### OCPA E-Alert June / July 2008



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### Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

- Ringling Bros. Demonstrations Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> through Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> in Anaheim
- International Climate Change Conference Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in West Hollywood
- OCPA's "A Cage-Free Affair" Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in Santa Ana
- Other Cage Free Affairs Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>
- OC Fair Demonstrations Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Veggie/Vegan Luncheon/Dinner Club Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Bodhi Tree in Huntington Beach
- Veggie/Vegan Luncheon/Dinner Club Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at Native Foods in Aliso Viejo (Time TBD)
- Atheist Alliance International (AAI) Convention Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> in Long Beach

**Special Note**: Spring and summer bring with them an increase in local animal-related events, tabling activities and demonstrations. If you would like to receive occasional email notifications of these special outreach and volunteer opportunities, please respond to <a href="mailto:julie.meskell@ocpausa.org">julie.meskell@ocpausa.org</a> to have your email address included in a separate contact list. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you out and about this year on behalf of the animals.

#### **Good News for the Animals!**

#### Adidas Joins Wool Boycott

Adidas—the second-largest sporting-goods manufacturer in the world—has taken steps to reduce the suffering of sheep in its supply chain. Following nearly four months of discussions with PETA US, Adidas has now decided to boycott all wool from mulesed lambs—including those mulesed using clips.

In an attempt to win back clothing retailers that are boycotting Australian wool over this issue, some farmers have started using clips to mules their animals. Clip mulesing involves clamping clips onto the animals' skin so tightly that the skin dies and falls off. This method still causes pain, but is not bloody (and therefore less visually shocking), which led the Australian wool industry to hope that it would be acceptable to clothing retailers. But Adidas—like HUGO BOSS, Perry Ellis, H&M, and many other companies—is not buying this new mutilation. This is great news, since it will help animals today and push the Australian wool industry to stop all forms of mulesing once and for all.

#### Virginia's Animal-Fighting Legislation Takes Effect

Virginia's stricter animal fighting legislation (HB 656/SB 592) took effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>, making cockfighting and attending any animal fight a felony.

#### Overstock.com Becomes 100th Retailer on Fur-Free List

Overstock.com joined 99 other designers and retailers in announcing its plans to go completely fur-free. Overstock.com advertises apparel, designer accessories, bed-and-bath goods, sporting goods, and other merchandise.

### Federal Judge Orders Bush Administration to Restore Endangered Species Protection for Wolves in Northern Rockies and Greater Yellowstone

A federal judge ordered the Bush Administration to restore endangered species protections for wolves in the northern Rockies and Greater Yellowstone until the full case can be heard. Since the Bush Administration stripped the region's wolves of federal protection, a total of 110 wolves were brutally killed. This temporary reprieve means that Wyoming, Montana and Idaho will be forced to abandon plans to allow the extermination of hundreds of wolves this fall as part of a massive public hunt, which would have been the first in three decades. Stay tuned for upcoming action items on how to restore permanent protection to wolves.

#### AB 2949 Passes Out of Committee

AB 2949, the legislation that will provide protection for animals abandoned in home foreclosures, was recently heard in the Senate Judiciary and passed out of committee.

#### State Supreme Court Gives New Protection to Endangered Species

The California Supreme Court gave new protection to the state's endangered species recently, ruling unanimously that developers, loggers and other commercial interests may be required to compensate for unforeseen wildlife losses.

#### Action Items - Your Letters/Calls Needed

#### Ask State Senator to Oppose AB 815 and Keep Animal Protection Ordinances Local

AB 815 will take away the rights currently afforded to cities and counties in California to enact local wildlife-related laws specific to their communities. Under the new legislation, an ordinance could only be adopted if it meets extremely strict standards, but the standards themselves are not laid out in the law. As

a result, it is difficult to predict how little power will remain in the hands of local governments to address local issues.

As a resident of California, please contact your state Senator today to **oppose AB 815**. If this bill passes, the state Fish and Game agency will become essentially the only entity with the power to adopt laws or regulations regarding the taking of fish and game in California. Animal protection groups are concerned that AB 815 will expand the powers of Fish and Game at the expense of city and county government, and that it will negatively impact these governments' ability to protect their citizens, companion animals, and wildlife.

Because this bill already has passed the California Assembly and soon will be considered by the Senate, please take action today to oppose AB 815 and protect wildlife in your community. Visit API/Born Free's action page at <a href="http://action.bornfreeusa.org/site/PageServer">http://action.bornfreeusa.org/site/PageServer</a> or for legislator contact information, visit <a href="http://ocpausa.org/legislation.htm">http://ocpausa.org/legislation.htm</a>.

#### Tell Dallas Zoo to Send Surviving Elephant to U.S. Sanctuary

When 39-year-old Keke the elephant died prematurely at the Dallas Zoo in May 2008, the zoo was urged to send their surviving elephant, Jenny, to a sanctuary so that she could have the chance at a better life. However, zoo officials recently announced their troubling decision to send Jenny to the Africam Safari Park in Puebla, Mexico, where the 31-year-old African elephant would lose the protection of U.S. law. More baffling is the apparent fact that the Mexican park currently houses three *Asian* elephants, a distinct species from Jenny, an African elephant. Association of Zoo and Aquarium standards advise against housing the two species together.

At the 2700-acre Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee, Jenny would share a spacious, 300-acre natural habitat with three other African elephants. By contrast, the Mexican park offers an unnatural, confining exhibit only a small fraction of the size available at the Sanctuary. Jenny has had a traumatic and troubled stay at the Dallas Zoo. While African elephants in the wild are known to reproduce into their 50s and live into their 60s, they commonly die decades before their natural time in zoos. The Dallas Zoo's decision is literally a matter of life and death for this long-suffering elephant.

Please contact the Dallas City Council and ask them to reverse the move planned for this fall. Instead, urge them to send Jenny to the sanctuary in Tennessee. Visit <u>IDA's action page</u> to send an automatic message.

#### Urge the BLM to Explore Safe and Effective Wild Horse Management Options

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is the agency within the U.S. Department of the Interior that administers America's public lands, including the animals who call this land home. As part of its wild horse management program, the BLM has spent the past several years rounding up wild horses and keeping them in private, long-term holding facilities, which is expensive. Now, the agency wants to euthanize thousands of healthy horses, claiming it is too costly to feed and care for them.

Join <u>ASPCA</u> and other animal activists in encouraging the BLM to explore other solutions other than killing thousands of healthy wild horses, including but not limited to reopening additional land for the horses and increasing certain contraception programs that have already proven safe and effective.

#### Contact Home Depot Regarding the Sale of Live Insects

PETA started receiving complaints not long after The Home Depot began carrying bags of live ladybugs and praying mantises as part of its "inventory". At multiple stores, bags of insects were reportedly fried in the scorching heat, resulting in slow deaths for every animal in the bags.

You can help hundreds of thousands of small animals sold by The Home Depot by writing to the company and asking it to end its sale of ladybugs and praying mantises at its stores today. A store specializing in "home improvement" has no business selling live animals.

Visit <u>PETA's action page</u> and remind The Home Depot that animals—even ones as small as ladybugs and praying mantises—aren't merchandise and don't deserve to be fried to death in the blazing sun.

#### **Recent OCPA Activities**

## Orange County Animal Shelter Pet Fair – Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Orange

OCPA members Evelyn Oynebraaten, Sherry Quinby, and Dina Kourda attended the OC Pet Fair on Saturday, June 28th in Orange. They distributed OCPA literature to attendees highlighting a range of animal issues such as vegetarianism, veganism, animal experimentation, rodeos, circuses, and the fur trade.

Unfortunately, hot dogs were cooked and served at this event. OCPA members questioned how the organizers could love animals and still eat them. We plan to follow up with them to ensure that they offer vegan alternatives. Hopefully, the OC Pet Fair will consider showing compassion toward *all* animals by serving veggie dogs next year.

For more information on the Pet Fair, visit www.ocpetinfo.com.

### Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club (Picnic) – Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Col. Bill Barber Park in Irvine

OCPA enjoyed a late afternoon picnic at Col. Bill Barber Park in Irvine on Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup>. The weather was ideal with refreshing breezes. We saw some new faces as a result of local info on Aouie's <a href="http://wwwSoCalVeg.org">http://wwwSoCalVeg.org</a> website.

Several people brought their dogs to the potluck. Hanna, Kale, and Slinky played and relaxed in the shade of the covered canopy. We enjoyed a good variety of homemade vegan dishes. Dina's vegan butterscotch pudding pie with a date/tahini/sunflower seed crust was the hit of the potluck.

### **Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other**

## Ringling Bros. Demonstrations – Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> through Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> in Anaheim

The "cruelest show on Earth" has arrived in Anaheim, and we need your help to raise awareness about the cruelty and violence that go on behind the scenes at the circus.

As you know, experts, eyewitnesses, and video footage prove that physical abuse is standard practice for training elephants in circuses. Ringling's trainers have been observed hitting and jabbing elephants, including babies, with sharp steel-tipped rods called "bullhooks." We understand that Ringling causes pain and suffering to animals, but we must share this with others so that they, too, will boycott the circus.

We hope that you will take some time out of your busy schedule this week to join forces with OCPA, PETA, LCA and other local activists in the area by participating in demonstrations for the remainder of Ringling's stay in Anaheim:

Honda Center, 2695 E. Katella Ave., Anaheim Thursday, July 24, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, July 26, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, July 27, 12:30 p.m.

If you have any questions about the demonstrations, please contact Monique at <a href="mailto:meekersbaker@sbcglobal.net">meekersbaker@sbcglobal.net</a>.
And check out <a href="mailto:Circuses.com">Circuses.com</a> for other ways you can help animals abused in the circus—from writing a letter to the editor of your local newspaper to <a href="mailto:sharing">sharing PETA's online videos</a> with your friends and family.

# International Climate Change Conference – Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in West Hollywood

Join other concerned citizens at the International Climate Change Conference this Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, between 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in West Hollywood at the Pacific Design Theater.

This global event will bring together climate experts; food and diet experts, humanitarians and interfaith leaders; and new media pioneers in an interactive discussion to address the most urgent crisis of our times.

Speakers at the event include: Dr. Elliott Katz, Director of In Defense of Animals; Howard Lyman, Voice for a Viable Future; Dr. Gabriel Cousens, Spiritual Nutritionist; Dr. Will Tuttle, Best Selling Author of the World Peace Diet. The focus of the conference is on the meat industry and climate change, to unite and save our beautiful and precious planet.

Admission is free. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.ecofoodprint.org">http://www.ecofoodprint.org</a> or call 1-888-294-1433. Also broadcast LIVE to a global audience via 14 satellites on <a href="http://www.suprememastertv.com">http://www.suprememastertv.com</a>; tune in on the internet if you cannot attend the event in person.

#### OCPA's "A Cage-Free Affair" - Saturday, July 26th at 5:00 p.m. in Santa Ana

OCPA is raising awareness about the Californians for Humane Farms campaign to ban cruel crates for millions of egg-laying chickens, pigs, and veal calves in California. With your help, this campaign will culminate in a victory for farm animals on Election Day, November 4th, with a YES vote for Prop 2, The Farm Animal Cruelty Prevention Act.

Join us for a fun evening on Saturday, July 26, 2008, starting at 5:00 p.m. with a BBQ dinner and dessert (all vegan, of course). Wally Stratton, magician and caricature artist, will entertain us. Other entertainment and activities include:

- Paul Shapiro of the HSUS will be our speaker and help disseminate Prop 2 campaign materials
- Silent auction
- Goody bag filled with cruelty-free products
- Raffle prizes
- Swimming
- Tournament including ping-pong, bocce ball, basketball, croquet, and horseshoes (\$10 entry fee per person and winner receives 50% of entry fees in raffle tickets)
- Balloon animals and magic

Location: The Meskell Home, 10881 Pembroke Drive, Santa Ana, CA 92705; phone: 949-939-4860

Cost of the event: Only \$25

#### Sign up here:

http://www.party2win.com/humanecalifornia/parties/index.cfm?Fuseaction=EventDetail&e=partyanimals8643

Or pay at the door.

Note: Kids 12 and under are welcome at no charge.

Please RSVP to ocvegan@yahoo.com

#### Other Cage Free Affairs - Sunday, July 27th

Other local activists have organized additional cage-free affairs this coming weekend to help raise support for Californians for Humane Farms' efforts for farm animals on this November's ballot.

- Beach Bash to Help Animals, organized by Karen Coyne, 3:00 p.m. Newport Beach Peninsula
- Cage Free Affair, organized by Ronnie Steinau, 4:00 p.m., Oakcrest Park in Encinitas

### OC Fair Demonstrations - Friday, August 1st and Saturday, August 2nd

OCPA volunteers and animal advocates:

Come out and take a stand for the animals at the Orange County Fair on Friday, August 1st to protest the cruelty of the Extreme Rodeo. We'll meet at Native Foods, in Costa Mesa at 6:30 p.m. and carpool over to the southeast corner of Newport Avenue and Fair Drive just outside the parking lot of the OC Fair.

On Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, we'll be back to protest the Bull-Riding Show. We'll meet at Native Foods, in Costa Mesa again at 2:30 p.m. and carpool the short distance to the Fairgrounds. We'll also bring attention to the abuse of other animals at the Fair including the elephant rides and the pony rides.

Alternatively, you can meet us inside the fair in front of the arena about 45 minutes before the rodeo events on Friday and Saturday. Bring signs and literature; contact OCPA at <a href="mailto:information@ocpausa.org">information@ocpausa.org</a> if you need materials.

# Veggie/Vegan Luncheon/Dinner Club – Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at The Bodhi Tree in Huntington Beach

Come and join us at our monthly veggie/vegan restaurant outing on Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Bodhi Tree in Huntington Beach, 501 Main Street, Suite E, H.B. 92648; (714) 969-9500; http://www.bodhitreecafe.net.

We hope to see you there! Everyone – vegetarian, vegan, or otherwise – is invited to join us for this vegan restaurant gathering. For more information or for carpooling, contact Wanda at (714) 995-4889 or Evelyn at (714) 846-7081. And stay tuned for upcoming e-alerts for information about more of these types of gatherings in the future.

## Veggie/Vegan Luncheon/Dinner Club – Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at Native Foods in Aliso Viejo (Time TBD)

Join us at our monthly veggie/vegan club on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at the new Native Foods in Aliso Viejo (next to Edward's Theater), 2670 S Aliso Creek Road, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656; phone: (949) 831-1926.

We have been alternating lunch and dinner meetings and would like to know which time is more convenient for most people. Please respond to <a href="mailto:julie.meskell@ocpausa.org">julie.meskell@ocpausa.org</a> with your preference for either a 1:00 p.m. lunch meeting or a 6:30 p.m. dinner meeting.

Visit: http://www.nativefoods.com/restaurants/locations for more information.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Atheist Alliance International (AAI) Convention – Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> Long Beach

Join OCPA at the Atheist Alliance International (AAI) Convention, Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> in Long Beach at the Queen Mary.

The convention will feature various exhibitors, buffets, speakers, entertainment, book signings and more. For more information about the convention, visit: <a href="http://www.atheistalliance.org/conventions/2008/info.php">http://www.atheistalliance.org/conventions/2008/info.php</a>.

If you are interested in volunteering at the OCPA table on either Friday or Saturday, please contact us at <a href="https://ocean.org/nc/en/alpha.com">ocvegan@yahoo.com</a> with your information and times available.

### 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 <a href="http://ocpausa.org">http://ocpausa.org</a>. To become an OCPA member or to make a donation using a secure online form, visit <a href="http://ocpausa.org/join.htm">http://ocpausa.org/join.htm</a>, e-mail <a href="mailto:donations@ocpausa.org">donations@ocpausa.org</a> or <a href="mailto:subscription@ocpausa.org">subscription@ocpausa.org</a> for additional information.

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