

OCPA E-Alert 2-15-04



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Good News for the Animals!

Hunting Declines in the U.S.

The Fund for Animals released a report on the state of hunting in America. The report reveals that the decline in hunting that began in the 1970s is continuing unabated in the 21st century. Despite intense efforts by the hunting industry to recruit new hunters, hunting has fallen from 14 million in 1991 to 13 million in 2001.

National Crime Prevention Council Addresses Animal Abuse as Component of Cycle of Violence

The annual National Youth Conference and International Forum, sponsored by the National Crime Prevention Council, plans to address animal abuse as a component of the cycle of violence. A speaker will discuss evidence that links animal abuse to child abuse, domestic violence, school shootings, and even bullying to the conference audience of youths aged 12 to 22 and adults who work with them.

Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed

Contact the Fish and Game Commission Regarding California's Wildlife

The California Fish and Game Commission is considering various proposals pertaining to the burgeoning wildlife damage control industry. Individuals hired to “deal with” wildlife conflicts currently operate with little or no state oversight or accountability. Although now illegal in the fur trade, the same cruel, body-gripping traps previously employed in the fur trade are legal and often utilized for wildlife damage trapping.

Please contact the California Fish & Game Commission before April 6th to ensure that wildlife damage control regulations adequately address animal welfare concerns. Implore them to add more regulations to ensure the humane treatment of wildlife handled by Wildlife Control Operators (WCOs) including WCO licensing, testing and training, and the prohibition of Conibear kill traps and snares. For other letter content ideas, refer to the <http://www.api4animals.org> website.

Fish & Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320, Sacramento, CA 95814; fax: 916-653-5040; e-mail: fgs@dfg.ca.gov. Indicate that your comments are regarding changes to Title 14, Code of Regulations Re: Trapping Furbearers and Non-game Mammals.

Urge D.A. to Investigate and Prosecute San Joaquin Foie Gras Producer

Armed with evidence of ongoing mistreatment and suffering of ducks, animal rights activists are encouraging the San Joaquin County, California District Attorney to investigate and prosecute Sonoma Foie Gras for violating California's animal cruelty statute.

Please support the prosecution of Sonoma Foie Gras by contacting the San Joaquin County D.A.'s office: Deputy District Attorney Dorothy Klishevik, San Joaquin County District Attorney's Office, 222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 202, Stockton, CA 95202; phone: 209-468-2400; fax: 209-465-0371; e-mail: info@sjcda.org.

Ask U.S. Representative to Support H.R. 3446, the Yellowstone Buffalo Preservation Act

H.R. 3446, the Yellowstone Buffalo Preservation Act, was recently introduced to stop the cruel hazing and slaughter of buffalo near Yellowstone National Park. This bill was introduced by U.S. Representatives Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) and Charles Bass (R-NH) in response to the public outrage over the National Park Service's cruel policy of chasing down and killing any Yellowstone buffalo who wander outside of the park's boundaries, due to the Montana livestock industry's fear that bison will transmit the brucellosis disease to nearby grazing cattle herds...

Please contact your U.S. Representative and ask him/her to support this important bill. For legislator contact information, visit the OCPA website at: <http://ocpausa.org/legislation.htm>.

Recent OCPA Activities

Cox Cable Advertising Launch Promotes Vegetarianism

OCPA-sponsored pro-vegetarianism advertising begins airing on local Cox Cable (throughout Tustin, Irvine, Newport Beach and Corona del Mar) this coming week through March. A group of six different 30-second advertisements, created by NARN – the Northwest Animal Rights Network and sponsored by OCPA, will air on various networks including CNN, Lifetime, Animal Planet, the Food Network and others.

OCAPA Outreach and Event Planning

OCPA's board members have been busy planning outreach events and activities for the first half of the year. Check the OCPA website at <http://ocpausa.org/events> for additional details about upcoming leafleting plans, quarterly meetings, volunteer drives, the annual Meatout and other activities – please come out and join us...for the animals!

Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

Support OCPA's Board Member Against False Arrest and Protect First Amendment Rights

Please come to Julie Meskell's *second* hearing to show your support for Julie and free speech. Your presence will also make a bold statement in opposition to the cruelty of the rodeo and the suppression of First Amendment rights of activists.

When: 8:30 a.m., Thursday, February 26th; Where: Division 7, West Covina Superior Court, 1427 West Covina Parkway, off the 10 Freeway, several miles west of the 57 Freeway.

Laguna Beach Patriot's Day Parade – Saturday, March 6th, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Come out and join OCPA, The Stand and other animal-friendly groups for this fun event. The “float” name is *Friends of Animals* and we'll meet at the Laguna Beach High School to decorate the entry at 10:00 a.m. Check the OCPA website at <http://ocpausa.org/events> for more information.

OCPA 1st Quarterly Meeting and Volunteer Drive – Saturday, March 6th, 7:00 p.m.

The OCPA 1st quarterly meeting and volunteer drive will be held at the Irvine Ranch Water District's Duck Clubhouse in Irvine (near Riparian View and Michelson) on Saturday, March 6th, at 7:00 p.m. **There is no charge for admission to this event!** Non-members are also welcome. We'll have a detailed list of upcoming activities (dates, locations) there and a sign-up sheet for volunteers. Check the OCPA website at <http://ocpausa.org/events> for directions and other details about this fun evening.

Great American Meatout – Saturday, March 20th

The annual Great American Meatout is officially on Saturday, March 20th, and the FARM website lists registered events and other Meatout information at: <http://www.meatout.org/>. In honor of the event, OCPA is sponsoring a free vegan lunch at a high school or two (TBA) and a corporate office on Friday, March 19th. Again, visit the OCPA website at <http://ocpausa.org/events> for more information, food donations or to volunteer.

The Genesis Awards – Saturday, March 20th

This annual event is the Academy Awards of animal rights held on Saturday evening, March 20th, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills. Don't miss this amazing evening of movie stars and inspirational stories that will make you proud to be one with the animal rights movement. Sit with your friends and colleagues at the OCPA table for \$250.00. Book now by sending your check today to OCPA, 18032-C Lemon Drive, Suite 623, Yorba Linda, CA 92886, as there are limited seats available at the reserved table and they are going fast. You can also purchase tickets on your own for other seating through the HSUS, Hollywood Office (formerly the Ark Trust); contact Leigh at 818-501-2275 or visit the website at <http://www.hsusHollywood.org>. See you there!

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/support_us/support_us.htm (will soon change to <http://ocpausa.org/join.htm>).

To subscribe to this list, e-mail subscription@ocpausa.org with the word "ADD" in the subject line. To unsubscribe, reply to this message with the word "REMOVE" in the subject line.