

OCPA E-Alert

August / September 2010



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- Urge Senators to Pass the Clean Energy Jobs and Oil Accountability Act (S 3663)
- Ask Governor to Sign AB 2743 and AB 2012
- Sign Petition to Prevent Bear Baiting

Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

- The Latest in Clinical Nutrition by Dr. Michael Greger – Friday, October 1st at 5:30 p.m. at Cal State Long Beach
- Fifth Annual Compassionate Cuisine Fundraiser Benefiting Animal Acres Sanctuary – Friday, October 1st at 7:00 p.m. in Long Beach
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- Second Annual San Diego Veg Week – October 2-9th – Various Events and Locations
- Rodeo Protest – Sunday, October 3rd at 11:00 a.m. in San Dimas
- Veggie/Vegan Luncheon/Dinner Club – Sunday, October 3rd at 6:30 p.m. at Mitasie 3 in Huntington Beach
- Dinner at Au Lac (Verbal Style) – Thursday, October 7th at 6:45 p.m. in Fountain Valley
- 2010 Desert Paws Conference – Saturday, October 9th Starting at 7:45 a.m. in Newport Beach
- “No Meat” and Mingle Vegan Potluck/Mixer – Wednesday, October 13th at 7:00 p.m. in Santa Ana
- Healthy Lifestyle Expo 2010 – October 15-17th in Woodland Hills
- OCPA's Halloween Zombie Walk for the Animals – Sunday, October 31st at 3:00 p.m. 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 has a [Myspace.com page](#) and [Facebook page](#). We also have a 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!

Federal Legislation for Wild Animals Inches Closer to Victory

The Captive Primate Safety Act and the Great Cats and Rare Canids Act have successfully passed in the House of Representatives. They have passed a Senate Committee and now await a full Senate vote. The Captive Primate Safety Act would stop the inhumane and dangerous practice of trading primates as “pets.” The Great Cats and Rare Canids Act would establish a national fund of up to \$5 million to go toward conservation projects to save 15 species of cats and dogs in the wild.

Egg Recall Draws Media Attention to Plight of Hens

In late August, close to half a billion eggs were recalled due to a salmonella outbreak – the largest egg recall in U.S. history. This story was covered in major mainstream news outlets including ABC, CNN and others. Included in most coverage was the issue of confining birds in small cages, the unhealthy conditions for the hens, and the link between current production methods and the salmonella outbreaks.

Talbots Goes Fur-Free

Talbots, a nationwide chain of nearly 600 women’s apparel stores, is once again fur-free. A few weeks ago, concerned citizens reported that they had seen animal fur in the Talbots catalog—a company that had been listed as fur-free in HSUS’s shopping guide. After confirming Talbots’ decision to start selling animal fur after years of being fur-free, the company was bombarded with thousands of messages encouraging them to remove fur; they immediately pulled items containing real fur from their stores. Talbots is to be applauded for retaining its policy against animal fur, and being willing to alter its course of action after realizing it had made a misstep.

Professional Laboratory and Research Services Closes Doors

Just one week after PETA released the results of its shocking undercover investigation at the North Carolina contract animal testing facility Professional Laboratory and Research Services, Inc. (PLRS)—which uncovered workers’ appalling abuse and neglect of dogs, cats, and rabbits tormented in tests for flea and tick products—and filed a 70-page formal complaint with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) alleging violations of the Animal Welfare Act, PLRS is shutting its doors for good and surrendering more than 200 dogs and cats left at the facility to animal shelters. The investigation revealed that dogs, cats, and rabbits abused by PLRS suffered from untreated illnesses, injuries, and burns and that many animals were covered with sores that were likely caused by poor housing, stress, and boredom. PLRS employees kicked, threw, grabbed, dropped, and dragged dogs; roughly grabbed and lifted rabbits by their ears; and violently threw and slammed cats into cages.

Thanks to the tremendous outcry of tens of thousands of PETA members and supporters, these mistreated animals will now finally get the veterinary care and loving homes that they deserve.

SeaWorld Fined Over Trainer’s Death

At the conclusion of its investigation, OSHA issued three citations against SeaWorld over the recent death of a trainer.

Hush Restaurant in Laguna Beach Closes Doors

We'll never know for certain whether or not our anti-foie gras campaign and repeated visits to the restaurant were a part of the cause, but Hush Restaurant in Laguna Beach recently closed its doors for good.

Westminster BarkWorks Store Closes

The Barkworks store at the Westminster Mall is now closed. KTLA recently ran a news segment about Barkworks' use of puppy mills to supply its puppies, and protesters have been targeting Barkworks stores around Southern California for some now.

Bar in Long Beach Removes Lobster Zone

A well-known bar in Long Beach recently removed its Lobster Zone after being contacted by a coalition of groups led by OCPA.

Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed

Urge Senators to Pass the Clean Energy Jobs and Oil Accountability Act (S 3663)

Another oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico has recently exploded. This latest incident underscores the risks of offshore oil drilling -- and the urgent need for the U.S. Senate to pass critical legislation to help protect our wildlife and prevent the next oil catastrophe.

Please urge your senators to pass the Clean Energy Jobs and Oil Accountability Act (S 3663). The wildlife death toll from the Deepwater Horizon oil disaster has been staggering: more than 5,300 birds, 550 threatened and endangered sea turtles, 80 dolphins and other marine mammals. Hundreds of miles of coastline fouled with oil, including several National Wildlife Refuges -- havens for our most precious wildlife. But the long-term effects -- on our wildlife, our fisheries and our coastal economies -- won't be known for years.

The U.S. House of Representatives has already passed a strong bill responding to the worst oil spill in U.S. history. But the Senate is dragging its collective feet -- and may not even pass their version of the bill at all this year.

Visit the OCPA site at <http://ocpausa.org/legislation.htm> to locate your senator contact information and let them know that inaction on this critical issue is unacceptable.

Ask Governor to Sign AB 2743 and AB 2012

AB 2743 will prohibit California landlords from requiring tenants to declaw cats or devocalize (debark) dogs. This bill has passed in the California Assembly and Senate. Please call and write to the Governor and urge him to sign AB 2743 into law. Declawing is illegal in eight California cities: West Hollywood, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, Berkeley, Culver City, and Burbank have approved declaw bans.

AB 2012 will increase the amount of jail time a judge may issue to a person convicted of animal neglect from the current six month maximum to 12 months. This bill has already passed both houses of California legislature by large margins with bipartisan support and also now awaits the Governor's signature.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, State Capitol Building, Sacramento, CA 95814; phone (916) 445-2841.

Sign Petition to Prevent Bear Baiting

HSUS investigators recently attended several bear baiting events in South Carolina and were shocked by what they discovered. A captive bear -- claws and many teeth cut down or removed -- is tied up and abused for hours. The S.C. Department of Natural Resources gives permits to people who release teams of dogs to harass and bite terrified, defenseless bears.

For more information, visit:

http://www.humanesociety.org/news/press_releases/2010/07/bear_baiting_investigation_082310.html

and click **Act Now** to sign the petition asking the South Carolina DNR to revoke possession permits from anyone who uses bears in these cruel spectacles, and inspect all captive bears to ensure they are not used for bear baiting.

Recent OCPA Activities

Rodeo Demonstration – Saturday, August 28th at 2:00 p.m. and Sunday, August 29th at 11:30 a.m. in Mission Viejo

Demonstrators met on Saturday, August 28th at 2:00 p.m. and Sunday, August 29th at 11:30 a.m. at the Oaks Bienheim Ranch Mission Viejo Riding Park in San Juan Capistrano on behalf of animals abused in the rodeo.

Many animals are injured and even killed in rodeos. Animal cruelty investigators are only able to attend a very small percentage of rodeos each year. Therefore, only a very small percentage of injuries or deaths are documented. More importantly, as the record below shows, rodeos frequently try to cover up animal injuries and even deaths. Injuries ranging from minor to life threatening may not be immediately visible, especially from the distance of the bleachers. These injuries may include sprains, broken bones, muscle pulls, saddle blisters, spur and flank strap wounds.

For more information on rodeos, visit <http://www.rodeocruelty.com> or <http://www.sharkonline.org>.

Stick Up for Chickens Rally – Tuesday, August 31st through Thursday, September 2nd at 12:00 p.m. in San Diego

OCPA members and friends met on Tuesday, August 31st, Wednesday, September 1st and Thursday, September 2nd for the Stick Up for Chickens Rally at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego to coincide with the USDA National Poultry Improvement Plan's General Conference Committee Meeting and 40th biennial conference held at this location.

The Social Life of Chickens Lecture – Thursday, September 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in San Diego

OCPA members and friends attended the Social Life of Chickens visual lecture and book signing with Karen Davis on Thursday, September 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at the County Health Services Complex in San Diego.

Karen Davis' experience with chickens for more than twenty years has shown her that chickens are conscious and emotional beings with adaptable sociability and a range of intentions and personalities. She related her personal stories about the chickens at her sanctuary to how chickens are treated in factory farming and live poultry markets.

Karen Davis, PhD is the president and founder of United Poultry Concerns, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the compassionate and respectful treatment of domestic fowl. She's the editor of UPC's quarterly magazine Poultry Press and the author of several books including *Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry* (Book Publishing Co., 2009), *The Holocaust and the Henmaid's Tale* (Lantern Books, 2005), and *More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality* (Lantern Books, 2001). Karen maintains a sanctuary for chickens, turkeys and ducks on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. For more information about Karen Davis, go to www.upc-online.org/karenbio.htm.

This event was hosted by San Diego Animal Advocates. SDAA is an all-volunteer, non-profit animal rights organization founded in 1984, dedicated to the abolition of animal abuse, neglect and exploitation through education, direct action, and community outreach.

Veggie/Vegan Luncheon/Dinner Club – Sunday, Sept. 5th at 6:30 p.m. at the Zen Restaurant in Westminster

OCPA members and friends met on Sunday, September 5th at 6:30 p.m. for the monthly veggie/vegan luncheon/dinner club meeting at the Zen Restaurant in Westminster.

Zen Restaurant, 9329 Bolsa, Westminster, CA 92683-5940; phone: (714) 895-3637.

We meet every first Sunday of the month at a different vegetarian/vegan restaurant. Stay tuned for upcoming e-alerts or visit <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA> for information about more of these types of gatherings in the future.

Dinner at Au Lac (Verbal Style) – Thursday, September 9th at 6:45 p.m. in Fountain Valley

The monthly verbal vegan dinner was held on Thursday, September 9th at 6:45 p.m. at Au Lac in Fountain Valley.

Attendees savored Au Lac's great vegan food while honing their skills in diplomacy and public speaking, making new friends who share their values, and learning about the latest issues in nutrition, the environment and animal rights.

A "Verbal Vegans" dinner is a unique opportunity for personal growth and empowerment. Learn more about Verbal Vegans at <http://www.meetup.com/verbal>.

Leafleting at the Women of Faith Conference – Friday, September 10th through Saturday September 11th in Anaheim

The [Christian Vegetarian Association](#) organized volunteers to leaflet the [Women of Faith Conference](#) at the Honda Center in Anaheim on Friday, September 10th and Saturday, September 11th.

These conferences attract thousands of attendees and have been amazing opportunities to distribute information about adopting a plant-based diet.

“No Meat” and Mingle Vegan Potluck/Mixer – Wednesday, September 15th at 7:00 p.m. in Laguna Hills

OCPA members and friends met on Wednesday, September 15th at 7:00 p.m. for a fun “no meat” and mingle vegan potluck/mixer in Laguna Hills.

Nordstrom Anti-Fur Demos – Sunday, September 19th and September 26th at 1:00 p.m. in Costa Mesa

Activists met at Nordstrom on Sunday, September 19th and Sunday, September 26th at 1:00 p.m. in Costa Mesa to help educate shoppers about the cruelty of fur.

For more information about the use of fur, watch Shannon Keith's "Skin Trade". You can also send a request that Nordstrom stop supporting the torture of innocent animals to: blake.nordstrom@nordstrom.com.

Outreach for Campaign to Stop Trapping/Killing Coyotes – Saturday, September 25th at 4:00 p.m. in Arcadia

OCPA members and friends met with activists in the San Gabriel Valley to help collect signatures from Arcadia residents on a petition that is opposition to the trapping and killing of the coyotes of Arcadia.

For the past decade, Arcadia has hired a pest control company to trap and kill coyotes in the city of Arcadia, CA. But for the past two years, due to budget cuts, the coyote killing program was halted. Then again this year, in a special meeting on August 3, 2010, the city council decided to pay the pest control company \$30,000 to trap and kill coyotes. In the first 10 days of the program, 11 coyotes were snare trapped and killed. Two of these coyotes were pups that were born in the spring.

This decision was made due to a few residents in Arcadia that have had their companion dogs and cats killed by a coyote because they failed to keep their companion animals safe inside. The rest of Arcadia's residents had no say in the matter and because the decision was made in a special session city council meeting it was not covered on the local Arcadia TV station that usually broadcasts city council meetings. The pest control company has one man killing these coyotes that are trapped. They claim that the

coyotes are killed by euthanasia, but there is word that he may be killing the coyotes in any manner he wishes, so we cannot be sure that these coyotes are not being bludgeoned to death (although this is not confirmed). For an abc7 story on the issue, visit:

http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news%2Flocal%2Flos_angeles&id=7653173

Trapping and killing coyotes is not only inhumane and cruel, it is an ineffective way to decrease the chances of a coyote attack on a companion dog or cat. There are many more effective ways known as hazing tactics, which discourage coyotes from coming into neighborhoods. Also educating residents on how to avoid coyote attacks on their companion animals is a long-term solution. Just because coyotes are killed does not mean that other coyotes will not come into the neighborhood and replace them. And we must always remember that this is their home too. Humans have built cities and houses, taking up more and more of the wild lands, forcing wild animals to retreat more and more. So we must learn to coexist with them in a peaceful manner. For more information on how to peacefully coexist with coyotes in your neighborhood, visit: http://www.projectcoyote.org/ProjectCoyote_FactSheet_CoyoteNews.pdf.

The Arcadia city council is not that interested in what non-residents think about the matter, which is why the focus is to collect petition signatures from Arcadia residents. So far the reception from residents has been pretty good. Because it was a decision made behind closed doors, not many of the residents know about the issue – and so we are enlightening and empowering the residents to take action for the coyotes.

Farewell Summer, Welcome Autumn Party – Saturday, September 25th at 8:00 p.m. at K'ya in Anaheim

After a great turnout in June to kick off summer in style at [K'ya](#) in Anaheim, OCPA members and friends returned to bid farewell to summer and welcome autumn at this great venue on Saturday, September 25th at 8:00 p.m.

[K'ya](#), at the [Hotel Menage](#) in Anaheim, is a casually elegant restaurant, offering a diverse menu of international “street fare”-style small plates. Attendees enjoyed a menu of selected vegan items, none costing more than \$6. The outdoor Mist Pool Bar provided an inviting lush tropical atmosphere, where attendees mingled and enjoyed food and drink. Happy Hour was extended until 9 pm, with special pricing on drinks from the Happy Hour menu. For the grand finale, the hotel's poolside area provided a prime viewing spot for Disneyland's Fireworks Spectacular at 9:30.

“Forks Over Knives” Film Screening and Vegan Potluck – Sunday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. in Newport Beach

OCPA members and friends met for a free screening of the feature film Forks Over Knives, hosted by Executive Producer Brian Wendel and Director Lee Fulkerson, on Sunday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. in Newport Beach.

Attendees enjoyed a vegan potluck in honor of the movie's plant-based theme.

Forks Over Knives is scheduled for nationwide release on Friday, March 11, 2011, but this event provided an opportunity for attendees to see it before it hits the streets. Forks Over Knives examines the profound claim that most, if not all, of the so-called “diseases of affluence” that afflict us can be controlled, or even reversed, by rejecting our present menu of animal-based and processed foods. The major storyline in the film traces the personal journeys of a pair of pioneering yet under-appreciated researchers, Dr. T. Colin Campbell and Dr. Caldwell Esselstyn.

Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

OCPA has a [Myspace.com page](#) and [Facebook page](#). We also have a 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.

The Latest in Clinical Nutrition by Dr. Michael Greger – Friday, October 1st at 5:30 p.m. at Cal State Long Beach

Join OCPA for a special presentation on Friday, October 1st at 5:30 p.m., just before the Compassionate Cuisine event at Cal State Long Beach, 1250 N. Bellflower Blvd., Building CBA 140, Long Beach, CA 90840.

OCPA will host Dr. Michael Greger of the Humane Society of the United States, who will speak about the latest in clinical nutrition. This FREE lecture takes place just prior to Compassionate Cuisine on the Cal State Long Beach campus within walking distance to the Japanese Garden. Make it a double-header, and stop by Dr. Greger's presentation before you hit Compassionate Cuisine.

Note: FREE PARKING IN LOT 16 ONLY. The lecture will be in CBA 140, near Lot 17.

The Latest in Human Nutrition 2010. Dr. Greger has scoured the world's scholarly literature on clinical nutrition and developed this brand-new talk of the latest in cutting-edge research. Focusing on studies published just over the last year in peer-reviewed scientific nutrition journals, Dr. Greger offers practical advice on how best to feed ourselves and our families to prevent, treat, and even reverse chronic disease in an engaging interactive quiz show format.

A founding member of the American College of Lifestyle Medicine, Michael Greger, MD, is a physician, author, and internationally recognized speaker on nutrition, food safety, and public health issues. He has lectured at the Conference on World Affairs, the International Bird Flu Summit, the National Institutes of Health, testified before Congress, and was invited as an expert witness in the defense of Oprah Winfrey in the infamous "meat defamation" trial. He is a graduate of Cornell University School of Agriculture and Tufts University School of Medicine. Currently Dr. Greger serves as the Director of Public Health and Animal Agriculture at The Humane Society of the United States.

This event is free and includes a lecture, Q&A, and book signing with Dr. G. RSVP to this meetup at: <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA/calendar/14665622/>.

Fifth Annual Compassionate Cuisine Fundraiser Benefiting Animal Acres Sanctuary – Friday, October 1st at 7:00 p.m. in Long Beach

Come out to the fifth annual Compassionate Cuisine fundraiser benefiting Animal Acres Sanctuary on Friday, October 1st at 7:00 p.m. at Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden, 1701 Earl Warren Drive, Long Beach, CA 90815.

Sample great food from 20 vegan restaurants and food service companies including Giselle's Vegan Quiche, and Long Beach based Whole Foods, Zephyr, and Viento y Agua. New to the event this year is Seabirds vegan street food truck. Special guests are Lorri Houston (founder of Animal Acres), Tanya Petrovna (founder of Native Foods), and Sarah Taylor, founder of the company The Vegan Next Door.

Please order your tickets at the pre-sale price of \$35 at www.compassionatecuisine.net.

* If you are interested in volunteering, please call Animal Acres at 661-269-5404 *

To RSVP to this meetup, visit: <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA/calendar/14634308/>.

Walk for Farm Animals – Early October – Various Events and Locations

Each year, thousands of compassionate people across the country take part in Farm Sanctuary's *Walk for Farm Animals*, an event that raises vital funds for our lifesaving work while educating the public about the devastating impacts of factory farming.

Visit <http://www.walkforfarmanimals.org/> to discover more about – and participate in – this year's event.

World Farm Animals Day – October 2nd – Various Events and Locations

Held every year in honor of Gandhi's birthday, World Farm Animals Day is a great opportunity to expose the needless death and suffering of 58 billion animals annually. In addition to promoting a vegan lifestyle, this year's observance will reveal the ways that animal agribusiness manipulates the government, institutions, and a well-meaning public in order to sell more cruel products.

Visit <http://www.wfad.org/> to learn more about this event, register a local event or discover information about one happening in your area.

Outreach for Campaign to Stop Trapping/Killing Coyotes – Saturday, October 2nd at 10:00 a.m. and October 3rd at 3:00 p.m. in Arcadia

OCPA members and friends will again meet with activists in the San Gabriel Valley to help collect signatures from Arcadia residents on a petition that is opposition to the trapping and killing of the coyotes of Arcadia.

We'll meet at Ralph's Market, 211 E Foothill Blvd., Arcadia, CA 91006, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday between 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.

(If you can't stay the whole time, no worries. Whatever time you can help will be very much appreciated).

For more information about this issue, check the **Recent OCPA Activities** section of this e-alert. To RSVP to this meetup, visit: <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA/calendar/14934790/>.

Peaceful "Lobster Zone" Game Protest – Saturday, October 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in Long Beach

Join OCPA and other advocacy groups on Saturday, October 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in Long Beach for a peaceful protest urging diners to boycott The Beach Club until the restaurant removes the cruel "Lobster Zone" game from its premises.

We have posters and leaflets; we just need your presence to help spread the word and educate passersby about this cruel practice. The protest will start at 7 pm and end at 9 pm.

If you've ever seen the arcade game in which players deposit a quarter and manipulate a large claw to grab a stuffed animal and drop it into a chute, you're familiar with the Lobster Zone concept. In the Lobster Zone, players pay \$2 to try to grab a live lobster and drop it four feet onto a hard metal surface. If it survives the drop, the terrified (and often injured) lobster is typically boiled alive and eaten.

Lobsters are intelligent animals capable of experiencing fear and pain. In the European Union, lobsters are treated as in the same class as dogs and cats with regard to capacity for suffering. Moreover, lobsters are solitary animals who prefer to burrow under sand and do not enjoy socializing with other lobsters. In the Lobster Zone tank, these animals are denied the ability to burrow, forced to interact with other lobsters in close quarters, and subjected to the constant, threatening menace of a huge claw. Observation of the Lobster Zone game shows that the lobsters consistently cluster together on one side of the tank, as far away from the claw as possible. Given their preference for solitude and space, their choice to huddle together demonstrates clearly that they fear and routinely avoid the claw.

Numerous animal advocacy groups are opposed to the Lobster Zone game, including People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), In Defense of Animals, Last Chance for Animals, Orange County People for Animals, Compassion in Action, Animal Rescue Media Education, Band of Mercy, United Animal Advocates of Los Angeles, All-Creatures.org, Cease Animal Torture, Irvine Students Against

Animal Cruelty and Concerned Citizens for Crustaceans. Join OCPA and other groups in protesting this cruel game!

More information about the Lobster Zone game is available in this newspaper article:
<http://blogs.ocweekly.com/stickforkinit/really/visit-a-bar-catch-a-lobster-ma/?print=true>.

Second Annual San Diego Veg Week – October 2-9th – Various Events and Locations

Animal Protection and Rescue League will host the second annual San Diego Veg Week from October 2-9th this year, with Neal Barnard, MD of [Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine](#) as APRL's keynote speaker on Oct. 9th.

Visit <https://humanesd.org/> for more details about this event.

Rodeo Protest – Sunday, October 3rd at 11:00 a.m. in San Dimas

Join OCPA members and friends at a protest on behalf of the animals abused in the rodeo on Sunday, October 3rd at 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Tex Shoemaker Rodeo Arena, Horsethief Canyon Rd & Sycamore Canyon Rd., San Dimas, CA 91773.

Many animals are injured and even killed in rodeos. Animal cruelty investigators are only able to attend a very small percentage of rodeos each year. Therefore, only a very small percentage of injuries or deaths are documented. More importantly, as the record below shows, rodeos frequently try to cover up animal injuries and even deaths. Injuries ranging from minor to life threatening may not be immediately visible, especially from the distance of the bleachers. These injuries may include sprains, broken bones, muscle pulls, saddle blisters, spur and flank strap wounds.

For more info on rodeos go to www.rodecruelty.com or www.sharkonline.org. To RSVP to this meetup, visit: <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA/calendar/14871914/>.

Veggie/Vegan Luncheon/Dinner Club Meeting – Sunday, October 3rd at 6:30 p.m. at Mitasie 3 in Huntington Beach

Join OCPA members and friends on Sunday, October 3rd at 6:30 p.m. for the monthly veggie/vegan luncheon/dinner club meeting at Mitasie 3 vegetarian restaurant in Huntington Beach.

Mitasie 3, 7636 Edinger Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92647; phone: (714) 847-5262. The food is mostly vegan with just a couple of exceptions.

We meet every first Sunday of the month at a different vegetarian/vegan restaurant. Stay tuned for upcoming e-alerts or visit <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA> for information about more of these types of gatherings in the future.

Dinner at Au Lac (Verbal Style) – Thursday, October 7th at 6:45 p.m. in Fountain Valley

The monthly verbal vegan dinner will be held on Thursday, October 7th at 6:45 p.m. at Au Lac, 16563 Brookhurst Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708.

Savor Au Lac's great vegan food while honing skills in diplomacy and public speaking, making new friends who share your values, and learning about the latest issues in nutrition, the environment and animal rights.

A "Verbal Vegans" dinner is a unique opportunity for personal growth and empowerment. Learn more about Verbal Vegans at <http://www.meetup.com/verbal>.

To RSVP to this meetup, visit: <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA/calendar/>.

2010 Desert Paws Conference – Saturday, October 9th Starting at 7:45 a.m.in Newport Beach

Join us for a fantastic gathering of animal advocates, lovers, caretakers, guardians & protectors on Saturday, October 9th starting at 7:45 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency Newport Beach, 1107 Jamboree Rd., Newport Beach, CA 92660; phone: (949) 729-1234.

Power and Action for Animals brings together nationally recognized leaders in the fields of animal rights, ethology, animal law, shelter management and adoption, animal rights education, and more, in a fast-paced one-day conference. Attendees will learn the most up to date information from the experts, with ample time for questions and discussion. Participants will enjoy a wide range of topics, including emotions and morality of animals, trends and challenges facing animal service facilities, animal fighting and its association with other illegal activities, the role of farmed animal sanctuaries, and much more.

Anyone who cares about the welfare of animals or who works with them will benefit by attending. Participants will gain inspiration and concrete tips on how to improve the lives of animals, both domestic and wild.

A vegan lunch and snacks are included. We look forward to getting to know you and seeing you at the Hyatt Regency in beautiful Newport Beach!

Featured speakers include:

- * Marc Bekoff, Professor Emeritus, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Colorado, Boulder - The emotional and moral lives of animals and why they matter
- * Dr. Elliot Katz, DVM, Founder and President of In Defense of Animals – Why using the term “guardian” is the beginning of a new paradigm in our relationship with other species.
- * Eric Sakach, Senior Law Enforcement Specialist, Humane Society of the United States -Animal fighting and the relationship to illegal activities such as violent crime, gambling, drugs, and gangs
- * Steve Hindi, Founder and President of SHARK - Rodeos and other organized forms of animal cruelty
- * Laura Allen, Founder and Executive Director of The Animal Law Coalition - The legal aspects of animal welfare
- * Patricia McEachern, Ph.D., Drury University – Dorothy Jo Barker Endowed Professor of Animal Rights. Director, Drury University Forum on Animal Rights - Development and implementation of an undergraduate curriculum in animal rights.
- * Robert Miller, Director, County of Riverside, Department of Animal Services - "BITING THE BUDGET BULLET: Local and national animal care and controls in an economic downturn. Trends and challenges. A look back in history and a projection forward of how to meet the needs of America's domesticated animal populations with ever-changing resources."
- * Lorri Houston, Co-Founder, Animal Acres - "Meeting our Farmed Animal Friends: The role of the farmed animal sanctuary movement."
- * Virginia Handley. Founder and President, Animal Hotline - The California Legislative Update
- * Eric Mills, Action for Animals - Charreadas (Mexican -style rodeos), live animal food markets, and rodeo legislation

For more information or download the registration form, go to: <http://www.desertpaws.org/power-of-action-for-animals.html>. And to RSVP to this meetup, visit: <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA/calendar/14525226/>.

“No Meat” and Mingle Vegan Potluck/Mixer – Wednesday, October 13th at 7:00 p.m. in Santa Ana

Come join us for our vegan potluck on Wednesday, October 13th at 7:00 p.m., hosted by Julie Curran-Meskell and organized by Prabhat Gautam.

Please bring the following:

- * Vegan dish
- * Your own plate, utensils, and drinking cup

* Ingredients list for the dish you made, so those with allergies can easily know what they can and can't consume. (If you don't have time to cook, please pick up a vegan item from the store to share with everyone).

Feel free to invite anyone and everyone you want. These potlucks are open to vegans and non-vegans alike, we just require all food to be vegan.

(Vegan means no meat, eggs, dairy, honey, or animal byproduct of any kind.)

To RSVP to this meetup, visit: <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA/calendar/14839070/>.

Healthy Lifestyle Expo 2010 – October 15th – 17th in Woodland Hills

Sponsored by VegSource, the healthy Lifestyle Expo 2010 is scheduled to occur between Friday and Sunday, October 15-17th at the Warner Center Marriott in Woodland Hills.

Featuring eye-opening presentations from leading health experts, learn how to prevent and reverse heart disease, achieve permanent weight loss, protect yourself against breast, prostate and colon cancer, and make the changes in your life you've always wanted.

This year's speakers include: Joel Fuhrman, MD, John McDougall, MD, Jeff Novick, MS, RD, LV/N, Rip Esselstyn, John Robbins, Matt Lederman, MD, Rev. Heng Sure, PhD, and several others.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: <http://healthylifestyleexpo.com/>.

OCPA's Halloween Zombie Walk for the Animals – Sunday, October 31st at 3:00 p.m. in Costa Mesa

This Halloween, support the animals while having fun! Join in OCPA's Halloween Zombie Walk for the Animals, and help raise money and awareness for animal protection while competing for amazing prizes and taking part in a fun vegan dinner and after-party. Enjoy a great Halloween with fellow animal lovers ... and support a cause you believe in.

OCPA's Zombie Walk is a fun, costumed walk on Sunday, October 31st, from 3 pm to 9 pm. We'll start and finish at Happy Family Restaurant, 1400 Bristol Ave in Costa Mesa (714-668-9288). See amazing costumes, compete for great prizes, and enjoy a tasty vegan dinner! We'll dress as zombies, animals, evil corporate mascots, or anything else creative, and walk to South Coast Plaza and back (about a five-mile trip). Those who wish can hold signs or pass out leaflets to raise awareness of animal issues.

Don't want to walk five miles, but still want to help? Participate at any level or in any way you want. You can still help raise money even if you don't walk ... just talk to an organizer about having a proxy walk for you. If you skip the walk, feel free to show up at 6 pm for dinner. If you want to help raise money but can't make the walk OR the dinner, that's fine too! Please consider participating in any way you can to help OCPA raise money for its important work.

Admission to the dinner and after-party are free for anyone who raises \$100 or more ... otherwise, just pay \$25 and enjoy all the great vegan food you can eat.

Funds raised will support OCPA's ongoing campaigns, including: abolishing cat dissection in schools; stopping puppy-mills; and supporting spay and neuter programs. OCPA is a 23-year old group staffed entirely by volunteers. One hundred percent of donated funds support animal protection and awareness.

Here's how you can participate:

First, RSVP for the event here: <http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA/calendar/14826142/>.

Next, set up a personalized donation page by clicking here: <http://www.firstgiving.com/ocpa> and then choosing the link "Create a Fundraising Page." It's easy to set up your page and only takes a few seconds.

Next, send an email with a link to your page to friends or relatives you think might donate. A sample email message is below. Please personalize this message by inserting your own email address and the URL to your own fundraising page.

SAMPLE MESSAGE:

Dear friends, I'm walking five miles this Halloween to raise money for Orange County People for Animals (OCPA), and I'd like to ask for your support with a donation. OCPA is a non-profit animal protection organization that seeks to eliminate animal abuse and neglect. Some of our important campaigns include promoting spay and neuter programs, stopping inhumane puppy mills, and ending cat dissection in public schools.

Please help further OCPA's compassionate efforts by making a donation today – you can donate in seconds by visiting <http://www.firstgiving.com/davesimon>. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at dsimon107@gmail.com.

Thanks for your support!

The more donations you receive, the more you help OCPA – and the better your chances of winning one of many awesome prizes, including a new Apple iPad worth \$550, a new Apple multi-touch Nano worth \$160, and many others!

Next, watch your donations roll in! Create your costume and show up at 3 pm on Sunday, October 31 to join in the fun! If you don't want to walk five miles, meet us at the restaurant at 6 pm. (If your costume includes anything sharp or potentially dangerous, please use a cardboard or plastic version rather than the real thing.)

Need some help with ideas and techniques for costumes? Click here:
<http://files.meetup.com/1504035/Costume%20Tips%20for%20Zombie%20Walk.pdf>.

If you have any questions, just reply to this email and one of the organizers will get back to you.

See you this Halloween!

RSVP to this Meetup:
<http://www.meetup.com/OCPAUSA/calendar/14826142/>

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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