, and responsive. For example, we are there when Barbara (a former circus elephant) wants to drink out of the hose. It's her right to choose not to drink out of the trough. We are their servants. People in the [elephant] industry call it 'spoiling' and [say that] banging on the water trough is not acceptable. But we celebrate when someone bangs on the trough. They [sic] should be allowed to demand." This attitude of deep listening reinstates **a resident's authority and avoids her marginalization (8)**. Similarly, some of the bears at the sanctuary in China learn to bang their food flaps in expectation of food–it is this demanding of food that shows us they are responsive to how the sanctuary itself lives around them, providing opportunities for the bears to interact with the daily routine of their care.

Sanctuaries designed to reflect these principles model what psychoanalyst Donald Winnicott calls a facilitating environment, the creation of "a dialogical space of security and creativity." When Jasper arrived in sanctuary, he was treated carefully and tenderly to provide him full flexibility and the capacity to secure his sense of control in new surroundings. For the first time in a decade, Jasper encountered an environment responsive to his moon bear needs and values. He was able to renew his competence, the ability to do bear things once again: climb trees, roll in fresh grass, and dig with a growing vigor over time, **to experience life fully (9), and celebrate life with a renewed sense of hope and future (10)**. Jasper also became the "peacemaker" of the house he shared with 20 other bears. Conspicuously breaking up the odd disagreement, welcoming new bears into the fold, Jasper plays with them today in his late twenties, as if a bear in his teens. Appearing to have a sense of humor, he will often sidle up to an unsuspecting bear, nip her rump, and walk away, always with one eye glancing sideways as if anticipating the game that then often ensues.

We learn that creating a healing sanctuary involves more than a place where animals live. Sanctuary entails human self-transformation from an attitude of authority, domination, and privilege to one of learning, parity, and humility. It is within that relational space with animal kin that humanity may begin anew to create a shared culture of compassion and open a pathway for change together.

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LOVE ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH
SANCTUARIES AND CAPACITY FOR CARE

by Gary J. Patronek

The word sanctuary implies the noblest of human attributes: altruism, self-sacrifice, and caregiving. Indeed, the meaning of the relevant dictionary definitions seems clear cut. Sanctuary: a place of refuge and protection. Refuge is a place that provides shelter or protection; and protection is to cover or shield from injury, exposure, damage, or destruction.

By providing these, sanctuaries, shelters, and similar organizations have saved countless animal lives, in addition to bringing out the best in people. How then is it that some organizations that begin with the right intentions can stray so far from this noble mission, failing to protect animals and ensure their most basic needs?

There are at least four reasons why organizations fail in their stated mission: 1) the absence of regulatory oversight; 2) a lack of understanding about what animals need; 3) operating beyond the organization's capacity and/or competency to provide care; and 4) exploiting the animals to fulfill human emotional needs, as occurs in hoarding.

Absence of regulatory oversight

The care of animals in shelters, sanctuaries, hospices, or similar organizations is not regulated at the national level and, with few exceptions, is only nominally supervised at the state level. Occasionally, there may be laws or local ordinances requiring licensing of kennels or catteries, but those regulations tend to be fairly minimal and unlikely to guarantee that the needs of animals are met in institutional settings.

In most states, almost anyone can establish a shelter, rescue, or sanctuary. Even obtaining formal non-profit status does not require demonstration of knowledge of animal husbandry or understanding of welfare. Thus, animals receive the level of care their caregivers choose, or are able, to provide. In some situations, this care may be exceptional; in many cases, it is adequate; but in a few, it may be so poor as to qualify as animal abuse.

Providing for the range of animals' needs

Although welfare problems are well-recognized for intensively confined laboratory, farm, and zoo animals, it is only recently that awareness has increased about companion animals who also suffer terribly when their confinement limits social interaction, freedom of movement, and opportunities for mental stimulation and for exhibiting species-specific behavior.

The Five Freedoms, originally developed in 1965 to guide farm animal welfare, represent a set of principles that are applicable to ensuring a high quality of life for any animal, including domestic companion animals. They are: 1) *Freedom from Hunger and Thirst*–by ensuring ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor; 2) *Freedom from Discomfort*–by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area; 3) *Freedom from Pain, Injury, or Disease*–by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment; 4) *Freedom to Express Normal*

Presence of Five Freedoms for Animal Welfare

Animals' quality of life	From hunger, thirst	From pain, injury, disease	From fear and distress	From discomfort	To express normal behavior	Quality of caregiving and results
High	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Competent Care **Animal welfare safeguarded**
Good	Yes	Yes	Yes	+/-	+/-	
Borderline	Yes	+/-	+/-	+/-	No	
INTERVENTION THRESHOLD: EVALUATE CAPACITY AND COMPETENCY TO PROVIDE CARE						Borderline Care **Animals at risk**
Poor	+/-	+/-	No	No	No	
A life not worth living	No	No	No	No	No	Incompetent Care **Animal suffering present**
	Cruelty typically prosecuted					

Behavior–by providing sufficient space, proper facilities, and company of the animal's own kind; 5) *Freedom from Fear and Distress*–by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.

A high quality of life, one that sanctuaries should strive for, is one in which all of the Five Freedoms are met most, if not all, of the time. (See chart) The first set of guidelines for standards of care in shelters, soon to be published by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians, is based on the Five Freedoms.

Having capacity and competency to provide care

Ensuring the Five Freedoms depends on two things: having sufficient capacity for the number of animals cared for, and caregivers having competency to provide care that is appropriate to the needs of the individuals and the population.

Having sufficient capacity means that resources (e.g., number and size of buildings, suitability of primary enclosures, number and level of training of staff and/or volunteers, financial situation) are suited to the number, type, and health of animals present. As an example of how to estimate necessary human resources (staff or volunteers), both the National Animal Control Association and the Humane Society of the United States recommend staffing levels equivalent to 15 minutes per animal per day to allow for feeding, cleaning, and routine observation of each animal. Time for other essentials such as exercise, play, enrichment, medical treatment, rehabilitation, or socialization would be beyond this minimum.

Operating beyond capacity for care results in many problems for animals, including delays or outright failure to provide needed care; keeping animals in substandard conditions; crowding; increased risk of infectious diseases; and difficulty monitoring individual animal welfare to detect problems in a timely fashion.

Even if capacity is adequate, a caregiver's competency to provide care must be up to the task at hand. Knowledge, as well as a variety of traits and behaviors influence caregivers' abilities to provide competent care. These include but are not limited to: an understanding of animals' needs based on species, age, health, and temperament; adequate decision-making ability and aptitude to complete tasks required for good husbandry in a particular situation; ability to exercise sound judgment in providing medical treatment, behavioral intervention, socialization, pain and symptom control, or relief from untreatable suffering via euthanasia; insight to challenges posed by a particular situation and willingness to modify procedures when capacity to provide care is exceeded; and genuine empathy from the animals' perspective.

Requirements for delivering competent care will differ depending on the situation. The complexity and range of skills needed increases substantially with animal numbers and is dependent on their health. For example, meeting the needs of a large population of abused and neglected animals, animals with significant medical problems, or immature or geriatric animals involves a different skill set than the ability to care for an individual pet or a handful of healthy animals. Love alone is not enough.

Caregiving as animal exploitation

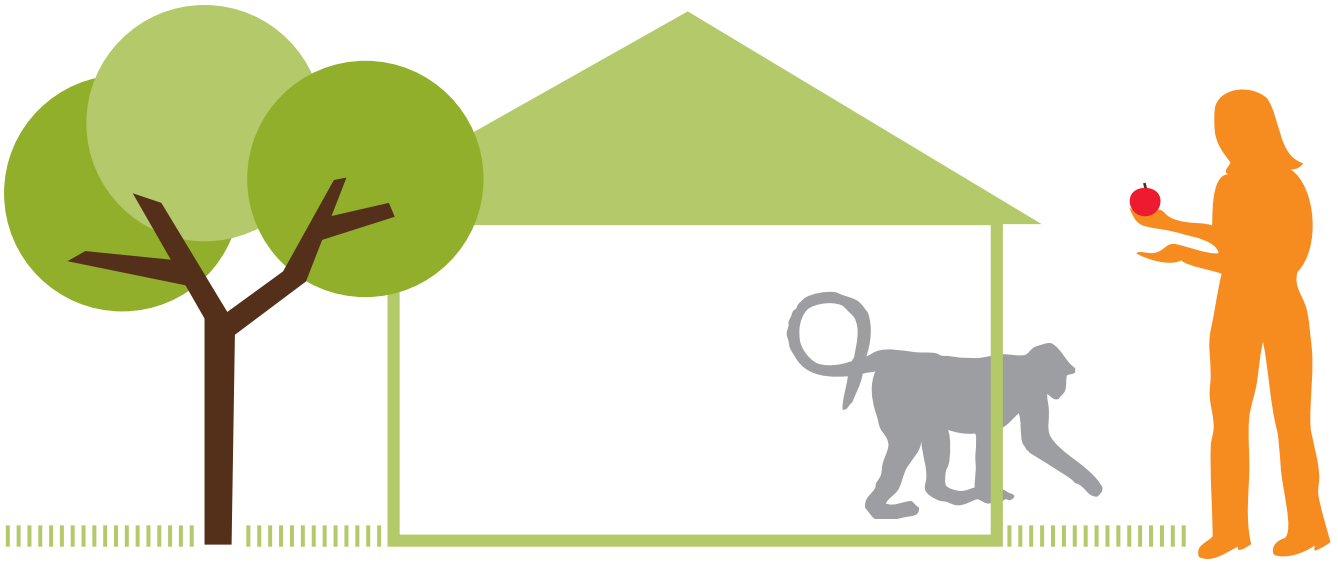
Unfortunately, not all caregiving is altruistic, and in some cases, can degenerate into a form of animal abuse known as hoarding. Hoarders acquire and control animals to fulfill their own emotional needs for affection, self-esteem, identity, respect, authority, and constancy, without regard to how the animals are affected or the quality of their lives. In that sense, it is a behavior that is ultimately as exploitative as a puppy mill or use of animals in cosmetics testing–animals suffer so humans can benefit. There is no justification for this behavior.

The hoarding of objects is associated with many psychological problems, and there is a serious move within the psychological community to have hoarding recognized as a stand-alone diagnosis in the new revision of the list of recognized psychological disorders. Such listing would stimulate research and treatment into this behavior, which can have devastating consequences for people and animals. It is important to recognize that a mental health diagnosis is not a free pass on animal abuse, and does not typically absolve a person for responsibility for his or her actions. In fact, hoarders who are arrested are rarely deemed incompetent to stand trial.

Conclusion

Animals' needs remain constant regardless of organizational mission. It is the responsibility of every organization to ensure a high quality of life for animals. This means that an organization should not operate beyond its capacity for care. Adjustments in procedures or policies should occur long before conditions deteriorate to a poor quality of life. The Five Freedoms provide a universal metric for guiding animal care and determining when adjustments are necessary to preserve welfare.

Gary J. Patronek, VMD, Ph.D, is the Vice President for Animal Welfare and New Program Development for the Animal Rescue League of Boston. He is also a member of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians and has worked for the past two years with a group of members to develop a set of guidelines for ensuring animal welfare in shelters.



THE GLOBAL FEDERATION OF ANIMAL SANCTUARIES

by Patty Finch

The e-mail began "We are writing to all of you to let you know that Wild Animal Orphanage [WAO] in San Antonio, Texas…is officially closing its doors. The Board of Directors unanimously voted on August 31, 2010 to dissolve WAO and place our beloved animals in other sanctuaries."

So began a new chapter in the lives of the 323 wild animals living at the bankrupt Wild Animal Orphanage. Also begun was a new chapter in the lives of board members and directors of other sanctuaries around the United States as they scrambled to find funds for transfers and to build new enclosures. They wondered what they would do about the sudden, significant (and fairly long-term) rise in their annual operating budgets if they committed to receiving some of the very difficult to place primates, tigers, bears, and others. Could transfers be arranged in such a way as to retain the social group bonds formed by the chimpanzees? Could aged animals survive the demands of transport? Would animals moved north have adequate time to grow winter coats? What were the best options for each animal?

A sanctuary should be a safe haven for the animals who arrive there. It should be a line in the sand that ensures "never again will you suffer." By the time a wild animal arrives at a sanctuary, s/he has already suffered the loss of a life in the wild that should have been. Inarguably, in the case of former laboratory animals, special dispensation is due to them for the rest of their lives, just as victims of violence are often awarded large cash amounts by the courts, in consideration for their suffering.

But as Wild Animal Orphanage and other facilities have demonstrated, sanctuaries can fail. They can fail very easily. Running a sanctuary is a commitment to constant fundraising. It is a commitment to trying to provide as natural an environment as possible for these animals, enabling them to learn at last what it is to be a chimpanzee, a capuchin, or a macaque in a troop. Making that possible takes acres of huge, constructed enclosures, and a staff dedicated to seeing that these animals' needs are met, without expecting in return the wag of the tail or lick of the hand that dogs so freely dispense.

Sometimes places calling themselves sanctuaries are not sanctuaries at all but, rather, breeding grounds for the exotic pet trade or roadside zoos disguised as a charity. Or they are places with small enclosures, barren environments, and a lack of veterinary care: prisons, in fact, masquerading under names that sound like something entirely different. And in other cases, good-hearted people with the best of intentions are making tragic mistakes, and the animals are suffering, with no one to step in and guide their caretakers.

For individual donors and foundations, it can be difficult to tell the premiere facilities from the

Save the Chimps founder Carole Noon was recognized for her excellence in sanctuary management with an award named in her honor.

failures and frauds when an appeal arrives in the mail. Even doing online research, with a look at an organization's website and IRS tax returns, can fail to reveal significant problems with animal care, guidelines on public interactions, or an organization ill-prepared to survive the unexpected departure of the founder or other key personnel.

The formation of GFAS

The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) was formed in the fall of 2007 in response to these needs by globally recognized leaders in animal welfare, including Sue Leary, President of the American Anti-Vivisection Society, who serves on the Board of GFAS. In helping to launch GFAS, Leary stated, "What was especially intriguing was the opportunity to help create an organization that not only would confirm excellence in sanctuary operations, but which could serve as a coach and resource to strengthen all legitimate sanctuaries."

GFAS accomplishes this through a two-tiered certification process. For sanctuaries providing humane and responsible care of animals, confirmed by comprehensive site visits by GFAS, and meeting the definition of a legitimate sanctuary (no breeding, no commercial trade, nonprofit status, correct licenses and permits, no or restricted contact with the public, restricted transport off premises, and only non-harmful/non-exploitive fundraising or research), GFAS offers verified status. Achieving verified status confirms that animals at the sanctuary are receiving excellent care in a non-exploitive and safe environment. Indeed, many of the GFAS-verified sanctuaries have garnered awards and recognition from others knowledgeable in the field.

To achieve accredited status, a sanctuary must meet the criteria for verified (including high standards of veterinary and animal care), and must also meet standards covering governance, finances, guidelines, education and outreach, security and safety, physical facilities, and staffing. The site visit includes not just an examination of animal care and veterinary protocols, but also an in-depth look at all aspects of sanctuary operations. In addition, the sanctuary does a self-evaluation on 75+ items, and turns in more than 20 required documents, including standard accounting reports.

A checkup for sanctuaries

Just as it is a good idea for a person to get a complete physical regularly to make sure that everything that can be done to optimize health is being done and that any unrecognized problems are discovered and treated, so, too, is it a good idea for a sanctuary to go through an annual check-up. Just by filling out the GFAS accreditation application, sanctuary staff sometimes discover something that, much to their horror, has been overlooked for years. ("Yikes! Do we really not have a fire alarm in the barn?!")

The accreditation process is risk assessment in the broadest sense of the term. It is a partnership between GFAS and the sanctuary, helping the sanctuary achieve legitimate accreditation. GFAS can offer resources such as sample disaster

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COURTESY OF JOANNE MACARTHUR

preparedness plans; sample conflict of interest policies; and sometimes compliance grants to help sanctuaries with a funding need, such as building a better quarantine area.

"A sanctuary does not have to be perfect in order to become accredited, " stresses Robin Mason, Accreditation Manager for GFAS. "Some items may be set as a goal to achieve in the next few years. For example, creating a written operating procedures manual is something that can get done gradually, by devoting a little time to it each month."

One of the most common shortcomings discovered is a lack of any true succession planning. Sooner or later, the one crisis every sanctuary suffers, if it endures over time, is the loss of its founder. Dr. Carole Noon, founder of Save the Chimps, died far too young, and although her loss was a challenge for the organization, as well as a great loss to the sanctuary field as a whole, Carole had planned for such an eventuality. Save the Chimps survived the loss of Dr. Noon, and carries on her mission and vision. This demonstrates the value of a strong board, a fully competent and empowered staff, established procedures and a strategic plan, and the continued support of key foundations and donors. Of course, strong financials make any transition easier.

> A sanctuary should be a safe haven for the animals who arrive there. It should be a line in the sand that ensures "never again will you suffer."

Honoring the best

To honor Dr. Carole Noon, GFAS established the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries Carole Noon Award for Sanctuary Excellence. The first, given in 2009, was awarded posthumously to Dr. Carole Noon. Later this year, the Award, which brings with it a cash award, will be given to a sanctuary or individual who embodies and puts into practice the GFAS philosophy of vision, dedication, and excellence in animal care.

Dr. Noon exemplified these traits with an innovative spirit and courage in the face of challenges, deep knowledge of animals entrusted to the care of the sanctuary, and a determination to ensure humane and responsible care for the lifetime of each of the sanctuary residents. This included care beyond Carole's own lifetime a task for every founder and board to plan for carefully.

Education for the field

Each month, GFAS offers free webinars, including our most popular, "Grant Writing for Animal Sanctuaries." Other webinars have featured guest presenters tackling difficult topics, including "When to Say No: Setting Guidelines for Animal Intake" and "How to Decline Animals In Need."

However, the most important educational role GFAS plays is through its standards, which provide clear, specific guidelines for the humane care of various species in captive facilities and for sanctuary governance and operational issues. As GFAS continues to expand internationally, the task of making sure these standards are not U.S.-centric and truly serve the global community is an ongoing challenge, with great assistance provided by regional co-coordinators and sanctuaries worldwide. Currently under review are standards to expand the GFAS outreach to rehabilitation and release facilities, with a test of those standards first being applied in Central America.

The future of sanctuaries

We have learned that loving animals and a willingness to work hard are not enough to establish a successful sanctuary. Smart planning can make or break a sanctuary, and when animals' lives hang in the balance, it must be done properly.

For today's aspiring sanctuary director, an ideal career path might be: running a nonprofit dog/cat shelter and becoming well-established, while learning the ins and outs of working with a board, fundraising, volunteer/staff oversight, risk management, disaster preparedness, etc. and then starting a sanctuary, with initial major donors lined up ahead of time; interning or working at a sanctuary, while pursuing a degree in nonprofit management, and then starting a branch of the successful sanctuary; or leading a successful nonprofit such as a hospital, then being hired by a large, established sanctuary as the new executive director.

For those operating thriving sanctuaries, one of the greatest gifts they can give to the animals is welcoming those interested in starting a sanctuary; allowing internships; developing a strong second-in-command; considering a branch facility under trained, new leadership; and networking with nonprofit leaders in other fields to let them know the sanctuary world needs them and provides rewards beyond their imagination.

LAWS ON EXOTIC ANIMAL OWNERSHIP

by Josephine Martell, MS

Over the near decade that I have worked on exotic animal policy and legislation, I've been asked repeatedly, "But isn't it illegal to keep a tiger as a pet?"; and as incredible as it is to many people, the answer is still no. The heart of the problem is that the United States does not have a federal law that bans the ownership of dangerous, exotic animals. Rather, it is left to each of the 50 states to legislate according to their laws and regulations. Consequently, laws governing exotics vary widely.

State laws & agencies

Currently, 20 states have bans on ownership of most large, dangerous, wild animals (such as big cats, bears, wolves, reptiles, and non-human primates.) Nine states have partial bans (i.e., some species but not others), 12 states have a licensing requirement (usually a nominal process), and nine states have no legislation restricting ownership at all.[1] In those 21 states, it can be easier to get a tiger than it is to get a drivers license.

The agency in each state responsible for regulating exotic animal legislation is generally under the name of Fish & Game, Wildlife Services, the Game Commission, the Department of Agriculture or Environment, Natural Resources, or similar title. However, enforcement of these laws tends to be poor and inconsistent. In cases of abuse or neglect, an escape, or an attack, it is often animal control or law enforcement officers, who may have little or no training to handle or contain dangerous exotics, who typically are the first responders in these situations. Not surprisingly, the National Animal Control Association opposes the ownership of exotic pets on both the risks to public health and safety, and animal welfare grounds.[2]

It is interesting to note that as a result of these mismatched state laws, and lack of a federal ban, the U.S. has virtually no idea how many exotic animals are living within its borders. There is no central database keeping track of location, import, export, breeding, trade, births, deaths, or any other relevant data. Estimates of exotic animals in private ownership range wildly from thousands to millions, depending on the species.

Federal laws & agencies

At the federal level, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) do have regulatory responsibility over exotic animals thorough the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and Endangered Species Act (ESA), respectively. The AWA covers warm-blooded animals used in research, bred for commercial sale, exhibited to the public, or commercially transported, and provides minimal standards of care for their welfare. The ESA is designed to protect and conserve species, and their ecosystems, from extinction. Through the ESA, the USFWS is also responsible for enforcing and implementing the U.S.'s obligations to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), which regulates international trade in wildlife and their products. The federal government is also mandated with regulating the trade in exotic animals between states, through the Lacey Act, which limits animal import and export privileges but does not regulate intra-state movement. An amendment to the Lacey Act, the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, was passed in 2003, and prohibits interstate transport of certain big cat species for use as pets. However, like the Lacey Act, it does nothing to restrict intra-state transport of big cats.

In practice, most of the regulation of the majority of exotic animal ownership in the U.S., falls onto the shoulders of the USDA's Animal, Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Animal Care program, which implements and enforces the AWA. APHIS provides licenses to individuals who engage in commercial activity in excess of $500 per year or who exhibit to the public. Licenses can be easily obtained for a nominal fee and minimal paperwork. Further, the USDA, as it was created, was designed to deal with agriculture and farmed animals, and was never intended to regulate exotic animals. The regulations that implement the AWA, and include standards for how to care for certain animals, such as addressing the specific needs of dogs, don't have species-specific standards for exotic animals. Instead, the general care for all exotics, from hedgehogs to tigers, is lumped together in a catchall category that also includes other non-exotic animals.

Moreover, if individuals do not breed or sell animals commercially, and do not exhibit the animals, they are not required to have a USDA license. Regulation of ownership is then overseen

Josephine Martell, MS, is the Program Director of Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, and has worked to protect the welfare of exotic animals in captivity for nearly a decade. She is currently working on a book about extreme exotic animal ownership, and has appeared in Animal Planet's Fatal Attractions, *as well as* The Today Show, Larry King Live, *and* 20/20.

Ownership of exotic animals, including big cats like tigers, is a serious public safety and animal welfare concern.

PHOTO BY ISTOCKPHOTO

by state or local laws, which as discussed, may or may not exist. Additionally, many states that do have exotic pet bans have exemptions for USDA licenses, which has created a loophole for people wanting to keep these animals as pets, often in the guise of "sanctuaries" or education programs. In recent years, USDA has been aware of this problem and been vocal in discouraging dangerous, exotic animal, specifically big cat, ownership.[3]

The USDA has been criticized for its lack of enforcement and general ineffectiveness dealing with exotic animal ownership. Despite some truth to these allegations, it must be pointed out that the department is limited in its actions by the terms of the AWA, a weak and often ineffective law. For example, the USDA cannot confiscate animals based on public safety if the welfare of the animals in question is sufficient, because the AWA regulates animal welfare, not public safety. In addition, the USDA does not have the authority to revoke a license, regardless of the level of cruelty. Rather, it is left up to the power of the courts, and a typical USDA court case takes an average of three years to resolve. In fact, the time from the point of violations being documented by an inspector to the court decision being made can take anywhere from five months to 11 years.[4]

Perhaps more shocking, if the license is revoked, the animals are not necessarily confiscated. Often, it is the responsibility of the licensee to place the animals, which usually means another sub-standard facility. In other cases, the animals are left on the property with little, if any, oversight, as the owners are no longer accountable to the USDA. It is also quite easy for the same individuals to become licensed under a different business name or for a relative or friend to become licensed in their place.[5]

Given the lack of a federal ban, the discrepancies in state laws, and the shortcomings of the USDA, dangerous, exotic animal ownership is a growing animal welfare and public safety concern. Legitimate sanctuaries are overflowing, and there is little space for surplus, abandoned, neglected, or abused animals. Effective legislative and regulatory solutions are badly needed.

Federal recommendations

At the federal level, specific recommendations should include conducting a long overdue review of the entire USDA licensing and enforcement system to ensure that high standards of animal welfare are being implemented, and lobbying Congress to provide additional funding and resources to USDA APHIS to enforce tougher standards, employ additional investigators, and inspect facilities more frequently. The USDA APHIS Animal Care program should also keep a publicly accessible database recording the numbers of all exotic animals licensed by the agency, including information such as locations, species, owners, births, transfer of sale or otherwise, and when possible, escapes, attacks, and deaths.

State recommendations

At the state level, bans should be enacted in the states that lack them, laws requiring only a permit should be strengthened, and exemptions providing loopholes for private ownership, like the USDA exemption, ought to be closed. Although some of this work has been, and continues to be, done by dedicated animal welfare groups, more effort is necessary. In addition, state agencies ought to keep public databases containing the numbers of exotic animals in their jurisdictions, such as locations, species, owners, births, deaths, transfer of sale or otherwise, and when possible, escapes, attacks, and deaths. States should also require that all facilities operating as "sanctuaries" adhere, at minimum, to the definition in the Captive Wildlife Safety Act that defines a sanctuary as a federally registered non-profit organization that does not engage in commercial activity, does not breed, does not allow direct contact with the public, and keeps records of all transactions for at least five years.[6]

These policy recommendations are certainly not an exhaustive list of what can or should be done to address private, exotic animal ownership. However, the pursuit and implementation of these recommendations would mark a significant change in the right direction and improve the lives of thousands of animals.

[1] Born Free USA, What's the Law, Exotic Animals, Color-Coded Map of Laws Governing Private Possession of Exotic Animals, http://www.bornfreeusa.org/downloads/pdf/Map-Exotic-Animal-Laws.pdf.
[2] National Animal Control Association Guidelines, Extended Animal Control Concerns: Exotics, http://www.nacanet.org/guidelines.html#exotics.
[3] According to Big Cat Rescue, since 1990, internationally, nearly 600 incidents, such as attacks or escapes involving big cats alone have occurred, including the deaths of 21 people (16 adults and 5 children). Born Free USA also tracks exotic pet incidents in the U.S., and according to its database, there have been 541 incidents or escapes of exotic animals in America since 1990, resulting in 69 human deaths.
[4] Information derived from IFAW. USDA court decision research and analysis 1998-2006.
[5] Meeting between myself as IFAW staff and USDA, March 16, 2006.
[6] Federal Register (2007). *Regulations to implement the Captive Wildlife Safety Act: Final rule.* Federal Register, Volume 72, Number 158, August 16, 2007. pp. 45938-45947.

Rescued from a tiny cage, it was feared that Delvi was paralyzed due to her captivity, but now she is able to climb on low lying branches.

SANCTUARIES BEYOND NORTH AMERICA

by Philip Wilson

In North America, particularly the U.S., animal sanctuaries take in a wide variety of abandoned and rescued animals, including native and exotic wildlife, farmed animals, equines, and companion animals (cats and dogs). The majority of these sanctuaries provide long-term or permanent homes for animals who have been abandoned, abused, or mistreated by humans. However, there are also several short-term facilities, such as those that rehabilitate native wildlife and release them back into the wild, or those that rescue and accommodate equines, farmed or companion animals for shorter periods of time. A few facilities even carry out both types of work, providing both permanent homes for some animals and short-term placement for others.

The sanctuary situation outside of North America is similarly diverse. While there are some sanctuaries that house equines, companion, and farmed animals, most of the facilities help wild animals, both native and exotic, and play the dual role as rescue and rehabilitation facilities, as well as long-term placement sanctuaries.

Sanctuaries throughout Latin America, Africa, Europe, and Asia exist mainly because of the multi-billion dollar wildlife trade and exploitation industry. Many were established by nonprofit organizations working in collaboration with local and national government agencies to effectively implement wildlife protection legislation and confiscate illegally traded wildlife. A few examples include: sanctuaries in Europe and Asia for bears confiscated from bear dancing, bear baiting, and bear farming; African sanctuaries that help orphaned chimpanzees rescued from the pet industry, whose parents have been killed for bushmeat; big cat sanctuaries in Europe, Africa, and Asia for animals who have been rescued from roadside zoos and circuses; elephant sanctuaries in Africa and Asia for animals orphaned by poachers who killed their parents for ivory; and sanctuaries and wildlife rescue centers in Asia and Latin America for birds, reptiles, and primates who had been kept as wildlife pets.

Wildlife rehabilitation, in particular, is of great importance to many sanctuaries and centers around the world.

A closer look at wildlife rehabilitation around the globe

At sanctuaries outside North America, many of the animals come from endangered or threatened species and, therefore, each individual animal is important to the gene pool. Even if a species is not threatened, facilities are keen to rehabilitate their native wildlife, as it is the most desired option from an animal welfare perspective (a wild animal living free in its wild habitat), and it is the most cost- and space-effective option, in terms of freeing up resources and space to care for other individual animals.

Various factors need to be considered during wildlife rehabilitation. An animal in a sanctuary or wildlife center is likely to have had some direct human contact, meaning there are concerns around the potential transmission of human diseases. Also,

PHOTO COURTESY OF © BORNEO ORANGUTAN SURVIVAL FOUNDATION

Even if a species is not threatened, facilities are keen to rehabilitate their native wildlife, as it is the most desired option from an animal welfare perspective (a wild animal living free in its wild habitat), and it is the most cost- and space-effective option, in terms of freeing up resources and space to care for other individual animals.

an animal's behavior may be affected in terms of human imprinting or habituation to humans (such as reliance on humans for food). These issues can be addressed during an effective rehabilitation program, designed for the species concerned.

For some species, such as certain primates, a very lengthy rehabilitation process is needed and it may involve the animals learning key skills from human caregivers. For example, one elephant sanctuary in Africa has a rehabilitation program where a human caregiver is assigned to each animal. Similarly, an orangutan sanctuary in Asia assigns a human caregiver to each orphaned orangutan. For other species, the animal's behaviors and survival skills are "hard wired," meaning that after some initial human nurturing during the animal's infancy (if needed), the human caregiver withdraws contact.

For native wildlife species who have been confiscated and are rehabilitated within the same country, national legislation and rehabilitation guidelines oversee the process. However, for individuals of wildlife species who have been taken from the wild, traded internationally, and then confiscated by the authorities in another country, international regulations need to be considered.

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) is an international agreement between governments, aimed at ensuring that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Although good in principle, CITES can make the process of returning animals a complex and lengthy process.

Additional challenges for sanctuaries outside North America

Beyond those challenges specifically associated with rehabilitation, sanctuaries around the globe (like those in North America) struggle to raise sufficient funds to cover operating expenses, retain good staff, maintain high standards of animal care, and implement effective management and safety protocols. The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) exists to strengthen and support the work of animal sanctuaries worldwide, and has established clear, specific standards for the humane care of various species in captive facilities and for sanctuary governance and operational issues.

Beyond that, sanctuaries outside North America face many unique challenges not experienced by their North American counterparts, some that are very difficult to overcome. For example, political instability is a significant challenge for sanctuaries in many countries. Wars, civil war, and political upheaval have devastating effects on all aspects of a country's existence, and sanctuaries are not immune. Similarly, certain regions of the world are more prone to natural disasters, such as droughts, floods, and earthquakes, and local sanctuaries are directly affected.

Economy is another factor, and widespread poverty among the human population is a great concern in many countries. This poverty level can manifest itself in several different ways, including a lack of "giving culture" in the country, which therefore makes it difficult for a sanctuary to fundraise; zero or limited government support; and public or community resentment toward funds spent on animals.

Fortunately, there are solutions to these challenges, such as getting the support of an international nonprofit partner or overseas fundraising "sister" organization to help bring funds to a sanctuary in need; using varying visitor fees, sanctuaries can decide to charge a two-level visitor fee, with one price for overseas visitors and a more modest fee for national visitors; working closely with the authorities and tourism agencies to help promote the value of indigenous wildlife, both within country and overseas; and working closely with the local community to show the value and benefits of the sanctuary (in terms of job creation and income), which can lead to greater support and more peaceful co-existence.

Overall, sanctuaries outside North America play an important multi-dimensional role in helping animals, protecting species, and educating the global public. Given their unique and plentiful challenges and obstacles, they deserve more support from governments, civil society, and the general public.

Philip Wilson is the U.S. Programs/ Member Society Manager for the World Society for the Protection of Animals, and also serves on the Board of the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries.

GREAT MINDS THINK ALIKE

THE NEW FIELD OF TRANS-SPECIES PSYCHOLOGY AND THE ROLE OF SANCTUARIES

by G.A. Bradshaw

Hmmm. This is an interesting puzzle. I wonder how it works. Let's try opening from this side. No. That didn't work. How about this side? Okay, made some progress here. Let's see what happens when I turn it over. Is there another way in from this side?

We all love puzzles. That is why crosswords, Sudoku, Rubik's cubes, and a thousand other brain twisters were invented. Not only are they fun, but puzzles help revitalize tired and aging neurons. Humans are not the only ones who use sharpened wits to manipulate the world. Take tool making. Once thought to distinguish *Homo sapiens* from all other species, all sorts of animals craft tools. Elephants fashion branches to scratch hard-to-reach spots, gorillas use a rod to gauge water depth as they venture across a river, and magpies twist wires into hooks to pull out delectable morsels. Of course, parrots are renowned for their puzzle-solving prowess. As if by magic, parrots like Woodstock, a macaw rescued and living in sanctuary at Foster Parrots, Ltd, team foot and beak to find just the right hairline crack that opens, exposing a tasty treat.

Some find it surprising that animals think like humans but not neuroscientists who have established that all vertebrates possess similar brain structures and processes responsible for thought, consciousness, and emotions. After centuries of being labeled instinct-driven, animals are finally being understood for who they really are: individuals who think and puzzle much the way we do. Discoveries on the inside match what is observed on the outside. Mental states and behavior also correlate across species.

A fox stands vigil in helpless grief as his spouse lies dead on the pavement, victim of a speeding driver. Octopi kept in aquaria plot playful tricks on their human caregivers, and dolphin elders patiently pass on cultural wisdom by teaching their young to use sponges for flushing out tiny fish hidden in the ocean's sandy bottom.

Science's recognition of cross-species commonality has done away with traditional disciplinary barriers and brought human and animal studies together under one conceptual umbrella in the new field of trans-species-psychology. There is no need to segregate the study of human minds from those of other species, and what we learn about octopi and foxes can be applied to humans and vice versa.

Half of this equation has been around for a long time in the form of "animal models." Mice, cats, chimpanzees, and other animals are routinely subjected to biomedical experiments and testing for the very reason that they are so much like us psychologically, emotionally, and physically. However, despite this understanding, nonhuman species are denied comparable ethical and legal protection.

Anthropomorphism, making inferences from humans to animals, is claimed to be a dangerous projection. Dangerous indeed when one realizes how much of modern living and economics relies on defining animals as "less than" humans. Admitting to animal sentience implies radical changes in how animals are treated and how humans live. It might be said that animal oppression is the core organizing principle of modern western society. Nonetheless, today's science has brought us to this paradigmatic tipping point.

But does this mean that orangutans, rabbits, and people are all the same? No, no more than we would claim that two people are identical. Trans-species psychology merely levels species variations to cultural variations. Just as we are careful not to make assumptions about another person with different individual and cultural experiences, so goes making assumptions about someone who happens to wear fur, feathers, or scales.

Scientific evidence has dispelled other myths. Take, for example, the nature of modern human warfare. Organized violence has been observed in chimpanzees and even ants; however, unlike modern humanity, animals have not devised weapons of mass destruction. Trans-species psychology demonstrates that the reason is not for want of brainpower but rather derives from a difference in culture. Animals have not cultivated values and belief systems that lead to the development of large-scale, anonymous violence. Trans-species psychology shows that arguments used to justify modern warfare on the basis that "our genes make us do it" are not supported by science. Human violence is not a natural extension of animals who kill for food or in defense. On the contrary, when viewed in context of the entire animal kingdom, humanity's

As if by magic, parrots like Woodstock, a macaw rescued and living in sanctuary at Foster Parrots, Ltd, team foot and beak to find just the right hairline crack that opens, exposing a tasty treat.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARC JOHNSON, FOSTER PARROTS LTD.

present asociality (and according to some social psychologists, sociopathy) emerges as a disturbing exception to the rule. One does not even need to step outside species bounds to appreciate how statistically unusual the current human state is.

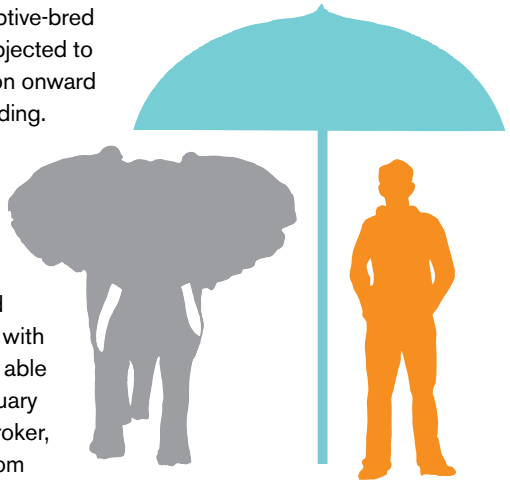
While considerable variation exists among traditional indigenous cultures, American Indians cannot be credited for the mass slaughter of wildlife engineered by European occupation. North American tribes hunted bison, beaver, and marine life, but numbers taken were relatively few as attested by the mountains, waters, and skies that teemed with wildlife when colonists arrived. Dr. Dame Daphne Marjorie Sheldrick, DBE, MBS, founder of The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, an elephant and rhinoceros orphanage in Kenya, speaks of similar decimation in Africa. When Anglo-European occupation took root, "the great herds began to dwindle, eroded by the impact of civilization, and with each year that passed, the numbers grew fewer, until people suddenly wondered in astonishment where all the animals had gone."

Species' declines involve more than numbers. Similar to indigenous human cultures, animals have suffered from genocide and loss of homeland with the result that they are suffering widespread social and psychological breakdown. Guatemalan activist and Nobel Prize winner Rigoberta Menchú Tum describes her people as not being "myths of the past, ruins in the jungle, or zoos" but individuals who "want to be respected, not to be victims of intolerance and racism." The same might well be said of, by, and about, wildlife. Roads, farms, and hunters have fragmented habitat, dispersed millions, and fractured animal minds and societies. In South Africa, after witnessing their mothers and family killed in culls, young bulls became killers themselves, responsible for over 100 rhinoceros deaths. Traumatized and left on their own without guiding nurturance of elder society, the young bulls developed Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Today, Asian and African elephants are afflicted with trauma-related symptoms at an almost epidemic level. The unrelenting stress that elephants endure is showing its effects in other ways. Reminiscent of India's satyagraha, nonviolent resistance inspired by Mohandas Gandhi, elephants are staging what many call "protest marches" by peaceably occupying Indian towns and organizing blockades to stop trains that have killed so many of their starving compatriots wandering the landscape in search of food.

We are not used to ascribing planned action and emotion to another species. But trans-species psychology informs us that not only are such mental states possible, they are a reality that sadly has taken hold. Since elephants were identified with PTSD, trauma-related symptoms have been found in other free-ranging wildlife, including cougars, wolves, bear, dolphins, mountain goats, and deer. Needless to say, these symptoms are rampant in captive-bred individuals such as parrots, who are subjected to extreme stress sometimes from inception onward because of the practice of captive breeding.

In the trans-species paradigm, sanctuaries take on an expanded role. For those unable to return home, sanctuary workers provide therapeutic support to animals struggling to regain a sense of self and meaning as they integrate past trauma with present recovery. For those individuals able to return to free-ranging society, sanctuary workers take on the role of a culture broker, someone who facilitates the journey from captivity to freedom.



Daphne Sheldrick is one such trans-species broker. For over half a century, she has rescued scores of orphaned elephants and successfully reintroduced them back into free-ranging society. Sheldrick and her keepers are sufficiently fluent in elephant ways and communication so that, despite having human allomothers (a constellation of human, not elephant, caregivers), infant elephants learn how to be elephants: what to eat and how to be and act like elephants. In the process of trauma recovery, human caregivers and animals develop a type of bicultural identity and capacity where human keepers learn to "see through the eyes of an elephant" so that they may rekindle a wounded elephant mind and soul.

Subsequently, similar to the vast libraries of Alexandria and London, sanctuaries such as The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust and Foster Parrots Ltd hold and nurture priceless knowledge of wildlife cultures. The animals and people at a sanctuary are guardians of these traditions. They are all part of a broader trans-species movement of cultural renewal that transforms humanity from a culture of oppression to one supportive of animal self-determination. By modelling trans-species ethics and custom, sanctuaries constitute new universities for the future: not places to study animals but centers of service and wisdom where common hearts and minds build a beautiful future together. **AV**

G.A. Bradshaw, Ph.D., Ph.D., is the Founder and Director, ofThe Kerulos Center (www.kerulos.org), and author of Elephants on the Edge: What Animals Teach Us About Humanity *(Yale 2009) and* Being Sanctuary: Transforming to a Culture of Compassion with Animal Kin *(2011).*

AAVS Action
MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR ANIMALS

INNOVATION HAS ITS AWARDS

ARDF Announces 2010 Alternatives Research Grants

As part of its mission to end the use of animals in research, testing, and education, AAVS's affiliate, the Alternatives Research & Development Foundation (ARDF), supports scientists who develop methods of investigation that can replace animal models. Over $2 million in grants have been awarded to date. Through ARDF's Alternatives Research Grant Program, scientists are conducting innovative research that provides solutions to the problems associated with animal experimentation.

ARDF is proud to announce the recipients of the 2010 Alternatives Research Grants:

Haojie Mao, Ph.D., Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
Development of a 3-Dimensional Computer Mouse Brain Model and Analysis of Virtual Traumatic Brain Injury Experiments for Minimizing the Use of Mice
Traumatic brain injury is typically studied using a mechanism to induce brain damage in animals. However, different ways to cause brain damage used by different researchers make it difficult to compare experimental findings, and tremendous animal suffering is often involved. In this study, Dr. Mao will utilize a computer mouse brain model to perform a series of virtual cranial impacts and responses that will be calculated using computer technology. Not only will this analysis serve as a general platform for comparison studies, but it will also save animals from redundant, invasive laboratory experiments.

Stuart K. Williams, Ph.D., University of Louisville, Louisville, KY
Medical Device Testing in Human Blood Vessel Mimics
Implanted medical devices are tested and evaluated using animal models such as rabbits, dogs, calves, pigs, and sheep. The focus of this study is on testing cardiovascular devices that are implanted in humans using minimally invasive techniques. There is a need to assess these devices and their abilities to support tissue ingrowth and formation of a cell lining on their surfaces. Dr. Williams will create a blood vessel equivalent that will replace animals but still support tests for safety, toxicity, and efficacy.

Luca Cucullo, Ph.D., Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH
A New Dynamic In Vitro Model of the Human Cerebrovascular Network
Many nuero-inflamatory diseases, like meningitis, Alzheimer's disease, and multiple sclerosis, involve an overactive immune response affecting the brain. Typically, research studies use purpose bred or transgenic animal models to mimic these illnesses. Dr. Cucullo has developed an alternative using hollow fibers that mimic the blood-brain barrier and brain circulatory system, allowing researchers to investigate the causes of inflammation on the brain without using animals.

Melissa Herbst-Kralovetz, Ph.D., Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
Human 3-Dimensional Vaginal Models for In Vitro Analyses of Resilience and Homeostasis to Microbicides
There is a need for biological models to study infection of the female reproductive tract (FRT) that are both practical and representative of the human condition. The FRT has a complex physiology designed to create a natural barrier to disease, which makes it difficult to recreate in the laboratory. Dr. Herbst-Kralovetz aims to design a primary tissue-equivalent model that can be used in lieu of animals to study infection and disease, as well as treatments, for the FRT.

C. Anthony Hunt, Ph.D., University of California, San Francisco, CA
Development of Virtual Rat Liver for Pharmacological and Toxicological Investigations
Due to its job of filtering toxins out of the body, the liver is often involved in studying disease and evaluating various drug treatments. This ambitious project aims to create a virtual liver, using known information about rat physiology, that provides a mechanism for study that does not use animals. The hope is to create a computer model that can be used in experimental studies and not just predictive testing, which is already in practice.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE INSTITUTE FOR IN VITRO SCIENCES (THIS PAGE) COURTESY OF ANIMALEARN AND BY VEER (OPPOSITE)

Animalearn Goes To Korea

In August, AAVS's Education Director Laura Ducceschi traveled to South Korea to speak about the use of non-animal alternatives in education before an international audience. With sponsorship from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (UK), Laura participated in the Korean Association for Laboratory Animal Science (KALAS) International Symposium. She spoke about trends and the growing use of alternatives, like simulators and manikins, in veterinary and medical education. Laura also led a workshop showcasing these and other types of alternatives available through The Science Bank, our lending library of alternatives to the harmful use of animals in education.

Established over 10 years ago by Animalearn, AAVS's education division, The Science Bank is the number one resource in North America for humane science alternatives. Impressed with The Science Bank's wide selection and innovative technology, attendees welcomed Laura's presentation.

Laura was also able to meet with the Dean and professors from the School of Veterinary Medicine at Konkuk University to discuss incorporating alternatives into their curriculum. The University is home to the Institute for the 3Rs (reduce, refine, replace), which, earlier this year, was awarded an education grant from ARDF to support the development of a web-based alternatives platform—the first of its kind in Korea. Using The Science Bank as a model, the Institute aims to create an online catalog of alternatives and a forum for sharing resources and exchanging ideas regarding alternatives in veterinary medical training.

AAVS Director of Education Laura Ducceschi (L) with Dr. Gwi Hyang Lee (R) of Konkuk University.

GE FISH ARE SICK

AAVS OBJECTS TO GE SALMON APPROVAL

FOR THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, AAVS has been at the forefront of efforts to expose problems with the use of animals in biotechnology. Recently, we raised concern about genetically engineered (GE) salmon and its possible approval for human consumption by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Produced by AquaBounty, these fish are engineered to grow twice as fast as their wild counterparts and suffer increased risk of severe deformities and high mortality.

In September, AAVS Research Analyst Nina Mak testified at the FDA Veterinary Medicine Advisory Committee's public meeting, and urged the agency to deny approval of AquaBounty's GE salmon. Additionally, AAVS partnered with Farm Sanctuary in submitting well-documented, formal comments to the FDA over the poor health and welfare of GE fish, and a letter to the agency was signed by 14 animal protection organizations, representing millions of supporters.

Of further concern is that other animals are being genetically manipulated and are intended to facilitate factory farming. Other applications to FDA include pigs and cows who have had their genes altered, making their use more advantageous for companies to raise and slaughter them, but compromising their welfare.

AAVS has challenged the FDA's regulatory process regarding GE animals. In categorizing the genetic engineering process as a "veterinary drug," the FDA cannot adequately address the risks to animals, particularly animal health and welfare concerns. The AquaBounty salmon application does not meet the standards of a traditional drug scrutiny, and, furthermore, sets a dangerous precedent for future applications involving genetically engineered animals.

As a leader in this effort, AAVS will continue to monitor this situation and keep our supporters up-to-date on this issue and any actions that may come in the future.

KEY POINTS THAT DESERVE FURTHER ATTENTION.

- While AquaBounty is required to demonstrate the safety of its genetic modification to the animals involved, it failed to adequately assess these health impacts because severely deformed and unhealthy fish were excluded from its research calculations, study samples involved just 6-12 fish, and very limited data were collected.
- The little data provided, however, clearly indicate that fish reared in aquaculture facilities, which are intensive confinement systems used to factory farm fish, are prone to abnormalities, more susceptible to disease, and have low rates of survival. The AquaBounty salmon fare no better, and possibly worse, in these conditions.
- The adverse outcomes experienced by GE salmon are particularly concerning given research that demonstrates that fish experience pain, fear, and distress. The importance of assuring the well-being of these animals should not be dismissed.

Giving

SUPPORT THE AAVS MISSION

THE TINA NELSON SANCTUARY FUND

FOR THE FEW FORTUNATE CHIMPANZEES, monkeys, and other animals who are "retired" from their dire existence as test subjects, there are animal sanctuaries throughout the U.S. that provide shelter, food, medical care, and love to animals exploited for scientific and medical research. Caring for multiple animals—often for decades—represents an enormous investment. AAVS created the Tina Nelson Sanctuary Fund as a way for our members to directly support carefully screened sanctuaries that conduct exceptional work. You can help by making a contribution to the Fund. You'll give animals a second chance, and help them recover and live in peace.

You may designate a gift to the "Sanctuary Fund" using the enclosed envelope. To donate online and learn more about the many sanctuaries that have benefitted from AAVS grants, visit www.aavs.org/SanctuaryFund.

For information on planned giving, leadership gifts, recurring gifts, or other support, contact Chris Derer, Director of Development & Member Services, at cderer@aavs.org or 800-SAY-AAVS. When including AAVS in your estate plans or sending a donation, please use our legal title and office address: American Anti-Vivisection Society, 801 Old York Road, Suite 204, Jenkintown, PA 19046-1611. EIN: 23-0341990. AAVS is a not for profit 501(c)(3) organization to which contributions are 100% tax deductible under federal and state law.

TRIBUTES

HONORING LOVED ONES

In honor of birds and other victims of the gulf coast oil spill.
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PHOTO BY VEER

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Beverly Keller
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Jason Mohap
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In memory of Bijou.
Diane Brodie
Portland, OR

In memory of Lacy.
Elizabeth Hale
Mesa, AZ

In honor of Jake, my Labrador "nephew" who was used in medical research. While Jake's ear still bears the tattoo showing his ID number—his only identifier prior to his rescue—and while he still has some difficulty adjusting to life outside the research lab, my brother Joe rescued him and has done an amazing job at teaching him that humans can mean love, joy, and security. I hope that the day will come when no animal will have to suffer behind laboratory doors. I love you Jake and Joe!
Lauren Martin
Brooklyn, NY

You can honor or memorialize a companion animal or animal lover by making a donation in his or her name. Gifts of any amount are greatly appreciated. A tribute accompanied by a gift of $50.00 or more will be published in the *AV Magazine*. At your request, we will also notify the family of the individual you have remembered. All donations are used to continue AAVS's mission of ending the use of animals in biomedical research, product testing, and education.

Members' Corner

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THE STARFISH STORY? Along a beach, thousands of starfish have washed ashore and will die if they aren't returned to the ocean. A young girl works diligently to save the stranded animals by returning them back into the ocean one by one. A passerby notices the lone girl's activities and inquires, "There are so many of them… what difference can you make?" After rescuing another starfish, the girl replies, "I made a difference for that one."

That story is a very appropriate analogy to describe wildlife sanctuaries, maintained by dedicated souls who regularly face rigorous challenges. It is not possible to rescue all the animals suffering in laboratories, circuses, breeding facilities, and other prisons; only a fortunate few will survive to be released. But for those who can be saved, spared from suffering and sorrow, and shown love and compassion, it is worth the effort.

I feel I have some insight into what it would be like working at a sanctuary from my experiences volunteering for wildlife rehabilitation clinics. Both provide care to animals in need, most often stemming from human activity, both accidental and intentional. Animal patients at rehab clinics usually undergo care for only a temporary period before being released, while residents of animal sanctuaries present long-term needs for food, shelter, medical care, and more. Regardless of how they operate, both types of facilities contend with similar, common problems: limited resources, minimal funding, and overworked staff.

AAVS is so happy to support the great work of sanctuaries and invites you to contribute through our Sanctuary Fund program. Your generosity enables us to provide much-needed financial assistance to havens of hope for formerly abused and neglected animals. You know that your gift makes a difference.

Recent scientific studies observing animal behavior have provided fascinating revelations about how animals think in the same way as humans. It was long accepted that our respective thought processes were entirely different; however animals experience a range of emotions—joy, anger, grief, fear, empathy—the same way that we do. While animals cannot appreciate the time, effort, and cost associated with their rescue, transportation, and care, they can recognize kindness. Thank you for caring.

Chris Derer, Director of Development & Member Services

Attracting Birds to your backyard

If you want to reach out to wildlife, a great place to start is right in your own backyard. Why not create a safe, inviting respite for birds? Here are a few tips to help you get started.

- Fill a basic tubular feeder with black-oil sunflower seeds and you'll attract many birds.
- Offer a selection; other birds may prefer nuts, vegetarian suet, or nectar.
- Make clean water available for drinking and bathing.
- Hang a bird house in a quiet area of your yard.
- Be sure to keep all feeders clean.
- Place feeders where you can see them. You may be surprised by how many different birds you see!

Adapted from the National Bird-Feeding Society's Top Ten Bird Feeding Tips.

PHOTOS BY VEER

One act of kindness can be your legacy, too.

In 1883, AAVS was founded by social visionary Caroline Earle White. Knowing that small acts of kindness can make a difference for animals, she tirelessly worked to improve the lives of those who were in need of loving homes, labored on city streets, and suffered in laboratories.

Make her legacy yours.

aavs®
American Anti-Vivisection Society

You can help ensure that Caroline Earle White's vision and the work of AAVS continues far into the future. For information on estate planning and becoming a member of the Caroline Earle White Society, please contact Chris Derer at cderer@aavs.org or 800-SAY-AAVS.

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