

OCPA E-Alert

August / September 2009



In This OCPA E-Alert

Good News for the Animals

- SB 135 Heads to Assembly Floor
- AB 1122 Passes Senate Floor
- USDA Confiscates Elephants from Circus

Recent OCPA Activities

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

Action Items

- Help Pass Declaw Ban in San Francisco
- Ask State Senator to Drop Section 9 of AB 1442
- Tell Brookstone to Stop Selling Frog-O-Spheres

Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

- Veggie/Vegan Luncheon/Dinner Club – Sunday, September 6th at 6:30 p.m. at The Loving Hut in Ladera Ranch
- Justice 4 Karley Court Appearance – Friday, September 11th at 8:30 a.m. in Riverside
- Foie Gras Peaceful Demonstration – Friday, September 18th 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Hamamori in Costa Mesa

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@ocpausa.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!

SB 135 Heads to Assembly Floor

SB 135, a bill that bans the tail docking of cows, recently passed Assembly Appropriations and now heads to the Assembly floor for a vote. Existing law makes it a misdemeanor for any person to cut the solid part of the tail of any horse in the operation known as "docking." The tails of dairy cows typically are severed without anesthetic, either by tying them off and letting the flesh atrophy or by simply amputating them. This mutilation causes serious problems for the cows, including distress, pain and increased fly attacks.

This bill would likewise prohibit the docking of cattle, as defined, but would exclude from the application of the crime of docking emergency *veterinary* treatment performed, as specified. By expanding the scope of an existing crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

AB 1122 Passes Senate Floor

AB 1122 passed the Senate Floor and now faces one final step before reaching the Governor's desk.

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.

USDA Confiscates Elephants from Circus

On Saturday August 15, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) attempted to confiscate Jewel, one of three suffering and abused elephants. The USDA temporarily aborted the confiscation attempt in the face of a defiant and uncooperative Will Davenport, the elephants' handler.

Davenport has a long history of chronic Animal Welfare Act violations including abusive and unsafe handling practices, inadequate veterinary care and negligent treatment of the elephants Tina, Jewel and Queenie. Davenport has also violated the U.S. Endangered Species Act in the illegal purchase of Tina and Jewel from the Cole Brothers Circus.

USDA Undersecretary Ann Wright's office has since confirmed that Tina and Jewel were confiscated on Thursday, August 20th. For two years, IDA and others have been working tirelessly on behalf of three elephants - Jewel, Tina, and Queenie - suffering in a traveling circus. The two elephants are now being treated at the San Diego Zoo for medical needs.

For more information, visit: http://ida.convio.net/site/MessageViewer?em_id=7141.0&printer_friendly=1.

Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed

Help Pass Declaw Ban in San Francisco

San Francisco Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi has introduced a proposal for a city ordinance to ban declawing.

Please write to him and the other Supervisors immediately to voice your support for this important legislation. If you have any personal experience with declawing, especially negative ones, please include your story in the letter.

E-mail addresses for the Supervisors: David.Chiu@sfgov.org, Eric.L.Mar@sfgov.org, Michela.Alioto-Pier@sfgov.org, Carmen.Chu@sfgov.org, Ross.Mirkarimi@sfgov.org, Chris.Daly@sfgov.org, Sean.Elsbernd@sfgov.org, Bevan.Dufty@sfgov.org, David.Campos@sfgov.org, Sophie.Maxwell@sfgov.org, John.Avalos@sfgov.org.

For more information, visit: <http://www.pawproject.com/html/what.asp>.

Ask State Senator to Drop Section 9 of AB 1442

California Assembly Bill 1442 has passed the Assembly and is now on the Senate floor.

Section (9) of this omnibus bill states:

"Existing law authorizes the Department of Fish and Game to issue a permit to authorize a person to offer a prize or other inducement as a reward for the taking of any game fish, as provided."

"This bill would authorize the department to issue a permit to authorize a person to offer a prize or other inducement as a reward for the taking of any game species."

In plain English, right now the Department of Fish and Game can authorize prizes (bounties) for killing fish; this bill will allow them to authorize bounties for the killing of any "game species." According to California's state constitution, wildlife "belongs" to ALL Californians, not just hunters.

[Please click here to find the contact information for your state Senator.](#) Call him/her as soon as you can, and say something like:

"The Senate is considering AB 1442, Wildlife Rehabilitation. I urge the Senate to drop Section 9, regarding the giving of prizes, financial or otherwise, for the killing of wildlife. It hardly speaks to the title of this legislation, "Wildlife Rehabilitation." I do not want the Department of Fish and Game to be allowed to authorize prizes for the killing of animals."

Tell Brookstone to Stop Selling Frog-O-Spheres

Brookstone, Inc., a gifts and gadgets store based out of Merrimack, N.H., is selling African dwarf frogs imprisoned in tiny tanks next to gadgets and other gift items at hundreds of mall locations around the country. The retailer misinforms customers about the sensitive needs of these wild animals, who are destined to spend their entire lives circling endlessly in plastic prisons. These animals are native to tropical and sub-tropical Africa, where they spend their time swimming and playing in shallow water in the forest. African dwarf frogs can live for five to 18 years, but Brookstone callously offers a one-year warranty on their lives.

Countless individuals have reported witnessing Brookstone employees fail to stop customers from shaking and tapping on the tanks and otherwise harassing these frogs. Several well-meaning but misguided customers have asked PETA for guidance on releasing these frogs into area waterways, which would devastate local ecosystems.

Please [use this form](#) to send a quick e-mail telling Brookstone executives that you will not shop at Brookstone until it stops offering live animals as impulse-buys and sticks to selling inanimate trinkets and gadgets.

Recent OCPA Activities

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

APRL and OCPA held a peaceful foie gras demonstration on Friday, August 14th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Hush, 858 S. Coast Highway, Laguna Beach, CA 92651; phone: (949) 497-3616. Demonstrators held signs and leafleted to customers entering the restaurant.

Foie gras is created by forcibly restraining ducks three 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>.

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

OCPA held peaceful demonstrations at the San Juan Capistrano Rodeo demonstrations on Saturday, August 22nd and Sunday, August 23rd, to help educate the public about the cruelty of rodeos. Demonstrators held signs and distributed literature to rodeo attendees in an attempt to open hearts and minds to the plight of animals exploited in the name of “entertainment”.

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

Five Southern California vegan and animal rights groups teamed up for the first annual summer's end vegan shindig on Saturday, August 29th at 6:00 p.m.

This awesome party took place at [Mama's Hot Tamales](#) in Los Angeles with 150 in attendance, including such vegan luminaries as Lorri Houston, founder of Animal Acres; Paul Berry, former CEO of Best Friends Animal Society; Eric Brent, founder of [HappyCow.net](#); and actress Emily Deschanel, star of the TV series “Bones.”

Mama's chef used plenty of Daiya cheese in crafting vegan dishes such as tamales, enchiladas, tacos and stuffed tomatoes. The five groups participating in the effort were Orange County People for Animals, Orange County Vegan Drinks, Avec Mes Amis, Los Angeles Vegan Drinks and United Animal Advocates of Los Angeles. Proceeds benefited Mama's, a non-profit educational restaurant.

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.

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

Join OCPA members and friends at this great new location to enjoy the monthly veggie/vegan dinner on Sunday, September 6th at 6:30 p.m. at The Loving Hut in Ladera Ranch, 27522 Antonio Parkway P2, Ladera Ranch, CA 92694 (located 2.5 miles north of the 5 freeway at the corner of Crown Valley Parkway and Antonio Parkway); phone: 949-365-1077; website: <http://lovinghut.us/orangecounty/index.html>.

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...

This restaurant specializes in Asian and American dishes including summer rolls, egg rolls, mock chicken salad, non-dairy cheese bread, and fried rice. They have a variety of exotic juices and drinks such as passionfruit, orange, and plum drinks.

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.

Justice 4 Karley Court Appearance – Friday, September 11th at 8:30 a.m. in Riverside

Come out and show your support for the Justice 4 Karley campaign on Friday, September 11th 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 and set a trial date 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/>.

Foie Gras Peaceful Demonstration – Friday, September 18th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Hamamori in Costa Mesa

Join us on Friday, September 18th at 6:30 p.m. for a peaceful demonstration about the serving of foie gras at Hamamori Restaurant at South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa; address: 3333 Bear St # 320 - Crystal Court, So. Coast Plaza, Costa Mesa, CA 92626-1791; phone: (714) 850-0880; website: <http://www.hamamori.com>.

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@ocpausa.org if you'd like to carpool. Visit APRL's [Facebook](#) page to RSVP for this demo. And for more information about this campaign, visit: <http://www.aprl.org/foiegras.html>.

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.

To subscribe to this list or submit an e-mail address change, e-mail pamela.kurp@ocpausa.org with the word "ADD" or "CHANGE" in the subject line. To unsubscribe, include the word "REMOVE" in the subject line.