

OCPA E-Alert

October / November 2012



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Recent Events

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- Animal Liberation Forum, Friday, November 16th in Long Beach
- Dinner and Movie, Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home, Friday, November 2nd, at Happy Family Vegetarian Restaurant in Costa Mesa
- Film Presentation by Sea Pulse Films, Saturday, October 27th in Rolling Hills Estate
- Annual Elephant Grape Stomp at the ARK 2000 Sanctuary in San Andreas, Saturday, October 20th
- Annual Silent River Film Festival, Sunday, October 14th in Irvine
- 48th Annual Heritage Festival and Parade, Saturday, October 13th in Placentia
- 7th Annual Race for the Rescues, Sunday, October 7th in Pasadena
- Leafletting with the Mercy for Animals, Friday, October 5th in L.A.
- Le PeTiT CiRqUe and Circus PAWS Benefit, Saturday, September 29th in Hollywood
- Vegucated Film and Treats with OCPA, Saturday, September 29th in Irvine
- Leafletting with Vegan Wellness, Tuesday, September 25th in Laguna Niguel

Join OCPA's meetup site at: <http://www.meetup.com/OrangeCountyPeople4Animals/> for the latest details on local demonstrations and other animal-related events.

Good News for the Animals!

National Park Service Drops Plans to Kill Deer

The National Park Service (NPS) agreed to drop its plans to use sharpshooters to bait and kill deer in Rock Creek Park in D.C., pending a lawsuit filed with the Federal District Court's rule on the matter scheduled for March 15, 2013. The NPS plan called for luring hungry deer with food and then shooting them with high-powered rifles.

L.A. City Council Bans Sale of Commercially Bred Puppies

In a landmark victory for the animals, groundbreaking legislation passed to ban the sale of puppy mill animals in any pet store in Los Angeles. The ordinance includes dogs, cats and rabbits and institutes a three-year ban, which if violated can incur a misdemeanor count and fines.

SB 1221 Signed into Law to End Hounding of Beers and Bobcats

SB 1221 was recently signed into law, banning the unsporting and inhumane practice of hound hunting of black bears and bobcats in California.

U.S. Senate Passes Animal Fighting Amendment Making it a Federal Crime to Attend a Dogfight or Cockfight and a Felony to Bring a Child

On June 20, 2012, the U.S. Senate voted in favor of an amendment to the Farm Bill, introduced by Sen. David Vitter, R-La., to make it a federal crime to attend a dogfight or cockfight, and a felony to bring a child to an animal fight. The vote was an overwhelming 88 to 11.

U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Approves S. 810, the Great Ape Protection and Cost Savings Act

On July 25, 2012, U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approved S. 810, the Great Ape Protection and Cost Savings Act, marking a major step forward for the legislation to end invasive experiments on chimpanzees and to retire federally-owned chimps to sanctuaries finally was heard. Committee Chairwoman Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., and Water and Wildlife Subcommittee Chairman Ben Cardin, D-Md., both spoke eloquently in favor of the bill, which then passed the committee by voice vote.

Have Trunk Will Travel of the Santa Ana Zoo Ends Elephant Rides

Have Trunk Will Travel of the Santa Ana Zoo ended elephant rides: "Animal Defenders International applauds the City of Santa Ana's decision to protect elephants and their patrons by discontinuing the elephant rides at the zoo. The abuse required to control and train these wild animals—shocking, hitting and 'hooking' with bullhooks as witnessed in ADI's undercover investigation—simply can't be justified or supported." Santa Ana is setting an example that elephant rides have no place in 21st century zoos and fairs.

Foie Gras Ban in Effect as of July 1, 2012

State lawmakers voted to outlaw the practice known as gavage when they passed SB1520 in 2004. But they gave producers a seven-year window until July 1, when it is no longer legal to produce or sell foie gras — French for "fatty liver" — in California.

60 Yellowstone Bison Moved To Fort Peck Indian Reservation

On March 19, 2012, about 60 genetically pure bison were relocated from a quarantine facility outside Yellowstone National Park to the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in eastern Montana. The long-awaited move marks the historic homecoming of wild bison to an important part of their historic range on the Great Plains.

Urban Decay Recertified as a Cruelty-Free Company by the Leaping Bunny Project

The Coalition for Consumer Information on Cosmetics recertified Urban Decay as a cruelty-free company by the Leaping Bunny Project.

Turtle Torture "Snapperfest" Ends in Indiana After 15 Years

Representatives at the Aurora Campgrounds announced that part of the event of "Snapperfest" was cancelled after the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) stated animal cruelty laws also apply to the humane treatment of turtles.

Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed

Help Convince Subway Restaurants to Offer Vegan Options

Subway restaurants, the world's largest food chain (there are more Subways than McDonalds), earlier this year tested three vegan sandwiches in select stores in the Washington, DC area. The three sandwiches featuring delicious vegan meats were spotlighted in major media and sold out in all locations.

In addition to improved human health and saving animal lives, another important reason to offer a meat-free alternative is the environment. Animal agriculture bears significant responsibility for many of the world's most serious environmental problems - global warming, water use and pollution, massive energy consumption, deforestation and loss of biodiversity and species.

Visit COK's website, <http://welovesubway.com/>, and leave a comment telling Subway that you and your family want healthier and more humane food choices. Urge the company to add vegan options in all of its stores.

Tell Los Angeles City Council to Close Los Angeles Zoo Elephant Exhibit and Send Billy, Tina, and Jewel to a Sanctuary

Billy, Tina and Jewel live in an exhibit at the Los Angeles Zoo with only 2.2 acres of useable space, divided into four yards. On July 24, 2012, California Superior Court Judge John L. Segal released a scathing decision in a lawsuit regarding the elephant exhibit, concluding that the elephants are not "healthy, happy or thriving." He stopped short of closing the \$42 million exhibit, though he wrote that the elephants' life there is "empty, purposeless, boring, and occasionally painful." There is no indication that the \$42 million exhibit has done anything to improve the health or longevity of the elephants.

It's time to close the L.A. Zoo elephant exhibit and send the elephants to a sanctuary.

Visit In Defense of Animals' action page to send an email the Los Angeles City Council and Mayor Villaraigosa (at <https://secure2.convio.net/ida/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=2207>).

Tell Bebe to Honor Pledge to Stop Selling Fur

Clothing retailer Bebe promised to go fur-free by 2008, yet they continue to sell fur.

Please tell Bebe's CEO that you will not shop there until they go fur-free permanently.

Leading fashion retailers like Guess, J. Crew, Ralph Lauren and Tommy Hilfiger have all made compassionate decisions to go fur-free; urge Bebe to join them by visiting In Defense of Animals' action page: <https://secure2.convio.net/ida/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=2259>.

Ask L.L. Bean to Stop Selling Fur

L.L. Bean's latest catalog features fur-lined hats and gloves.

Please visit In Defense of Animals' action page and tell L.L. Bean that you will not shop with them until they go fur-free: <https://secure2.convio.net/ida/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=2267>.

Urge Air India to Reinstate Ban on Shipping Animals to Labs

Air India recently implemented a companywide ban on shipping animals to laboratories. However, the company then abandoned that policy, bowing to pressure from greedy, fear-mongering animal experimenters, and decided to once again transport animals to laboratories to be subjected to lives of misery and pain.

For more information and to urge Air India to keep its promise to protect animals by reinstating its ban on shipping animals to laboratories, visit PETA's Action Alert page at:

<https://secure.peta.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=4432>.

Recent Events

2nd Annual Los Angeles Green Festival, Saturday, November 17th in L.A.

OCPA and friends attended the second annual Los Angeles Green Festival was held on Saturday, November 17th and Sunday, November 18th at the L.A. Convention Center to celebrate a greener community and healthier life. This tabling event promoted compassion for animals and all beings, and highlighted the many benefits of a plant-based diet.

Animal Liberation Forum, Friday, November 16th in Long Beach

The Animal Liberation Forum was held on November 16th at 6:00 p.m. at the California State University in Long Beach. This free conference helped educate, uplift and inspire attendees to take positive action for animals and participate in the co-creation of a kinder world for all.

Dinner and Movie, Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home, Friday, November 2nd at Happy Family Vegetarian Restaurant in Costa Mesa

OCPA and friends enjoyed a viewing of *Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home*, and a delicious dinner at the Happy Family Vegetarian Restaurant in Costa Mesa on Friday, November 2nd.

Film Presentation by Sea Pulse Films, Saturday, October 27th in Rolling Hills Estate

Sea Pulse Films hosted a film presentation of the beauty and the threats to the world ocean on Saturday, October 27th at 1:00 p.m. in Rolling Hills Estates.

Annual Elephant Grape Stomp at the ARK 2000 Sanctuary in San Andreas, Saturday, October 20th

OCPA and others enjoyed the annual Elephant Grape Stomp at the ARK 2000 Sanctuary in San Andreas on Saturday, October 20th. This fun event featured vegetarian Tuscan cuisine, wine tasting, and a silent auction.

Annual Silent River Film Festival, Sunday, October 14th in Irvine

The second annual Silent River Film Festival was held between October 11th and 14th in Irvine. The Silent River Film Festival, named after a poem by Singh-Chitnis, presented 82 films from 20 countries, including features, shorts and documentaries. OCPA and friends met on Sunday, October 14th, for a viewing of *How I Became an Elephant* screening.

48th Annual Heritage Festival and Parade, Saturday, October 13th in Placentia

On October 13th in the City of Placentia, OCPA and friends hosted a tabling at the 48th Annual Heritage Festival and Parade to educate festival attendees about the many benefits of a vegan lifestyle.

7th Annual Race for the Rescues, Sunday, October 7th in Pasadena

Our friends at Mercy for Animals hosted the 7th Annual Race for the Rescues in Pasadena on October 7th at 7:00 a.m. Thank you to all who participated in the 5K, a 10K, and a 1K dog walk. They also had a great day with the fundraising. Hope to see everyone, animals included, bright and early again next year.

Leafletting with the Mercy for Animals, Friday, October 5th in L.A.

On October 5th between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m., OCPA and friends from Mercy for Animals got the word out on the humane living for all beings and enriching one's life by going vegan through passing out flyers at the Staples Center.

We were welcome once again at the Staples Center and passed out a total of 750 flyers. Thanks to all who attended and let's do this again soon.

Le PeTiT CiRqUe and Circus PAWS Benefit, Saturday, September 29th in Hollywood

Circus PAWS hosted a benefit in Hollywood on Saturday, September 29th, featuring Le PeTiT CiRqUe and helping to abolish the use of live animals in circus acts. Visit <http://circuspaws.com/> for more information.

Vegucated Film and Treats with OCPA, Saturday, September 29th in Irvine

On September 29th at 6:30 p.m., OCPA and friends gathered at The Goddess Temple in Orange County for a free movie and treats. The film "Vegucated" is an award winning, funny and fabulous way to learn the practice of a vegan lifestyle. Everyone had a great time socializing and educating one another on a meat-free life.

Leafletting with Vegan Wellness, Tuesday, September 25th in Laguna Niguel

September 25th was a day of getting the word out from OCPA and friends at Vegan Wellness. We shared information on how much healthier a life one may find by going vegan, that human body thrives on a vegan diet, there is no justification for using animals – and a vegan lifestyle is the only humane choice.

Upcoming Events

Check out OCPA's meetup site (<http://www.meetup.com/OrangeCountyPeople4Animals/>) and Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Orange-County-People-for-Animals-OCPA/72044259393?fref=ts>) often for the latest details on local demonstrations and other animal-related events.

L.A. City Council Meeting to Speak Up for Elephants, Tuesday, November 20th at 3:00 p.m. in L.A.

Join Last Chance for Animals, OCPA and others at the Los Angeles City Council meeting on Tuesday, November 20th at 3:00 p.m.

The L.A. City Council is holding a public meeting to discuss an ordinance to put an end to the use of elephants in traveling circuses that visit L.A. and to ban the use of bull hooks in public displays.

Come out to speak up for the elephants at the L.A. City Hall, 200 N. Spring Street, Room 1050, L.A. 90012.

Fur Free Friday, November 23rd, Various Times and Locations

It's that time of year again – a day to join other activists in participating in the largest fur protest of the year to help educate shoppers about the cruelty behind killing animals for their fur.

- In Orange County, join OCPA and Last Chance for Animals for a fur-free demonstration at Fashion Island on Friday, November 23rd, at 11:00 a.m. We'll meet in front of Neiman Marcus and

will provide signs and literature. For more information about this event, visit <http://www.meetup.com/OrangeCountyPeople4Animals/>.

- In Los Angeles County, join In Defense of Animals and others in Beverly Hills at the corner of Rodeo Drive and Santa Monica Blvd. between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. For more information about this event, contact Jack at jack@idausa.org.
- In San Diego County, join In Defense of Animals and other activists between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the Fashion Valley Mall, 7007 Friars Road, near the Northwest entrance by Bloomingdale's. For more information about this event, contact Dawn at dawn_dunsmore@hotmail.com.

For additional information about other local Fur-Free Friday events, visit PETA's website: <http://www.peta.org/action/Fur-Free-Friday.aspx>.

LCA Benefit, Friday, November 30th at 6:00 p.m. in Santa Monica

Last Chance for Animals is hosting a benefit on Friday, November 30th, starting at 6:00 p.m. at Casa Del Mar, Colonnade Ballroom, 1910 Ocean Way, Santa Monica, CA 90405.

This event will feature a live auction, vegan hors d'oeuvres and dessert, DJ music and dancing, and more. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <http://www.LCAAnimal.org>, contact LCA at Development2@LCAAnimal.org or call 310-271-6096 x 26.

Holiday Open House, Saturday, December 8th, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in San Andreas

Join OCPA and friends for a holiday open house held at The ARK 2000 Sanctuary in San Andreas on Saturday, December 8th between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Children and seniors are welcomed to this event and all ticket purchases are pre-paid. Ticket prices are as \$50 for adults and \$25 for kids under 12 and seniors. Call (209) 745-2606 for reservations.

Note: Due to the high volume of requests, there will be no tickets sold at the gate.

Thank you for everything you do for the animals!

Orange County People for Animals is a Southern California-based 501(c)3 non-profit animal advocacy organization founded in 1988 to help create a compassionate, healthy and peaceful planet for all living beings.

For more information about OCPA, visit our web site at <http://ocpausa.org>. To become an OCPA member or to make a donation using a secure online form, visit <http://ocpausa.org/join.htm>, e-mail donations@ocpausa.org or subscription@ocpausa.org for additional information.

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