



Activities Update



ANIMAL PROTECTION OF NEW MEXICO, INC.



2000 Fall/Winter Edition

2000 NEW MEXICO CONFERENCE FOR THE ANIMALS & MILAGRO AWARDS

“ORGANIZING THE GRASSROOTS
TO AFFECT PUBLIC POLICY”



ASSAULTS ON WILDLIFE

COCKFIGHTING

HOMELESS ANIMALS

SKILLS WORKSHOPS

VIVISECTION

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

ANIMAL ABUSE

ANIMAL ACTIVISM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, November 8th: vegetarian and factory farming outreach table, sponsored by Animal Protectors on Campus, (APOC), the UNM student chapter of APNM. For more information, call Viki at 345-2251.

Wednesday, November 15th: vegetarian and factory farming outreach table, sponsored by APOC. For more information, call Viki at 345-2251.

Friday, November 17th: "Animal Rights Law" class by Steven Wise at UNM (see back cover).

Saturday, November 18th: 2000 Conference for the Animals & Milagro Awards (see page 5).

Wednesday, November 22nd: fur outreach table, sponsored by APOC. For more information, call Viki at 345-2251.

Thursday, November 23rd: Thanksgiving is Murder on Turkeys Day

Friday, November 24th: Fur Free Friday
ABQ: call Tisha at 265-2322 for more info.
Santa Fe: Call Michele at 989-1442 for more info.

Wednesday, November 29th: fur outreach table, sponsored by APOC. For more information, call Viki at 345-2251.

Tuesday, December 5th: APNM Membership Meetings: First Tuesday of every month at 7 pm (optional potluck at 8 pm) ABQ: 144 Harvard SE, South of Central in the University area. Santa Fe: Call Michele at 989-1442 for location.

January 2001: APNM Annual Meeting: Date and location TBA. Come join APNM's board

and staff for an overview of APNM's work in 2000 and what to expect in 2001. Also, food and fun!

March 20th, 2001: Meat-Out Day

April 22nd, 2001: Earth Day

April 2001: World Week for Animals in Laboratories

Ongoing: Felony animal Cruelty Training Seminar now being offered at various locations throughout New Mexico. Call Michele at 989-1442 for more information.

For information on any of these events, please call the Albq. office at 265-2322, unless otherwise indicated.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HELP TURN OUR CARS INTO CASH!

Looking for a new auto? Then look no further than APNM's own donation car lot! Generous members have recently donated two automobiles to APNM and we hope to turn these cars into cash for our programs. So if you're in need of new wheels, give us a call.



▲ 1987 Cutlass Ciera Oldsmobile, 4 door, \$1000 OBO



▲ 1982 Chevy Chevette, 4 door, 4 cylinder engine, \$250 OBO

I'm often asked if things are worse for animals in New Mexico than for animals in other states. That's a difficult question because as you might suspect, each state has its own particular brands of cruelty. Here in New Mexico, we are distinguished because of our intolerable animal overpopulation problems and because cockfighting still has its ghastly grip on the landscape. Little by little, these and other assaults on animals are being addressed by both caring individuals and animal organizations, like APNM, throughout the state.

Not coincidentally, New Mexico is lucky to have its very own shining stars who are working to make lasting changes for the benefit of animals. These amazing advocates include heads of agencies, elected officials, children, and "ordinary" (although real-

ly quite extraordinary!) folks who constantly go out of their way to make sure that animal suffering is not ignored. We're thrilled that starting this year, these "Milagros" in our community will be properly recognized for all the difference they are making.

Knowing and working with such talented, compassionate and dedicated individuals from throughout New Mexico is a tremendous benefit to all of us working to help animals. Please be sure to join APNM in recognizing New Mexico's special friends of animals at the 2000 APNM Milagro Awards in Santa Fe, on Saturday, Nov. 18th. (article on page 4).

Elisabeth Jennings
Executive Director

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Animal Collectors – What they are, how to identify them

An animal collector is someone who hoards animals, often with the misguided intent of saving them from an uncertain life on the street or in the gutters, or from being euthanized at animal shelters. What begins as a "mission of mercy" winds up being a nightmare for the animals involved. Some of the worst collector cases uncovered in New Mexico have revealed animals who starved to death, froze to death, lived in squalor, cannibalized each other, and lived lives of unspeakable misery. Collectors often convince community members of their own capability and sincerity, while accusing legitimate animal rescue people of being cruel and inhumane – particularly if they support humane euthanasia, if they suggest that the collector's animal numbers be reduced, or that some animals be placed in other homes.

Collectors often live in remote areas, relying on the fact that they can keep animals in these conditions without much public scrutiny. In New Mexico, collectors have traditionally relied on the high likelihood that rural counties don't have adequate numbers of animal control personnel or language in local ordinances requiring regular inspections and permitting of premises with more than a certain number of animals.

In a typical collector scenario, quality of life is traded in for life at all costs, no matter how much animal suffering is involved.

Financially unable to provide veterinary care, spaying and neutering, adequate safe living space, and often even food, initially well-intentioned but unbalanced people slip over the line and become collectors. Collectors don't see a limit to the number of animals they can safely and legally care for and are too close to the situation to recognize that their safe haven has become a living hell for animals.

If there are a large number of animals on one person's property and the individual animals' needs are not being met, it is likely the person is a collector. This phenomenon, seen throughout the United States, and certainly in New Mexico, is a psychological disorder which results in tremendous suffering of the animals involved.

If you suspect someone is an animal collector, here are some important questions to ask:

- How many animals does the suspected collector have?
- Is that number within the limit set by local ordinances?

- Can they meet all of the animals' emotional needs by providing socialization, Tender Loving Care and play?
- Can they meet the animals' physical needs, such as regular daily exercise, food, water, shade and proper shelter? Or are the animals confined to a particular space all day every day?
- Can they meet their animals' veterinary needs? Or are the animals' injuries and ill-



nesses often untreated, either because they haven't noticed illness or injury due to the large number of animals they have, or they can't financially provide veterinary care?

- Do they allow people to visit them at home?
- Do they try to find good homes for "extra" animals who find them or do they keep them forever once they have them?
- Are they stridently opposed to humane euthanasia of animals, "rescuing" and keeping all they can to avoid their being euthanized?

APNM Initiates Milagro Awards

Animal Protection of New Mexico (APNM) has established the Milagro Awards, which recognize individual and collaborative acts of humane integrity. "The purpose of these awards is to catch people and institutions doing something RIGHT for animals and honor their actions," says APNM's Executive Director Elisabeth Jennings.

Award recipients will be honored at an awards dinner and ceremony concluding APNM's 2000 New Mexico Conference for the Animals, Saturday, November 18 at the Hotel Santa Fe at 6:00 PM. Agencies, organizations, businesses and individuals have been nominated in each of the following categories:

ADVOCACY AWARD: for advocacy efforts that promoted the compassionate treatment of animals and/or combated institutionalized animal cruelty; for efforts that alleviated the pain and suffering of animals used for "entertainment" or for cruel experiments;

ANIMAL AWARD: for exceptional animal courage and/or intelligence (animal nominees only);

APNM BOARD OF DIRECTORS' AWARD: for lifelong commitment to promoting the humane treatment of animals and advancing the cause of animal rights;

APNM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: for distinguished achievement in assuring the humane treatment of animals;

DIRECT ANIMAL SERVICES AWARD: for efforts that directly improved the lives of animals; for alleviating the pain and suffering of companion animals, farm animals, livestock and/or wildlife;

HUMANE EDUCATION AWARD: for innovative classroom, public, private or civic education efforts that foster humane ethics;

MEDIA AWARD: for spotlighting animal issues with courage, creativity and integrity;

YOUTH AWARD: for youth activism, ethics, and bravery.

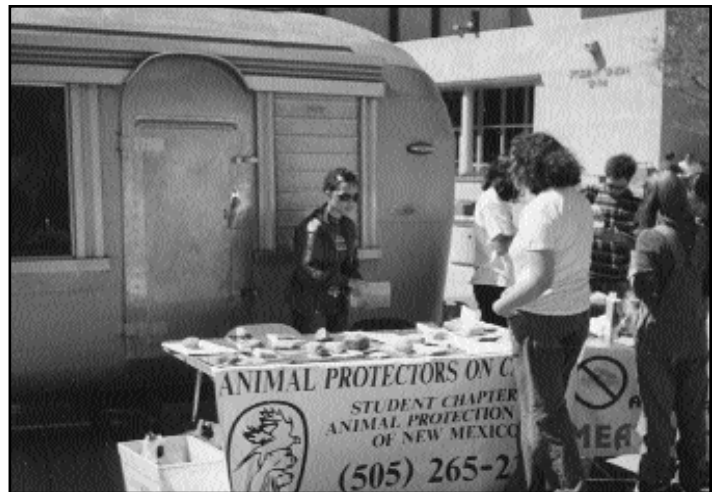
The event planning committee members include: M. Carlota Baca, Abby Davidson, Dawn Douglas, Eleanor Eisenmenger, Harriette Roller and Deborah Schildkraut.

Dinner reservations are \$50/person or \$500 for a table of ten. Dinner can be included in the conference fee for those attending the 2000 Conference for the Animals. Seating is extremely limited.

For an invitation to the dinner or to make reservations, contact APNM's Development Director, Harriette Roller, at 505/954-4262.



Dutchess will receive this year's Animal Award for exceptional animal courage and intelligence.



Animal Protectors on Campus: Students on the Move at UNM

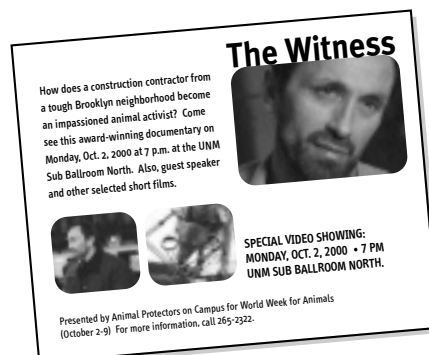
APNM's student group at UNM, Animal Protectors on Campus (APOC), is up and running again! Some of the issues and topics the group will focus on this year include vegetarianism/veganism, factory farming, fur, vivisection and the Coulston Foundation. It is also teaming up with the Animal League Defense Fund chapter on campus to end the use of dog labs at the UNM medical school.

During the first week of October, the group showed the award-winning documentary, *The Witness*, to kick off New Mexico's Week for the Animals. Since it was such a powerful movie, and such a success, the group plans on showing it at least two more times this school year. APOC has also done outreach at the Student Union Building (SUB) educating people on the CHIMP Act and the Coulston Foundation.

What's coming up? During the month of November, APOC will have a table in the SUB every Wednesday from 10 until 4. The following issues and topics are what the group is targeting:

- 11/8 and 11/15 - Vegetarianism and Factory Farming
- 11/22 - Fur
- 11/29 - Vivisection

Anyone interested in joining or helping out, please get in touch with Viki Elkey at viki@apnm.org, or call 345-2251.



TOP: Animal Protectors on Campus sponsor The Diner at UNM while giving out free vegan snacks. LEFT: Promo postcard of *The Witness* video shown at UNM.

2000 NEW MEXICO CONFERENCE FOR THE ANIMALS & MILAGRO AWARDS

"Organizing the Grassroots to Affect Public Policy"

Animal Protection of New Mexico, Inc. (APNM) is bringing together the state's animal activists and caring individuals for the 2000 New Mexico Conference for the Animals on Saturday, November 18, at the Hotel Santa Fe, 1501 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, New Mexico. This year's conference will conclude with the inaugural Milagro Awards, recognizing nine individuals for advocacy, courage, community service, and education promoting the compassionate treatment of animals in New Mexico.

This year's conference theme is "Organizing the Grassroots to Affect Public Policy." Skills workshops in the morning will help people learn how to help stop animal abuse by changing public policy, working effectively with the media, and passing laws at the state and federal level. In the afternoon, issues workshops focus on topics including homeless animals, evacuation plans for animals in public emergencies, anti-vivisection campaigns, ranching and grazing in New Mexico, animal collectors, and the correlation between violence against women and animal abuse.



Tracy Reiman ▲

Kenneth Shapiro ▼



To Register for the 2000 New Mexico Conference:

Please mail your completed form with enclosed check to: APNM, P.O. Box 11395, Albuquerque, NM 87192. (conference registration forms were mailed separately to all APNM members; to request a form, call: 505.265.2322 or download directly from apnm.org)

Pre-registration must be received by Nov. 13, 2000. Seating is limited so register early! On-site registration on space-available basis only.

SKILLS WORKSHOPS

8:30 am – 10:00 am

- *Challenging Animal Abuse/Changing Public Policy* – Michele Rokke, APNM
- *Using the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to Help Animals* – Harriette Roller, APNM; Richard Mietz, APNM attorney

10:15 am – 12:30 pm

- *Working to Pass State and Federal Laws* – Lisa Jennings, APNM
- *Working with the Media* – Tracy Reiman, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA); Renée Blake, Media IQ; Bill Hutchison, Santa Fe Reporter

ISSUES WORKSHOPS

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

- No More Homeless Pets Coalition* – Helga Schimkat, APNM, and other coalition members
- Emergency and Evacuation Planning: A New Mexico Model* – Laura Banks, Bernalillo County Animal Control and Protection; Dr. Paul Ettestad, New Mexico Public Health Veterinarian; Kate Rindy, Santa Fe Animal Shelter and Humane Society
- Anti-Vivisection Campaigns: The Coulston Foundation Case History* – Suzanne Roy, In Defense of Animals; Harriette Roller and Marsha Larsen, APNM
- Feral Cats* – Sarah Moreland and Vicki Williams, New Mexico Animal Friends; Michele Rokke, APNM
- Cockfighting* – Lisa Jennings, APNM

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

- Violence Against Women and Animals, a slide show* – Julie Urbanik, Feminists for Animal Rights
- Welfare Ranching: How the Livestock Industry Hurts Animals and the Planet at Your Expense* – Pat Wolff, New West Research
- Video presentation of the film, The Witness, winner, Best Documentary, Canyonlands Film Festival* – facilitated by Michele Rokke and Laticia Niemi, APNM
- Animal Collectors* – Kenneth Shapiro, Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals; A. J. Salazar, Assistant District Attorney, First Judicial District

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Milagro Awards Dinner

7:00 pm – 7:15 pm Keynote Remarks – Kim Stallwood, Executive Director, Animal Rights Network; Editor, Animals' Agenda magazine

7:15 pm – 8:30 pm Milagro Awards, Kiva Room

FACT Hits the Road

APNM's groundbreaking, accredited Felony Animal Cruelty Training (FACT), entitled "Implementing the Felony Animal Cruelty Law", is now a video presentation scheduled to be shown in 19 cities across New Mexico over the next three months.

The video presentation is an opportunity for under-staffed and under-financed agencies to provide accredited training for personnel at a nominal cost without related travel expenses. Citizens are encouraged to attend so that they can assist local law enforcement by accurately reporting instances of animal neglect and cruelty.

FACT has been well received by attendees as more and more animal cruelty cases are being investigated and prosecuted in our state. New Mexico is in step with the national trend of recognizing animal cruelty as a serious crime that needs to be addressed through our legal system as well as by mental health professionals.

The training class helps clear up misconceptions of the new law and provides a practical working knowledge enabling officials to recognize and successfully prosecute animal cruelty cases.

On September 22, in Alamogordo, APNM participated in the New Mexico Animal Control Association's (NMACA) fall conference by presenting FACT for the third time this year. Madeline Melka, Senior Staff Attorney and DPS Training Instructor, volunteered her time as did Andrew Jaramillo, NMACA President, to educate attendees about this important law. Theresa Welch, an animal advocate with years of experience prosecuting animal cruelty cases, has also donated her time to provide training across the state, and is featured in the FACT video training. Our special thanks go out to these great folks for making time to help animals and people.

Over 175 New Mexicans including animal control officers, law enforcement officials, attorneys, judges, social service workers, veterinarians, domestic violence workers, animal advocates and others have now been trained on the link

between animal cruelty and future criminality.

In addition to being accredited through the NM State Bar Association and the NM Department of Public Safety, FACT recently received accreditation through the New Mexico Board of Social Work Examiners. Attorneys, judges, peace officers and social service workers who attend will all receive 4.5 hours of Continuing Education Credit (attorneys and judges receive an additional 0.6 hours of ethic credits).

Pre-registration is advised. To register: mail completed registration form including your name, agency name, address, phone number and email with a check, money order or purchase order for \$10 per attendee to: APNM, attn: FACT, POB 1215, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1215 or email this information to fact@apnm.org, or phone Michele Rokke at 505/989-1442 for more information.

In July, APNM was invited to present the FACT template at AR2000, a national animal rights conference in Washington DC. The template created widespread excitement as participants in the forum recognized the potential for providing training on existing animal law in their own areas of the country.

Because laws are only effective when they're enforced, APNM's innovative FACT program is breaking new ground as an extremely effective way to protect all animals.

Since FACT was initially accredited through DPS and the State Bar earlier this year, government agencies, animal advocacy groups and individuals in more than a dozen states have requested information about the program.

APNM has incorrectly stated on its Felony Animal Cruelty Training (FACT) brochures that the FACT training was "Recommended for veterinarians by the NM Board of Veterinary Medicine." When the Board printed notice of our training in their February newsletter, APNM erroneously interpreted that as the Board's recommendation of the training. APNM has since learned that it is not a function of the New Mexico Board of Veterinary Medicine to recommend specific training for its licensees or to specify specific training for them. APNM apologizes for misrepresenting the Board's position.



FACT VIDEO TRAINING DATES

A four-hour video presentation is accompanied by a resource binder and facilitated by an APNM staffer. Refreshments will be served as allowed according to meeting room policy. FACT training will be given twice daily from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in each location (except for Truth or Consequences and Las Cruces).

- TAOS** – Monday, November 6th; Taos Civic Plaza and Convention Center, 120 Civic Plaza Dr.
- LAS CRUCES** – Wednesday, November 8th Branigan Library 200 East Picacho Ave. (12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.)
- CLOVIS** – Monday, November 13th; City Hall, 321 North Connelly St.
- TUCAMCARI** – Tuesday, November 14th; Convention Center, 1500 West Tucamcari Dr.
- FORT SUMNER** – Wednesday, November 15th City Hall, 501 Avenue C
- FARMINGTON** – Monday, November 20th; Farmington Civic Center, 200 West Arrington
- RATON** – Tuesday, November 21st Raton Convention Center, 901 South Third
- ESPANOLA** – Monday, November 27th City Hall, 405 N. Paseo de Oñate
- SOCORRO** – Tuesday, November 28th NM Tech, Macey Center
- LOS LUNAS** – Wednesday, November 29th Village Administration Bldg., 660 Main St. NW (co-sponsored by the Village of Los Lunas)
- LAS VEGAS** – Thursday, November 30th; Chamber Office, 1700 N. Grand Avenue
- ROSWELL** – Monday, December 4th Roswell Convention and Civic Center, 912 N. Main
- HOBBS** – Tuesday, December 5th Hobbs Public Library, 509 North Shipp
- RESERVE** – Tuesday, December 12th Community Center, 101 School St.

The FACT Video is approved for self-study for attorneys and social workers

Politics Outweighs Science at Department of Game and Fish; Conservation Organizations Call for Reform

Reacting to a report showing widespread political interference and poor leadership within the department, conservation organizations from across the state are calling for a reform of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and the state Game Commission. The groups laid out several necessary reforms to the state agency, including finding a new director with better leadership and administrative skills, reformulating the make-up of the state game commission, finding alternative funding sources for the agency and changing the mission of the department from protecting just game species to protecting all wildlife.

According to a survey conducted by Southwest Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER), employees within the Department of Game and Fish (DGF) believe that the administration of the department and the game commission put political consideration over sound scientific conservation of our state's natural resources. The survey showed that "the DGF frequently sacrifices wildlife protection under political pressure, suffers from weak, inconsistent leadership and is both underfunded and poorly managed."

"States have the primary responsibility to protect our wildlife and hold it in public trust for the citizens of the state," explains Sue George, State Counsel for Defenders of Wildlife. "The department must start making decisions about wildlife management based on sound scientific principles and not political whims. The lack of sound biological management is forcing many of our state's species into decline."

In the PEER survey, less than a fifth of the employees expressed confidence that the selection process for the next director will produce the most qualified candidates. "Just recently, the Game Commission chose Larry Bell, formerly the head of Law Enforcement in the Department, as the Department's new Director. Time will tell if he will serve wildlife or entrenched political interests," stated Lisa Jennings, Director of Animal Protection of New Mexico. "Mr. Bell will be expected to defend the scientific recommendations of his staff against political pressure, make policies based on a healthy balance of science and public opinion and aggressively search for alternative funding for his department."

In light of the fact that nine out of ten staff believe the commission does not "carefully consider the biological analysis and recommendations" from the department, the conservation organizations also demanded reform within the game commission. "Currently, special interests such as professional out-



Game Commission policies to manage species like cougars continue to be driven by anti-wildlife agendas.

fitters and guides, large landowners and cattle growers have undue influence on the commission's decisions," said Kevin Bixby, Director of the Southwest Environmental Center. "Commissioners should listen to all public citizens and should be required to have at least an elementary understanding of biology and wildlife management."

One way of changing the priorities and mind-set of the department and the commission, the groups suggest, is to find alternative sources of funding. "Since the primary source of funds for the state's Department of Game and Fish is through the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, virtually no money is allocated for the protection of non-game species and habitat," explained Dave Henderson of the National Audubon Society. "New Mexico citizen's have a strong love for our wildlife and wildlands. State leaders should give us an opportunity to express that enthusiasm for wildlife through a funding mechanism for the department that broadens the base of support." According to PEER, more than two-thirds of the employees believe that agency is not "adequately funded and staffed to manage the state's wildlife resources."

"This survey vindicates what APNM has been saying for years about the Department and the Commission," said Jennings. "It is urgent for New Mexico's wildlife that the Department's policy-makers and managers steer the Game and Fish ship in a substantially different direction."

For a copy of the PEER report, go to their website at www.peer.org.

CIBOLA COUNTY COMMISSION VOTES UNANIMOUSLY TO RETAIN BAN ON COCKFIGHTING IN THE COUNTY

Following more than two hours of testimony surrounding the issue of cockfighting in Cibola county, five county commissioners unanimously approved retaining a ban on the gruesome practice of cockfighting in the county on September 25th. Several Cibola county residents spoke in favor of retaining the ban, citing the cruelty involved, the link between violence against animals and domestic violence, and the nuisance of traffic and trash created by cock-fighters. Two businessmen who are professionals in the fighting arts of Kung Fu supported the ban, explaining that cockfighting represented unnecessary violence.

Cockfighting proponents were also present at the meeting, citing their many indefensible reasons for maintaining the brutal bloodsport.

Sate Representative Ken Martinez (D-Grants) spoke eloquently about his opposition to cockfighting, even though others defended the practice because of what they called "tradition". Representative Martinez acknowledged the difficult decision the Commission had to make because the state legislature had not yet had the fortitude to seriously address cockfighting on a state level.

In addition, Catherine Smith, the Cibola county representative on the State Board of Education, sent a letter to the Commission urging a retention of the ban, noting that cockfighting is contrary to the character the state is trying to instill in its children. In it she states, "While other states and communities are working to rid themselves of archaic and violent blood sports, Cibola county should not be working in the opposite direction by encouraging these activities."



Razor-sharp knives called gaffs up to 3 1/2 inches long are strapped to roosters' legs and cause deadly injuries to other roosters.

Commissioner James Meisner made the motion to retain the ban, and Commissioner Clara Chicharello seconded the motion. Afterward, Commissioner Chicharello cited the value her Native community places on animals and their spirits, as well as noting the impact that the violence involved in cockfighting has on children.

"The Commission acted responsibly and with tremendous integrity in their support for a ban on cockfighting in Cibola county. This is a decision that will benefit the entire community," said Elisabeth Jennings, Executive Director of Animal Protection of New Mexico (APNM).

Any grassroots activists wishing to have a VHS copy of undercover video footage of cockfighting in order to show to groups or other individuals, please contact APNM at 505-265-2322. A donation of \$5.00 per video is requested to cover duplication and postage costs.

COCKFIGHTING STATUS IN NEW MEXICO

Cockfighting is prohibited in the following nine New Mexico counties, per county ordinances:

County	Population*
Bernalillo	480,577
Cibola	23,794
Colfax	12,925
Doña Ana	135,510
Los Alamos	18,115
McKinley	60,686
San Juan	91,605
Santa Fe	98,928
Taos	23,118
TOTAL	945,258

In addition, the following New Mexico municipalities have banned cockfighting through their ordinances:

Municipality	Population*
Albuquerque	†
Grants	†
Raton	†
Las Cruces	†
Silver City	10,683
Hobbs	29,115
Gallup	†
Tucumcari	6,831
Bernalillo	5,960
Corrales	n/a
Rio Rancho	32,505
Aztec	†
Farmington	†
Las Vegas	25,743
Santa Fe	†
Truth or Consequ.	6,221
Taos	†
Belen	6,547
Los Ranchos de Alb.	3,955
Los Lunas	6,013
TOTAL	129,618

By combining population figures in the above counties which ban cock-fighting as well as municipalities with bans (not included in counties where a ban on cock-fighting is present), local bans represent 1,074,876 people, or 62% of the state's population.

*1990 census populations or latest available estimates
 † already included in county figure above

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Please thank the following Commissioners for their humane integrity:

- Comm. Freddie John Scott
- Comm. Mark Hiles
- Comm. James Meisner
- Comm. William Dawson
- Comm. Clara Chicharello

They can all be faxed at 505-285-5434, or sent mail at Cibola County Commission, 515 W. High, Grants, New Mexico 87020.

Please also thank:

State Representative Ken Martinez for his courageous support for the ban. He can be sent thank you's at: Representative Ken Martinez, P.O. Box 10, Grants, NM 87020.

Catherine Smith, the Cibola county representative on the State Board of Education, at: Catherine Smith, P.O. Box 49, Mimbres, NM, 88049.

COCKFIGHTING

FACTS AND TALKING POINTS

WHAT IS COCKFIGHTING?

Organized cockfighting is a fight between male chickens (roosters), in which people gamble on the outcome of the fight, and which always ends in the death of one of the roosters. Razor-sharp knives called gaffs up to 3 1/2 inches long (see photos, at left and right) are strapped to the birds' legs and cause deadly injuries to the opponents. Often doped up on stimulants, the birds are tormented into anger by being held face-to-face and are then dropped into a small pit to fight each other. The metal weapons worn by the birds sink deep into the birds' flesh, so that the handlers sometimes have to pull them apart several times in a single fight – whenever one bird isn't strong enough to pull free. Birds who lose the fights are nothing more than trash as far as their "owners" are concerned. Dead or dying, they're simply thrown away.

ISN'T IT ILLEGAL?

New Mexico is one of only three states in which cockfighting is still legal. To put the American public's disgust for the "sport" of cockfighting in perspective, 30 states and the District of Columbia made cockfighting illegal in the 1800's. An additional 13 made it illegal before World War I, and four more made it illegal since World War II. Eighteen states make it a felony to organize or participate in cockfighting and 33 states make it illegal to be a spectator at a cockfight.

Although New Mexico has no statewide ban on cockfighting, nine counties and at least 20 municipalities in New Mexico have banned cockfighting through local ordinances (specific counties/municipalities are listed at left). The counties and municipalities with bans include areas that are both rural and urban, and are in the southern, northern, eastern and western parts of the state. In addition, the combined population of those counties and municipalities with bans represents over 60% of the state's population.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH COCKFIGHTING?

It is offensive and perverse for humans to entertain themselves by watching two animals hack each other apart. Cockfighting is a blood sport, and as such should be banned by civilized societies. In recent years, there is more and more evidence of the relationship between cruelty to animals and violence against humans. Children exposed to the brutality of cockfights are being taught that it's alright to intentionally hurt animals for fun and that the animals are disposable items. Hidden cameras at cockfights have shown children wringing the necks of dying birds before flinging them into the trash. Other children watching appeared to be torn between confusion, pity and shame.

WHY WOULD ANYONE JUSTIFY PARTICIPATING IN COCKFIGHTING?

Some people cite their right to engage in activities they say have been part of their culture for a long time. Some even claim that the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo guarantees their right to engage in cockfighting. However, Americans live in a democracy in which the majority of citizens decides standards of behavior for the rest of

society, particularly when there are victims involved. Throughout history, many heinous things, such as slavery, child labor, the subjugation of native Americans and women, were all strenuously defended on the basis of tradition, culture, religion and even economics. Others claim that local economies will benefit from the money spent by participants and in local feed stores (for chicken feed). However, economics does not justify the continuation of a brutal and cruel sport which involves humans intentionally pitting two birds against each other, fitted with implements of destruction. In addition, most New Mexicans obviously do not want state or local economies based on a cruel and brutal contest.

Further, some cockfighters will defend the brutal sport because their children grew up "just fine" in an environment in which cockfighting took place. This does not change the fact that cockfighting is violent. Children can sometimes emerge "whole" from other violent surroundings as well, such as being exposed to domestic abuse. However, no reasonable person would defend bringing up children in that atmosphere. Likewise, children should not be exposed to the blatant animal cruelty involved in cockfighting.

In an absurd example of using creative language to try to justify their offensive sport, cockfighters often claim that they are not breaking New Mexico's laws against betting in cockfights. They claim they are instead engaged in "wagering", which is legal. In addition, cockfighters will also try to claim that roosters are not animals, and are therefore not worthy of humane treatment. However, as William Shakespeare would say, "A rose by any other name is still a rose," and this applies to both these deceptions.

Portions of this fact sheet were borrowed with permission from a fact sheet published by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).



A cockfighting barn in Valencia county - inset: dead roosters thrown as trash behind the barn.

Court Ruling Allows Animal Damage Control (ADC) to Continue to Operate In Secrecy

Following its Spring 2000 airborne surveillance of ADC's aerial gunning of coyotes in the Gila bioregion, APNM submitted two Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to obtain additional information about the agency's wildlife killing practices. Specifically, APNM sought:

- copies of any and all video footage of aerial gunning of birds or mammals by Wildlife Services, its predecessor, Animal Damage Control, or contractors of either of these agencies, within the last 40 years; and
- any and all releasable material associated with contracts for aerial gunning services between New Mexico Wildlife Services and aerial gunning contractors, to include dates of contracts, contractor names, equipment used, specific location of aerial gunning activity, and cooperative agreements associated with those contracts for fiscal years 1998, 1999 and 2000, including current contracts.

Since this agency is funded by taxpayer dollars, the public might think that this information would be readily available to them. Not so. Predictably, APNM did not receive the information in a timely manner as required by law, and was forced to sue the agency in order to get the records it should get as a matter of course.

If this weren't such a heinous program and a waste of taxpayer money, the response from the agency would have been laughable. Regarding the request for 40 years' worth of video footage of aerial gunning, APNM received a video just over one minute long, 59 seconds of which include ADC agents' gunning down coyotes from the air, accompanied by cartoon-like music. The



Killed with your tax dollars – aerial gunned coyotes found by animal activist Jarid Manos while hiking in the RITA BLANCA NATIONAL GRASSLANDS near the Texas/New Mexico border. © J Manos/Great Plains Restoration Council

only other footage is 14 seconds of what appears to be an Air Force promotional film showing an airplane taking off from an aircraft carrier. After decades of gunning down coyotes and other mammals from the air, this is all ADC could produce from its files. See APNM's website, www.apnm.org, for the video footage they provided and be prepared to get angry as you watch the gunners in action from the air against defenseless animals.

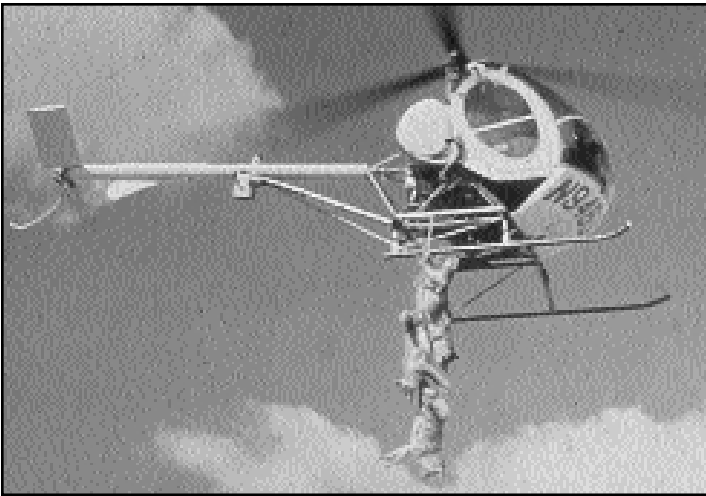
Even more chilling was the response to our request for specific records of aerial gunning contracts and activity in New Mexico. Because of a court ruling in Texas (see sidebar), for now ADC is forbidden to produce records of any substance related to any of its activities. In essence, the very heart of the FOIA has been ripped out and left barely beating. The agency redacted (withheld)

TEXAS FEDERAL COURT JUDGE BLOCKS RELEASE OF "WILDLIFE SERVICES" INFORMATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND ANIMAL RIGHTS GROUPS

A substantial amount of otherwise publicly available information sought in APNM's lawsuit against the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) concerning Wildlife Service's (formerly known as ADC) aerial gunning program in New Mexico was withheld from APNM pursuant to a court order issued in the case of John Doe, et al. v. Daniel Glickman (CIV No. W-99-CA-335). This currently pending lawsuit was filed by the Farm Bureau in the federal District Court for the Western District of Texas on behalf of ranchers who receive assistance from APHIS' "Wildlife Services" program to kill and remove public wildlife from their private and leased public lands. The stated purpose of the lawsuit is to prohibit APHIS from releasing any information to the public concerning both the location of Wildlife Service's activities throughout the United States, and the identities of those involved. Specifically, the suit was aimed at stopping the government's plan to release such information as part of a settlement in two separate Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") lawsuits brought by the Animal Protection Institute and Santa Fe's Forest Guardians.

Beginning in November 1999, a federal judge in Waco Texas granted the Farm Bureau's requests for a temporary restraining order and temporary injunction preventing APHIS from releasing any information to environmental or animal rights organizations which could allow the public to identify the locations where such activities as aerial gunning, trapping, use of M-44's and other poison, etc. take place. Similarly, the court prohibited the release of the identities and addresses of those involved in receiving benefits from this taxpayer-supported USDA program.

This nationwide prohibition on release of Wildlife Services information under the FOIA is, for the time being, only temporary while the case works toward resolution. Although the government is defending the case on behalf of APHIS, API has attempted to intervene to help ensure the public release of information about the Wildlife Services program under the FOIA. However, the Judge in Waco has refused to even allow API to participate in the case. In the meantime, the court's temporary injunction has effectively suppressed the public's right under the FOIA to obtain publicly significant information concerning the locations of Wildlife Service's taxpayer-supported activities, as well as the identities of those involved.



every kind of information imaginable related to our request. For instance, redacted information included the county and district of operation, pilots, gunners, contractors, landowner names, ranch common names, acreage, and ADC agreement number. The public is now left guessing about the very details of a program they fund and which impacts native wildlife.

Despite the gaping holes of information in the material sent, APNM was able to glean some valuable information from the remnants of the records we wrestled from the agency. For instance, from January 1998 through January 2000, ADC killed 1443 animals from the air, and all but one was a coyote, according to the reports. Over 333 flight hours were logged to kill these animals, and almost all the killing took place between January and April. The company contracted to fly the ADC gunners is Miller Aero Services from Oklahoma, the same company APNM followed by airplane in the Gila. The contract awarded to them from October 1, 1999 through October 1, 2000 was for \$80,000 or \$249 per flight hour.

APNM also received highly redacted New Mexico ADC agreements for aerial gunning "control" of animals with private property owners, although no names, ranches or other information remained intact. Since 1981, ADC has signed 102 agreements with landowners to conduct aerial gunning on their property. APNM learned from ADC that agreements are not updated each year and are considered to always be in place once they are signed. No one at the agency could answer APNM's questions about how they keep track of land ownership changes, particularly if new owners don't want aerial gunning to take place on their property.

APNM's aerial surveillance and subsequent record requests underscore that while ADC relies almost exclusively on tax dollars, its killing practices are not subject to adequate public scrutiny. The public should be outraged that native wildlife is being gunned down with tax dollars to subsidize the ranching businesses of just a few people.

ADC's indiscriminate killing of coyotes is part of their ongoing war against wildlife.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

1 Write or call your Congressional delegate (either Rep. Skeen, Udall or Wilson) and ask them to stop supporting lethal predator control. Cite some of the statistics given about aerial gunning in this article. Ask them to give you their position on lethal predator control and the reasons for their positions. Write them at:

REP. HEATHER WILSON, 2404 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515; (202) 225-6316

REP. JOE SKEEN, 2302 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515; (202) 225-2365

REP. TOM UDALL, 2268 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515; (202) 225-6190

2 Write your state legislators (each person has a representative and a senator) and ask them to stipulate that state tax dollars used for ADC only fund non-lethal predator control. The state legislature annually allocates funds to New Mexico ADC, through New Mexico State University's Higher Education budget.

To find out who your state representative and senator are, refer to your voter registration card for the district numbers and then call APNM at 265-2322, or visit our website at www.apnm.org (click "online publications", then "activism contacts", then "New Mexico legislators").

Coulston Violates Consent Decree, Continues Breeding Chimpanzees NIH Takes Title: Another Chimp Dies

A lawsuit filed April 13 by Animal Protection of New Mexico has forced the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to release records sought under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The records show that The Coulston Foundation (TCF), an Alamogordo biomedical research laboratory, continues to violate federal animal welfare laws and has also violated a Consent Decision and Order (Order) it signed with the USDA on August 24, 1999.

The Order bars TCF from breeding any chimpanzees "without prior identification of long-term funding sources to support the offspring." Documents released to APNM reveal that TCF has continued to breed chimpanzees based on speculative income from yet-to-be-awarded research contracts.

On December 23, 1999, the USDA asked TCF to identify the number of offspring it planned to produce for the year 2000 and the number of chimpanzees currently pregnant. The agency also asked TCF to identify funding secured for their long-term support. TCF responded January 6 that funding sources were identified in a December 20, 1999 letter to APHIS, which stated that "Long-term funding for 'breeding' is supported by our historical contract with FDA..." The lab said it would produce ten chimpanzees and indicated that as of November 1999, 11 female chimpanzees were known to be pregnant. Of those, at least six were conceived after the Consent Order had been signed, indicating that TCF willfully violated the Order.

On February 23, the USDA responded that although the National Institutes of Health (NIH) had issued a request for proposals (RFP), "any need for continuing chimpanzee breeding at TCF is still highly speculative. Accordingly, pursuant to the Order, breeding of chimpanzees must not be undertaken without documentation of long-term funding sources for the offspring..."

An inspection report filed by USDA veterinarian Denise Sofranko on March 30 noted: "Coulston Foundation is currently out of compliance with Order # 6 of the Consent Decision and Order, signed 8/24/99. At the time of this inspection, there were at least 28 potential breeding pairs in the chimpanzee colony, but there has been no "prior identification of long term funding sources to support the offspring, as required by the...Order."

Despite compelling evidence of these violations, the USDA has failed to levy a \$100,000 fine "held in abeyance provided that TCF complies with this Order..."

Other terms of the Order call for TCF to arrange for a three-to-five-member external review team approved by APHIS. The team was to be constituted by November 1999. The Order requires the team to examine TCF's entire animal program, including facilities, records, veterinary care, the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), and environmental enrichment plans for its non-human primates. The team must issue a confidential written report to APHIS and TCF. Although the report is releasable under the FOIA, the USDA has refused to release it to APNM.

In May, the NIH issued an RFP seeking a contractor to operate and maintain a long-term care facility projected to house 350 chimpanzees. Shortly thereafter, the agency took title to 288 chimpanzees infected with HIV and hepatitis C as a result of TCF research experiments. Four months later, Ray, a ten-year-old chimpanzee, died, a chilling predictor that chimpanzees may fare no better under NIH control than they have at TCF. Official reasons given for Ray's demise were "complications of a fungal infection, believed to be the first documented case of such an infection killing a chimpanzee."

According to whistleblowers, however, Ray's symptoms went untreated and TCF failed to even order diagnostic tests for the ailing primate. In Defense of Animals (IDA), an international animal advocacy and rescue group, speculates that Ray died from a peritonitis-like ailment. Peritonitis causes acute pain akin to that a human afflicted with appendicitis would suffer. Ray's death is the 34th unintended chimpanzee death at TCF since its incorporation in 1993.

The NIH takeover leaves the chimpanzees in limbo. NIH last month rejected bids from several groups, including TCF, to care for the 287 chimpanzees to which it took title last May. The animals are housed at Holloman Air Force Base. The USDA has been strangely silent about whether or not the NIH actions have, in effect, invalidated its 1999 Consent Decision and Order.

But more USDA action against TCF may be forthcoming. According to a June 22 affidavit

by Robert Gibbens, director of USDA's western regional office, the agency anticipates filing yet another formal complaint against TCF as a result of violations uncovered during its latest investigation. Such action would mark the fourth time USDA has formally charged TCF for federal Animal Welfare Act violations, a record characterized by Drs. Jane Goodall and Roger Fouts as "...the worst animal care record of any primate research facility in the history of the Animal Welfare Act." Meanwhile, the USDA is using the alleged pending charges to withhold records requested by APNM and IDA under the FOIA.



Chimps just like this one have been infected with human diseases and are languishing inside the Coulston facility.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- 1** Write to: Dr. W. Ron DeHaven, Deputy Administrator, Animal Care, USDA, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1288. Ask what the USDA is doing to assure the welfare of the chimpanzees remaining at TCF.
- 2** Attend APNM's November 18th 2000 New Mexico Conference for the Animals. Suzanne Roy, Program Director for In Defense of Animals, will lead a workshop on anti-vivisection campaigns. Roy and her colleague Eric Kleiman, IDA's Director of Research, have spent seven years working to close TCF and retire the chimpanzees from research.
- 3** Purchase a "Primates for Primate Freedom" tag. Tags are being produced for each chimpanzee at TCF and Holloman and will be sold by APNM at the Conference and throughout the year.

UPDATE: NO MORE HOMELESS PETS COALITION

The No More Homeless Pets Coalition introduced in our last newsletter has been actively working on organizing the coalition and its members and evaluating the strategies available for addressing cat and dog overpopulation issues. At its September meeting, the Coalition's Board of Directors decided the Coalition will focus first on developing a comprehensive plan for spaying and neutering cats and dogs in New Mexico. The plan will be developed over the next several months and coalition members will explore how different spay-neuter programs work, how effective they are and what options might be suitable for the different areas of New Mexico. The Coalition believes that spaying and neutering a greater number of animals will result in the biggest dent on New Mexico's cat and dog overpopulation crisis.

As a trial program, the No More Homeless Pets Coalition is sponsoring Neuter Scooter II, during which both male and female cats will be spayed or neutered by participating veterinarians at no charge to the cat's guardian. The program kicked off during New Mexico's Week for the Animals in Albuquerque by making information available on the special Neuter Scooter Hotline (764-1127) from Oct. 2nd through Oct. 20th. Surgeries will be scheduled between Oct. 23rd through Nov. 10th. In addition, Peoples' Anti-

Cruelty Assoc./Albuquerque Animal Rescue (PACA/AAR) is sponsoring a special rebate offer—a \$5.00 rebate will be given to the first 100 people to take advantage of Neuter Scooter II. As a point of reference, during last winter's Neuter Scooter, almost 1,000 male cats were neutered.

Several representatives of the No More Homeless Pets Coalition recently attended the No Kill Conference in Tucson, Arizona sponsored by Doing Things for Animals. The conference offered many seminars relating to cat and dog overpopulation issues and discussed many of the creative solutions other communities are working on. The conference also offered Coalition members the opportunity to talk one-on-one with representatives of other coalitions and spay-neuter programs. They came home with their heads filled with ideas and bags bulging with information. Speakers at the conference included individuals representing such organizations as Maddie's Fund, Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, San Francisco SPCA, Spay USA, SNAP (Houston), Animal People, PETSMART Charities, North Shore Animal League America, Alley Cat Allies, and the NMHP Coalition's very own Joel Warner (Animal Humane Association—New Mexico), Jane Long (PACA) and Bob Hillman (Albuquerque Animal Services Division).



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- 1** Take advantage of Neuter Scooter II by bringing in a cat or two to be spayed or neutered.
- 2** Thank the participating veterinarians (listed below) for their support.
- 3** Join the No More Homeless Pets Coalition. Memberships are \$20/year for individuals. Checks should be made out to Animal Humane Association (write in the memo that it is for NMHP Coalition) and sent to P.O. Box 25262, Albuquerque, NM 87125-5262.

➔ For more information contact Helga Schimkat at 474-5870 or write to helga@apnm.org.

PARTICIPATING VETERINARIANS

FALLEN LARGE ANIMAL CLINIC

9300 Guadalupe NW, ABQ, NM 87114

ANIMAL HUMANE ASSOC.

615 Virginia SE, ABQ, NM 87108

VET-CO VALENCIA

2510-1 Main St., Los Lunas, NM 87031

PETROGLYPH ANIMAL HOSPITAL

6633 Caminito Coors NW, ABQ NM 87120

DE ANZA ANIMAL CLINIC

7601 Isleta Blvd SW, ABQ, NM 87105

LOS LUNAS ANIMAL CLINIC

11 El Cerro Rd. Los Lunas, NM 87031

ADOBE ANIMAL MEDICAL CENTER

5920 4th St. NW, ABQ, NM 87104

BOSQUE ANIMAL CLINIC

655 Country Lane, Bosque Farms, NM 87068

VALLEY VET-CO

405 Montano NE, ABQ, NM 87107



Winter is coming...

IS YOUR DOG READY?

With cold weather approaching, make sure your companion animals have access to your house via a dog door or at least weatherproof shelter of their own.

APNM Circus Campaign Works to Protect Animals Under the Big Top

After years of educating circus event sponsors, legislators and government agencies about the suffering of animals in circuses and the related public safety concerns, APNM is encouraged with the following changes:

- For a recent exotic animal act, NM Game and Fish added stipulations on state importation permits requiring USDA standards be met when at least one exotic animal act is brought into the state;
- Santa Fe's exotic animal permit requirements have kept some dangerous animal acts from performing;
- Officials in Santa Fe are drafting animal ordinance changes that would prohibit exotic animal acts from performing within the city;
- One and a half years after the Host Lions Club in Santa Fe pledged to only use animal-free entertainment for fundraisers, the national Lions Club is formally encouraging local groups to avoid fundraisers with animal acts.

We have a long way to go, since circuses travel through our state frequently. Their mode of operation is to stop in many places to set up their dangerous shows, warehousing long-suffering exotic animals in cramped, unventilated trucks along our highways.

- Please remind your local school principals not to allow "free" tickets or passes to circuses with animal acts to be handed out in our public schools;
- Invite a potential circus sponsor to be your guest at a Circus Chimera show (see sidebar on Circus Chimera);
- If a circus sets up in your area, grab a friend and hand out leaflets about the suffering of circus animals to those attending the circus.

Perry's and the New Mexico State Fair

During this year's NM State Fair, Perry's Exotic Petting Zoo (Perry's) made a surprise appearance. APNM, along with other agencies, started receiving complaints almost immediately about the condition of the animals in the exhibit and the cramped quarters in which they were forced to live. Apparently, New Mexico Game and Fish (NMGF), who regulate the temporary importation of wild animals into the state, were surprised too. It seems Perry's neglected to adhere to the law and failed to obtain the necessary permits prior to exhibiting their animals. According to officials at NMGF, not only was Perry's out of compliance with the permitting process, they did not meet the criteria to get a permit through the state agency. The public might assume a state entity such as the State Fair would not lease space to a vendor without ensuring that necessary state, local and federal documentation is in order. This was not the case.

APNM was extremely disappointed that the current State Fair administration had not been notified of informal policies approved by the State Fair Commission in previous years, prohibiting exotic animal acts and animal freak shows. In addition, the lapse in the NMGF permit procedure, which is designed not only to protect animals but also public safety, was discovered after a tiger cub bit a State Fair patron. This unfortunate incident was predictable, given the nature of wild animals. In addition to highlighting many animal welfare concerns, APNM had forewarned the New Mexico State Fair, New Mexico Game and Fish and State Risk Management of the public safety risks of displaying exotic animals.



Clara the Clown helps local activists educate passersby.

CIRCUS CHIMERA SCHEDULE:

Circus Chimera is one of the premier circuses worldwide who provide quality entertainment without exotic animals. New Mexico is lucky to have Circus Chimera schedule a stop in Alamogordo on Nov. 13th, 14th, 15th. Please show your support of cruelty-free entertainment by attending as many of these performances as you can. Ask local charity boards, such as your local Shrine Club, Kiwanis and Fraternal Order of Police to attend one of Circus Chimera's performances and see for themselves the quality entertainment offered by a circus without exotic animal acts!

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Please write the State Fair Commission and urge them to adopt a formal policy against exotic animal acts and freak animals. Neither of these kinds of acts lends anything to the "agricultural tradition" of New Mexico's State Fair. In addition, allowing dangerous wild animal acts into our state gives the public a false assurance that they'll be safe if they patronize these acts. The public assumes the government and sponsoring entities would not unnecessarily endanger them for a quick buck and a laugh.

Commissioners:

Thomas Tinnin, Chair
 Blake Curtis, Vice Chairman
 D'Auna Wood, Secretary-Treasurer
 Jim Dunlap, Commissioner
 Lela Kaskalla, Commissioner
 Lauren Nunn, Commissioner
 Ned Shepherd, Commissioner

Write them at:

New Mexico State Fair
 P.O. Box 8546
 Albuquerque, NM 87198

APNM NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

Southern NM Report – Deming

Animal advocates in APNM's Deming chapter continue to be a strong voice for the voiceless. The chapter:

- ❖ renewed 100 subscriptions to Luna County elementary teachers and students for Kind News humane education newspapers;
- ❖ is approaching their 10-year celebration of offering discounted spay/neuter surgeries. The total number of animals sterilized through this program is 3,631; Great job, Deming!
- ❖ coordinated a very low cost spay/neuter clinic for cats in celebration of New Mexico's Week for the Animals (October 1st-7th). APNM's Deming chapter thanks Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary for their generous donation for this program. The Deming/Luna County Humane Society also contributed funds to this effort. Called, "Neuter Scooter," this program is rounding up the Deadbeat Dadcats who haven't been supporting their kittens! Our motto is: Cats can't count, but they sure can multiply;
- ❖ met with the Deming Duck Race committee to ensure that ducks would not be shaken to frighten them into running faster. The Committee agreed to announce periodically during the races a prohibition against shaking or frightening the animals in any way. Volunteers monitored the race and later received a call about a duck rodeo occurring, in which ducks were lassoed and held up by their necks. The Sheriff's Department was called in to investigate, but the "event" was over before the sheriffs could find anything;
- ❖ met with County Manager Scott Vinson and Luna County Sheriff Gary Ciccotelli regarding enforcement of the animal control ordinance. The Sheriff reiterated his offer to assist with and write citations where appropriate for animal neglect and abuse;
- ❖ member Mary Hunnicutt made a presentation to the Deming/Luna County Humane Society on behalf of the Sheriff;
- ❖ conducted humane education presentations to a local elementary school and to the Village of Columbus;

- ❖ provided assistance with payment for emergency veterinary services and shots to several families;
- ❖ investigated four cases of animal poisonings;
- ❖ assisted in the adoption of Max and Mr. Duffy and counseled in the placement of 31 dogs and cats;
- ❖ had letters published in the Deming Headlight regarding the Felony Animal Cruelty law and the Jordan Circus.

Deming member, Doris Lolli, who died and left her entire sizeable estate to local, state and national animal protection groups, was a true friend of animals. Her thoughtful planning has helped animal advocacy groups make more of a difference locally and nationally. Doris is sorely missed by her friends in the Deming Chapter of Animal Protection of New Mexico.

Luna County resident, Robert Bertola, who was charged with cruelty to animals after he admitted shooting his neighbor's potbellied pig named Tiny Boo, was charged with accessory to the murder of a young Deming woman in August. The cruelty to animals charges against Bertola were earlier dismissed "without prejudice" on a technicality after Magistrate Judge Frank Gifford ruled that the state livestock inspector who brought the cruelty to animals charges lacked jurisdiction. However, Tiny Boo's guardian, Sadie Emerson, has vowed to refile the case, which she is allowed to do as a result of the judge's ruling.

APNM's Deming chapter is very sorry to learn that volunteers extraordinaire, Richard and Mary Hunnicutt, plan to relocate to Casper, Wyoming at the end of October. Mary is the chapter's most active volunteer, its capable Treasurer, Humane Education coordinator and, along with Ada Johnpoll, fields all the spay/neuter calls. The Hunnicutts also handle the donations from collection banks in Deming. They will be sorely missed, and it will take several people to replace Mary! We wish Mary and Richard much happiness as they return to Wyoming.

APNM staffers, Harriette Roller and Helga Schimkat presented information about the

No More Homeless Pets (NMHP) Coalition at a Deming Chapter meeting. APNM is enthusiastically supporting the NMPH coalition, and is providing a staff person to help get the coalition off the ground.

Southern NM Report – Silver City

APNM's Silver City chapter director, Annie Clark, has been creating a virtual cyclone of activity to help animals in Grant county over the past several months. APNM-Silver City has:

- ❖ sponsored a Blessing of the Animals ceremony, held at Gough Park, in which pastor Bob Reese of the First Presbyterian Church presided over the blessing for the animals. Each participating animal was given a St. Francis of Assisi medal for protection;
- ❖ arranged to have numerous local newspaper articles published about animal cruelty, animal protection issues, and APNM in general;
- ❖ been involved "hands-on" in investigating and reporting many animal cruelty cases;
- ❖ provided emergency veterinary care for animals without homes and those in low-income homes;
- ❖ provided low-cost spay-neuter surgeries;
- ❖ sponsored humane education presentations.

Annie and just a few volunteers are overwhelmed with the demand for animal-related help in their area. If things are to change for the better for animals in Grant County, more people need to be actively involved! Please contact Annie at 534-8374 if you can help with the chapter's many needs, such as people to conduct cruelty investigations, run errands, do fundraising, provide foster homes, etc.



Humane Investigator Tip:

Become educated about your local animal laws and work with animal control agencies to protect the animals. Many animal control officers (ACO) feel as frustrated as you when the law is not strong enough to protect the welfare of animals. Rather than become annoyed at what you perceive to be apathy on the part of an ACO, try to find out why the situation is not being resolved in the way you want it to be. Ask yourself:

- Have I assessed the situation properly? Many times animals are kept in ways that we don't like but are not necessarily in violation of the law. If this is the case, ACOs will be limited in addressing the situation. Remember, you can petition local authorities to strengthen ordinances by attending meetings and getting involved.
- Can I work to educate the animal's guardian without involving an ACO? If a situation is bad, but not in violation of the law, you can help the "offender" take better care of their animals by: education (APNM has "Caring for your Companion Animal Guides" available for distribution); a friendly letter that is helpful and not accusatory (can be anonymous if you have a legitimate safety concern); offering to help the "offender" take better care of their animal(s) until they understand how to properly care for their animal(s). Remember, animal control agencies are often under-staffed and under-financed. If ACOs have to spend all their time on situations that could be handled without them, more serious animal welfare concerns cannot be addressed immediately and charged appropriately when the law is broken.
- Can I document with photos, video and paper, situations that I know are against the law? This helps ACO's document a pattern of abuse that may aid in successful prosecution later on.
- Do I want to help the animal(s) as expeditiously as possible or am I looking for vengeance? Remember, the goal should be the protection of the animal, not necessarily prosecution – but, keep in mind, if your efforts to educate an apathetic owner fail and the law is being broken, you should allow animal control to

do their job. For instance, when an animal is continually left without water or is never fed and all of the neighbors are feeding and watering the animal before calling animal control, an ACO will be unable to charge the animal guardian.

- Do I have a good reason for remaining anonymous or not agreeing to be a witness? ACO's cannot write a citation for something they haven't witnessed. If you see your neighbor beating her cat and call animal control, they will not be able to charge cruelty unless they witness the beating. You'll likely have to testify as a witness or file a criminal complaint yourself in order for the perpetrator to be charged and prosecuted.

Animal control officers, law enforcement and animal advocates should work hand in hand to protect New Mexico's animals. Establish a good relationship with your local ACO's



and peace officers by being courteous, helpful and truthful at all times. Agree to disagree on philosophical issues like euthanasia or vegetarianism rather than let such unrelated issues impede immediate progress. It's never too late to establish a good working relationship with officials in your community. Apologizing for past errors and proposing to "start over" can go a long way toward protecting the animals.

(Check out www.apnm.org for a guideline entitled "Action Plan When Animals are Suffering".)

Taking a Bite Out of Animal Cruelty

Every single day, APNM is inundated with cruelty calls from across the state. Generally, APNM staff counsels complainants on the proper procedure for reporting cruelty or neglect to the appropriate authorities. On occasion, we work with authorities in addressing complaints, sometimes by helping to provide documentation, case law or networking with other officials who have had similar cases in their jurisdictions. In the last few months APNM has been asked to assist in cruelty cases



involving large numbers of animals by helping to create policy to protect animals, providing education for the parties involved and emergency relief for some of the animals.

In August, while assisting one animal control agency with a cruelty complaint, a compassionate Animal Control Officer asked APNM for assistance in placing some special animals abandoned at the city pound. Nina, a young Dachshund mix, was left in a "drop box" overnight and just two days later gave birth to five puppies. Knowing the animal shelter would be unable to house the Dachshund family until the puppies could be weaned, Nina and her puppies were placed

in foster care by APNM staffers. At the same shelter, a gregarious Golden Retriever mix we named Mathew quickly became a favorite of the animal control officers who kept him for as long as they could. Because APNM is committed to pursuing long-term projects, like the No More Homeless Pets Coalition (see page 13), that affect systemic change, we aren't equipped to take on the role of animal shelter work. But, we couldn't help but step in and help Nina, Mathew and Saffron. In these cases, APNM coordinated with area purebred rescue groups to get these animals adopted into permanent loving homes.

APNM Formalizes CARE (Companion Animal Rescue Effort): A Foster Care Program for Domestic Violence Victims

Animal abuse and human violence go hand-in-hand. The link has been recognized for quite some time, but agencies that formerly handled just animals or just people are beginning to work together by cross-referrals and cross-reporting in an effort to halt the violence.

Currently, the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) identifies animal cruelty as one of a cluster of juvenile behaviors associated with increasingly violent behavior; the American Psychiatric Association considers animal cruelty one of the diagnostic criteria of conduct disorders; and sociologists find that children who abuse animals or witness animal cruelty in their youth are likely to develop future criminal and violent behavior.

Abuse or threats of abuse of companion animals can quickly turn into violence toward other family members and reach into the community. Such violence is often used to establish power or control over a

partner within a relationship. Some abused partners are reluctant to leave a violent situation, fearing for their animals' safety if left behind.

Animals at risk rarely have access to a temporary safe house while their guardians seek help. Now there is a better way: APNM's CARE program provides temporary or permanent refuge and protection for animals at risk of abuse or neglect due to violence in their home. APNM staff is introducing the CARE program to domestic violence shelters, social service agencies and related coalitions, and animal protection agencies in Albuquerque and Santa Fe.

Animals in the program are kept in foster homes, boarding kennels, veterinary hospitals, or at domestic violence shelters. The animals can receive vaccines and veterinary care as needed. All animals in the CARE program are spayed or neutered to help reduce the overpopulation crisis. CARE participants are encouraged to purchase a



county/city animal license or rabies vaccination certificate for each animal in their own name. This will help establish legal ownership of the animal should the abuser attempt to reclaim the animal.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Help us distribute our leaflets and wallet-sized information cards. Wallet-sized cards are perfect to leave in women's restrooms, doctors' offices, grocery stores, and community centers. Women can pick them up and keep important numbers safely tucked away. Call 505-954-4799 and we'll send you some.



Volunteer to be a foster home! Dogs, cats, horses, rabbits, guinea pigs, and even fish need temporary safehouses while their guardians get back on their feet and can safely reclaim their animals. Remember that many of these animals have been abused or traumatized and will need extra love and patience.

Call CARE at 505-954-4799 or e-mail care@apnm.org to request a foster care provider application. The application will ask you questions about the type of animal you

can house, the time frame, and the other family members in your home, so that we can make the best match possible.

Never turn your back on animal abuse!

If you witness or suspect abuse, take good notes of what you saw or heard, document the situation with photographs if possible, and report it to your local animal control authority (this may be the police department or sheriff in rural areas). Animal cruelty may also indicate that other forms of violence are occurring in the same home. If you know of a person experiencing domestic violence or living with a family member who abuses animals, give that person the following numbers:

APNM's CARE program
505-954-4799 (toll-free 1-866-200-CARE)
care@apnm.org
**New Mexico Statewide
Domestic Violence Hotline**
1-800-773-3645



GRASSROOTS ADVOCATE TIP

Need to know what to do if you see an animal in need? Check out APNM's new "Quick Guide-Getting Help with Animal Issues from Government Agencies". It provides:

- a variety of situations involving potential or real animal abuse;
- the name of the agency or entity responsible for the safety or welfare of the animal involved;
- the relevant state statute or ordinance that relates to the animal situation;
- contact information for relevant government agencies.

Give with your Heart *and* Head

As members and donors to Animal Protection of New Mexico (APNM), you have every right to know how your funds are spent and whether your organization complies with various federal and state laws governing non-profits. Here are some of the requirements with which non-profits—including APNM—must comply:

1. All non-profit organizations must have a 501 c 3 designation letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) attesting to the fact that they are tax exempt. APNM received its non-profit designation in February 1981. A copy of a letter from the IRS affirming APNM's tax-exempt status is provided to donors upon request.
2. Non-profits must file annual tax returns—called 990s—with both federal and state government agencies. Once filed, the New Mexico Attorney General's office issues the charity a letter attesting that it is in good standing as far as filing the tax documents and financial reports required by the New Mexico Charitable Organizations and Solicitations Act. APNM annually receives such a letter from the Attorney General's office.
3. Non-profit organizations must be incorporated, have articles of incorporation and bylaws on file with the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (formerly, the State Corporation

Commission), and periodically file various reports with this agency. You can call the Corporation Bureau (505/827-4508) or visit the Regulation Commission's web site at www.nmprc.state.nm.us to check on the charity's standing. For a modest fee, you can also obtain copies of the incorporating documents, amendments, etc. from the Commission.

4. Online, charities throughout the nation are listed at www.guidestar.org, billed as the "Donors Guide to the Charitable Universe." To check APNM's (or any other charity's status), go to the site map and enter the name of the organization in which you are interested. Click on the organization's record. Its assets and income will be displayed. You can view its tax return by selecting "more financial information." The New Mexico Attorney General's office is linking its own web site with the Guidestar site so prospective donors can access this kind of information at all times.

Consistent compliance with these regulations is one more reason APNM donors can give with confidence. APNM welcomes your membership gifts, estates, and stock. For information on how to give through your Will, contact Development Director Harriette Roller at 505/954-4262.

APNM RESCUES

APNM relies on your donations to provide emergency medical relief and rescue of animals like these:



EMERGENCY ANIMAL RELIEF FUND

Earlier this summer, in response to wildfires that created a crisis situation for animals throughout the state, APNM established the Emergency Animal Relief Fund (EARF).

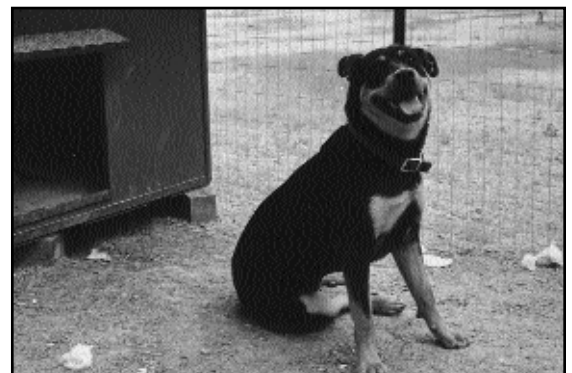
Donations have been received from individuals across New Mexico allowing APNM to help wild and domestic animals negatively impacted by the fire.

Working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to alert area residents to the availability of the fund, APNM is providing doghouses, trolleys, shade cloth and miscellaneous animal supplies to Los Alamos families who were left homeless after the Cerro Grande fire.

Additionally, EARF has helped licensed rehabilitators feed wildlife orphaned by the fires.

Emergency Animal Relief Funds are still available through APNM by contacting Rick Minor 505/466-1692 for domestic animal needs or Michele Rokke 505/989-1442 for wildlife needs.

This fund was created with the goal of providing immediate assistance to animals who are affected by disaster in New Mexico, and in this case we're identifying more long-term needs as the smoke clears.



In addition to helping feed orphaned wildlife, APNM's Emergency Animal Relief Fund provided dog houses, shade cloth and trolleys for animal victims of the Cerro Grand fire.

Thank you for supporting Animal Protection of New Mexico, Inc.

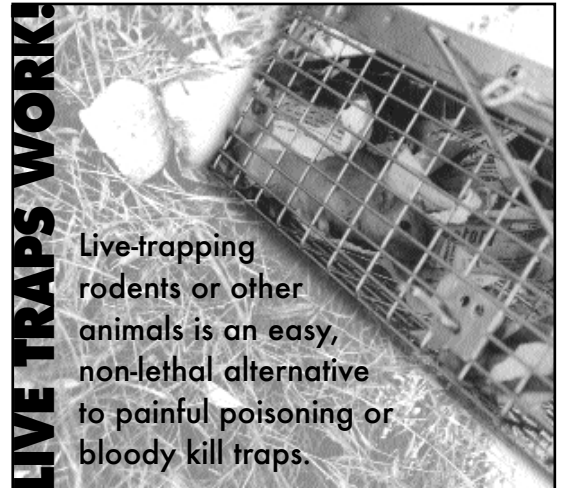
MEMORIALS

- Corney & Lana Martinez, in memory of the Caperton's beloved Bitsi.
- Don Kimball, in memory of Rudy.

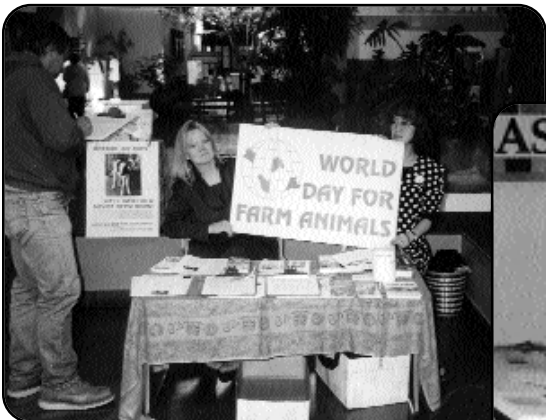
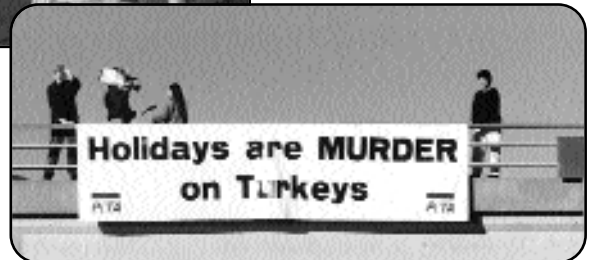
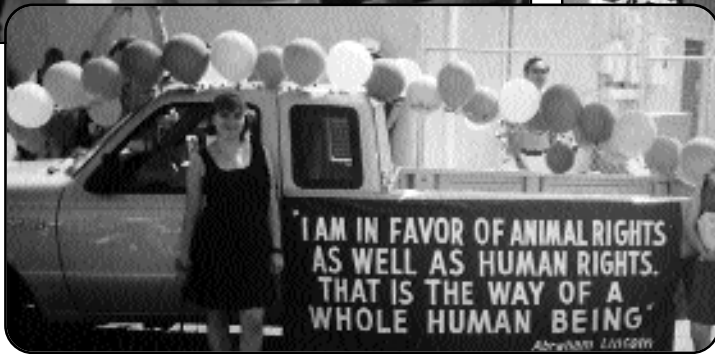
THANK YOU'S

- to KP Products and Tom & Lynn Rymza for a donated carton of kenaf copy paper.
- to Susan Morrison & Robanne Harrison for a personal computer.
- to Scott Keating for a Honda Civic.
- to Stephen Ney for a Cutlass Ciera Oldsmobile.

APNM thanks its active members who are speaking up for animals and making a difference all over the state!



THANK YOU APNM VOLUNTEERS & ACTIVISTS!



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2000
8:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

Approved for Continuing Legal Education Credits (CLE) by the New Mexico State Bar Association

3.8 General Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits, or
3.8 General Continuing Judicial Education (CJE) credits

UNM Continuing Education Conference Center - Room C; 1634 University Blvd., NE (north of Indian School), Albuquerque, NM (Parking is available at the west and east lots of the Conference Center.)

Cost: \$125, includes all course reading materials & textbook: *Rattling the Cage: Toward Legal Rights for Animals.*

Student Rate: \$15 (with ID)

Please make your check or money order payable to Animal Protection of New Mexico (APNM).

"Animal Rights Law" will be facilitated by APNM, a 21 year-old statewide non-profit that advocates the rights of animals by affecting systemic change which results in the humane treatment of all animals.

APNM

Animal Protection of New Mexico, Inc.
P.O. Box 11395
Albuquerque, NM 87192

Return Service Requested

Steven Wise to conduct "Animal Rights Law" class in Albuquerque



For four thousand years, a legal stone wall has separated all human from all non-human animals. On one side, even the most trivial interests of a species — ours — are jealously guarded. We have assigned ourselves, alone amongst the million animal species, the exalted status of "legal persons," entitled to the rights of personhood. On the other side of that wall lies the legal refuse of an entire kingdom, not just chimpanzees and bonobos, but gorillas and orangutans, monkeys, and dogs, elephants, and dolphins, legal "things" all. Their most basic and fundamental interests — their pains, their lives, their freedoms — are intentionally ignored, maliciously trampled, and routinely abused.

Steven Wise, "the country's best-known animal lawyer" (USA Today), provides a brilliant and passionate discussion about why basic legal rights should be extended to animals, beginning with chimpanzees and bonobos. Wise shows us how law has evolved to bring fundamental rights to the most defenseless humans around the globe, but how it has yet to begin to evolve for other species. Even a human lost in a permanent vegetative state enjoys a large array of legal rights. But a chimpanzee in possession of a remarkably complex and active mind has no rights at all. Wise explains how our failure to recognize the basic legal rights of such animals creates a glaring contradiction in our law that not only treats them unjustly but undermines the foundation of human rights.

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