

## OCPA E-Alert August 2005



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## Good News for the Animals!

### ***Moratorium Called on Australian Wool Campaign***

After two months of negotiations, the Australian Wool Growers Association has reached an agreement with PETA to phase out mulesing mutilations of lambs and live sheep exports in Australia. If ratified, this agreement would phase out these cruel practices by January 2010. Based on this recent development, PETA has called a 45-day moratorium on the Australian wool and Benetton campaigns. For more information, visit <http://www.SaveTheSheep.com>.

### ***Exotic Animals No Longer “Pets” in Kentucky***

Kentucky recently enacted a regulation that will prohibit the future private possession of lions, monkeys, bears, tigers, venomous reptiles and other dangerous wildlife. This important legislation also prohibits the breeding of any existing animals. For more information about the API and Primate Rescue Center campaign to ban the possession of exotic animals as pets, visit <http://www.MoreBeautifulWild.com>.

## ***Wet Seal Pledges to No Fur***

On July 20<sup>th</sup>, PETA received written assurance from Wet Seal that the company would not carry fur this fall season. PETA has since called a moratorium on its Wet Seal campaign until January 2006, when they have plans to meet with the company to discuss a permanent fur-free policy. For more information, visit <http://www.peta2.com>.

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

### ***Support the Captive Primate Safety Act***

The Captive Primate Safety Act, introduced recently in the Senate, will prohibit interstate and foreign commerce in nonhuman primates for the pet trade. This federal bill will complement state and local efforts to restrict the possession of these wild animals as pets – as it is not safe or humane to keep these wild animals as pets.

Please contact your legislators (both Senators and your Representative) today and ask them to co-sponsor the Captive Primate Safety Act – S. 1509 and H.R. 1329. For legislator contact information, visit the OCPA website at: <http://ocpausa.org/legislation>.

### ***Remind USDA Rabbits Should be Included in the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act***

Unbelievably, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has recently classified rabbits as “poultry” to avoid including them under the 1958 Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (from which poultry are excluded).

Please contact the USDA today and voice your dismay at this new classification of rabbits. While expressing your concern about rabbits, please also urge the USDA to include ALL farm animals – chickens, turkeys and ducks – under the Act. For more information about this issue, visit <http://www.hfa.org/about/rabbits.pdf>.

Contact: Mike Johanns, Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 200-A, Washington, DC 20250; phone: 202-720-3631; fax: 202-720-2166; email: [agsec@usda.gov](mailto:agsec@usda.gov).

### ***Ask PBS Not to Air Pro-Factory Farming Piece***

The factory farming industry – including agribusiness giant Monsanto and the American Farm Bureau – has collaborated with California public television network to produce a TV series called *America's Heartland*. Based on the show's trailer, it seems this program will do its best to mislead and misinform viewers about the true nature of the modern meat, egg and dairy industries.

Obviously, the corporate sponsors of this program are very concerned about the growing public outrage surrounding the abuse of animals on modern factory farms – far from the idyllic picture the industry would like to have the public believe where animals are raised outdoors, allowed plenty of space, fresh air, good food and are humanely slaughtered.

Please politely ask your local public stations to refuse to air this program and other agribusiness propaganda.

## **Recent OCPA Activities**

### ***Elephant Ride Demonstrations at the Orange County Fair, July 9 and 31***

OCPA organized two demonstrations in front of the elephant ride at this year's Orange County Fair. Protestors wore t-shirts that were printed with the slogans, "DON'T BUY THE LIE - STOP ELEPHANT RIDES" on one side and "CAPTIVITY IS NOT CONSERVATION" on the other side. They also carried signs and distributed fliers.

Special thanks to Charlotte Gordon for her help with the t-shirts. Unfortunately, volunteer turnout was less than anticipated. The OCPA board will soon discuss ways in which to improve volunteer turnout at future important events. Any suggestions are welcome and should be forwarded to [information@ocpausa.org](mailto:information@ocpausa.org).

### ***Ringling Bros. Circus Demonstration – July 27 at the Arrowhead Pond in Anaheim***

OCPA organized a demonstration at the opening night of the circus in Anaheim on July 27. Volunteers held signs provided by PETA and distributed leaflets also provided by PETA. Special thanks to Bob Linden for his ongoing commentary about the numerous circus horrors via megaphone – and to Charlotte Gordon for her lion likeness. Both Bob and Charlotte helped to compensate for the low volunteer turnout. Again, any suggestions are welcome to help increase volunteer participation for future events; please forward ideas to [information@ocpausa.org](mailto:information@ocpausa.org).

### ***Rodeo/Bullride Demonstration at the Orange County Fair, July 30-31***

OCPA had a visible presence at the Rodeo held at the Orange County Fair on July 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Despite the fact that the fair management moved our table away from the entrance to the arena three times Saturday night, we were able to pass out flyers about the cruelty of rodeos to thousands of rodeo goers.

Our message was received by the majority of the attendees of both the Flying U Rodeo and the Fiesta Del Charro bullriding events. Hopefully, we affected a change in consciousness among many people. Look for upcoming e-alerts about rodeo tablings and demonstrations to be held during the month of September and October.

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

### ***Heritage Festival – Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>***

Placentia's Heritage Festival will take place on Saturday October 8<sup>th</sup> at Tri-City Park in Placentia from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Since 1965, this celebration of the city's heritage includes a parade and fair booths. High school bands, notable residents and clowns proceed along the parade route. Several years ago, the Festival Committee agreed to eliminate elephants from the parade. Since that time, OCPA member Julie Martinez has served on the Festival Committee. Julie has arranged for OCPA to have a free information table at the Festival. OCPA board member, Alison Stanley, will staff the table, along with other OCPA volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please send an email to [information@ocpausa.org](mailto:information@ocpausa.org).

### ***Walk for Farm Animals for World Farm Animals Day – Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>***

The Farm Sanctuary Walk for Farm Animals is being held on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> and organized by Karen Coyne.

Karen is planning an initial meeting for volunteers (those who would like to help organize this event) this Sunday, August 28th, at 11AM. The meeting will be held in Newport Beach. At 1:00 p.m., she's planning on having a "beach day" including beach volleyball, so any volunteers are more than welcome to stay for that. She'll also provide some vegan snacks for lunch.

For additional information about the walk itself or World Farm Animals Day, visit <http://www.walkforfarmanimals.org>.

If you would like to participate or volunteer in the organization of this event, contact Karen Coyne, [oc@walkforfarmanimals.org](mailto:oc@walkforfarmanimals.org), 949-370-8484.

## ***Vegan Toastmasters – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Every Month***

Held every first and third Saturday of the month, Vegan Toastmasters is a great way to improve your speaking ability in a fun, supportive learning environment. Help spread the message of health, compassion towards animals and environmental responsibility.

Wilshire Wild Oats Natural Marketplace in Santa Monica from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Community room (enter, head to the right, open door to the right and head up the stairs), 500 Wilshire Blvd. (corner of Wilshire and 5th), Santa Monica, CA 90401, 310-395-4510. If you have any questions, call Dave at 310-480-2039.

## ***Help the La Jolla Seals; Join the Rake a Line Program***

Casa Beach in La Jolla is home to a local population of about 200 seals who use the beach to give birth, rest and re-oxygenate, and molt. Until September of 2004, the City had a rope barrier protecting the seals from people. Since the rope barrier was taken down, the seals have endured constant harassment from unsuspecting visitors, as well as poor-intentioned people who were surrounding the seals despite their obvious agitation, trying to lay close to them, and even poke them in an effort to get them to move. This harassment contributed to the premature birth of seven pups who were unable to survive.

Since January 2005, a group of volunteers began the Rake A Line Program, an emergency measure to protect the seals from harassment by unsuspecting visitors to Casa Beach. If it wasn't for volunteers standing on the beach with a sign and raking a line, visitors would not know the appropriate distance from the seals. The seals are actually timid and flush to the water if people are too close. If people are on the beach, they also will not haul out. This is crucial to their survival.

This program, and the seals' safety, depends solely on volunteers. Most volunteers sign up for one 2-4 hour shift per week. Others fill gaps in the schedule when they can. During a shift, volunteers maintain the rake line and educate the public about seal behavior and their needs. People are encouraged to stay behind the rake line if they want to see the seals. Volunteer training is provided.

More volunteers are needed! Please contact Sarah at 619-723-0901, [skcnm2002@yahoo.com](mailto:skcnm2002@yahoo.com), if you are interested in volunteering. To learn more about the seals, visit: <http://www.lajollaseals.com> or <http://www.savethesandiegoseals.com>.

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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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