

OCPA E-Alert April 2006



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Hello everyone. We are currently seeking potential local volunteers for several upcoming events and activities. If anyone is interested in receiving animal activity announcements and volunteer requests for local demonstrations, tabling/leafleting and other events throughout Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties, please send an e-mail to pamela.kurp@ocpausa.org along with your name, city of residence, phone/cell numbers and possible days/times available. Come on out, have fun, meet other activists and get involved for the animals! Also feel free to forward this information to anyone you know who may be interested in volunteer activities.

Good News for the Animals!

Gorton's Agrees to Stop Whaling

One of the largest corporate shareholder in commercial whaling, Gorton's (and its Japanese parent company), have agreed to get out of the whaling business. Other corporate shareholders in the Japanese whaling fleet have also decided to divest their shares of the business.

SB 1578 (Dog Tethering Bill) Passes Senate B&P

SB 1578, the bill banning the tethering and cruel confinement of dogs, has made it out of the Senate B&P committee. The vote was close, as two senators voiced concerns about why the bill is needed at a state level vs. local jurisdiction already having the ability to enact chaining bans. We'll keep you posted as the bill moves forward.

FTC Ends United Egg Producers' Misleading Logo

Effective April 1, 2006, the United Egg Producers can no longer use the misleading "Animal Care Certified" logo on egg cartons on store shelves nationwide. Consumers should now expect to find an alternative logo reading "United Egg Producers Certified." If anyone finds an egg carton in stores still bearing the Animal Care Certified logo, please contact Compassion Over Killing (COK) via e-mail at info@cok.net or call 301-891-2458.

AB 2110 (Use of Rabbits in Field Coursing) Passes Assembly Committee

AB 2110, a bill banning the use of rabbits in field coursing, has passed the Assembly Committee on Public Safety. Field coursing competitions often result in dogs tearing apart live rabbits as they track and pursue animals for points. AB 2110 makes a person who knowingly engages in this practice a misdemeanor. The bill now moves to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations. Refer to the **Action Items** section below to find out what you can do to help pass this bill.

Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed

Help Oppose Bill to Transport Baby Birds

Senator Charles Grassley (R- IA) has introduced S. 2395, a bill that will remove the U.S. Postal Service's discretionary authority to help protect birds shipped via the mail and force it to inadvertently accommodate the baby bird and cockfighting industries at the expense of the animals' lives. Basically, S. 2395 would compel the USPS to require certain airlines to transport birds, require those airlines to transport birds through connecting cities, not necessarily on direct flights, and require those airlines to transport birds in any temperature conditions between 0 and 100 degrees.

Please contact your U.S. Representative and your two U.S. Senators (not State Senators) and ask them to oppose S. 2395. Let them know that animals should not be treated as common cargo!

For legislator contact information, visit the OCPA website at: <http://ocpausa.org/legislation>. For more information on this topic, visit http://www.farmsanctuary.org/campaign/fed_shipping.htm.

Ask Judge to Punish Man Who Beat Dog to Death

On Wednesday, August 10th, 2005, Omaha Police and Nebraska Humane Society officers were called to the home of Anthony Schepis. Upon arrival they located a deceased four-month old German Shepherd puppy in Schepis' bed. The dog had been beaten to death. Necropsy results showed the dog had fractures on both sides of the body, and blunt force trauma to the head. Schepis also was covered in blood. A witness at the scene reported that Schepis had been involved in a domestic dispute with his girlfriend before the dog was beaten. Schepis has pled guilty to Felony Animal Cruelty, and is awaiting sentencing.

Please contact the judge in this case and ask him to impose the maximum sentence possible, emphasizing the connection between animal cruelty and human violence. The hearing is scheduled for Friday, May 12th at 10:30 a.m.

Contact: The Honorable Marlon Polk, Judge of the Douglas County District Court, 4th floor Hall of Justice, Courtroom 10, 1700 Harney Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68183.

Continue to Support AB 2110 (Rabbits in Field Coursing) as it Heads to Assembly Floor

A bill to ban live open field coursing, AB 2110, passed Assembly Committee and is now headed to the Assembly floor. In open field coursing, packs of specially trained dogs are set loose in a field to chase and kill wild jackrabbits flushed out by spectators. This bill, if passed, would ban this cruel "sport" in California – one of the few states in America where this sport remains legal.

Please contact your Assemblyperson and ask them to support this important humane initiative, AB 2110 to ban open field coursing.

For legislator contact information, visit the OCPA website at: <http://ocpausa.org/legislation>. You can also discover more information and participate in an online action alert by visiting: https://community.hsus.org/campaign/CA_2006_coursing3.

Recent OCPA Activities

Vegan Support Group Luncheon at New Wheel of Life in Huntington Beach – April 1st

Since the Unitarian Church outreach event was such a great success (judged by the number of people who declared that they were ready to go vegan), OCPA has responded by starting a vegan support group. We will be visiting local vegan restaurants and going on shopping tours to natural food stores.

The first get-together luncheon was held on Saturday, April 1st at the new The Wheel of Life restaurant in Huntington Beach (7251 Warner Avenue at Goldenwest Street; phone: 714-375-9505). Approximately a dozen people enjoyed delicious vegan fare together in a pleasant atmosphere at the restaurant.

Refer to the ***Upcoming Events*** section of this e-alert for information about the next luncheon scheduled for Sunday, May 7th, at 1:00 p.m. in Fountain Valley.

Compassion in Action Club in Newport Beach

Compassion in Action (CIA) successfully launched its new club at Newport Harbor High School called "Compassion in Action." They continue to seek speakers to come talk to the students. If you or someone you know would like to talk to high school students about veganism or discover more information about the club, please contact Karen Coyne at coynekaren@msn.com.

Compassion in Action (CIA) is a non-violent activist group whose goal is to organize fundraising events for the benefit of animals and to educate students and the public about the effects our daily diet has on all aspects of life, such as our health, the environment, and the welfare of animals.

Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

Worldfest – Saturday, April 22nd in Encino – Volunteers Needed

The WorldFest 2006 Earth Day Festival will be held this coming Saturday, April 22nd, 2006, from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., at the beautiful outdoor setting of Woodley Park in Encino, CA. OCPA is sponsoring a booth there and everyone is invited to enjoy a magnificent day filled with great music, empowering speakers, environmental, humanitarian and animal welfare non-profit organizations. The event also features activities for children and a delicious food court. Come to this earth-friendly experience that is sure to be inspiring and enjoyable for all.

OCPA is currently seeking additional volunteers to help staff the booth, particularly in the afternoon. Please contact Julie at julie.meske@ocpausa.org, (714) 544-9041, if you are interested.

WorldFest is located at the northern end of Woodley Park at 6350 Woodley Avenue in Encino (between Victory and Burbank Boulevards). For a map and detailed driving directions: http://www.worldfestevents.com/event_map_parking.htm.

Meatout/Earth Day Event at Foothill High School – April 27th – Volunteers Needed

OCPA has been invited once again to join the Students for Animal Rights at Foothill High School in celebrating Earth Day next Thursday, April 27th between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

We will serve soy tacos, fresh corn tortillas, guacamole and other popular vegan goodies and will distribute OCPA's brochure (that illustrates all major animal issues) and *Why Vegan?* brochures.

We are looking for additional volunteers in the morning to help with food preparation, literature transport and food serving. If interested, please contact: Evelyn at (714) 846-7081 or Julie at (714) 544-9041, julie.meskell@ocpausa.org.

World Week for Laboratory Animals – April 23rd – 29th

World Week for Laboratory Animals is sponsored in collaboration with S.T.A.T. SoCal (Stop Testing on Animals Today), Southern California Chapter; LCA (Last Chance for Animals); and IDA (In Defense of Animals). Individuals associated with this even and these organizations have provided the information contained within this section.

This is a week of action on behalf of animals in laboratories, whose screams the public cannot hear and whose lives are absolute hell every single day. Let's show the evil vivisectors who cut open, burn, mutilate, and torture animals in the most horrendous ways imaginable that they cannot hide behind their walls of fraudulent science and grant money. Let's tell them that there are far better research modalities that should be utilized in the 21st century in order to save the lives of sick humans.

Note: All demos will have legal observers and videographers; although if anyone has a video camera, bring it along, as there can never be too many.

From UCLA Primate Freedom Project:

"We have been investigating UCLA researchers who are experimenting on nonhuman primates. We have discovered that there are around 700 monkeys at any given time who live and will be killed under UCLA's supervision. These animals are incredibly intelligent, social, and sensitive beings who live in cages under the constant scrutiny of people who claim that imprisoning and conducting painful experiments on these animals will somehow help cure human health problems. Yet evidence proves that testing on monkeys is unscientific and harmful to humans, because it yields results that cannot be extrapolated from animals to humans."

Various Events:

- **Monday, April 24, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**
UCLA demo and march through campus

UCLA currently houses countless numbers of birds, dogs, cats, mice, rats, and at least 700 non-human primates that daily undergo cruel and inhumane experiments at the hands of so-called 'scientists.' The university has continued to cast a web of deceit over what exactly goes on behind the closed doors of its torture chambers known as 'labs.' Government inspections of the UCLA labs have revealed 82 separate violations of the Animal Welfare Act. The six known vivisectors that currently experiment on non-human primates are doing research for recreational drugs, perception and memory, psychological and social problems, vision, and how "monkey brains respond to what humans see." The results of these experiments and the benefit to humankind are dubious at best. Clearly, none of this research is vital to saving human lives, and the millions of dollars spent funding it serves no purpose other than to fatten vivi wallets.

Meet at the corner of Le Conte and Westwood. Directions to UCLA: 405 Freeway, Exit Wilshire Blvd East, left on Westwood, continue up Westwood until you meet Le Conte, left on Le Conte for parking lot. *Note:* Parking is difficult at UCLA, so please come early to allow adequate time to secure parking.

- **Monday, April 24, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

Surprise demo at local business

Bring something to snack on after the demo. A bus will pick up demonstrators at Le Conte and Westwood for a surprise demo at a business that makes the restraint devices for animals in laboratories, among other hideous pieces of animal-testing equipment.

- **Tuesday, April 25**

Call Lynn Fairbanks at (310) 825-0782

Lynn keeps a colony of vervet monkeys on the grounds of the Sepulveda Veterans Hospital. She uses them to study ADHD, substance abuse, and other human "impulse control" problems including bank robbery. No one has ever known a monkey who has robbed a bank...or who suffers from ADHD or substance abuse

Call Phenomonex at (310) 212-0555

Phenomenex ("Abominex") supplies the horrific vivisection torture devices and equipment to Huntingdon Life Sciences, a.k.a. Life Sciences Research. The lab – with facilities in the United Kingdom and in East Millstone, New Jersey – is an international target of protest activity by thousands of animal rights activists. This laboratory engages in scientific fraud and egregious animal abuse.

- **Wednesday, April 26**

Call William Melega at (310) 206-1797 and Dario Ringach at (310) 204-1273
(If you have trouble connecting via phone, e-mail him at dario@ucla.edu)

Melega studies "molecular mechanisms of neurodegenerative diseases and drug addiction." In short, he addicts monkeys to methamphetamine and turns them into tweakers. As if there aren't enough human addicts out there whose symptomatology is already known and on whose behalf legitimate rehab centers could much better allocate the grant money given instead to monkey-murdering Melega!

Dario has dismantled his phones, so please e-mail him. He studies how monkeys see, specifically strabismus. Dario doesn't see the immorality and futility of vivisection, but he has 20/20 vision when it comes to those grant dollar signs!

Call Flora Sadeghi - Secretary CFO of Phenomenex at (310) 544-4211
(See info above on Phenomenex)

- **Thursday, April 27**

Call the Schlags at (310) 274-3425

John and Madeleine are also engaged in visual experiments, attaching coils to monkeys' eyes to track their gaze and record what they see. The sociopathic Schlags care neither about the animals they torture nor the humans they harm with their bogus "research" that only retards true progress in human medicine. No coils are needed to track the Schlags' gaze - we can assure you it is trained squarely on those checks from the NIH and the numbers of their personal bank accounts into which the ill-begotten funds are promptly and gleefully deposited.

Call Farajollah Mahjoor, President and CEO of Phenomenex, at (310) 541-7008.
You can also send a fax (directed to CEO, Phenomenex) at (310) 533-0428

See information above on Phenomenex.

Ask these vivisectioners to explain and defend their "lifesaving" work. Ask them why they defraud the taxpayers and retard true scientific medical progress. Ask them why they engage in animal research when they know that the results from one species cannot be extrapolated to another. Ask them why they have not sought psychiatric help for their sick impulses to torture and murder other sentient

beings.

- **Friday, April 28, 7:00 p.m.**

Meet at the Sepulveda Park-and-Ride at Mulholland Drive and 405 freeway for a mobile home demo to help educate the neighbors of vivisectors...

Directions to Park-and-Ride: From 405 freeway north, exit Mulholland(Skirball) and turn right (Skirball Center Dr). Park-and-Ride will be on immediate left. From 405 south, exit Mulholland (skirball) and turn left (Skirball Center Dr).

- **Saturday, April 29, 6:30 p.m.**

Meet at the Sepulveda Park and Ride (same as above) for another mobile home demo

Why should the vivisectors and those who supply them with their sadistic equipment be allowed to sit around and not be reminded of the torture and murder they nonchalantly inflict upon primates, dogs, cats, rabbits, and other animals – which only retards human medical progress? Join us as we name, shame, and blame them before their neighbors for what they do every single day to innocent animals for profit.

DISCLAIMER: Nothing in this action alert is intended to suggest, encourage, or promote illegal activity of any kind. All demonstrations and correspondences are to be conducted peacefully, courteously, and within the strict bounds of any and all laws governing and pertaining to such actions or exchanges.

Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Sunday, May 7th 1:00 p.m. at Au Lac

Since the Unitarian Church outreach event was such a great success (judged by the number of people who declared that they were ready to go vegan), OCPA has responded by starting a vegan support group. We will be visiting local vegan restaurants and going on shopping tours to natural food stores.

The next luncheon will be held on Sunday, May 7th at 1:00 p.m. at Au Lac Vegetarian Restaurant, 16553 Brookhurst, Fountain Valley, 714-418-0658. Everyone – vegetarian, vegan or otherwise – is invited to join us for lunch.

For more information, contact Wanda at 714-995-4889. We hope to see you there! And stay tuned for upcoming e-alerts for information about more of these types of gatherings in the future.

Human Rights Club, Estancia High School Social Forum – May 17th

High school students want to learn! Estancia High School Human Rights Club wants to get educated (and offer an opportunity for others to get educated) on social issues, political parties, and candidates. To this end, they are opening their school to candidates and community organizations that work on social and/or political issues on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.

The format of the event will be casual yet organized. They will have many tables surrounded by 6-8 chairs arranged in a large room. Each community group or candidate will occupy one table. Students will come to each table, sit down and talk about the issue(s), organization, goals, party platform, solutions, etc. When finished with the conversation, the students will move on to another table and talk to other community groups or candidates. The table will then be open for other students to sit down and start another conversation.

The event will be open to the public and refreshments will be available. This format has worked very well for the students at Estancia High School, where usually anywhere from 200-300 students show up for events of this nature. The students really appreciate the personal interaction that is achieved with this format.

If you would like to participate, please contact Sebastian Castellanos (student organizer) at ehshumanrights@yahoo.com.

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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