IPPL News
International Primate Protection League
ISSN-1040-3027, Vol. 38, No. 3
December 2011

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Above, a pig-tailed macaque in Sabah, Borneo.

Photo © DGFC
Dear IPPL Friend,

I am writing to wish all IPPL supporters around the world a happy holiday season and my hope that 2012 will be wonderful for you.

The year 2011 has seen some really strange weather in Summerville, with temperatures soaring to 100 degrees for long stretches of time and long dry spells. However, we fortunately escaped the hurricane season.

Our community of Summerville is no longer the small town that it was when IPPL established its headquarters here in 1977. Developers are all around us. So, any time some acreage adjacent to IPPL grounds becomes available, IPPL has acquired new land. This year we were able to secure six more wooded acres, which provide a buffer for our sanctuary gibbons and a safe home for local wildlife. We now protect 36 acres.

So we are an island of tranquility amid the growth around us. Our 33 gibbons have enjoyed good health. Our veteran lab gibbons Blackie and Igor, both in their 50’s, have been doing well. Blackie is amazingly active and loves playing with his friend Northie the Newfoundland dog.

During the year we completed construction of a four-unit indoor gibbon house with attached outdoor enclosures. Work is starting on setting up swinging ropes and climbing apparatus. Planting has been going on all year. Our teams from the United Way Day of Caring project were wonderful; we had 25 volunteers.

Of course, IPPL has stayed active on the international scene. We greatly appreciated a major grant from the Arcus Foundation, which we used to help support seven overseas sanctuaries. In addition, we have our own Small Grants Program. These grants are very dependent on donor donations throughout the year. The recipients are very appreciative. In 2010 we were able to distribute nearly $150,000 to overseas rescue centers and primate campaign groups. You will meet them in the special center section of this newsletter, and I hope you’ll agree that your funds are well spent.

This summer IPPL made several presentations at the 2011 National Animal Rights Conference in Los Angeles. We organized a session addressing primate experimentation, use of primates as pets, and use of primates in entertainment. We also had a booth with displays of IPPL literature and large photos of our gibbons. Several people involved in our adoption program stopped by to say hello.

Thank you to all our supporters for your gifts, the letters you write on behalf of your fellow-primates, and all you do to make the world a better place for our wonderful cousins.

All of us in the IPPL family—including our 33 gibbons and our canine mascots Bullet, North, and Snow—wish you a very happy holiday season and much joy in 2012.

Best wishes,

Shirley McGreal
Chimpanzee Upgrade Comment Period Extended

Shirley McGreal, IPPL Founder and Executive Director

Under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, chimpanzees are currently unique in being classified as both “endangered” (if in the wild) but merely “threatened” (if living in captivity), but now there is hope that finally all chimpanzees, wherever they live, may be designated as endangered.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Service “published in the Federal Register [on October 1976] a rule listing the chimpanzee and 25 other species of primates under the Act (41 FR 45990); the chimpanzee and 13 of the other primate species were listed as threatened… We simultaneously issued a special rule that the general prohibitions provided to the threatened species would apply except for live animals of these species held in captivity in the United States on the effective date of the rulemaking.”

On November 4, 1987, the USFWS received a petition from the Humane Society of the United States, the World Wildlife Fund, and the Jane Goodall Institute, requesting that the chimpanzee be upgraded to endangered status.

In response, the USFWS announced:

On December 28, 1988 (53 FR 52452), we published in the Federal Register a finding that the requested reclassification was warranted with respect to chimpanzees in the wild… Furthermore, we found that the special rule exempting captive chimpanzees in the United States from the general prohibitions may encourage propagation, providing surplus animals and reducing the incentive to remove animals from the wild… On March 12, 1990, we published in the Federal Register (55 FR 9129) a final rule reclassifying the wild populations of the chimpanzees as endangered. The captive chimpanzees remained classified as threatened, and those within the United States continued to be covered by the special rule allowing activities otherwise prohibited.

On September 1, 2011, the USFWS, acting in response to a petition filed by Meyer Glitzenstein & Crystal on behalf of The Humane Society of the United States, the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, the Jane Goodall Institute, the Wildlife Conservation Society, the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance, the Fund for Animals, Humane Society International, and the New England Anti-Vivisection Society, published in the Federal Register a proposed rule to consider whether to upgrade all chimpanzees to fully endangered status and sought public comments to be submitted by the deadline of October 30, 2011.


If the upgrading goes through, permits would be required for any activity harmful to chimpanzees. It could potentially bring an end to the pet trade in baby chimps. Experimenters, entertainers, and private parties would also have to apply for special permits to use these animals for research or any other purpose. These applications would be opened for public comment and would provide the public with valuable insights into how chimpanzees would be used.

Well over 10,000 public comments poured in, with more expected. Most of them supported the proposal, including a letter from IPPL on behalf of its supporters. The USFWS announced on November 1, 2011, that the comment period would be extended until January 31, 2012, so there is still time for you to have your say!

How You Can Help Captive Chimpanzees in the United States

Please comment by January 31, 2012. You can use the Federal eRulemaking Portal to express your support for the upgrading (go to http://www.regulations.gov/, click on the “Submit a Comment” tab, enter the docket number FWS–R9–ES–2010–0086 in the Keyword field, and click Search; then click on “Submit a Comment” for the appropriate docket item). The poor chimpanzees in research and entertainment have waited long enough. If you prefer to mail your comments, use this address:

Public Comments Processing,
Attn: FWS-R9-IA-2008-0123
Division of Policy and Directives Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4401 N. Fairfax Drive
MS 2042-PDM
Arlington, VA 22203
USA

Overseas readers may also comment. We suggest you contact the U.S. Ambassador in your country of residence expressing your support for upgrading the chimpanzee to fully endangered status on the U.S. Endangered Species List. Your comments will be sent to the U.S. State Department.
Kids’ “Wild Over Wildlife” Club
Reaches Out to Primates Near and Far

This past October, the “Wild Over Wildlife” (or WOW!) club of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, hosted a special “Howl-O-Ween Ball” to raise funds for the IPPL gibbons. Six- to nine-year-old warriors, princesses, mummies, and other creatively costumed kids carried donation jars labeled “WOW! We Won’t Forget You!” or “Help Save the Gibbons!” Says the group’s advisor, Dana Fahey, this is a “special group of kids with pure hearts who really want to improve the state of affairs for our wildlife;” according to Dana, this year’s “Howl-O-Ween Ball” has gotten “the most positive feedback in our club’s short three year history.”

IPPL’s “Youth Liaison,” Ruthann Chesney, sent them our Forgotten Ape and Planet Bonehead’s Gibbons: A Promise to Protect DVDs to screen during the festivities, as well as coloring pages, wallet photos of our sanctuary gibbons, and bookmarks featuring Igor (one of IPPL’s oldest resident apes) for the kids to share. Says Ruthann, “We are eager to engage children in the need for primate protection. Our new Web site has a lot more things for the kids that we hope to update regularly.”

The ball was a smashing success. Dana (self-described as a “dentist by day, zoologist by degree, and animal-lover by birth”) reported that the boys and girls were “incredibly moved by the animals at your sanctuary.” With the funds they raised, the club members voted to adopt one of IPPL’s youngest gibbons, our favorite “wild child” Courtney (see pages 22-23) who, like some of the WOW! kids themselves, also turned nine years old this year.

In addition, Dana said that the kids “have already sent dozens of letters to the ambassadors of both China and Mauritius urging them to cease trading in primates. Our children want to see these countries find a lucrative niche in the eco-tourism industry, not the exploitation-of-animals business. All of the children told the ambassadors that touring their nations and seeing primates in the wild would be a top priority for them as adults.” In the words of one young writer, “If you have wild primates, I’d make a trip to hike through your jungles to see them, but if I run into them in crates at the airport, I’ll turn around and leave!”

Photos courtesy of Dana Fahey

From top: WOW! president Christian Petrisko, in his Morphsuit, is ready to greet guests at the Howl-O-Ween Ball; princess Taylor Copelin won’t forget the gibbons; Nick Franzia and friends watch a gibbon video; co-vice-presidents of WOW!, Landon and Derek Petrisko, collect donations for IPPL’s gibbons.

Be sure to visit the “new and improved” IPPL Web site (www.ippl.org) and click on the balloons for more activities and fun stuff—just for kids!
Sophie Miller has a bumper sticker that reads “half woman, half gibbon,” and, she says, “it definitely suits me!” Sophie is a zookeeper from Australia, fondly known as “Oz” to our friends from Down Under. She and two of her fellow Australian primate keepers, Belinda Burns and Kelly Lambe, visited the IPPL gibbon sanctuary for 10 days this past October. According to Sophie:

After five long flights and around 30 hours of travelling, I arrived on site and rested my very jet-lagged body. I was awakened the next morning to the sounds of 33 gibbons calling. What a greeting! I work with fewer than 10 gibbons, so seeing 33 gibbons was an amazing sight.

Igor is my “adopted” son [see pages 22-23], so I was keen to meet him first up. I was amazed how good he looked and acted for an “old man” in his fifties. I bought him some special dried apricots, which were shared with the other gibbons, too. He sings a lot and loves being groomed with a brush: he goes into a “bliss coma”! I felt privileged he let me do this for him.

During my stay I was able to help sort through some historical records of the gibbons; it always fascinates me to find out where they have come from and see how good some of the gibbons look for their age. I spent most of my time helping feed the gibbons and coming up with some enrichment ideas. We gave the gibbons some cloth bags made of old bed sheet fabric. Healthy treats such as popcorn and dried fruit were placed inside and then the cloth bags knotted up so the gibbons had to work to get the treats out. It was a huge success with all of them!

I had an amazing time at IPPL and hope to visit again soon. IPPL does great work worldwide for primates, and seeing the sanctuary was fantastic—a slice of heaven in Summerville, South Carolina.
This summer, the Danau Girang Field Centre is offering an opportunity for aspiring conservationists, primatologists, and ecologists to observe and study some of Borneo’s endemic and charismatic primates, including: Bornean orangutans, proboscis monkeys, Bornean gibbons, maroon leaf monkeys, silvered leaf-monkeys, long-tailed macaques, pig-tailed macaques, Western tarsiers, and Bornean slow lorises.

The Primate Behaviour and Ecology Field Course will run for two weeks, and participants will learn fundamental methods for studying primates in the wild. Along with the introductory techniques of behavioral sampling, conducting censuses, and phenology, participants will also be trained in satellite and radio-tracking, primate vocalizations, and fecal analysis for diet and parasites.

Located along the Kinabatangan River in Sabah, Borneo, the field site is surrounded by lowland dipterocarp and swamp forest, some of the most important and productive wetlands in Malaysia. Located within a landscape with significant human impact (primarily oil palm plantations), it is an ideal area for investigating the influence and interaction of human encroachment on the diversity, behavior and abundance of the local wildlife.

Along with the primate field work, participants will also be able to participate in other ongoing studies and projects throughout the course of the program, which may include: camera trapping, amphibian surveys, small-mammal trapping, and crocodile tracking with radio-telemetry and satellite.

For more information, visit us at the “Danau Girang Field Centre” on Facebook to see current news at the station and for pictures of the site and surrounding wildlife!

The field course runs from August 4 to 18, 2012, at a cost of £1,000 (about US$1,500). Applications (along with a £200 deposit) are due by January 31, 2012, and filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact the instructor, Danica Stark (danicastark@gmail.com) for more information and for an application pack.
Great Things in Small Packages: IPPL’s Small Grants Program

Shirley McGreal, IPPL Founder and Executive Director

At IPPL, we have always believed in sharing what we have with those in even greater need. As soon as IPPL was financially stable, we made a point of sending whatever funds we could to primate rescue groups working in countries where apes and monkeys are native. We would help with emergency situations (which we still do—see the Tripoli Zoo article, page 19) or we would provide “seed money” to worthwhile start-up organizations, like HELP Congo, which we first assisted back in 1991.

In 1999, we formalized our giving process into what has become known as our Small Grants Program. On an (approximately) annual basis, we send close to $150,000 to a variety of primate protectors. We raise the funds for this program largely from individual donors. In developing countries, a little cash can go a long way, and IPPL’s financial support is always much appreciated by our grant recipients.

I’d like to introduce you to some of these “Global Partners” of IPPL. We know that when we work together, great things can happen!

Baby Tommy, one of our sweetest chimpanzee orphans, has seen a lot of trauma in his young life. In June 2010, a poacher in the Democratic Republic of Congo slaughtered Tommy’s mother and family group for bushmeat, during which massacre little Tommy sustained a bullet wound to his right arm. In the absence of proper medical care, this wound soon became infected.

Tommy arrived at the J.A.C.K. chimpanzee sanctuary in October 2010, now harbouring a severe bone infection. Everyone at J.A.C.K. gave Tommy extra love and care, especially since he had to undergo surgery several times to remove dead tissue from his injured arm.

Tommy did eventually recover, but we were in need of a dry and safe place for him to integrate with the other nursery residents: he had so many friends to meet! It is because of your very generous and much-appreciated donations that J.A.C.K managed to finally complete the construction of our nursery facility, which had remained unfinished for some time due to lack of funds.

IPPL’s generosity, together with its dedicated donors, provided the new nursery quarters with doors, windows, a sanitary concrete floor, and a fresh coat of paint. Our brand new facility is now home to Tommy and his young chimpanzee orphan friends.

Thanks to IPPL donors and supporters like you, J.A.C.K. has been able to provide Tommy with the best care possible, and our sanctuary is extremely grateful for your love and generosity.
Equatorial Guinea’s Bioko Island is well-known as an African hotspot for primate diversity. Although only half the size of New York’s Long Island, its mountainous terrain and dense tropical forests provide shelter for seven monkey species, including the critically endangered Pennant’s red colobus and the charismatic drill monkey.

Last year, as it became clear that the Presidential Decree banning the hunting of primates would not be enforced by the government of Equatorial Guinea, commercial bushmeat hunters began an unprecedented slaughter of the seven species of monkeys that live on Bioko Island. During 2010, more than 8,200 monkeys were brought to market, and countless more died of shotgun wounds in the forests.

The Bioko Biodiversity Protection Program (BBPP), an academic partnership between Equatorial Guinea’s National University on Bioko Island and Drexel University in Philadelphia, has been the only organization protecting Bioko’s wildlife for more than 20 years. Using local unarmed patrols trained by my Drexel graduate students, the BBPP provides passive protection for the monkeys, especially in the Gran Caldera and Southern Highlands Scientific Reserve, the largest protected area on the island.

IPPL responded to BBPP’s request last year for help to counteract the bushmeat hunters, funding more training for the forest patrol teams as well as an increased number of students (both American and Equatoguinean) and international volunteers working with the patrols. During the first six months of 2011, the rate of monkey carcasses per day observed in the market dropped back to pre-ban levels, a rate that is still unsustainable but at least represents change in the right direction.

By buying critical time for the island’s monkeys, BBPP hopes to see some of its longer-term conservation efforts—which range from educating school children to training university students to enlightening the government of Equatorial Guinea concerning the ecotourism potential of wildlife—gain enough traction to end the illegal slaughter of Bioko’s monkeys.

HELP Congo

Aliette Jamart

I established HELP Congo in 1989 in order to save chimpanzees from poachers and return them to the forest of the Republic of Congo. I began to adopt orphans and quickly had almost 21 chimpanzees at my home!

In 1991, HELP obtained from the Congolese government the use of four wooded islands in the lagoon of the Conkouati-Douli National Park, 135 kilometers (80 miles) north of Pointe Noire. Between 1991 and 1997, all the chimpanzees grew up on the islands. Then our release program began in 1996.

It was the first time that chimpanzees had been released back into their native habitat! Twenty-five people were working in the bush, following them all day, observing their behavior and gathering useful information on their adaptation to a new environment.

After 15 years, 42 chimpanzees have been sent back to the wild, 17 chimpanzees are still living on the three islands, and five young ones are living in our new nursery in the forest.

We have had a lot of births within the released community. Even if the reintroduction of our males was difficult, our females were accepted by wild chimpanzees and adapted very well to the forest.

During all these years, HELP has also worked very hard on the protection of the forest, education of the local population, and reforestation. Thousands of trees have been planted.

Our latest news? In 2011 we released six more females into the wild, We have had a lot of births within the released community. Even if the reintroduction of our males was difficult, our females were accepted by wild chimpanzees and adapted very well to the forest.

During all these years, HELP has also worked very hard on the protection of the forest, education of the local population, and reforestation. Thousands of trees have been planted.

Our latest news? In 2011 we released six more females into the wild, we continue to educate local children, and we are still very active in our tree planting program, thanks to our workers and volunteers.

HELP has benefitted greatly from IPPL’s support over the years, with small grants for general sanctuary operations as well as funds from its multi-sanctuary grant from the Arcus Foundation. We at HELP Congo are grateful to IPPL for its long-standing support.
The Colobus Trust
Andrea Donaldson

The Colobus Trust, based in Diani Beach, Kenya, is extremely thankful for the continued support it has received from IPPL and its donors over the last 14 years. IPPL helped us to design and construct our pioneering “colobridge,” a ladder-style bridge that allows a monkey to cross a busy road from tree to tree rather than on the ground. We now have 32 bridges in place that help to save hundreds of monkeys’ lives every month. More recently, IPPL donations have contributed towards operating our rescue department and its 24-hour emergency on-call program, as well as aiding the construction of our “nursery day pen.”

In just the last month, we have rescued seven orphaned primates: one Sykes’s monkey, four vervet monkeys, and two bushbabies. They are all growing, healing, and socializing well, in no small part thanks to IPPL and the contributions of its supporters.

The Colobus Trust
Andrea Donaldson

We cannot express strongly enough the difference that IPPL and its supporters make to all of us here at the Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary in Sierra Leone. Supporting day-to-day sanctuary operating costs is not an attractive project for many donors, which is why your support through IPPL is even more crucial. The grants that we have received through IPPL over the years have allowed Tacugama to not only look after the chimps in our immediate care, but have also made it possible for us to raise awareness and address important conservation needs to increase protection for chimpanzees in the wild.

Tacugama employs 22 committed local staff, supported by a small number of international volunteers and a resident veterinarian. The sanctuary is a safe haven for 100 chimpanzees living in six forested enclosures. The entire facility is powered through solar power, thanks to IPPL’s securing funds from the Arcus Foundation for the installation of this money-saving and environmentally friendly system.

In addition to caring for our chimpanzees and welcoming almost 3,000 annual visitors, the sanctuary is currently involved in several key projects. The Tacugama Kids Environmental Education Program partners with rural schools adjacent to forest reserves to create environmental awareness and a sense of guardianship for future generations. This year the program will work with around 2,000 children.

The Tacugama outreach program is similarly focusing on creating environmental guardianship in district communities that border chimpanzee habitats. This community outreach supports sustainable livelihoods and community-based resource management. The sanctuary also contributes to the local economy through our eco-tourism activities.

In 2010 we completed a nationwide survey of wild chimp populations, which established Sierra Leone as home to 5,500 western chimpanzees, the second largest population in West Africa. Tacugama is also continuing with its scientific research and is currently running a year-long digital camera trapping project in our local forest reserve to develop more detailed understanding of wild chimpanzee populations. This knowledge will in turn contribute to one of our most important aims, to return chimpanzees to the wild. There is a long-term program to identify potential release sites.

We can only undertake these activities knowing that we have secured sufficient funding to operate the sanctuary, but if we don’t undertake these projects we cannot stem the flow of orphaned chimpanzees arriving at our gates. IPPL and its supporters give us the chance to do both and help give us the hope that we can secure the long-term survival of wild chimpanzees in Sierra Leone.
For over 15 years CERCOPAN has been rescuing and rehabilitating orphan monkeys in Nigeria while also reducing hunting in their forests. IPPL’s supporters have tirelessly stood by us over these years with regular and reliable donations, providing for the welfare of a large proportion of the 180 monkeys currently in our care. IPPL support was crucial in 2009 when emergency funds helped CERCOPAN hold out over three months of crisis caused by the global financial downturn.

The story of Ekun is typical of the impact IPPL support delivers. Ekun is a male red-capped mangabey who was rescued as a tiny baby. Comforted immediately by protein-rich baby food, he gained his confidence through the companionship of a baby putty-nosed guenon taken in only days before. Together they graduated into our “kindergarten” group of young mixed-species monkeys in quarantine.

The little ones are very enthusiastic at feeding time, resulting in a “milk moustache” and a damp nose, with some having their entire head dunked in the bowl as others climb over them for their portion! All monkeys recognise the orange packet of our special gummy-bear vitamins, and vocalisations from all six species are heard as staff members carry the gummies through the compound to the lucky receiver!

A year on, Ekun’s future is bright. His diet of baby milk, vitamins, fruit, eggs, fish, and special formula “monkey-cake” has filled him out into a robust juvenile, and within the next month he will be introduced into a family group of his own kind for an active and natural social life.

The volunteers, staff, and monkeys at CERCOPAN would like to say a huge THANK YOU to IPPL and all its supporters for their generous kindness over the years, helping us to continue to make a difference to primates and conservation within Nigeria.

The Last Great Ape Organization

*Ofir Drori*

It all started with a baby chimp named Future. I rescued him during my visit to the Central African nation of Cameroon as a journalist, and he had to live with me for a few months before he could join an ape family in a proper shelter. That special day I saved Future was the day I decided to stay and pioneer The Last Great Ape Organization (LAGA), the first wildlife law enforcement non-governmental organization in Cameroon, dedicated to the fight to save the last great apes of Africa from extinction.

LAGA was born in 2003 out of criticism against the conservation world. Establishing the first-ever wildlife law enforcement NGO was not easy and met a lot of resistance. We aimed at creating a new model, breaking away from the traditional role of an NGO and finding legitimacy in a far more hands-on approach.

Without any donors and run by volunteers, we were ready to bring about the first-ever prosecution for wildlife trafficking in the country and, in fact, in that part of Africa. Allies were hard to come by, and enemies were added each day, as the illegal wildlife trade fills many pockets, but our determined group proceeded to build up an investigations department, an operations unit, a legal follow-up team, and a media department. In spite of daily fights against corruption, we managed to start getting some of the major wildlife dealers in the country behind bars.

Dr. Shirley McGreal was among the first to send us words of encouragement. She believed in us and shared with us stories of hard times during her pioneering primate investigations back in the early days of IPPL. It gave us the feeling that we were not alone and that fighting against all odds is the only hope for primate survival. IPPL, she told me, was established the year I was born.

After getting into debt, LAGA was in danger of shutting down its activities. Frankly, not a lot of people cared. But IPPL did, and it was one of the first to give us a financial lifeline, so that we could continue with the first arrests and prosecutions of wildlife criminals in this part of Africa.

Now that LAGA has got more than 400 wildlife traffickers behind bars in Cameroon and has replicated its techniques in four other African nations, we can look back at the hard times when we were about to give up—and thank those, like Shirley McGreal and IPPL, who made sure that we did not.
When I first got to know Shirley McGreal in 1997, I was just another woman passionate about chimpanzees, trying to figure out the best way to help them. I had written to her from Guinea at a time when there were significant political problems; she was very helpful and, without knowing me personally, gave me suggestions about potential sources of funds.

The Pandrillus Foundation

Liza Gadsby

When people ask me how to truly help wildlife, I suggest they support small, focused organizations. Large “multi-national” groups have their role, but it’s hard to feel their impact in the forests, fields, and captivity where wild animals face challenges every day to survive—as individuals and as species. My work over the past 23 years (ever since I co-founded the Pandrillus Foundation with Peter Jenkins to protect endangered primates in west central Africa) reinforces this advice.

IPPL is not really a “small” organization: it simply looks small because it’s efficient. Funds aren’t wasted on marketing, big salaries, or glossy fundraising materials. IPPL sticks to the basics. *IPPL News* is a beautiful, no-nonsense, and fact-filled publication, without buzzwords or self-praise. It reports on primate protection issues, campaigns, and efforts by small organizations and individuals worldwide working for primate welfare and survival. Support from IPPL makes their work possible. Unlike many animal groups, IPPL never steals the limelight from those on the primate frontlines, but works diligently behind the scenes to make things happen, providing advice, connections, and moral and financial support.

Since we at Pandrillus initiated our two main primate projects over 20 years ago—Drill Ranch in Nigeria and the Limbe Wildlife Centre in Cameroon—we’ve received generous support from IPPL annually. This ranges from a large campaign that raised over $60,000 for Limbe in 2006, to “small” end-of-year grants that help hugely to meet basic needs for the nearly 700 primates under our care. Recovering smuggled animals from around the globe is something Pandrillus could not have achieved without IPPL, like bringing gorillas back home to Cameroon from Malaysia and drills home to Nigeria from Asia.

IPPL understands that those in the field know their needs best and how to prepare for the inevitable daily emergencies and surprises. IPPL never dictates how their support is used because they understand what it is to work with, and for, wild animals: the only thing that’s certain is, we don’t know what will happen tomorrow!

From all the monkeys, apes, and bushbabies that Pandrillus works to protect in captivity and the wild, a big thanks to everyone who supports IPPL. Please keep it up!
IPPL NEWS

C.A.R.E.

Rita Miljo and Samantha Dewhurst

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you from all of us at C.A.R.E., including the baboons who cannot speak for themselves!

The support from IPPL really has been a lifeline this year. With so many baboon lives dependent on us, the IPPL grant has enabled us to keep other projects going while enabling us to provide some good, nutritious food for the baboons, as well.

Our center needs two bakkie-loads of food daily to ensure that every baboon gets the nutrition needed to remain healthy (“bakkie” is Afrikaans for “truck”), so you can imagine how high our food bills are! Our baboons favor sweet mangos, juicy papayas, bananas, avocados, and crunchy cabbage. Thanks to IPPL, this year we could ensure that the baboons had plenty of their favorite foods. And since IPPL’s grant arrived just before the South African winter, we could give the baboons that little bit extra to fatten them up prior to the start of the cold nights. Every cent goes such a long way at C.A.R.E.!

None of the baboons asked to be at the center: all arrived at C.A.R.E. having been victimized by human cruelty. We would like to thank you for showing them such kindness, which enables us to give them, as best we can, the lives they ought to have. Each baboon is special and unique to us.

We would like to say a huge thank you to IPPL and its supporters for helping to provide food for our baboons: thank you, from us and them!

Centre de Réhabilitation des Primates de Lwiro

Andrea Edwards

Feeding 51 chimpanzees and 68 monkeys every day is no easy feat—and this is the challenge we have here at the Centre de Réhabilitation des Primates de Lwiro (CRPL) in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Each and every animal has been rescued from illegal trade in the DRC, and every animal has a unique story.

Mornings at the CRPL are hectic, with over 300 bananas needing to be washed and distributed before 7:00 a.m., and that is just a snack! Banana time is Kanshi’s favourite time of the day. She tries to hide her bananas between her leg and her stomach so that the caregivers think she hasn’t received her full quota for the morning!

With thanks to IPPL and its Small Grants Program, this year the CRPL was able to purchase a whole year’s worth of bananas (that’s over 8,000 kilograms, or 17,600 pounds, of bananas), plus other fruit and vegetables to keep the CRPL residents full and happy.

Of course, we know that it wouldn’t be possible for IPPL to give such assistance without the generous help of its loyal supporters—and for this we are so grateful!

Not only has IPPL assisted us through the purchase of food and the payment of staff wages in the past, but it is with enormous thanks to IPPL and its supporters that the construction of our huge electric-fenced “Chimpanzee Habitat” is so far along: in 2012, the resident chimpanzees of the CRPL will be climbing trees again!

Keep supporting IPPL, and you know that your donations make it to real projects to help real animals!
**IPPL News**

**Centro de Rescate y Rehabilitación de Primates**

*Elba Muñoz Lopez*

“When I look at Cristobal’s face, I see what’s inside. I see sadness, hopelessness, insecurity, and fear, and I know that there’s nothing I can do to get that out of his soul. This little woolly monkey responds when I talk to him, when I caress him, but still he keeps that sadness within. That’s what I feel, and I realize that nothing I can do will take that away. That is what the pet trader has caused. He has separated him from his rainforest, from his family... the only things that make him happy.”

I wrote those thoughts in 1994, when an eight-month-old woolly monkey came into our lives. That’s when I decided to create a Chilean primate rescue and rehabilitation center (CRRP, formerly known as Siglo XXI), even though my country has no native monkeys. During the past 17 years, my family and I have fought to stop the illegal cross-border primate pet trade. At present, our center shelters 170 monkeys of 11 different species. All of them arrived in very bad condition due to the long journey from their countries of origin—from our neighbors Bolivia, Peru, and Argentina, as well as more distant countries like Venezuela, Ecuador, and Brazil, and even far-away places like Holland and Israel.

Money is always an issue for organizations like ours, and there is an endless list of urgent needs. Our work wouldn’t have been possible without the support of organizations like IPPL, and we are very grateful for all the help we have received through IPPL’s grant program. For example, this funding allowed us to put together our own veterinary clinic six years ago and last year, a mobile dental clinic, as well. Many of our primates have had their teeth mutilated by their owners to keep them from biting, which frequently results in painful infections. Now our volunteer dentists are able to carry out complex treatments and resolve these health problems.

**It's a dream come true for us.**

---

**Sumak Allpa**

*Héctor Vargas and Martina Wagner*

Generous grant funding by IPPL has allowed us to make many improvements to the island where we are rehabilitating seven species of rescued monkeys, prior to releasing them back into their native Ecuadorian Amazon habitat, as we hope to do in the future. The infrastructure of the 115 hectare (290 acre) island has been improved by the addition of paths (to allow us to observe the animals better), a new dock, bridges, educational signage for our visitors, and a new seed nursery to help with reforestation.

Our biggest addition, thanks to IPPL support, has been the construction of a new “environmental interpretation and biodiversity management center.” Now we have a much better facility for offering environmental education to schoolchildren and other visitors and for encouraging them to change their minds and behavior (including not keeping wild animals as pets, not hunting, and not buying bushmeat). We have already seen an increase in the numbers of visitors coming to our project, and we hope they will all get to know and love the rainforest and its inhabitants.

IPPL grant funds also directly benefit our incoming primate babies who have been rescued from illegal trafficking. Most of them arrive injured, ill, or mistreated. This was the case with “Tami,” a woolly monkey who came to us when she was about one month old. She had survived when her mother was shot but was left with a bullet embedded in her left leg. The bullet was surgically removed, and now she is doing much better. After four months with us, she still needs to be bottle-fed, so every week we buy her a container of formula to go with her bananas and forest fruits. **In January we are planning to release Tami into the island forest, where she can live with our adult woolly monkey troop!**
Comunidad Inti Wara Yassi  
Sarah Brimble

The year 2011 started off sadly for Comunidad Inti Wara Yassi (CIWY). After we had laid down plans to begin the construction of an IPPL-funded spider monkey acclimatization enclosure in Parque Jacj Cuisi, the newest of CIWY’s three Bolivian wildlife refuges, tragedy befell one of our largest capuchin monkey areas, the “Mirador” in CIWY’s Parque Machía.

On the night of February 19, 2011, in the midst of one of the heaviest rainy seasons Bolivia has seen in years, a five-foot wall of water passed through the Mirador, killing ten of our beloved friends. It is believed that the water came from the main river, which had never before entered the Mirador.

The remaining monkeys were quickly relocated into temporary cages. As these structures were unsuitable for housing the monkeys for more than a few weeks, it was decided that there was not enough time to build the acclimatization enclosure and organize transportation to Jacj Cuisi. Instead, efforts were focused on building the new Mirador in an area that had been freed up in Parque Machía.

A month later, the capuchin monkeys were transferred to their new home. A 400-meter-long (1,300-foot-long) cable assembly was used to transfer the group’s alpha male, Monto, who used a truly amazing amount of strength and intelligence to negotiate the trees and other obstacles in his path. His entrance into the Mirador area was met with screams of joy from all the other monkeys; there are no words to express the emotion and satisfaction of witnessing this moment after so many tough days endured by those who worked tirelessly to allow the rapid construction of the monkeys’ new home.

Although we needed to use a small portion of IPPL’s grant to help with the emergency construction of the new capuchin monkey area in Parque Machía, the remainder of the money has been reserved for the construction of the acclimatization enclosure, which is now planned for the spring of 2012.

We would like to reiterate our thanks to all of IPPL’s supporters and share our gratitude for your help. Despite all of the ups and downs that 2011 has provided, we are determined that 2012 will be a positive year for CIWY, and we look forward to providing you with pictures and details of Jacj Cuisi’s new primate acclimatization enclosure and its first inhabitants!

Ikamaperu wants to thank our friends at IPPL who have been helping for years with our primate conservation work in Peru’s Amazonian rainforest. I am sure you would be proud to see what your support has managed to achieve:

- Over 600 primates of various species have been rescued from illegal trafficking since Ikamaperu was founded in 1997.
- Between Ikamaperu’s two sanctuary areas, 140 hectares (350 acres) of forest have been protected and enriched by the planting of 7,000 seedlings. These primary forest trees are now producing fruit all year long.

- Thanks to the installation of forest corridors to link isolated patches of habitat, the unique and threatened Andean titi monkeys of our original Tarangue reserve have been able to reproduce with other groups. From six families observed in 1997, 26 have been counted this year.
- A reintroduction program for spider monkeys is ongoing in order to boost wild populations in the remote Pacaya Samiria National Reserve, and a biological station to support this work has been built.
- Every year we are able to support anti-poaching patrols in the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve when most needed, which is during the rainy season.
- We have been able to work with indigenous populations near the national reserve (all primate hunters) and train them in handicrafts and eco-tourism. They are now committed to stopping any primate hunting at all.
- About 1,500 students have been exposed to environmental education and primate protection concepts through our itinerant cinema program in indigenous communities.

Ikamaperu is the only organization in Peru that confiscates and rehabilitates primates in their natural habitat and is the only association that has a reintroduction program associated with a national reserve. Without your support, we could not continue to do this vitally important work.
IPPL has supported our conservation work from the beginning, in 2007. IPPL was actually the first organization to fund our projects, which concentrate on the field conservation of the critically endangered yellow-tailed woolly monkey and other endangered primates in Peru.

Funding from IPPL has enabled the NPC to develop and grow from a single community conservation site to our current total of nine communities in two Peruvian departments. Funding from IPPL has also helped us to undertake diverse tactics involving animal rescue, environmental education, ecological investigation, reforestation, and sustainable development.

Specifically, IPPL funding has permitted students studying to become primary education teachers to gain practical experience in environmental education in some of Peru’s remotest villages. Additionally, it has allowed us to maintain permanent contact with wildlife authorities, both locally and nationally, and conduct capacity-building programs.

We have assisted in the confiscation of many primates and other endangered animals from illegal zoos and the pet trade. One of our greatest achievements, however, has been the publication and distribution of an identification guide to help local police and wildlife authorities identify the regions’ protected species.

In addition, we have conducted the first censuses and behavioral studies of yellow-tailed woolly monkeys and Peruvian night monkeys, presented over 100 environmental education seminars, and created a new protected forest area, with six more areas under review. We have carried out poster campaigns and developed ideas for eco-tourism and other sustainable economic alternatives in the hope of providing other income sources for communities who have taken steps to protect their primates and forests.

All of the above projects would not have been possible without funding from IPPL.
Highland Farm Gibbon Sanctuary
Pharanee Deters

IPPL has been the only consistent donor to the Highland Farm Gibbon Sanctuary from 2003 to the present. All of us at Highland Farm appreciate very much IPPL’s support in the past and hopefully in the future.

First and foremost, the funds have been essential in maintaining our general operations, allowing us to provide our animals with a varied diet in order to keep them well-nourished and healthy. We spend about US$130 per month just for bananas. Bananas are the favorite fruit of all our 10 monkeys and 52 gibbons (including L.J.; this little gibbon always has to have a few extra bites of banana before bedtime). Fruit prices are very high; they have nearly tripled because of the disastrous flooding in Thailand. All the lowland areas that grow bananas and other types of fruit have been flooded for months now, and some of the trees are dying.

IPPL funds have also allowed us to provide our five employees and manager with adequate wages and benefits as well as whatever equipment is necessary for maintenance projects. Tools and supplies purchased for gardening allow us to grow some of our own fruit for the animals.

The funds also help pay for the gasoline and maintenance for our vehicles, so we can easily carry large quantities of food on a regular basis and also transport animals to and from the sanctuary, if needed. It’s 600 kilometers (360 miles) one way to get to the animal hospital in Chiang Mai; we had to travel there several times in recent months for dental work on some of our gibbons—who are fortunately doing much better now.

Thank you, IPPL!
ProFauna Indonesia  
Rosek Nursahid

Indonesia is a country inhabited by more than 40 species of the world’s primates, including endangered ones like orangutans, Javan gibbons, and Mentawai gibbons. Unfortunately, these beautiful primates and many others are threatened by extinction due to habitat loss and the illegal wildlife trade.

Ever since it was founded in 1994, ProFauna Indonesia has been working for primate protection through education campaigns, investigations, advocacy, and rescue. Most of ProFauna’s primate protection work has, in one way or another, been supported by IPPL. One of the most notable early examples of cooperation between our two organizations was our 1998 – 1999 campaign against the export of some proboscis monkeys to the U.S. because evidence indicated that the monkeys had been wild-caught.

IPPL has also supported ProFauna’s efforts to raise public awareness about the need to protect Indonesian primates. ProFauna has a reputation for unique and eye-catching street campaigns that generate a lot of media attention. We also do educational school visits and take students who live in urban settings to see wild primates in their natural habitat.

In addition, IPPL has supported ProFauna’s undercover investigations into several aspects of Indonesia’s cruel and illegal primate trafficking. One of ProFauna’s great early achievements was to curb the primate meat trade in Lampung - Sumatera in 2001 and 2002, leading to the closure of a notorious restaurant that was selling the illicit bushmeat. ProFauna’s findings were complemented by footage uncovering the cruelties behind the trade.

Countless Indonesian primates have been saved by over the years, thanks to ProFauna and the support of IPPL. By now, ProFauna and IPPL are like good old friends.

Thank you to IPPL’s supporters from ProFauna and the primates in Indonesia!

Wildlife Friends Foundation of Thailand  
Edwin Wiek

In 2003, a young white-handed gibbon named Kookoo was living at Bangkok’s famous floating market, where things are sold from boats. Well, he didn’t really live there, but he sort of was employed there. This gibbon was paraded around by a local man and used as a photo prop. Tourists were paying five to ten dollars each to have their pictures taken with him.

But Kookoo had not always lived there. He actually was born less than a hundred miles away, at Kaengkrachan National Park, until his mother was shot dead by poachers so they could take her baby to sell as a mini tourist attraction. Kookoo was almost four years old when the Wildlife Friends Foundation of Thailand (WFFT) found him at the market. We asked the Thai forest police to confiscate him and take him to our wildlife rescue center. An appeal by IPPL to the authorities made things happen fast.

Kookoo lived first in a medium-sized enclosure at WFFT, but soon after his quarantine period he showed a lot of positive interest in the other gibbons at the center, something quite unusual for rescued gibbons. Kookoo joined a small group of juveniles and, within four months, they were moved to the rehabilitation islands at WFFT, where they lived in trees on a one-hectare man-made island. As gibbons cannot swim, islands are ideal for the rehabilitation of these little apes. Financial support from IPPL has made it possible to upgrade our primate enclosures and islands.

After two years, Kookoo and his group got lucky. With further generous financial support from IPPL and its supporters, WFFT was able to build release cages deep in the jungles of Maehongson province in northern Thailand, an excellent spot for gibbons to live in the wild. Kookoo was moved there with his friends and family, and they are now getting adjusted to the environment there. Soon, their cage doors will be opened and the “Kookoo family” will once again swing from tree to tree deep in the jungles of Thailand. This would have been impossible without the help of IPPL and its generous supporters.

On behalf of Kookoo, the other 108 gibbons, and the 164 monkeys at WFFT, thank you for your continued support of our work!
Wildlife Watch Group  
Mangal Man Shakya and Swechha Lamichanne

In late 2003, two U.S. laboratories were granted permission to capture and farm wild monkeys in Nepal. In response, Wildlife Watch Group (WWG) initiated a campaign in 2006 titled “Stop the Monkey Business.”

Over 1,200 people from 21 nations signed a petition calling on the Nepal government to cancel its plans to permit the capture and export of the country’s native rhesus monkeys. Other methods used in our campaign included placing billboards in downtown Kathmandu, holding monkey-themed painting contests—and more: on May 19, 2009, Jyamchang Bhome, a young mountaineering guide, reached the summit of Mount Everest and hoisted the WWG/IPPL “Stop the Monkey Business” banner.

Two months later, on July 29, a framed photograph of the historic ascent was handed to then-Minister of Forest and Soil Conservation, Deepak Bohara. In August 2009, Bohara announced the decision to close down the monkey export center and return all the monkeys back to the wild. A special art exhibition was organized by WWG to commemorate the end of Nepal’s monkey business. The theme was “Let Monkeys Live Wild and Free.”

WikiLeaks documents reveal that the U.S. Embassy in Nepal did not support the breeding project, due to the public awareness and mounting opposition generated by WWG. Without our campaign, the exploitation of Nepal’s native primates would surely have continued.

This success story was made possible by IPPL’s Small Grants Program.

WWG is now proposing to build a sanctuary for abandoned and injured wildlife, a kind of animal orphanage. The sanctuary will be named “Shirley Sanctuary” after IPPL Chairwoman Dr. Shirley McGreal. She was the inspiration that helped us put a stop to the monkey business in Nepal and set free all the captive monkeys into their natural habitat.

Your Donations Make Great Things Happen!

IPPL’s Small Grants Program is funded largely through the generosity of our individual donors! When you send a donation to IPPL marked “For Overseas Sanctuaries” 100% of your gift will go to support primate projects like the ones profiled in these pages. Please send your check, made out to “IPPL,” to:

P.O. Box 766 ● Summerville, SC 29484 ● U.S.A.

Or donate online: go to www.ippl.org and click on “Donate Now.”

For more information go to IPPL’s “new and improved” Web site! Visit www.ippl.org and click on “Our Global Partners.”
IPPL Helps With Tripoli Zoo Crisis

IPPL recently sent funds to the Austrian animal protection group Vier Pfoten (“Four Paws”) to assist with the organization’s courageous mission to Libya to help care for the animals at Tripoli Zoo. The civil strife in Libya was then causing tremendous suffering for Tripoli Zoo’s resident animals. These included chimpanzees and hamadryas baboons, as well as large numbers of lions, a tiger, and several hippos.

CNN reporter Nic Robertson visited the zoo and found the gates locked. He was told that the zoo was under renovation and that there were no animals there! He managed to get in anyway and saw that all the animals were emaciated. There were no caregivers visible, and there was no sign of a veterinarian.

A zookeeper eventually arrived and explained to Robertson that for seven days amid the turmoil of conflict in Tripoli the animals had gotten nothing at all to eat. Finally, ten members of the 200-person staff had returned and were trying to feed all the animals.

The Four Paws team members were especially moved by the plight of Bosko the chimpanzee, who was looking miserable and desperate. Team project leader Dr. Amir Khalil learned that Bosko had arrived at Tripoli Zoo in November 1993 as a juvenile. He was a sent as a gift by the then-president of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Bosko had been a favorite with his keepers and the public. He was used for entertainment purposes and was often taken out of the zoo. He was trained to smoke cigarettes, drink coffee, and ride bicycles.

The zoo was located close to a Qaddafi palace and had become a war zone, with bullets flying everywhere. Fortunately, since the collapse of the Qaddafi regime, the return of the employees, and the arrival of assistance from overseas, the animals are faring much better.

Thanks to our donors, who made it possible for IPPL to help Qaddafi’s animal victims.

Guitars and Lemurs

Shirley McGreal, IPPL Founder and Executive Director

In 2008 the U.S. government expanded the Lacey Act, which dates back to 1900 and has been frequently amended and which was designed to protect wildlife, to cover illegal logging activities overseas. Both Democrats and Republicans voted in favor of this strengthening of the Lacey Act.

Gibson Guitar is one of the world’s largest manufacturers of guitars. In 2009 the U.S. government confiscated guitars and pallets of ebony consigned to Gibson that were alleged to have come from wood illegally logged in Madagascar. Any logging in Madagascar is detrimental to the survival of the islands’ endangered species, which live nowhere else. These species include all the world’s lemurs.

As of this writing, no criminal charges have been filed in the case. Gibson’s Chief Executive, Henry Juszkiewicz, is fighting to amend the law and has hired an expensive lobbying firm. Officials from the Justice Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stated that they were not focusing their enforcement efforts on people who unknowingly violate the law, but on those who profit from removing protecting species from the wild.

Animal activist Don Elroy of Tennessee has this advice for people buying guitars:

African rosewood, African blackwood, and ebony should be avoided. They are woods used for the sides and back of the guitar. Brazilian rosewood is also being depleted. Mahogany is used a lot for sides and backs, also. There are other sustainable rosewoods that can be used, as rosewood is a standard and has been for a long time. Maple also produces good sound and is used for the sides and backs of guitars. The Guild guitar that I play is maple. Guitar top woods are generally spruce or maple but luthiers [guitar makers] search for new tonewoods constantly. The combination of woods produces the resonance of the sound, which can range from a deep, resonating low tone to higher-pitched thinner tones. Guitarists should always ask what woods the guitar is composed from and if they are sustainable and replenished. If they cannot get a satisfactory answer, they should purchase from a more competent source or talk directly to the luthier.

Special Gifts to IPPL

Given by:

- An Anonymous Donor, in memory of Jessica Anne Chesney
- Laurie Barnett, in honor of Abigail Shiffer’s birthday
- Brian Comerford, in honor of all God’s creatures
- Brian Giovannini, in honor of Michael Thomas
- Doreen Heimlich, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Barrett
- Wilson and Jackie Hepler, in honor of Doreen Heimlich
- Wendy Kobylarz, in honor of Mary Tully’s birthday
- Shirley McGreal, in memory of Elsie Mitchell
- Sophia Pisciotta, in memory of Dave Para
- Jeffrey Robinson, in memory of Annie Handy
- April Truitt, in honor of Shirley McGreal
- Grace Wegman, in honor of Journey

IPPL News
Remember the World’s Primates—In Your Will

Ever since I founded the International Primate Protection League in 1973, IPPL has benefited from many caring supporters who have remembered IPPL in their wills.

You, too, can help us ensure that future generations of apes and monkeys will live in a world where primates will have IPPL working tirelessly on their behalf—working to ensure that primates in the wild are free from fear of human abuse and that those in captivity have access to loving care.

Thanks to the foresight of many of our departed supporters, IPPL has been able to accomplish many wonderful things to improve the lives of the primates we cherish:

- Providing the best possible care for the special gibbons at our Headquarters Sanctuary.
- Giving support to primate rescue centers in countries where primates are native.
- Assisting grassroots wildlife groups in their efforts to promote concern for primates.
- Carrying out investigations of primate trafficking and abuse worldwide.
- Doing outreach to make others aware of the plight of the world’s monkeys and apes.

By including IPPL in your estate plans, you will ensure that primates in need will have our hard-working and experienced organization to stand by them in the future.

If you would like to discuss providing enduring help for primates around the globe through IPPL, please contact us:

IPPL
P.O. Box 766
Summerville, SC 29484
USA

843-871-2280
IPPL’s tax identification number: 51-0194013

Thank you for caring,
Dr. Shirley McGreal
IPPL Founder and Executive Director

IPPL Supporter’s Donation Form

If you have received this magazine and are not currently an IPPL supporter, you can help sustain the important work of IPPL on behalf of the world’s primates by making a financial contribution. By sending in a donation, you will be sure to continue receiving thrice-yearly issues of IPPL News. You may also donate online, if you wish, on IPPL’s secure Web site (www.ippl.org). All donations are welcome!

Please accept my contribution to support the work of IPPL. I have enclosed the following donation:

☐ $20 regular dues  ☐ $50 sustaining dues  ☐ Other amount: $_____ (dues)
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IPPL News

**NEW!**

**Mountain Gorilla T-Shirt:**
- 100% cotton; black
- Sizes: Adult M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL
- Cost: US$15 (US)/US$22 (overseas)

**IPPL Gibbon T-Shirt:**
- 100% cotton; green
- Shirts feature 3 IPPL gibbons: Arun Rangsi, who came to IPPL as a baby from a biomedical lab; Igor, who spent 26 lonely years in research; and Beanie, who was blinded by illness.
- Sizes: Adult S, M, L, XL; Child S, M, L
- Cost: Adult US$15 (US)/US$22 (overseas)
- Child US$12 (US)/US$16 (overseas)

**Orangutan Baby T-Shirt:**
- 100% cotton; brown
- Sizes: Adult M, L, XL; Child S, M, L
- Cost: Adult US$15 (US)/US$22 (overseas)
- Child US$12 (US)/US$16 (overseas)

**2012 Wall Calendar:**
- Featuring beautiful images of monkeys and apes, including IPPL’s Tong
- Cost: US$20 (US)/US$25 (overseas)

**IPPL Baseball Cap:**
- 100% cotton; khaki; adjustable
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**Gibbon Notecards:**
- 12 cards and envelopes, 3 each of 4 IPPL gibbons (Arun Rangsi, Courtney, Igor, and Tong)
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**Gibbon T-Shirt:**
- 100% cotton; green
- Shirts feature 3 IPPL gibbons: Arun Rangsi, who came to IPPL as a baby from a biomedical lab; Igor, who spent 26 lonely years in research; and Beanie, who was blinded by illness.
- Sizes: Adult S, M, L, XL; Child S, M, L
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**IPPL News**

[www.ippl.org](http://www.ippl.org)  December 2011
Yes, I want to adopt an IPPL gibbon!

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Please check if this is an adoption RENEWAL: □

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City: _______________________________________________________ State: ________ Zip: ______________________

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Name (on card): _________________________________________________________________________________________

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Credit card billing address (for verification purposes): ___________________________________________________________

For information about adopting your gibbon through a monthly automatic checking account withdrawal, or if you have other questions, please call us at 843-871-2280, or send us an e-mail (info@ippl.org).

You can also adopt a gibbon on our Web site: go to www.ippl.org and click on the “Adopt an IPPL Gibbon” link.

Please mail your application to: IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA; or fax it to 843-871-7988.
IPPL Gibbons Currently Available for Adoption

**Tong** belongs to a different species from most of IPPL’s gibbons. She is a yellow-cheeked crested gibbon and was wild-born in her native Vietnam probably around 1970. When she was an infant, she was sold as a pet to an American serviceman stationed in Vietnam; her mother may have been one of that nation’s many wild animals that succumbed to Agent Orange or other hazards of war. When Tong’s owner left the country, Tong remained in the care of his servants. Unfortunately, the servants did not know much about gibbon nutrition, so Tong developed rickets, a deforming bone disease. Eventually, in 1973, Tong was transferred to the protection of newly-founded IPPL, and she has been a part of the family ever since. By adopting Tong, you’ll share in IPPL’s commitment to lifelong care for beautiful apes like her.

**Arun Rangsi** was born in 1979 at a California research laboratory. Abandoned by his mother at birth, he was raised with a substitute mother made of wire to which he clung. Then the laboratory lost the funding for its program, and IPPL Founder Shirley McGreal, acting on a tip-off, rescued him from possible euthanasia. Once he arrived at IPPL’s sanctuary, his physical and mental condition greatly improved, thanks to a good diet and lots of love. Today Arun Rangsi lives happily with Shanti, another former laboratory gibbon. To keep this sweet, gentle ape happy and healthy, we’d love for you to adopt him.

**Courtney** was born at IPPL on 10 January 2002, the result of a failed vasectomy. When she was just 12 days old, her mother rejected her, leaving the little 12-ounce infant with a terribly mangled leg. Thanks to the skill of our veterinarian and months of attention from Courtney’s special nannies, her injuries have healed remarkably well. She has had minor follow-up surgery, but is nonetheless extremely active. If you saw her leaping around, you would hardly believe how badly she had been hurt. Since she is now mature, she has accepted a gibbon companion to share her life, our gentle lab gibbon Whoop-Whoop—but she still enjoys regular visits from her human friends. We hope you’ll consider adopting this spunky and determined little ape.

**Igor** was born in the wilds of Thailand some time in the 1950s. Most likely his mother was shot and he himself kidnapped while still an infant. Eventually, he was sold to an animal exporter who shipped Igor to the United States to live in a laboratory. Igor spent a total of 26 years in different labs. At some point early in his “career,” he developed a bizarre and distressing behavior: he became a self-mutilator, savagely biting his own arms whenever he caught sight of another gibbon. As a result, he was forced to live isolated behind black Plexiglas. In 1987, Igor was allowed to “retire” after his years of service. Since arriving at IPPL, where he lives in a special house within earshot of IPPL’s other gibbons, he has not attacked himself once. Please think about adopting this wonderful, resilient fellow.
Meet Ahimsa, the first gibbon born at IPPL! He was born on November 23, 1985, to Shanti and her mate Arun Rangsi. Ahimsa was a surprise baby, as his dad had been isolation-reared in a lab and (according to psychology text books) was not expected to breed. Fortunately, Arun Rangsi had not read these books! IPPL’s senior animal caregiver Donetta Pacitti and IPPL Founder Shirley McGreal were both there for the exciting event.

The tiny baby was given the Sanskrit name Ahimsa, which means “no harm to all living creatures.” His parents both took wonderful care of him. Once he matured he was paired with Elizabeth, who came to IPPL from a Florida tourist attraction; they are still a loving couple. He is a very sociable gibbon and likes playing tag with the IPPL dogs and “patty cake” games with his caregivers.

Ahimsa is a good eater and finishes both his breakfast and lunch quickly so that he can ask for seconds. He is especially excited when we feed him dates: he swallows them whole instead of chewing them! In addition to regular meals, Ahimsa and Elizabeth appreciate seasonal treats. The runway to their outdoor enclosure is thickly covered with muscadine grape vines, so in late summer they have all the ripe grapes they can eat, in addition to fresh figs from a nearby fig tree.

We also grow a lot of bamboo on the IPPL grounds. It has many uses: the mature leafy stalks are great for gibbons to play with, and the new shoots make for delicious gibbon snacks in the springtime. Both Ahimsa and Elizabeth enjoy bamboo in its various forms.