

OCAPA E-Alert January 2007



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- OCAPA Annual Holiday Party – Friday, December 8th, 7:00 p.m. in Irvine

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Upcoming Events – OCAPA and Other

- Vegan Potluck, North Hollywood, Saturday, January 27th 6 – 10:00 p.m.
- OCAPA Meeting to Discuss Foie Gras Campaign, Veggie Grill in Irvine, Monday, January 29th at 6:30 p.m.
- Dr. Will Tuttle Speech at Native Foods in Costa Mesa, February 10th, 5:00 p.m.

Good News for the Animals!

European Union Permanently Bans Import of Wild Birds for Pet Trade

The European Union (EU) recently announced new trade regulation governing the import of live birds that will effectively ban the importation of wild-caught birds for the pet trade. The EU was the largest importer of wild caught birds in the world, responsible for over 90% of imports of threatened and endangered species. Prior to the current ban, the EU imported approximately 1.76 million birds for the pet trade each year. With this ban in place, the biggest importer of wild birds is now Japan.

CA Whales Protected from Sonar

The California Coastal Commission agreed to enact lifesaving precautions that will protect whales from sonar training in California waters. The commission voted 8-1 to require the Navy to commit to life-saving measures during sonar training including staying out of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and other important whale habitats, powering down Navy sonar during night-time exercises and in other

conditions of low visibility, and enforcing adequate safety zones around sonar vessels to prevent the blasting of nearby whales.

Last Bullring in Barcelona, Spain to Close

Bullfighting is facing an uncertain future in Spain with the recent announcement that the last bullring in Barcelona is to close after failing to draw enough spectators. The rising cost of mounting a spectacle that a growing number of Spaniards view as a cruel and unnecessary part of their culture has forced the promoters of the Monumental Plaza de Toros to cut their losses and look for alternative uses for the ring. The closure of the last bullring in Catalonia's capital city follows that of two others in recent years – one of which is being transformed into a shopping center. Following a series of public protests and a petition of more than 250,000 Catalan names, Barcelona declared itself an anti-bullfighting city two years ago. Another 38 Catalan municipalities have since followed suit.

Raley's Grocery Chain Agrees to Stop Selling Live Lobsters

Raley's grocery chain announced recently that it would never again sell live lobsters in any of its 138 stores. PETA issued an action alert after learning that Raley's was confining lobsters – while still alive – in tiny plastic containers barely large than the lobster's bodies. The lobsters did not receive any water to live in or food at all until they were either sold or they died. After being contacted by thousands of compassionate people around the country, Raley's agreed never again to sell live lobsters in its family of stores, which includes the Bel Air, Nob Hill and Food Source chains. For more information about lobsters and how you can help them, please visit <http://www.LobsterLib.com>.

Polar Bears May Receive Protection Under Endangered Species Act

Under pressure from a lawsuit filed by NRDC, the Center for Biological Diversity and other citizens, the Bush administration announced that it is formally proposing to protect the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act – a crucial first step toward saving the bear from the ravages of global warming. These groups are urging the administration to hold public hearings on this issue so that concerned Americans have a chance to speak out in defense of polar bears.

Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed

Ask Legislators to Support HR 137/S 261 and Stop Animal Fighting

Current legislation – HR 137/S 261 – will authorize felony-level jail time for violations of the federal law on animal fighting (dog fighting, cockfighting and hog-dog fighting) and ban interstate and foreign transport of cockfighting implements.

Unanimously approved by the Senate during the last Congress, it stalled in the House, but was reintroduced the first day of the new Congress; more than half the House joined as co-sponsors during the first week. Please urge your legislators to support this important bill to stop animal fighting.

Visit the following HSUS link to send an automatic message:

https://community.hsus.org/campaign/FED_2007_endanimalfighting or visit <http://ocpausa.org/legislation.htm> to locate your legislators and compose your own letter.

Urge FDA to Require Truth-in-Labeling on Egg Cartons

From 2002 to 2005, the majority of U.S. egg producers labeled their egg cartons with a logo that read "Animal Care Certified." Despite the image conveyed by such a message, the hens who laid these eggs were confined for their entire lives in wire battery cages so small that they can barely even move or even stretch a wing. On a daily basis, these birds are subjected to abuses so terrible they would be illegal if forced on dogs or cats.

In 2003, Ohio-based [Compassion Over Killing \(COK\)](#) filed legal petitions with federal agencies and the Better Business Bureau, alleging that producers were engaged in misleading advertising. Over the next

two years, they conducted investigations inside so-called "Animal Care Certified" egg farms, then argued before the Better Business Bureau, lobbied federal agencies, produced damning media exposés, conducted consumer polls and public outreach, and filed a lawsuit. In 2005, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) announced that the deceptive "Animal Care Certified" logo can no longer be put on egg cartons nationwide. One year after this victory, COK is requesting that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) take action to protect consumers against a broad range of misrepresentations on egg cartons. The egg industry is fighting this effort tooth and nail, so your help is needed to ensure the FDA does the right thing.

Join Compassion Over Killing's campaign and visit IDA's site for more information and to send a comment to the FDA: http://ga0.org/indefenseofanimals/notice-description.tcl?newsletter_id=5862122.

Donate Blankets for Dogs Freezing in Desert

It was recently brought to our attention that an animal rescue group in the High Desert area, Agua Dulce, is in desperate need of blankets for their dogs NOW. The temperature in High Desert is about 10-15 degrees and the dogs are freezing in this cold weather.

Local activists and concerned citizens are coordinating efforts to send blankets to dogs freezing in the desert and are setting up several drop-off locations throughout L.A. and other counties. If you're located in Orange County and would like to help by donating blankets, please contact Tina Locklear at tina.locklear@ocpausa.org or 714-331-1014 to set up a meeting to deliver the blankets to her; she'll ensure the blankets are sent to the appropriate parties to keep the dogs warm at night in the desert.

If you'd like to help out financially, make a check out to the Villalobos Rescue Center, P.O. Box 1544, Canyon Country, CA. 91386, and mark the check for the "heater fund" so they can send you a note with a photo of what you have done for the dogs.

Note: <http://www.PetsInTheHood.org> area do not have adequate blankets and supplies to keep the animals warm in the freezing night temperatures.

Demand Criminal Investigation of U.S. Soldiers Caught on Video Abusing Dog

Animal advocates nationwide are horrified over a video allegedly taken from a CD found in Baghdad's Green Zone. The video depicts what appear to be U.S. soldiers taunting and tormenting a seriously injured dog. Several men laugh while pitching rocks at the suffering animal. Causing animals to suffer unnecessarily is a crime in the United States and this behavior must not be tolerated.

Please contact the secretary of defense and demand that the Department of Defense investigate this matter and hold responsible any soldier found to be involved in this incident. For more information, visit http://getactive.peta.org/campaign/iraq_dog_abuse.

Recent OCPA Activities

Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Saturday, December 2nd 1:00 p.m. at Native Foods in Costa Mesa Featuring Special Speaker, Will Tuttle, Author of The World Peace Diet, Eating for Spiritual Health and Social Harmony

The veggie/vegan luncheon club met on Saturday, December 2nd at Native Foods in Costa Mesa. Dr. Will Tuttle educated attendees about the roots of our meat-eating culture, which is the basis for his recent book, "The World Peace Diet." Dr. Tuttle discussed how by destroying the universal intelligence and purpose of animals, we also damage our own intelligence and purpose. According to Dr. Tuttle, virtually all of the ills of our society today are associated with the harm done to animals.

You'll have a chance to hear Dr. Tuttle speak again at Native Foods on Saturday, February 10th at 5:00 p.m. See below for more information.

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

OCAPA Annual Holiday Party – Friday, December 8th, 7:00 p.m. in Irvine

OCPA held its annual holiday party on Friday, December 8th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Goddess Temple, 17905 Sky Park Circle, Suite A in Irvine.

The Goddess Temple was founded by our founder and board member, Ava Park. Ava spoke about how she brings the message of compassion and kindness to animals at her services. She also led party attendees through a beautiful ceremony honoring all of the animals of the world.

A buffet of scrumptious food from The Wheel of Life was served and Alec Marken and Deep Stirrings played inspiring music for all to enjoy.

For more information about the Goddess Temple, visit <http://www.goddess temple of orange county.com>.

Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

Vegan Potluck, North Hollywood, Saturday, January 27th 6 – 10:00 p.m.

Join SoCalVeg for a vegan potluck and tangerine plucking party in North Hollywood on Saturday, January 27th, between 6:00 and 10:00 p.m. with dinner served at 7:00 p.m. Bring a bag to take home some of the tangerines plucked at the tangerine-themed event. The host will share some gardening and food growing tips.

Location: 7018 Morse Avenue, North Hollywood. For more information, visit <http://SoCalVeg.org> or call 310-289-5777. To contact the host on the day of the event, call 818-982-1950.

OCPA Meeting to Discuss Foie Gras Campaign, Veggie Grill in Irvine, Monday, January 29th at 6:30 p.m.

For those interested in committing to participating in a foie gras campaign in Orange County, come and join OCPA board members, UCI Animal Rights students and others at a meeting to discuss future plans on Monday, January 29th, at the Veggie Grill in Irvine at 6:30 p.m.

Location: Veggie Grill (located across the street from UCI in the University Marketplace, next to Trader Joe's), 4213 Campus Drive, Irvine, CA 92612; phone (949) 509-0003; website: <http://www.veggiegrill.com>.

Dr. Will Tuttle Speech at Native Foods in Costa Mesa, Saturday, February 10th, 5:00 p.m.

Visit Native Foods on Saturday, February 10th at 5:00 p.m. to hear Dr. Will Tuttle, author of *The World Peace Diet, Eating for Spiritual Health and Social Harmony*, share information about the world peace diet, opening the intuitive gate, compassion for animals and other related topics.

Following Dr. Tuttle's talk is a film screening, "Unsustainable Table." Wine and appetizers will be served starting at 5:00 p.m. followed by dinner.

The cost of this event is only \$20.00. For more information or for reservations, call Lynda at Native Foods, (714) 751-2151.

For more information about Will Tuttle, the World Peace Diet and related seminars, visit: <http://www.willtuttle.com>.

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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