

OCPA E-Alert July / August 2009



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- Help Spread Truth About Japan's Dolphin Hunting
- Ask Congress to Support Amendments to the Child Nutrition Act

Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

- Foie Gras Peaceful Demonstration – Friday, August 14th 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Hush in Laguna Beach
- Rancho Mission Viejo Rodeo Demos – August 22nd and 23rd in San Juan Capistrano
- Justice 4 Karley Court Appearance – Friday, August 28th at 8:30 a.m. in Riverside
- First Annual Summer's End Vegan Shindig – Saturday, August 29th at 6:00 p.m. in Los Angeles
- Animal Acres Gala – Saturday, September 5th from 5:00 to 11:00 p.m. in Acton

Special Note: If you would like to receive occasional email notifications of outreach and volunteer opportunities – and local demonstration information – please respond to julie.meskell@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.

OCPA now has a new [Myspace.com page](#) and [Facebook page](#). We also have a new meetup page: <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA/>. Check them out often for the latest details on local OCPA demonstrations and other animal-related events.

Good News for the Animals!

AB 1122 Passes Out of Senate Public Safety Committee

AB 1122 passed out of the Senate Public Safety Committee with the support of the chairman as well as the Republican vice chairman.

California Assembly Bill 1122 will 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.

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

Turkey Abusers Convicted and Jailed

A 2008 undercover investigation at the Aviagen Turkey breeding facility in Lewisburg, West Virginia, resulted in 19 grand jury indictments, including 11 felony charges, against three former Aviagen workers. PETA, which conducted the investigation and fought successfully for criminal conviction of two of the employees thus far (a third case is pending), said that this is “the first time in U.S. history that factory-farm employees faced felony cruelty-to-animals charges for abusing birds.”

Major Victories for Animals in Oregon

Exotic Pets

After years of delaying action on this important public safety and animal welfare measure, the Oregon legislature finally passed **S.B. 391**, which phases out the private, unlicensed ownership of exotic animals such as big cats, primates, crocodiles, and alligators.

Puppy Mills

Man's best friend won a major victory with the passage of **H.B. 2470**, which cracks down on puppy mills -- large scale facilities that mass produce puppies for sale in pet stores and over the Internet. H.B. 2470 limits the size of puppy mills in Oregon; requires basic animal welfare standards, including banning wire cages and stacking; and protects consumers who purchase sick puppies from these facilities. Prior to this year, Oregon did not have any laws addressing puppy mills, but passage of this bill makes Oregon's laws some of the strongest in the country.

Horse Protection

With horse owners struggling in hard economic times, some take the irresponsible step of simply abandoning their animals on private property, public lands, and even roads and highways. S.B. 398 adds horses and other equines to the existing animal abandonment statute, making horse abandonment a Class B Misdemeanor.

Cockfighting

The legislature also passed legislation (S.B. 280) making it a felony to be a spectator at a cockfight. While cockfighting and possession of birds for fighting are already felonies in Oregon, watching a cockfight was only a misdemeanor, creating a huge loophole. After Governor Kulongoski signs S.B. 280 into law this loophole will be closed, which will help law enforcement crack down on animal fighting in Oregon.

Other Animal Protection Measures

Lawmakers also considered and rejected measures that would require the state to provide a specified amount of land for hunting, and would have required landowners to kill wild pigs on their property.

Dog Fighting Raid Rescues 500 Dogs

Federal law enforcement agencies, along with The HSUS, The Humane Society of Missouri, and the ASPCA, raided multiple dogfighting operations around the country in what was the largest single day of actions against this blood sport in American history. Nearly 500 dogs were rescued and the raid led to arrests in eight states.

With organized dogfighting illegal everywhere and a felony in all 50 states, never in the five-decade fight against this vicious and bloody activity has the message been stronger: dogfighters are a dying breed.

Governor Signs AB 428 to Protect Seals

Despite having said he wouldn't sign any non-budget bills until there was a budget deal, Schwarzenegger signed SB 428 when a state judge issued a 72-hour dispersal demand to the City, who rallied to urge the Governor to act. A stay/emergency motion still needs to be filed to keep the order at bay, but odds are good it will be granted now that state law will be changing on January 1, 2010.

Bolivia Prohibits Wild/Domestic Animals in Traveling Circuses

Bolivian President, Evo Morales, signed the world's first law prohibiting the use of both wild and domestic animals in traveling circuses. To date, Croatia, Singapore, Austria, Israel and Costa Rica have all banned wild animals in circuses. Similar bans on animal use in traveling circuses in Costa Rica, Finland and Denmark only prohibit the use of wild animals or certain species. The law arose as a result of evidence gathered during an undercover investigation by the nonprofit group, Animal Defenders International, proving horrendous abuse to lions, brown bears, wolves, llamas and other animals.

Mojave Hoarders Sentenced

Sentencing of Cindy Bemis and Cynthia Trapani occurred on July 8, 2009. Both women were convicted on May 18, 2009 of 20 combined counts of animal cruelty in Mojave, CA, Kern County. Bemis was sentenced to one year in prison, and her cohort Trapani was sentenced to four months. LCA, along with several other rescue organizations and many dedicated volunteers, made countless trips up to Mojave, CA to feed, care, and trap dogs.

U.S. House Passes Legislation to Protect Burros and Wild Horses

By a vote of 239 to 185, the U.S. House of Representatives passed HR 1018 providing federal protection to burros and wild horses. Known as the Restore Our American Mustangs (or ROAM) Act, the bill is a response to what was found to be woeful mismanagement of the original Act protecting these animals by the Bureau of Land Management.

OCPA thanks its members and others who participated in its recent write-in to help encourage U.S. Representatives to support this important legislation.

Animal Hospital Network Bans Cosmetic Procedures on Dogs

Banfield, the nation's largest veterinary practice with 730 hospitals and 2,000 veterinarians, including many in PetSmart stores, announced it will stop performing cosmetic tail docking, ear cropping, or devocalization (de-barking) of dogs.

Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed

Urge Dunkin' Donuts to Stop Using Eggs and Dairy

Join Compassion Over Killing by contacting Dunkin' Donuts and urging the company to stop using eggs and dairy in its donuts, as well as offer vegan menu items.

Dunkin' Donuts is the world's largest coffee and baked goods chain offering more than 52 varieties of donuts—and every single donut contains both [egg and dairy products](#). After successfully working with [Morningstar Farms](#), [Lightlife Foods](#), and [BOCA](#) to begin removing eggs from their products and add

vegan options, COK reached out to Dunkin' Donuts about this important issue. The company unfortunately is not taking the issue seriously.

Please share your concerns, letting Dunkin' Donuts know you want it to stop using eggs and dairy in its donuts and offer vegan menu items to meet the growing demand for more humane foods:

1. Email the company: [Act Now!](#)
2. Call the company at 1-800-859-5339

Help Spread Truth About Japan's Dolphin Hunting

Opening July and August in movie theaters around the United States, "The Cove" is a powerful documentary on the work of IDA's Save Japan Dolphins Coalition, featuring dolphin specialist and activist Ric O'Barry.

"The Cove" reveals the truth about dolphin hunting in Japan. It has received standing ovations in film festivals across the world. "The Cove" received the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival, the Hot Docs Film Festival in Toronto, the Newport Film Festival, International Film Festival, Nantucket Fest, the Sydney International Film Festival, Maui Film Festival and the Seattle International Film Festival, plus Best of Festival at the Blue Ocean Film Festival. The film opens internationally this fall.

[Discover when the film came \(or will come\) to your city, and for more information about volunteering for this effort to spread the word.](#)

Ask Congress to Support Amendments to the Child Nutrition Act

This year, Congress is reauthorizing the Child Nutrition Act, providing a tremendous opportunity to make non-dairy alternatives to cows' milk available as an option for children in school cafeterias around the country.

Currently, virtually all children participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) are automatically served cows' milk, despite the fact that as many as eight million schoolchildren are lactose intolerant, and countless others avoid cows' milk for health, environmental and ethical reasons.

[Contact your congresspersons today and urge them to support amendments to the Child Nutrition Act that would make non-dairy alternatives to cows' milk readily available to all schoolchildren.](#)

Recent OCPA Activities

OC Green Party Presentation – Sunday, July 5th

On Sunday, July 5th, Charlotte Cressey (Director of Community Outreach for OCPA) gave a presentation to the Orange County Green Party about the Ethical Treatment of Animals and Why it Matters.

Charlotte gave a brief history of vegetarianism and animal rights, illuminating how our treatment of animals connects to creating a peaceful planet, protecting the environment, staying healthy. She also explained how to end the egregious cruelty to animals in our society by making compassionate choices including a vegan diet.

OCPA Vegan Picnic Potluck – Sunday, July 5th at 6:00 p.m. at Bill Barber Park in Irvine

OCPA hosted its annual vegan picnic potluck this year on Sunday, July 5th, at 6:00 p.m. at Bill Barber Park, 4 Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, located at the corner of Barranca Parkway and Harvard.

People brought their dogs and everyone had a good time enjoying the vegan potluck and the company of fellow animal advocates on a beautiful summer day.

APRL/OCPA Foie Gras Demonstration – Friday, July 10th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at French 75 in Laguna Beach

APRL and OCPA held a peaceful foie gras demonstration on Friday, July 10th, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at French 75, 1464 S. Coast Hwy, Laguna Beach, CA 92651; phone: (949) 494-8444.

Foie Gras is created by forcibly restraining ducks 3 times a day while a rough steel pipe is shoved down their throats to overfeed them to the point that their livers swell to more than 10 times the normal size. "If those who purchase and eat this product could only see the diseased organ inside the body of a filth-encrusted duck, the last place they would put this "delicacy" is in their mouths," writes Holly Cheever, DVM, animal cruelty inspector.

The foie gras campaign has resulted in several local restaurants such as Five Feet, the Sky Room, Mr. A's, and Laurel's removing foie gras from the menu.

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

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

The International Day of Action for Dogs and Cats in Korea occurred on Tuesday, July 14th.

In Defense of Animals (IDA) co-sponsored this worldwide event to stop the terrible suffering these animals endure. Demos and other events occurred in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington DC, Seattle, New York, Asheville, North Carolina, Ireland, Peru, Bolivia, South Korea, Canada, Ireland, Peru, South Africa and elsewhere. Over 18,000 individually signed petitions were delivered to the Korean Consulate in San Francisco to help put a stop to the abuse of dogs and cats in Korea.

Ringling Brothers Circus Demos – July in Anaheim

OCPA and Last Chance for Animals held a large demonstration against Ringling Brothers' Circus on Wednesday, July 15, opening night at the Honda Center in Anaheim.

Approximately 50 people attended the peaceful demo including visitors from Europe, with two people dressed as clowns (one on stilts), balloons for the kids, and lots of bilingual literature and signs to help educate circus attendees about the truth behind the scenes. One young man and his girlfriend turned around and went home after learning about the circus horrors. Thanks to Bryan of LCA for his literature, signs, balloons, and Helium rental to make the demo a success.

The groups returned to the Honda Center to protest the cruelty of the Ringling Brothers' Circus for the entire week of July 19th, ending with a large protest on Saturday, July 25th and on Sunday, the 26th, the last day of the circus in Orange County. Work will continue on this important campaign throughout the year. Stay tuned for updates.

Vegan Pride Pre-Conference March – Thursday, July 16th in Los Angeles

On Thursday, July 16th, Dina Kourda, Charlotte Cressey, Julie Curran-Meskell, Ameer Sangvi and others from the conference joined Bob Linden in a Vegan Pride March that preceded the AR 2009 Conference. Bob used a megaphone to educate passersby about the importance of going vegan and other major animal issues.

Animal Rights Conference 2009 – July 16-20th in Los Angeles

Several hundred animal advocates from all over the country and the world gathered at the Westin Hotel for AR2009, held in Los Angeles between July 16th and 20th.

People came from as far as Australia, China and Germany. Sessions on organizing and outreach were held throughout the weekend. Most of the sessions were led by a panel of speakers who discussed topics ranging from animal protection laws to utilizing the Internet. Lots of new animal organizations could be seen in the exhibit hall, and the talks, panels, plenaries, keynote speeches and rap sessions were all amazing.

Paul Watson of Sea Shepherd Conservation Society gave the keynote address Sunday night. He talked about his show, Whale Wars, on Animal Planet and the environmental crisis we're all facing with the overfishing of the oceans.

OCPA's Dina Kourda and two other members were fortunate enough to attend an intimate, two-hour uninterrupted vegan pancake brunch for five with Captain Paul Watson on Sunday.

For more information about the event, visit <http://arconference.org/>.

Justice 4 Karley Trial Readiness Conference – Thursday, July 23rd at 8:30 a.m. in Riverside

Another Trial Readiness Conference was scheduled for July 23rd at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. 41 at the Riverside County Courthouse, 4100 Main St. Riverside, 92501. The judge was going to rule on the change of venue motion, but the defense asked for a continuance, granted until August 28th.

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/>.

Veggie/Vegan Luncheon/Dinner Club Meeting – Sunday, August 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at The Loving Hut in Ladera Ranch

OCPA was represented at the July 18th Grand Opening of a new Loving Hut location in Ladera Ranch. The celebration began with a ribbon cutting ceremony led by the mayor of Ladera Ranch. Guests were treated to several courses, including non-dairy cheese bread, summer rolls, egg rolls, mock chicken salad, and fried rice. Passionfruit, orange, and plum juice drinks were enjoyed by the crowd.

OCPA members and friends then gathered again at this great new location to enjoy the monthly veggie/vegan dinner on Sunday, August 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in Ladera Ranch, 27522 Antonio Parkway P2, Ladera Ranch, CA 92694; phone: 949-365-1077; website: <http://www.thelovinghut.com>. Some of the dishes ordered included the Happy Burger, BBQ burger, and a variety of wraps. The mocha cake for dessert was also a big hit.

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. Loving Hut was created with a vision that all beings could live in peace, love and harmony with each other and the planet. It is an invitation to gourmet cuisine made with wholesome vegan ingredients, offering an accessible starting point for those making the noble transition to a plant-based diet...

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. Stay tuned for upcoming e-alerts for information about more of these types of gatherings in the future.

Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

OCPA now has a new [Myspace.com page](#) and [Facebook page](#). We also have a new meetup page: <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA/>. Check them out often for the latest details on local OCPA demonstrations and other animal-related events. A special thanks to Tracey Turner, Jennifer Tan and Dave Simon for their help in setting up and maintaining these pages/sites for OCPA.

Foie Gras Peaceful Demonstration – Friday, August 14th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Hush in Laguna Beach

Help APRL and OC People for Animals demonstrate against foie gras this Friday, August 14th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Hush, 858 S. Coast Hwy., Laguna Beach, CA 92651; phone: (949) 497-3616.

Please help us make Orange County foie gras-free. We have signs and banners. We just need your presence to help the animals. Please respond to Julie.meskell@ocpauusa.org if you'd like to carpool. Visit to APRL's [Facebook](#) page to RSVP for this demo. And for more information about this campaign, visit: <http://www.aprl.org/foiegras.html>.

Rancho Mission Viejo Rodeo Demos – August 22nd and 23rd in San Juan Capistrano

Please join OCPA at the San Juan Capistrano Rodeo demonstrations Saturday, August 22nd and Sunday, August 23rd. Help us by leafleting and educating the public about the cruelty of rodeos.

We'll meet on Saturday, August 22nd from 2:30- 4:30 p.m. at the entrance to the rodeo near the corner of Ortega Highway and Antonio Parkway/La Pata in San Juan Capistrano. On Sunday, August 23rd, please meet us from 12:00-2:00 p.m. at the same location.

E-mail Dina for more information at ocpeopleforanimals@yahoo.com or call her mobile phone on the day of the event only: (949) 939-4860.

Justice 4 Karley Court Appearance – Friday, August 28th at 8:30 a.m. in Riverside

Come out and show your support for the Justice 4 Karley campaign on Friday, August 28th, at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. 41 at the Riverside County Courthouse, 4100 Main St. Riverside, 92501. The judge will rule on the change of venue motion at this time.

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/>.

First Annual Summer's End Vegan Shindig – Saturday, August 29th at 6:00 p.m. in Los Angeles

Be part of the biggest vegan/animal rights party of the summer as five Southern California groups join forces for an end-of-summer celebration to remember!

Orange County People for Animals is joining with Orange County Vegan Drinks, Avec Mes Amis, Los Angeles Vegan Drinks and United Animal Advocates of LA to produce the First Annual Summer's End Vegan Shindig on Saturday, August 29th starting at 6:00 p.m.

[Mama's Hot Tamales](#), a non-profit educational restaurant near MacArthur Park in Los Angeles, will provide the venue and great Mexican food. Location: 2124 West 7th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90057-4001; phone: (213) 487-7474.

It's worth the trip to Mama's for all of this:

- Jazz band
- Special vegan menu
- One price (\$25) for all-you-can-eat
- Dishes feature the awesome new Daiya vegan cheese
- Vegan drinks, both with and without alcohol!
- Freebies and goodies provided by our sponsors.

Capacity is limited to 150, and OCPA only has 25 spots, so be sure to RSVP via meetup.com early to guarantee your spot. If you want to bring more than one guest, please have any additional guests sign up as members and RSVP themselves. Also, so that we can see where we stand, please note the preliminary RSVP deadline of August 16th.

If you have a vegan product or service to promote, you may leave materials on a designated table. (Please do not personally solicit attendees.)

Animal Acres Gala – Saturday, September 5th from 5:00 to 11:00 p.m. in Acton

The Animal Acres Gala is scheduled for Saturday, September 5th from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. in Acton, 5200 Escondido Canyon Road, Acton, CA 93510; phone: 661-269-5404.

Celebrities and animal lovers will gather with cows, pigs, and chickens for an enchanted evening filled with gourmet vegan delights, inspiring entertainment, and special appearances by Hollywood's famous friends of farmed animals. Compassion awards, Auction for Animals, and more.

Visit http://animalacres.org/events/pre_gala_2009.html for more information, table sponsorships, and individual ticket purchases. All proceeds benefit Animal Acres' animal rescue and rehabilitation efforts - please help directly save suffering farmed animals by participating in their most important benefit of the year.

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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