

# OCPA E-Alert June / July 2009



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- Veggie/Vegan Luncheon/Dinner Club and Fundraiser – Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Veggie Grill in Irvine
- APRL/OCPA Foie Gras Demo – Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Da Vinci's Restaurant in Long Beach
- Vegan Earth Day – Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Woodland Hills

### **Action Items**

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

- OCPA Vegan Picnic Potluck – Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Bill Barber Park in Irvine
- International Day of Action for Dogs and Cats in Korea – Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>
- Ringling Brothers Opening Night Demo – Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in Anaheim
- Animal Rights Conference 2009 – July 16-20<sup>th</sup> in Los Angeles
- Puppy Store-Free Orange County Campaign – Saturdays Ongoing in Mission Viejo, Brea and Thousand Oaks
- Rancho Mission Viejo Rodeo Demos – August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

**Special Note:** If you would like to receive occasional email notifications of outreach and volunteer opportunities, please respond to [julie.meskill@ocpaua.org](mailto:julie.meskill@ocpaua.org) to have your e-mail 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!**

### ***Kucinich Supports Vegan Earth Day***

Representative Dennis Kucinich of Ohio expressed his support for the June 21st commemoration of Vegan Earth Day. Kucinich is crafting a proclamation in support of the event and its goal of increased global awareness of environmental, health, economic, and other benefits of adopting the vegan lifestyle. Kucinich, who is a vegan, recognized Vegan Earth Day in a statement delivered from the floor of the United States Congress, which was televised by C-SPAN and documented permanently in the Congressional Record. Check out this YouTube video: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMt9\\_qgDfLE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMt9_qgDfLE).

### ***Costco Bans Foie Gras***

Costco has stopped selling goose foie gras! The company is playing the decision as primarily economic, noting minimal sales of the product of torture. But according to San Francisco's [SF Weekly](#), Costco's food buyer Mike Dorpat ...said he'd researched force-feeding practices in foie gras production. "We purposely didn't put duck foie gras on, because they do have smaller necks, so it's easier to damage them in the feeding process." He said the French company that supplied Costco had assured the retailer its feeding practices were "believed to not be a stressful experience for the animals." "Quite honestly, we couldn't verify the vendor's claims," Dorpat said. He added that low consumer demand, combined with a looming 2012 foie gras ban in California, led Costco to remove the product.

### ***Puppy Peddler Scamps Closes Its Doors***

IDA's Northwest office is celebrating a fantastic victory - the recent [bankruptcy and closure of Scamps Pet Stores](#), a five-store chain in Oregon and Washington. For nearly a decade, IDA and other Portland activists have been educating the public about Scamps' scandalous business practices of selling puppy mill puppies.

## **Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed**

### ***Ask Assembly Committee Members to Support SB 250, the Pet Responsibility Act***

SB 250, the Pet Responsibility Act, recently passed the California Senate and now moves to the Assembly floor.

This legislation requires all free roaming cats to be spayed or neutered and requires a license for unaltered dogs. This will prevent millions of animals from being euthanized in shelters and save taxpayers tens of millions of dollars.

SB 250 proves a reasonable, fiscally responsible step towards reducing pet overpopulation in California in two ways: by fostering responsible pet guardianship through increased animal licensing, and by offering incentives for guardians to spay and neuter their companion animals. Please help reduce the suffering of dogs and cats in our shelters, and support the overburdened shelter staff that cares for them!

To ask assemblymembers to support this important bill – and for more information – visit: <http://www.yesonsb250.com>.

### ***Contact Committee Members Regarding AB 1122***

California Assembly Bill 1122 would prohibit the sale of animals on roadsides and in parking lots. Many of these animals are bred and raised in poor conditions and sick at the time of sale—and since dogs and cats sold in this manner usually are not spayed or neutered, they contribute to the pet overpopulation that leads to tens of thousands of homeless animals being euthanized in the state each year.

If passed, this humane legislation will: eliminate the profit motive from people who sell sick animals, and protect consumers from unscrupulous breeders. The bill contains language that exempts adoption events run by humane societies and legitimate animal rescues.

AB 1122 has already passed the California Assembly and moved to the Senate for consideration.

For more information about this important bill and its sponsors, visit the [California Animal Association's](#) website.

### ***Urge Representative to Support HR 2455, International Whale Conservation & Protection Act of 2009***

With the International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting quickly approaching, the world's nations are taking sides on the debate about whether or not to allow the slaughter of whales. On one side, countries calling for a conservation approach are rallying to protect the ban on commercial whaling. On the other, Japan, Norway, Iceland and their cohorts are undermining the ban by exploiting loopholes or trying to lift the ban to kill even more whales. It's not enough that Japan kills hundreds of whales every year for "scientific" purposes (and then sells the meat commercially). They now want to allow full-out commercial coastal whaling, where small boats of whalers can kill hundreds of additional whales. Unfortunately, the United States, once a world leader in whale protection, has been failing to stand up against these countries.

But, there are two ways you can encourage the U.S. to stand strong:

The International Whale Conservation and Protection Act of 2009 (H.R. 2455), introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on May 18, would be a major step towards giving whales the protection they deserve. If passed, the bill would make the U.S. a leader again by strengthening whale conservation, research, and protection efforts. Plus, it would firmly reassert the United States' opposition to commercial whaling while working to improve the transparency of the IWC.

[Tell your Representative to support H.R. 2455 and do everything possible to pass this important legislation immediately.](#)

Whales need all the help they can get from the U.S. at the IWC meeting this year. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which focuses on protecting the planet's oceans and atmosphere, could -- and should -- make a stronger case for conservation. We need NOAA to show other countries the way and create a global sanctuary for whales.

[Tell the new NOAA Administrator, Jane Lubchenco, to commit to stronger protection for whales at the IWC meeting this year.](#)

### ***Sign Petition for Maximum Prison Term for Karley's Killer***

Update from the Trial Readiness Conference on June 11th: No trial date was set because apparently the defense is not ready. The defense is going to file a motion for a change of venue. This means they are trying to get the trial moved out of Riverside. Another Trial Readiness Conference has been scheduled for July 23rd at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. 41 at the Riverside County Courthouse, 4100 Main St. Riverside, 92501.

Karley and The Toole Family sincerely appreciate your continued support!!!

Karley justice defenders have started another petition and Karley needs you on this one too! Please petition for the maximum prison term of four years if Glynn Johnson is convicted. We are hoping he will be convicted of felony animal cruelty. Please visit the following link for the new petition:

<http://www.thepetitionsite.com/2/justice-4-karley-convict-glynn-johnson>.

For more information on this campaign, visit <http://justice4karley.com/>.

### ***Ask Legislators to Oppose Governor's Proposal to Suspend Animal Adoption Mandate***

As many of you have heard, one of Governor Schwarzenegger's ideas to reduce California's \$24 billion budget deficit is to slash state funding to city and county shelters. This funding is used to support the state's "animal adoption mandate" to keep shelter animals alive for no less than six days, which gives people a reasonable window of time to locate lost pets. It also gives unclaimed animals the chance to be adopted or taken in by rescue groups. Governor Schwarzenegger's proposal would suspend the state mandate and cut the minimum holding period to three days or less.

Due to the dramatic increase in home foreclosures, more and more animals are ending up in shelters—and if this proposal passes, shelters will be forced to euthanize scores of healthy, adoptable pets who might have otherwise found happy endings. These animals have already had their lives turned upside down; they deserve the opportunity to get a second chance.

Please take a few minutes today to call your California state senator and assemblymember to ask them to oppose the governor's proposal to suspend the animal adoption mandate. [Visit the ASPCA Advocacy Center to find your legislators' phone numbers.](#) Also visit this link to print/distribute a flyer for the animals on this issue: <http://webflyer.kindnews.org/flyers/7a4ff520/default.htm>.

## **Recent OCPA Activities**

### ***Loving Hut Grand Opening – Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> in San Diego***

A few lucky OCPA members attended the grand opening of the Loving Hut in San Diego on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Multiple courses of delicious food were served at the luncheon. The cheesecake and the German chocolate cake were a big hit among the diners. This Asian Fusion restaurant is part of a growing chain of vegan restaurants that spans three continents. Loving Hut is becoming well known for its BBQ soy chicken, burgers, and chow mein.

The Green's Cafe in Irvine is another vegan cafe that was also inspired by the Supreme Master Ching Hai. A new Loving Hut is scheduled to open this summer in Ladera Ranch.

Loving Hut, 1905 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, CA 92104; phone: (619) 683-9490; website: <http://www.lovinghut.us/sandiego>.

### ***Animal Acres Country Hoe Down – Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. in Acton***

The Animal Acres Country Hoe Down occurred on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. in Acton, 5200 Escondido Canyon Road, Acton, CA 93510; phone: 661-269-5404.

People who care about cows, and other farm animals, gathered to have a great time for a good cause. The Country Hoe Down began with farm tours, where visitors could kiss a cow, give a pig a belly rub, talk to turkeys, or simply share a memorable moment with any of our country critters who call Animal Acres, "Home Sweet Home." After meeting farmed animal friends, attendees enjoyed guest speakers including Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson, Erik Markus, Tina Volpe and others.

After hearing the special guest speakers, a Vegeque cookout was served including tasty veggie burgers with all the fixings (coleslaw, potato salad and delicious desserts including cheesecake and carrot cake).

For more information, visit: [http://animalacres.org/events/pre\\_hoedown\\_2009.html](http://animalacres.org/events/pre_hoedown_2009.html).

### ***Veggie/Vegan Luncheon/Dinner Club and Fundraiser – Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Veggie Grill in Irvine***

On Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, OCPA held a fundraising dinner at the Veggie Grill in Irvine.

The Veggie Grill donated 20% of the **entire day's** proceeds to OCPA. We had a good turnout, which helped us to raise some much-needed funds for the animals.

Veggie Grill in Irvine (next to Trader Joe's), 4213 Campus Dr, Irvine CA 92612, across from UCI; phone: (949) 509-0003; <http://www.veggiegrill.com>.

We meet every first Sunday of the month at a different vegetarian/vegan restaurant. Every few months we meet for dinner at 6:30 p.m. We hope to see you there! Everyone – vegetarian, vegan, or otherwise – is invited to join us for this vegan restaurant gathering. Email Julie if you'd like to carpool to this event: [julimeskell@cox.net](mailto:julimeskell@cox.net). And stay tuned for upcoming e-alerts for information about more of these types of gatherings in the future.

## **APRL/OCPA Foie Gras Demo – Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Da Vinci's Restaurant in Long Beach**

Great news! The June 12<sup>th</sup> foie gras demonstration at DaVinci's restaurant in Long Beach was canceled at the last minute, as it was discovered that the owner removed foie gras from their menu.

Originally, there were five known restaurants serving foie gras in Long Beach. Now there is just one left, Sir Winston on the Queen Mary.

We'll be sending out an alert when a demonstration is scheduled at this restaurant.

For more information, visit: <http://www.aprl.org/foiegras.html>.

## **Vegan Earth Day – Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Woodland Hills**

OCPA participated in Vegan Earth Day on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, with a table filled with literature providing information on going vegan and adopting a compassionate lifestyle.

Vegan Earth Day highlighted special global attention on the role of meat and dairy as the primary cause for global warming, drought, deforestation, resource depletion, pollution, erosion, desertification, world hunger, poverty, disease, war, violence, energy crises, and animal suffering - and offered solutions.

This one-day solar-powered outdoor eco-life festival was a fun-filled celebration of music, film screenings, food, speakers, celebrities, kindness to animals, peace, and green lifestyle. In addition, Vegan Earth Day took place in a global scale and was celebrated in multi-cities on the same date.

Speakers included peace mom CINDY SHEEHAN, Animal Planet's "Whale Wars" star CAPT. PAUL WATSON, film star MARIANA TOSCA, world-renowned ayurvedic healer VAIDYA PRIYANKA, one of the foremost heart specialists in the world Dr. CALDWELL ESSELSTYN, firefighter & pro triathlete RIP ESSELSTYN, emcee radio host BOB LINDEN (as heard on K-TALK, GREEN-960, Air America, Nova M, & [www.GoVeganRadio.com](http://www.GoVeganRadio.com)).

For more information, visit <http://www.veganearthday.org>.

**"Vegan Earth Day For A Vegan World."** A special program was broadcast live on June 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. on Supreme Master Television, a constructive TV channel that reaches hundreds of millions of households around the world via 14 satellite platforms and high quality live streaming online TV 24/7 at <http://www.SupremeMasterTV.com>. This spectacular program focused on sustainable and compassionate living as well as solutions to halt global warming. This event was hosted by Bob Linden (<http://www.GoVeganRadio.com>) and featured special honored guest speaker, Supreme Master Ching Hai, a world renowned humanitarian, spiritual leader and artist. Her dedicated efforts on behalf of animals and the environment has spanned over the last twenty years, helping countless people adopt a vegan diet.

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

OCPA now has a new [Myspace.com page](#) (thanks to Tracey Turner). Check it often for the latest details on local OCPA demonstrations and other animal-related events.

### **OCPA Vegan Picnic Potluck – Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Bill Barber Park in Irvine**

OCPA is hosting its annual vegan picnic potluck this year on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. at Bill Barber Park, 4 Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, located at the corner of Barranca Parkway and Harvard. (Enter the parking lot at the San Juan light and walk toward the Civic Center [Alton] to locate the OCPA canopy.)

This is a vegan potluck, so please bring enough to share for 6 to 8 people, along with serving utensils. Friendly dogs welcome. *Note:* All dogs must be on leash at all times to comply with the city code.

Please call Dina on her mobile at (949) 939-4860 if you have any questions.

## ***International Day of Action for Dogs and Cats in Korea – Tuesday, July 14th***

The International Day of Action for Dogs and Cats in Korea is scheduled for Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>.

In Defense of Animals (IDA) will again be co-sponsoring this worldwide event to stop the terrible suffering these animals endure. Demos and other events are scheduled in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington DC, Seattle, New York, Asheville, North Carolina, Ireland, Peru, Bolivia, and South Korea.

If you can help organize an event in your city or town, please contact Hope, IDA's Grassroots Field Organizer, at [hope@idausa.org](mailto:hope@idausa.org) or 415-448-0048 x. 211.

And for demonstration and other information, visit:

[http://ida.convio.net/site/MessageViewer?em\\_id=5781.0&printer\\_friendly=1](http://ida.convio.net/site/MessageViewer?em_id=5781.0&printer_friendly=1).

## ***Ringling Brothers Opening Night Demo – Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in Anaheim***

We'll be back to demonstrate against the animal cruelty of the Ringling Brothers' Circus when they return to The Honda Center in Anaheim this July.

Meet us on opening night, Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. We'll meet at the corner of Katella and Douglas off the 57 Freeway and in front of the main entrances to The Honda Center. Bring your own signs; we'll provide signs and literature too – and offer OCPA anti-circus t-shirts.

## ***Animal Rights Conference 2009 – July 16-20<sup>th</sup> in Los Angeles***

Register today for the world's largest and oldest animal rights conference, this year being held in Los Angeles at the Westin LAX between July 16<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

The conference features 100 sessions, including plenaries, workshops, raps, reports; 90 speakers from 60 animal protection groups in nine countries; sessions on personal skills, activism, organizing, outreach; eyewitness report on whale wars and Prop 2 campaign; presentations by leaders of other social justice movements; celebrity and activist awards; 80 videos with premieres; one hundred free exhibits; networking receptions; and discounted parking.

Key speakers at this year's conference include: Lorri Bauston, Michael Budkie, Karen Davis, Karen Dawn, Debra Ehrenberg, Camille Hankins, Alex Hershaft, Elliot Katz, Dennis Kucinich (by video), Elizabeth Kucinich, Bob Linden, Erik Marcus, Erica Meier, Anthony Marr, Michael Mountain, Jack Norris, Lauren Ornelas, Alex Pacheco, Colleen Patrick-Goudreau, Bryan Pease, Nathan Runkle, Brenda Shoss, Will Tuttle, Paul Watson, Peter Young and many more.

Join us at the OCPA exhibit table! For more information and to register for this event, visit

<http://arconference.org/>.

## ***Puppy Store-Free Orange County Campaign – Saturdays Ongoing in Mission Viejo, Brea and Thousand Oaks***

The puppy store-free Orange County campaign is expanding to the Brea Mall, where Barkworks sells puppies.

Best Friends, OCPA and others have been holding educational demonstrations at the Barkworks Store at The Shops of Mission Viejo Mall for only six weeks and have already had a significant impact! This means that we are educating the public and they are choosing not to shop, but to adopt.

Right now Best Friends has a regular presence at the Barkworks at the Westside Pavilion in L.A. and at The Shops of Mission Viejo Mall in O.C., while Last Chance for Animals holds demonstrations at the Barkworks store in Thousand Oaks.

At the end of a day of volunteering, it is a great feeling to know that you made that difference. If you are interested in volunteering in Brea, please contact Barb at [gregandbarb@cox.net](mailto:gregandbarb@cox.net) with available times and commitment levels. The Brea Mall tabling schedule will most likely be: Every Saturday 12:00 until 5:00 (one person needed for the entire shift); 12:00 until 2:30 (one person needed to volunteer for the first half the shift); and 2:30 until 5:00 (one person needed to volunteer the second half of the shift).

***Rancho Mission Viejo Rodeo Demos – August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 p.m.***

We'll meet on Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at the corner of Ortega Highway and Antonio Parkway/La Pata to help educate the public about the cruelty behind rodeos.

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**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](mailto:donations@ocpausa.org) or [subscription@ocpausa.org](mailto:subscription@ocpausa.org) for additional information.

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