Inside:

Rescuing South Africa’s baboons

Chimps attack Californian couple

A lone chacma baboon, silhouetted by the South African sun.

©Attie Gerber
A Letter from IPPL’s Chairwoman Shirley McGreal

Dear Members,

I have some really exciting news. In December 2004 IPPL doubled the acreage of land housing our Headquarters from 10 to 22 acres. Here’s how it happened!

The small town of Summerville, where IPPL is based, is growing by leaps and bounds. We live in the small community of Knightsville, which is seven miles from downtown Summerville.

Summerville was a small, peaceful community when IPPL arrived in 1977. At the time we had just four gibbons. We never foresaw how many gibbons would need homes over the following years. We now care for 31 gibbons, as well some Asian small-clawed otters (two of whom are former performing animals from a California marine park) and several delightful dogs who guard us all—including Bullet our blind boy found lost in these woods in 1999, and seen with me enjoying them in the photo below.

Unfortunately, developers have moved into our area. The road from Summerville to Knightsville now has many sub-divisions and stores. It is sad to see traffic jams on this once-quiet road.

IPPL’s Headquarters occupied ten acres for many years. The western edge of our land was bordered by many acres of beautiful woods full of wildlife. Then, to our horror, 12 wooded acres were sold in 2002 to a couple with plans to develop the land and construct several houses. In late 2004 we learned that the land was again up for sale. There was a chance to rescue the woods and the woodland wildlife—and to have a buffer of protection for IPPL’s gibbons. The last thing we needed was neighbors along our back fence who might not enjoy the gibbons’ songs—and might even harm or harass them.

At this point, IPPL received an amazingly generous gift from one of our long-time supporters to whom we owe an immense debt of gratitude. This gift enabled us to obtain the 12 wooded acres, complete with a lovely stream. The land now belongs to IPPL and is safe for all its wonderful residents. These include the large red-shouldered hawks and tiny hummingbirds that nest there, white-tailed deer, and many other mammals, birds, and reptiles.

[Photo of Shirley McGreal and Bullet]

Bullet and I enjoying the woods, Shirley
How a young orangutan reached a pet shop in Saudi Arabia, where he is on sale at a high price, is a question IPPL has been trying to answer since first hearing of the case.

On 28 January 2005, IPPL was tipped off about the presence of a baby orangutan in a pet shop in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The infant was a male, around two years old. The salesperson said that he had sold the male orangutan’s “sister” for US$10,000 and that he hoped to sell the animal for 55,000 Saudi riyals (about US$13,000).

The orangutan was being kept in a cage around five by eight feet in size with a glass window. Store visitors were able to handle him. The observer asked IPPL what could be done to rescue the baby. Clearly, buying him would only encourage the pet shop owner to obtain a replacement animal.

IPPL learned that the name of the pet shop is “Exotique Pets” and that the shop’s mailing address is a post office box in Riyadh. Although many businesses in Saudi Arabia do not have street addresses, IPPL was informed that the pet shop is located on 30th Street, near the corner of Olaya Street, close to the department store called Gazaz.

Besides the orangutan, the shop was selling other endangered wildlife such as macaws and black cockatoos, as well as various monkey species.

Receiving a report of a wildlife crime in progress is rare. It presents a wonderful opportunity for animals to be confiscated, importers to be investigated, and, if a crime has taken place, for prosecution to take place.

IPPL quickly contacted the Saudi Arabian embassy in the United States, two officials of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and several Saudi Arabian government officials.

The Director of the CITES Management Authority (MA) for Saudi Arabia bears the ultimate responsibility for enforcing international wildlife trade laws in that country. In our message to the Saudi MA, we pointed out that commercial trade in endangered species such as orangutans is specifically banned under CITES and requested that he investigate this case.

So far we have received no response from any of the people we contacted. A primate-friendly member of an Asian government has passed the information on to the CITES Standing Committee and to Interpol, the international police agency, which has a unit that investigates wildlife crime.

Stop the Saudi Arabian Orangutan Trade
Protest Letters Needed

Please send letters to the following officials to protest the sale of endangered primates, particularly orangutans, in Saudi Arabia. Point out that the sale of such animals is in violation of international law, particularly the CITES treaty. State the location of the pet shop, as given above, and request that the case be investigated; ask that action be taken against the pet store owners to prevent further illegal animal trade. You may also want to

continued on next page
express your hope that the orangutan be confiscated and returned to a primate sanctuary in his native habitat, either Sumatra or Borneo. Postage from the United States to Saudi Arabia is 80 cents per ounce.

**The Secretary General**
National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development
P.O. Box 61681
RIYADH-11575
SAUDI ARABIA
Fax: 966 (1) 441 07 97

**His Excellency the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia**
Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia
601 New Hampshire Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20037
USA
Phone: (202) 342-3800

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**TAKING CARE OF PRIMATES — NOW AND FOR EVER**

Over the years, IPPL has greatly benefited from caring supporters who have remembered IPPL in their wills. Thanks to those wonderful people, we can continue and expand our program of investigations and we can help primates rescued from horrible abuse by sending them to sanctuaries in Africa, Asia, and South America.

IPPL assists groups working to help wildlife in remote parts of the world and takes care of 31 wonderful gibbons, many of them research veterans, at our headquarters sanctuary.

In 1999 we built a much-needed education center, thanks to a generous bequest from Swan and Mary Henningson.

One kind member left a special gift for Igor, our lab gibbon who had lived behind black Plexiglas for 21 years because he self-mutilated at the sight of other gibbons. Igor has now spent 18 years in “retirement” with IPPL.

These departed members’ compassion and thoughtfulness survives their leaving this world.

Our “special needs” gibbons require considerable attention. One of these is Courtney. Courtney was born at IPPL to Michelle and Maui. This was a complete surprise because Maui had undergone a vasectomy. Courtney was born on 10 January 2002. Sadly, her mother lacked milk and attacked her baby as she struggled to suckle. Courtney’s left leg was severely injured and she was in shock. Our veterinarian managed to save her life but she has required special care ever since. Local attorney Karen McCormick (seen above with her gibbon friend) has been wonderfully helpful with Courtney. She volunteers every Monday to give Courtney quality play and cuddle time.

We hope that you will consider including IPPL in your estate plans, to ensure that primates in need will have our hard-working and experienced organization to stand by them now and in the future—and that the primates living at IPPL will continue to receive the best food and physical and emotional care that they need and deserve.

Please contact **IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA**, if you would like to discuss providing enduring help for IPPL. Thank you so much.
IPPL received a fascinating holiday gift from a member living in the Hawaiian Islands. It was a tattered book with the title *All God’s Creatures – The Autobiography of Sam Pryor*. The book was published privately by Vantage Press in 1982. The book provided IPPL with valuable information about two of IPPL’s gibbons, Sammy and Palu-Palu.

Sam Pryor was Executive Vice-President of the now-defunct Pan American Airways and was also an official of Remington Arms. He lived at Kipahulu on the island of Maui.

For several years in the 1980s, we had heard rumors of a man living on Maui who had a collection of pet gibbons, and that he had found a way to get gibbons out of Asia.

One day in the early 1980s I received a call from a man identifying himself as Mr. Pryor. My caller asked if IPPL would provide a home for his gibbons when he died. I said, “Yes, but please put it in writing,” and added that we would not need any funds for the gibbons’ care.

We heard nothing further about Mr. Pryor or his gibbons for many years. Then one day in 1994 Lucy Wormser of the Pacific Primate Sanctuary on the island of Maui called me to report about a gibbon kept alone at Maui Zoo in sub-standard conditions. The gibbon’s name was Sammy.

Lucy and her colleagues campaigned for Sammy to come to IPPL, and he arrived in South Carolina in May 1995. We learned that Sammy had been kept as a pet by Sam Pryor. He had regularly been taken to the Hana Hotel’s lunch buffet where he had a special fruit plate. However, Pryor had unfortunately never put in writing that his gibbons were to come to IPPL when he died—and thus poor Sammy ended up living in isolation at Maui Zoo.

I never knew a gentler, sweeter gibbon than Sammy, but he clearly was not a healthy animal. From the start, Sammy had a bad cough. Tests showed that he had dilated cardiomyopathy, a serious condition not heard of before in gibbons, but which can be caused by exposure to the Coxsackie virus. Sammy was very cooperative and let us medicate him, but his heart muscle was damaged beyond repair and there was no cure. Poor Sammy passed on in October 1997. If only Mr. Pryor had put in writing that Sammy should come to IPPL, this lovely gibbon would probably never have been exposed to the virus that took his life—and would probably still be alive.

Later, Maui Zoo got into trouble with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and a decision was made to close the zoo down. The zoo’s three remaining gibbons were sent to IPPL; they were Boy, Jade, and their young son Maui. We immediately changed the name “Boy” to “Palu-Palu,” which means “softly-softly” in the Hawaiian language.

We are always curious about the background of our gibbons and found an answer in Pryor’s book. “Boy” had also been a pet in Sam Pryor’s home. He and his mate Kamie had produced a black baby gibbon who was taken away for hand-raising. “Boy” was our Sammy’s father!

In his new “incarnation” as Palu-Palu, Sammy’s father has lived at IPPL since 2000. His mate Jade still lives here with him. Maui formerly lived with Michelle and is the father of our youngster Courtney, making Palu-Palu and Jade grandparents.

Pryor is buried along with six of his pet gibbons in the churchyard at Hana, alongside the grave of Pryor’s great friend, the aviator Charles Lindbergh.

Please help care for Palu-Palu and his 30 gibbon companions by making a donation by check or credit card to the IPPL Gibbon Fund, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484.
“Bahrain Willie” Has New Baboon Companion!

Willie, a baboon confiscated and held at the Bahrain SPCA for two years, now has a companion in his new home in Wales: Molly, a baboon formerly housed at a dog and cat shelter in Qatar.

The April 2004 issue of IPPL News described the long battle by Bahrain animal lovers, led by Peg Altemueller, to find a home for Willie. Plans to send him to a rescue center in Africa collapsed in a tangle of government bureaucracy. Willie was growing too big for the SPCA to manage and his future looked bleak. Then a wonderful break came about.

Fortunately for Willie, Graham Garen of the Cefn-yr-Erw Primate Rescue Sanctuary in Wales (www.cefn-yr-erw.co.uk) offered him a home. Graham and his wife Jan tenaciously overcame a variety of roadblocks thrown in the way of their efforts to bring Willie to their sanctuary.

In March of 2004, thanks to the kindness of Emirates Air, Willie arrived at his new home. He settled down well, but he had one problem—he needed a companion.

Just four months later, Molly arrived in Wales from Qatar, again with the help of Emirates Air. Graham Garen reports that Willie could not contain his excitement when Molly arrived. He comments on the sanctuary’s Web site,

_It was all thanks again to Emirates, the Airline with a big heart who only four months previously had arranged and sponsored Willie’s own arrival from Bahrain. Willie was completely overwhelmed by Molly, who spent her first day at Cefn-yr-Erw in the next cage to his. It was immediately apparent that they would get on well together and the next morning Molly joined Willie in his cage. They are now inseparable and go everywhere together, spending lots of time grooming each other and enjoying the other’s company. Willie is very protective of Molly and keeps her away from people he doesn’t know. He even picks her up and carries her away before positioning himself between her and any visitors. We are very pleased to see that the focus of his attention has moved from humans to Molly as this is what we always hoped would happen._

**IPPL sent the Cefn-yr-Erw Sanctuary a gift of US $1,000 to help with the costs of Willie and Molly’s care.**

🔍 **Special Gifts to IPPL**

Given by:

- Kristina Cox, D.V.M., in memory of Dr. Sylvia Taylor
- Lisa DosSantos, Coordinator for the Coral Springs, Florida, Forest Glen Middle School Save What’s Left Club, in memory of Cuddles, Randi, Coke, Bambi, and Tia
- Ms. Elissa B. Free, in memory of Ann Cottrell Free
- Casady Henry, in honor of Krista D. Fish
- Larissa and Christopher Hepler, in honor of Seth and Doreen Heimlich
- Wilson, Jackie, Susan, and Christopher David Hepler, in honor of Seth and Doreen Heimlich
- Ms. Judith B. Homstad, in honor of Joy and George Adamson
- Ms. Joan H. King, in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Robert S. O. Harding
- Ms. Jean Meredith Lattin, in memory of Carolyn Grant and her dog Oz
- Elizabeth Lyons, in honor of Dr. Mary Louise Scholl’s birthday
- Edward J. McDonald, in memory of Frank Koczian
- Joanne and Jerry McGill, in memory of Beverly Oppenheim
- Carole McGlone-Fuenzalida, in honor of IPPL’s canine mascot Bullet
- Shirley McGreal, in honor of Stan Kramien
- C. Bruce and Jane C. McLagan, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Moriarty
- Joan Neymark, in honor of Edward Stein’s birthday
- Bette Overell, in memory of her husband John, who helped her run New Zealand’s Anti-Vivisection Society for 20 years
- Mrs. Holly Frederick Reynolds, in honor of Candy, Baton Rouge’s lone chimpanzee
- Charles and Barbara Oppenheim Taylor, in memory of Beverly Oppenheim
Escaped Chimps Attack Visitors in California

On Thursday 3 March 2005, two male chimpanzees escaped from their enclosure at a small wildlife facility and seriously mauled two visitors.

St. James Davis (62) and his wife LaDonna Davis (64) were attacked in the middle of a “birthday party” for Moe, another chimp at the facility, who had previously been “owned” by the Davises. While LaDonna Davis lost a thumb to the chimp attack, her husband was much more severely injured. According to news reports, he lost all his fingers from both hands, much of his face, and part of his buttocks. His testicles and one of his feet were also mauled.

Two adult male chimps, Buddy (16) and Ollie (13), carried out the assault. They were both shot dead in the course of the attack by the son-in-law of the facility owner. As of late March, Mr. Davis was still in critical condition in intensive care and had not recovered consciousness.

The attack took place at a small facility called Animal Haven Ranch located in Havilah, a small community 30 miles east of Bakersfield, California. In addition to the two males, two older female chimps also escaped from the same enclosure, but they did not take part in the attack. The females were recovered five hours later, one of them two miles from the facility, and returned without incident to Animal Haven Ranch.

Visitors came to see former pet

The facility had also recently become the home of a chimpanzee named Moe, who had been raised as a pet for over 30 years by St. James and LaDonna Davis at their home in West Covina, California. According to St. James Davis, he had rescued Moe from Tanzanian poachers in 1967 and brought the infant ape to Southern California that same year. Moe had been removed from his owners as a result of two biting incidents. During an escape in 1998 he bit a policeman on the hand, causing the man a serious injury, and in 1999 he bit off part of a visitor’s finger.

Moe had been confiscated by West Covina authorities despite protests from the Davis family and their “high profile” attorney, Gloria Allred. He was first kept at the Wildlife Waystation in the Angeles National Forest, California. Later he was transferred to Animal Haven Ranch, which is operated by Virginia and Ralph
Brauer. The Brauers hold a permit from the California Department of Fish and Game to “shelter” up to nine primates. Prior to the attack, they were keeping six chimpanzees and a spider monkey at their facility.

The Davis couple was visiting Moe when the four chimpanzees escaped from their adjacent enclosure. The Davises had come to Animal Haven Ranch to celebrate Moe’s “birthday” (although Moe was wild-caught and his actual date of birth is not known). They had brought along cake and chocolate milk for him. Moe did not escape from his cage.

Although the attack on the Davises was tragic, the situation could have been even more serious if there had been more people around. According to the Bakersfield Association of Retarded Citizens, a group of visitors was supposed to tour the facility on the very day of the attack, although the facility is not open to the public under the terms of its county operating permit.

Inadequate caging?

It is still not clear how the four adult chimpanzees escaped from their cage. Photographs of the chimp enclosures at Animal Haven show that they were made of chain-link fencing, and it is evident that they did not have double doors.

Although chain-link fencing is an approved housing material according to California authorities (see California’s Restricted Species Laws and Regulations www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/pdffiles/fg1518.pdf), IPPL does not consider this type of caging strong enough for chimpanzees, particularly in view of the fact that adult chimps are intelligent wild animals who may be up to five times stronger than adult humans.

In addition, while double doors are not mandatory in California if the facility has an escape-proof perimeter fence, it is clear that this condition was not met, since the two female chimps were able to flee the Animal Haven Ranch property. IPPL believes that BOTH double doors and perimeter fences should have been required.

The plight of captive chimps

This sad story highlights the tragedy of chimpanzees in captivity, whether kept as pets by individuals or by companies who use them for entertainment purposes during their first years of life. Although the Davises kept Moe for years, many chimp owners are usually happy to get rid of the animals when they are no longer cute, cuddly, and manageable. Chimps should never be pets—yet they are openly sold on the Internet. On 11 March IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal located an ad placed by an Arizona animal dealer who was offering large numbers of wild animals for sale, including three baby chimps. A one-month-old female chimp could be bought for the staggering price of $65,000.

Attack chimps had been used in entertainment

Chimpanzees used for commercial purposes are similarly “retired” as soon as they reach six or eight years of age. According to the San Gabriel Valley Tribune, Bob Dunn’s Animal Services of Sylmar, California, had sent the two attack chimps to the Brauers.

Bob Dunn’s Animal Services is the company whose chimpanzees are featured in ads like the series recently created for CareerBuilder.com (see “Chimpanzees Used in Commercials”, this page). It is not clear how much money was provided by Animal Services to properly house and care for their unwanted chimps.

With limited sanctuary space available, many former pet and entertainment chimpanzees end up in sub-standard facilities. In some cases, such shelters are run by people who are well-meaning but ignorant of chimp needs and financially unable to provide for the lifetime care of the animals, who can live 30-40 more years post-retirement. Adult animals must be kept in spacious and strong enclosures and provided with plenty of things to do. Pictures of the Animal Haven Ranch suggest that, in addition to poor security, their chimp enclosures display a lack of environmental enrichment.

Chimp sanctuaries in the U.S.

Fortunately, several sanctuaries in the United States provide the secure housing and mental enrichment that older chimpanzees need. The largest of these is the Save the Chimps sanctuary of Fort Pierce, Florida, which cares for close to 300 chimpanzees, mostly former research animals, at locations in Florida and New Mexico.

Carole Noon, Director of Save the Chimps, explains on the center’s Web site (www.savethechimps.org) why visitors aren’t admitted to the facility she founded. “People often ask us if they can see the chimpanzees at the Sanctuary,” she comments. “We can’t on one hand say these chimps are retired, their lives of exploitation have ended forever, and on the other hand say they will be on display for your viewing pleasure.”

Instead, the sanctuary plans to open an Educational Center, where people can see the retired laboratory chimpanzees through a remote video camera system and also learn about the plight of captive and free-living chimpanzees worldwide.

Chimpanzees Used in Commercials

If you were one of over 130 million residents of the United States who were glued to their TV sets during the U.S. football championship game known as the “Super Bowl,” held on Sunday 6 February, you may have witnessed several commercials featuring chimpanzees.

The ads used four young chimps to portray inept office workers, to the frustration of their human “co-worker.” The animals were dressed in business attire and made to perform silly office tricks, like photocopying their backsides and using whoopee cushions in business meetings. You can see the ads by visiting www.careerbuilder.com and clicking on the chimp’s head. Since their debut on the “Super Bowl,” the ads have since been widely aired on U.S. television.

But reality is a lot less funny for animal entertainers.
The truth behind ape actors

What many people don’t realize is that young apes who are forced to perform in ads like these have a completely artificial life. The chimps in the Super Bowl ads are actually little more than babies in diapers, as you can better see in the ten “behind the scenes” outtakes. These “outtakes” can also be found on the Career Builder web site, following the actual commercials.

Whether bred in captivity (the case with performing chimpanzees in the U.S.) or captured from the wild (as in many other countries), chimps like these are forcibly removed from their mothers at an unnaturally young age. They are then subjected to a strict training regimen in order to get them to perform various abnormal behaviors on cue.

Sadly, these innately unruly and playful wild animals are virtually always subjected to physical and psychological abuse during training.

Although there are animal welfare guidelines for on-set treatment in the U.S., much of this abuse takes place away from the set, where treatment of the animals is inadequately covered by law.

After several years of being forced to perform silly tricks for humans, the young chimps like those featured in the Super Bowl ads are “retired.” Apes featured in the entertainment business are almost never mature animals—who could be dangerous for their trainers to work with.

By the time chimps are six to eight years old, their animal trainers are usually ready to get rid of them, especially the males, who are unlikely to breed.

This means that, if they are lucky, the chimps are sent to a legitimate, well-funded animal sanctuary to live out the remaining 40-plus years of their lives. Zoos typically won’t take performing chimps, who often have picked up abnormal habits while in captivity and are difficult to integrate socially with other chimpanzees.

Some chimps find their way to inadequate wildlife “sanctuaries,” with unfortunate consequences. Two “retired” adult male chimpanzees formerly used by Bob Dunn’s Animal Services in Sylmar, California—which provided the young CareerBuilder chimps—were responsible for the recent attack on a couple visiting a small, private wildlife facility (see “Escaped Chimps Attack Visitors in California,” page 7).

And in the past, chimps have even been sent to biomedical research labs. But the alternative for a “retired” performing chimp who cannot find a home at a reputable sanctuary may simply be euthanasia.

The real cost of chimpanzee entertainment

Animal entertainers are big business. According to a story posted on 7 February 2005, in USA Today, the “use of a trained chimp costs about $1,000 per day. And each chimp typically comes with a trainer—for another $320, or so,” according to a representative from Bob Dunn’s Animal Services. According to CareerBuilder’s Vice President for Consumer Marketing Richard Castellini, the company will be spending about $200 million in advertising in 2005.

But the cost to maintain a “retired” chimpanzee entertainer for the rest of his or her natural lifespan is estimated at around $500,000. And who will take responsibility for that expense? Certainly not the animal trainer, who will be happy to unload his dangerously mature “child stars” and acquire more animals to make more money. And so the vicious cycle continues.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Please send letters of protest to CareerBuilder. Tell them politely that you are not interested in using their services as long as they exploit endangered apes in their advertising. Possible points:

1) Chimpanzees who are forced to become entertainers, such as those featured in the Super Bowl ads, are immature animals who have usually been cruelly removed from their mothers and natural family environment.

2) Chimpanzees are wild animals and are not naturally inclined to perform on cue. This means that they are virtually always subjected to physical and psychological abuse during “training.”

3) When they reach maturity and become too dangerous to handle, chimpanzee “child stars” are typically dumped by their trainers, with no consideration for how these abnormally-reared wild animals will spend the remainder of their 40-plus years of life.

4) Exploiting intelligent, sensitive, endangered wild animals is, when you think about it, not really very funny.

IPPL recommends you write to:
Richard Castellini, Vice President for Consumer Marketing
CareerBuilder Inc.
8420 W Bryn Mawr Ave, Ste 1000
Chicago, IL 60631, USA
Phone: (866) 438-1485 Fax: (773) 399-6313

You can also provide feedback to CareerBuilder by going to www.careerbuilder.com and selecting “Feedback.”
Like London buses, events in Cameroon seem to occur in clusters. Within the space of two days, we at Cameroon’s Limbe Wildlife Centre (LWC) were notified of two separate instances of chimpanzees being kept as pets in Douala, the country’s financial capital.

Chimpanzees are an endangered species and are classified under Article A in Cameroonian wildlife law. As such, it is illegal to keep them in captivity as pets. However, as with many situations out here, the law is not quite what it seems. Evidence suggests that there are large numbers of chimpanzees and other endangered primates being kept illegally as pets in cities like Douala, usually in poor conditions.

Sad fate of many chimp babies

Typically, the animals are captured from the wild as infants, having witnessed the slaughter of their mothers and other troop members. The yield from this butchery feeds the wealthy elite of West and Central Africa, whose penchant for such bushmeat is the primary factor behind the plummeting numbers of great apes and other wildlife species in this part of the world.

The infants are spared from slaughter simply because they are too small to be worth anything as a source of meat. They are, however, extremely valuable as pets. Once an infant is sold, frequently fetching between $50 and $200 for the seller, he or she usually ends up living alone in a small cage, often in the compound of a hotel as an amusement for guests. Malnourished, dehydrated, sick, and psychologically traumatized, many animals die within a few days of being bought.

But chimpanzees are extremely resilient animals, and many babies do manage to survive this trauma to become lovable, cute, dependent household pets—but this phase does not last long. Soon the helpless baby that looks remarkably like a hairy little human infant grows to become a willful and destructive youngster. Although this chimp may only be the size of an 18-month-old human, it is extremely strong and, if it chooses otherwise, is impossible to hold.

Within the space of a few years, the infant becomes an unpredictable juvenile with the strength of a grown man. No longer can the chimpanzee be trusted to play with the adults, let alone the children of the house…and so begins the period of imprisonment during which time the chimpanzee will never leave his or her cage.

Stressed and frustrated by the interminable incarceration, the chimpanzee will develop stereotypical and destructive behaviors that make life for the owners very unpleasant. Keeping a screaming delinquent with the physique of a steroid-fuelled wrestler trapped in a tiny, rusting cage at the bottom of the garden does not lend itself to a peaceful or safe life! It is at this stage that many owners decide they have had enough, and the fate of the chimpanzee may follow that of its parents as it is sold to be butchered for meat.

Jo Jo and Julie: neglected pets

For the two pet chimpanzees to whom we were alerted, this was fortunately not the case. The first, Jo Jo, turned out to be a very strong and healthy seven-year-old male. His owner, a Greek businessman, had departed the country, leaving the chimpanzee to Mr. Frederic, a Cameroonian colleague. This was not an ideal gift, as Jo Jo proceeded to ruin Mr. Frederic’s life, repeatedly escaping from a rusting cage to wreak terror on the local community.

On one occasion Jo Jo, having escaped with an empty stomach, headed straight for a man selling biscuits on the side of the road. Jo Jo, using the local parlance, dealt with the biscuit seller before eating all of his biscuits. And so, some months later, Mr. Frederic kindly called the Limbe Wildlife Centre, rather than the local butcher, to ask for help.

The second chimpanzee was Julie, an eleven-year-old female. As is so often the case, Julie, like Jo Jo, was bought as an infant by an expatriate rather than a local Cameroonian. In this instance it was a French lady who called the Limbe Wildlife Centre for help. She sounded very upset.
on the phone, and told of how she loved animals and was going to be heartbroken when we took away her beloved pet.

However, these sentiments appeared to be in conflict with the reality of the chimpanzee’s confinement. When we saw Julie for the first time she was tethered to a concrete kennel on the end of a meter-long chain, secured around her scarred neck by a padlock for which the owner had long since lost the key. The chain was so short that Julie was unable to stand up and could barely even move.

Since nobody could get near enough to clean the kennel, she was covered in her own feces, and her arms and legs were thin from years of disuse. Despite this, she looked surprisingly healthy.

A new life together at Limbe

After two separate expeditions to Douala from Limbe (kindly funded with assistance from the Born Free Foundation), both Jo Jo and Julie were brought to the Wildlife Centre last November, where they now share a quarantine cage together. Although they are at present separated by a dividing metal-barred wall, they are both, for the first time in years, in the company of a fellow chimpanzee that they can touch, smell, and groom.

It was interesting to see their first reactions to each other and to their new, relatively spacious environment. Julie was immediately fascinated by Jo Jo, calling to him and stretching out her hand through the separating bars in a display of greeting. Jo Jo however, like a strutting teenager, pretended to not notice Julie’s flirtations, but instead chose to flex his shoulders and pectorals and slap his feet on the ground in defiance of his new surroundings.

They have now spent several months together and are much more relaxed, having settled in well. When their quarantine period is successfully completed, they will hopefully have developed a strong allegiance with each other, an allegiance which will be invaluable when they make their final journey out of quarantine into the spacious chimpanzee enclosure, where they will meet—and can finally begin living like—other chimpanzees.

Kenya Seizes Smuggled Monkeys and Baby Chimps

On 31 January 2005, six baby chimpanzees and four guenon monkeys were discovered in a crate at Nairobi Airport, Kenya. They were confiscated by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). One baby chimpanzee died, but the five survivors are now safely housed at the Sweetwaters Sanctuary, Laikipia, Kenya. The guenons (their species was not identified in press coverage of the incident) remain in the care of the KWS. Unfortunately, the smuggler was allowed to leave Kenya.

Eric Kalla, an assistant director at the KWS, told the Reuters news service that

the six babies were squashed in a small crate together with four Guenons; they were in a very pathetic condition. They had begun eating their own fecal matter due to hunger and unfortunately one baby chimp died due to stress and starvation.

According to Kalla, the primates belonged to a woman who had claimed the crate was a kennel containing dogs. The unidentified woman and the animals were reported to be “en route from Egypt to Nigeria via Kenya’s Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.” This does not make sense to IPPL, as Kenya lies far south of Egypt and Nigeria. In addition, it would be strange to send chimps from Egypt, which has no wild chimps, to Nigeria, which does. The final destination of the animals is not known. The name of the airline that carried the animals was not identified in press coverage of the incident.

In September 2001 an Egyptian woman arrived in Cairo from Nigeria with a baby gorilla and a baby chimpanzee. Egyptian authorities drowned both of the smuggled animals in a vat of chemicals, which resulted in a worldwide protest led by IPPL. (A copy of the November 2001 issue of IPPL News, which ran the story of these animals, is available free on request from IPPL.) No action was taken against this smuggler, in either Egypt or Nigeria. It is interesting to speculate on whether the same woman was responsible for the January 2005 primate smuggling incident as well.

According to a 16 February 2005 article in the Nation, a Kenyan newspaper,

The chimpanzees, with a black market value of more than Sh1 million [US $500,000], were seized by veterinary officials at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport after a female owner failed to produce valid documents authorizing their movement. Chimpanzees are endangered species and their trade is banned under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). One needs a CITES certificate to move them across borders. The woman sneaked back into the plane on which she had arrived from Sudan [it is not clear to IPPL how Sudan fit into the itinerary]. She is now being pursued by Interpol.

ATTENTION NON-MEMBERS READING THIS ISSUE OF IPPL NEWS!

If you are reading this issue of IPPL News and aren’t yet a member, please consider joining IPPL. By joining you will continue to receive IPPL News and will help IPPL continue, and expand, its primate protection programs worldwide.

Every donation helps, especially in these difficult times. Basic membership dues are $20 (US), sustaining dues are $50, and patron dues are $100 and up. Student/hardship dues are just $10.

Please mail your payment to IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA. IPPL accepts checks or credit cards. You can also use our secure server at www.ippl.org (or, if you are a UK resident, www.ippl-uk.org/).
Ghana’s Kumasi Zoo Chimps: Together at Last!

For about two decades, the two female chimpanzees in Ghana’s Kumasi Zoo were kept far apart in small, barren cages. But thanks to the untiring efforts of animal lovers and IPPL members Valerie and Tim Buchanan, Afua and Cecelia were finally united in a single multi-part enclosure last August. According to Valeria and Tim, they appear to be healthy and greatly enjoy each other’s company.

The Buchanans, who were residents of Ghana at the time, first met the chimps in 1999 and were distressed at the animals’ living conditions. The two mature chimps (Afua is probably in her 20s and Cecelia in her 30s) could see and hear each other but could never come into contact.

Since relocating the animals to a sanctuary was unfortunately not an option, the Buchanans soon set about raising money to build a connecting passageway between the two separate cages and to provide the apes with greater stimulation. IPPL and Save the Chimps contributed funds to this effort.

The uniting of these two animals, though time-consuming, has been very rewarding. According to the Buchanans, Afua and Cecelia now “act as though they have been together for their entire lives, indicating their need for each other’s company. They are very comfortable with each other and the keepers say they sleep together in the night box. They also are not trying to break out anymore, which they were doing constantly for years.” The Buchanans hope to see about providing additional enrichment to Afua and Cecelia’s enclosure, as well.

Sadly, Kumasi Zoo is a facility that is in need of considerable improvement in other respects. The baboons and other monkeys, for example, still live in small cages with no enrichment. But meanwhile, IPPL believes that improving the lives of some of its animals is a worthwhile endeavor and we appreciate Valerie and Tim’s tireless and ongoing efforts to make a difficult situation better. After all, the best primate enrichment is a fellow primate.

Accra Zoo, Ghana, Upgrades Primate Housing

Accra Zoo, in the capital city of the African nation of Ghana, has long had a reputation for keeping wildlife in sub-standard housing. In recent months a wide range of groups, including IPPL-UK, have assisted efforts by West African Primate Conservation Action (WAPCA) to improve the living conditions for the highly endangered white-naped mangabeys and Roloway guenons living at the zoo. On 28 February 2005 Julia Trillmich, who led the project until November 2004, informed IPPL and other supporting organizations that

with your help WAPCA was able to construct three cages for these endangered primates and a visitor’s platform that is surrounded by educative signboards. Another signboard at the entrance of the “Centre for Endangered Primates” clearly portrays our sponsor’s engagement to the 80,000 annual zoo visitors.
Third Grade Artists Create Primate Portraits

Earlier this year, the third grade art students of Saint Rose Catholic School in Paso Robles, California, presented IPPL with a lovely gift: a colorful set of primate drawings. Their teacher, Maryan Infield, is an animal activist who is “always looking for ways to bring young people into the world of animal causes.” Her class has decided to sponsor IPPL’s little gibbon Courtney and, in her honor, included several pictures of gibbons. Here is a selection of their work.
Attie Gerber captures an obliging couple of chacma baboons enjoying a grooming session in South Africa’s Vredefort Dome region.

Social interactions are at the heart of baboon troop life, even for an infant like the one above right.
All photos © Attie Gerber
Documentary filmmaker Dr. Attie Gerber has spent many months among the chacma baboons, the “dog-faced little bears” (*Papio cynocephalus ursinus*), of South Africa. The result: *Baboons: Tales, Traits and Troubles*, a wonderful coffee-table book full of marvelous, sensitive portraits of these large, savanna-dwelling monkeys.

The book is also a fond exploration of the baboon as a native South African cultural icon that has made its mark on the Afrikaans language. “Baboon” (*bobbejaan* in Afrikaans) appears in many place names and vernacular plant names. And the Afrikaans phrase “to be baboonized” (*gebobbejaaniseer*) is a colorful reference to poor souls who have sat in so many meetings that their backsides are calloused like a baboon’s!

Finally, *Baboons* is a tribute to the hard work of Rita Miljo, the founder of CARE (Centre for Animal Rehabilitation and Education) in South Africa’s Limpopo Province. She came to South Africa from Germany in 1953 because of her love for wild animals and established CARE in 1989 on a piece of land along the Olifants River that she had purchased back in 1963. CARE works with many types of wild animals but specializes in rehabilitating baboons.

**South Africa’s premier baboon sanctuary**

Ms. Miljo released her first group of rehabilitated baboons in 1994, to the amazement of skeptics. She has a well-thought-out, intensive resocialization process for the traumatized animals who find their way to her sanctuary. The baboons who reach her may have survived lab experiments (live baboons can still be sold internationally for research purposes) or escaped the hands of local *muti* traders (dealers in traditional South African remedies, which include animal parts like baboon skin, hands, or skulls). Ms. Miljo has since released a number of troops, including the release of two troops into the Vredefort Dome conservation area in 2002, where Dr. Gerber first met her.

But Ms. Miljo worries about declines in baboon populations. Often, she notes, one does not realize that a species is vanishing until it is too late. Baboons reproduce slowly—only one infant every 15–18 months, and mortality can be as high as 80 percent for young ones. Their natural habitat is shrinking, and they face frequent assaults (including shootings and poisonings) from South African farmers who are more inclined to see the baboons as marauding “vermin” (as they are classified by law in some areas) rather than as resourceful, intelligent animals who have a right of priority to the use of their native land.
Show You CARE!

If you would like to make a donation Rita Miljo’s CARE sanctuary to help her protect the baboons of South Africa, please send a check, payable to IPPL, to IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA. Please mark your donation “For CARE” so that your gift will be correctly allocated to this project. We can also accept credit card donations (Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover); all we need is the card number, the expiration date, and the name on the card. Or donate online at www.ippl.org; click on the “Renewals/New Memberships/Donations” link and put “For CARE” in the comments field.

Also see the Action Block on the next page. ➔

Baboons: Tales, Traits and Troubles

Baboons: Tales, Traits and Troubles is available from www.kalahari.com, the South African equivalent of Amazon Books. IPPL has been in touch with the company and its customer service department asks you to contact KalahariSupport2@kalahari.net if you run into problems with their Web site.
HELP SAVE THE BABOONS OF SOUTH AFRICA

The 35 rehabilitated baboons released by CARE into the Vredefort Dome region in 2002, as documented by Attie Gerber, have been taken by CARE back into captivity: since the animals’ release, one of the two troops was poisoned (six baboons died) and two baboons have been shot. Even though the region was in the process of applying for World Heritage Site classification, the animals did not find it to be a place of refuge. CARE is unable to prevent landowners or hunters from killing the baboons because, according to the law, baboons have been classified as “vermin” and, as such, may be killed without even a permit. CARE has successfully had the law changed in two of the nine provinces in South Africa—but all baboons should be spared this persecution.

Please write to the South African Minister for Agriculture and ask that South African law be revised to remove the label of “vermin” from the country’s baboons. Express your concern that, even in an area like the Vredefort Dome that should have offered these animals some protection, they have been poisoned and shot. Ask that these native South African primates be protected and that positive solutions be found to alleviate conflicts between baboons and humans.

Mr. Ndleleni Duma
Minister for Agriculture, Conservation, Environment and Tourism
North-West Province
South Africa
E-mail: epilane@nwpg.gov.za

Malaysian Group: Return Taiping Four Gorillas Home

Four young gorillas, smuggled from Cameroon through Nigeria and South Africa, reached the Taiping Zoo, Malaysia, in January 2002. Last year the Malaysian authorities resettled the smuggled gorillas in Pretoria Zoo, despite protests that South Africa—as part of the original smuggling itinerary—should not be rewarded with custody of these valuable animals. IPPL initially uncovered the case of the “Taiping Four” and has worked continuously to get those involved in this species-destructive and cruel deal identified and punished.

Malaysian wildlife protectors have also been keeping up the pressure on the authorities to take action against participants in the gorilla affair. On 15 March 2005 Sahabat Alam Malaysia (Friends of the Earth Malaysia) issued a press release that stated in part:

Friends of the Earth Malaysia has not forgotten the Taiping Four gorillas… Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM) once again calls for the four young gorillas known as the “Taiping Four” to be returned to their natural habitat, instead of staying at a zoo in Pretoria.

SAM is infuriated at the illegal smuggling of the wild caught primates from Cameroon that made their way into the Taiping Zoo in Malaysia more than two years ago. As victims of the smuggling wildlife trade it is only right that they be returned to their natural habitat instead of living their lives at the Pretoria zoo.

Since their discreet shipment to South Africa’s National Zoo in Pretoria by the Taiping Zoo authorities there has been no news of them, and SAM is concerned over their welfare and how they thrive at their unnatural zoo environment. No zoo should benefit from the spoils of high profile animals of high profile species.

Cameroon has long demanded the return of the lowland gorillas and South Africa should acknowledge that and send the animals home immediately.

After IPPL brought the smuggling deal to light in 2002, the Malaysian government cancelled a permit it had issued to Taiping Zoo to procure still more gorillas from the Nigerian crooks involved. In early 2004 Malaysian authorities quietly announced that the gorillas would be confiscated and shipped to Pretoria Zoo, South Africa. The World Association of Zoos and Aquaria had worked hard to make sure that the animals reached one of its member zoos, rather than a sanctuary in a gorilla habitat country. In April 2004 the gorillas reached Pretoria Zoo, where they remain till this day despite repeated requests from Cameroon wildlife authorities for the animals to be sent to Cameroon’s Limbe Wildlife Centre, which already takes excellent care of many confiscated gorillas.

Following meetings held in October 2002 between Shirley McGreal, Chairwoman of IPPL, and Dr. Imeh Okopido, Nigeria’s then Minister of State for the Environment, Nigeria established a commission to investigate the illegal wildlife trade emanating from Nigeria.

Mrs. Dora Akinboye, the director of Ibadan Zoo, which was serving as a “laundering center” for illegal wildlife trafficking (including the Taiping Four), was fired. IPPL does not know whether other panel recommendations, such as the prosecution of several animal dealers, Ibadan Zoo employees, and corrupt government officials, have been implemented.
There are now only a few weeks left before we transfer our group of rescued woolly monkeys to their new home, a 45-hectare (over 111 acre) refuge of forest along the Rio Mayo, in northern Peru. Everyone is excited, and nervous, well aware that this new move will test the monkeys’ ability to adapt to a more natural life.

It has been a long five-year journey to get to this stage. Some of the orphaned monkeys were handed over to the Ikamaperu project in poor health, critically ill, and malnourished. They had been kept as pets by people who did not realise that these infants need a very special diet and quite intensive care just to survive. The smallest babies have at times needed round-the-clock attention, but now—thanks to a good, balanced diet and the freedom to exercise and forage outside in sunshine—ten of these monkeys have fully regained their physical health. They have boundless energy and are more than ready to move to a bigger territory.

The rehabilitation process

While they may be in good physical shape, it is important for us to make sure that the woollies are independent enough to move on from the safety of the rescue centre. Having grown up in a sheltered environment, they will also need to rediscover the survival skills of wild monkeys.

Watching the monkeys progress over the past four years, it is incredibly satisfying to see how they have learned to live together as a social group, and in doing so have become progressively more independent from us. Apu, the adult and dominant male, has assumed an authority over the youngsters, maintaining order and giving them a sense of security. Suwa, the oldest female, has become an adventurous forager, and the less experienced monkeys follow her lead.

The monkeys all spend on average five hours a day out in an area of trees, adjacent to the rescue centre, where they look for wild fruits, leaves, and insects and experiment with other foods (eggs from birds’ nests and fungi, to name but two). Feeding platforms have been built high up in the trees to make sure that the young monkeys are getting enough to eat, also encouraging them not to stray to the ground or sneak back to the enclosure to look for snacks. Their keepers, two young Peruvians called Gardel and Amirio, have had to learn to climb trees and to make woolly monkey calls, communicating with the monkeys using a range of whistles and “eeolks” when it is time to return to the enclosure.

Habituation has not in any way affected the monkeys’ sense of danger. The monkeys are easily able to make the distinction between people or animals that they know and those they don’t trust. We have noticed that when a vulture circles overhead, Apu makes alarm calls, and then the other monkeys hide below the tree canopy. In the rainforest, harpy eagles prey on monkeys, and so this natural avoidance of big birds is a good precaution. Likewise, if one of the woollies spots a snake on the ground, the group rushes higher up the trees and protests loudly. If anything, the monkeys are over-cautious and very conservative about anything unknown or brightly colored. Generally the group stays close together, although it is not unknown for the adolescent and adult males to panic. This happened when the monkeys encountered a group of loggers making loud noises (shouting and cutting down trees). Daku separated from the group and was lost for 24 hours. You can imagine the concern of everyone, monkeys and keepers alike, calling for him through the day and night, until he returned to rejoin the group, exhausted and shaky.

Meet Toumai and Anen!

The newest arrivals at the rescue center—baby woolly monkeys named Toumai and Anen—are under one year old and won’t become integrated into the bigger group until they are ready to fend for themselves. They are spending their first year being hand reared, by just one carer, so that they have the chance to feel secure. Having witnessed the violent death of her mother and survived a harsh physical journey in the hands of...
pet traders, Anen is very traumatized and she panics if she feels abandoned.

Each day the infants spend some time being introduced to the older monkeys. Individual monkeys vary in their attitude towards the babies; some are absolutely besotted by them, while others are gently indifferent. The male monkeys are keen to have Toumai climb up on their backs for a ride, and Apu responds protectively when he hears distress calls from either baby. Although one of the young females, Ipak, is especially affectionate with the two babies, we have not seen what might be called real adoption behaviour. On one occasion Ipak enthusiastically carried Toumai high up into the branches of a tree and then abandoned him there. Luckily Gardel’s climbing skills are almost a match for a woolly monkey’s and Toumai was retrieved safely.

Preparing for the big move

Whilst the monkeys are being cared for at the rescue center in Moyobamba, equally important preparation work has been underway at the Rio Mayo refuge, some 40 minutes upriver. This land comprises secondary and small remnants of primary rainforest. Although it is just a tiny fragment of forest, such is the level of deforestation and environmental degradation in the Rio Mayo valley that it has already become an important refuge for wild animals. Groups of tamarins, squirrel monkeys, night monkeys, and the extremely rare, endemic Andean titi monkey all live in the refuge. Here the monkeys can find a sanctuary from hunters and from the fires lit to clear the forest on surrounding hillsides.

Over the last five years the project has replanted some 2,000 tree seedlings, enriching the secondary forest with over 45 different species of wild fruits. Some of these trees are already producing fruits and will be a vital supplement to the monkeys’ diet.

Peruvian ecology students have volunteered to help with the replanting program and with a local campaign to raise awareness about protecting primates.

In the peak hunting season—March and April—they have put up posters in the regional market towns where monkey meat is sold and baby monkeys are traded as pets. They have also talked to many people in the communities surrounding the Rio Mayo refuge, asking for their cooperation in protecting the monkeys on our land.

This last month work was completed on the woolly monkeys’ new housing at the refuge. They will have a huge 100m² (10,000 square foot) enclosure, with an opening out into the forest and pre-established trails to help them explore their new environment. The Ikamaperu team too will be moving and everyone is getting ready for a complete change of life: living together communally on the land and putting up with basic conditions “in the bush.” They know that solidarity, imagination, and passion for their job are the best guarantee for success in this new adventure with the woollies.

Nightclub Monkeys Moved to Rainforest Zoo

Following a years-long “Free the Monkeys” campaign by Hawaiian animal protection organizations and concerned citizens, three squirrel monkeys kept on display at Honolulu’s Blue Tropix nightclub were transferred to the Panaewa Rainforest Zoo, in Hilo on the “Big Island” of Hawaii, in January 2005.

The three monkeys, one male and two females, now live in an outdoor quarantine area. The zoo already has four squirrel monkeys in a half-acre enclosure and, once the newcomers’ health checks are completed, the zoo plans to merge the two groups.

In the April 2001 issue of IPPL News, IPPL asked readers to protest the exhibition of squirrel monkeys at the raucous Blue Tropix nightclub. Three animals were being housed in a glass-fronted enclosure and subjected nightly to unavoidable stares from bar patrons (considered a threatening behavior by many primate species), loud noises produced by the sound system, and disturbingly bright lights in the middle of the night. The animals were reported to exhibit abnormal behaviors typical of highly stressed monkeys, including head twirling, excessive scratching, and repetitive movements. They had no outdoor access.

Many readers responded with letters to government agencies protesting the incarceration of monkeys in such inappropriate surroundings. Said Betty Kamida, one of the leaders in the effort to help the Blue Tropix monkeys, “The ‘Free the Monkeys’ organizers would like to thank all the IPPL readers who took the time to write to the agencies. These letters were a significant part of the public records that were obtained and scrutinized to move the government agencies to action. Mahalo! [Thank you!]” This transfer to an environment more consistent with the animals’ welfare is certainly a victory for primate lovers everywhere.

Zoo director Dick Mortemore told the Honolulu Star-Bulletin that the monkeys’ reactions to their new home seemed to be, “Oh my gosh, there’s sky up there. They appeared to be curious about the new experience!”

Congratulations to Betty Kamida, Linda Vannatta, and everyone involved in getting the monkeys out of an unsuitable environment!

ARE YOU MOVING? PLEASE TELL US!

Attention, readers! Please let IPPL know by post or e-mail if you change your mailing address. We would hate to lose track of you. IPPL E-Alert list members should let us know when they change their e-mail address. Contact us at info@ippl.org—thank you!
IPPL’S FEDERAL TAX NUMBER

In the United States, donations and bequests to IPPL are tax-deductible. The U.S. Internal Revenue Service has assigned IPPL a tax number, which is 51-0194013.

Two Grassroots Environmentalists Assassinated in Brazil

Within a two-week period this past February, two of Brazil’s most ardent conservationists met their end at the hands of armed assassins. On 12 February 2005 Dorothy Stang, a 73-year-old American-born nun, was shot in the head by two gunmen as she read to them from her Bible. She had worked in Brazil for nearly 40 years, most recently in Para State on the southern border of the Amazon rainforest. There, she was establishing sustainable use projects among poor farmers.

Just ten days later, Dionisio Ribeiro Filho (59), who had been trying to protect Brazil’s dwindling Atlantic rainforests from loggers and poachers, was shot in the head at the Tingua federal reserve. Sadly, working to protect forests and wildlife carries a death penalty in many parts of the world.

Nun balanced human dignity with conservation needs

Stang persisted in her mission despite recent escalating death threats. Her goal had been to defend the rights of rural agricultural workers while promoting the conservation of the Amazon rainforest. By teaching her community sustainable agricultural practices, 80 percent of their land would remain as forest.

She was killed after meeting with Brazilian human rights authorities the previous week regarding the threats to local farmers from illegal loggers and ranchers, who had been terrorizing the people Stang championed by burning down their homes.

During the 1970s (in the wake of the construction of the Trans-Amazon Highway), the Brazilian government had granted people in her community land-use rights—but no deeds to their property. Their indeterminate legal status has been exploited by wealthy land speculators interested in extracting lumber and cutting down the forest for cattle grazing.

This has led to terrible human rights violations as loggers and ranchers have regularly enforced their will with hired gunmen, especially in the state where Stang was killed. Environmental devastation has also been the result: already, an estimated 20 percent of the vast Amazon rainforest has been destroyed by logging, ranching, and development, and such activities in Para State are responsible for about one third of Amazonia’s deforestation.

Some statistics state that 80 to 90 percent of the timber harvested in Para State is done illegally.

In the wake of Stang’s murder, the Brazilian government has promised a crackdown on lawlessness and land grabbing and to protect the nation’s forests, declaring eight million acres to be under protection. However, the Amazon is so immense—the approximate area of the U.S.’s lower 48 states—that many acknowledge how difficult it can be there to maintain the rule of law.

Poacher slays protector of coastal rainforest

Dionisio Ribeiro Filho was dedicated to Brazil’s Atlantic coastal forest, home to most of the world’s golden lion tamarins. By now, 97% of it has already been destroyed, though it was once a third as large as the Amazon rainforest.

Ribeiro was a member of a non-profit environmental organization that helped establish the Tingua federal reserve in 1989 and worked to defend it from people harvesting palm trees for heart of palm, a gourmet food item, and trapping tropical birds and animals for illegal sale.

Ribeiro’s assassin, a 21-year-old poacher, has confessed to the killing, but police suspect he may have been hired for the purpose. Two men have been charged with killing Stang, although the rancher suspected of orchestrating and paying a reported $19,300 for her murder has left the region.

PLEASE – Request Protection for Amazon Forests and Their Defenders

Please contact the President of Brazil requesting that the Amazon rainforests be protected and that all involved in the murders of Sister Dorothy Stang and Dionisio Ribeiro Filho be identified and severely punished. Postage from the United States to Brazil costs 80 cents per ounce.

Senhor Luis Inacio Lula da Silva
President of the Republic of Brazil
Praça dos Três Poderes, Palacio do Planalto,
3º andar 70.150-900 Brasília, DF Brasil
Fax: 61-322-2314
End of the “Baby Monkey” Case: Humans Get Off Scot-Free

At a hearing held on 15 December 2004, Chicago’s U.S. District Judge Ruben Castillo accepted a plea agreement, negotiated with the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. lab animal breeding and importing firm LABS of Virginia. Under the plea agreement, the government agreed to dismiss all charges against three indicted LABS officers and to fine the company a mere $500,000 for illegally importing baby monkeys from Indonesia in 1997.

The agreement was entered last August between the defendants and the U.S. attorney’s office. It is sobering to reflect that, despite illegally and inhumanely importing hundreds of primates into the U.S., all the human defendants got off scot-free. The company’s modest fine was a result of pleading guilty to just one felony count of submitting false records. Sadly, the monkeys didn’t escape their fate of living as U.S. laboratory animals.

In 1997 Dr. Shirley McGreal reported in IPPL News on an eyewitness account of dozens of baby monkeys packed into Air France crates at Chicago’s O’Hare Airport. In April 2002 the importing company, LABS of Virginia, and three of its officers were indicted. LABS and its President, David Taub, were each charged with eight felonies and four misdemeanors (12 counts each) and faced steep fines and long prison terms, with two other LABS officials each facing one criminal charge.

The case ultimately involved over a thousand crab-eating macaques, including many pregnant monkeys and unweaned babies as young as three to five weeks old, who had been sold by the Indonesian animal dealer Agus Darmawan. Shipment of infant animals violates U.S. law. In addition, IPPL obtained evidence showing that the April and May 1997 shipments had included not only baby monkeys, but also wild-caught adult monkeys shipped on fraudulent “captive-born” documents acquired through bribes paid to Indonesian officials.

In the months and years following the discovery by IPPL of these violations, Dr. McGreal and IPPL members protested to numerous officials around the world, calling for all involved to be investigated and prosecuted.

Unfortunately, IPPL believes that justice has NOT been served in this case.

U.S. Primate Laboratory Under Investigation

The New Iberia Research Center (NIRC, http://nirc.louisiana.edu/) at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana, houses around 6,000 primates, including over 400 chimpanzees and thousands of macaque monkeys used in a wide range of experiments.

NIRC is funded primarily by pharmaceutical companies and the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH). The center, formerly known as Gulf South, is currently being investigated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for possible Animal Welfare Act (AWA) violations.

In February 2005 a former employee named Narriman Fakier filed a lawsuit alleging that she was fired for “blowing the whistle” on animal cruelty and violations of AWA at the center.

Fakier contended that monkeys died of exposure to the cold, that employees burned the backs of chimpanzees’ hands with lighters, and that animals were being anesthetized in groups, a practice forbidden by the AWA. Fakier accuses the university of wrongful termination, retaliatory discharge, violation of free speech rights, and violation of whistle-blower statutes.

Fakier, a 20-year veteran in the animal research field, worked at NIRC from September 2002 until February 19th, 2004. She is seeking a jury trial and compensatory damages for lost income and loss of future earnings.

University President Ray Authement denied the allegations. He stated that the center had received complaints about the sizes of cages, but that he knows of no serious reported violations that had not been resolved.

The U.S.-based organization Stop Animal Exploitation NOW (S.A.E.N., http://www.all-creatures.org/saen/) has used the Freedom of Information Act to obtain documents related to the center. Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T., Executive Director of S.A.E.N., commented, Our preliminary findings indicate that something is substantially wrong at the New Iberia Research Center. Government documents show that rhesus monkeys at NIRC are suffering and dying due to negligence and lack of adequate care.

Necropsy reports obtained by S.A.E.N. from the NIH document that many animals at NIRC are emaciated, dehydrated, and suffering from physical trauma. Primates that routinely live until 30 or more are usually dying at age 3 or less.

Budkie added,

We want the public to know the truth about what happens to animals at NIRC. We have asked NIRC officials for additional records to adequately examine the situation at NIRC. We hope that this lab will abide by the laws of Louisiana and provide the information we have requested.

IPPL NEWS

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According to the 15 March 2005 issue of the Ugandan newspaper *New Vision*, the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) has turned down an application by the Uganda American Pet Exchange to capture and export 280 primates. The company is owned by Smith Ewa Maku. Maku applied to export the monkeys to undisclosed markets, most probably for sale to new zoos in developing countries or for experimentation. He identified the primate species he wanted to export as patas monkeys, De Brazza’s monkeys, red-tailed guenons, L’Hoest’s monkeys, vervets, and gray-cheeked mangabeys.

In 2001 Maku had been in trouble with authorities over the possession of five tons of hippo teeth. Maku claimed he had had the teeth in his possession for 20 years. The teeth were confiscated—Ugandan officials stated that they probably came from at least 2,000 hippos—but they were returned to Maku a year later and presumably exported. Hippo teeth can be carved and are sometimes used as a substitute for ivory. According to *New Vision*, “UWA intends to blacklist the company over various malpractice despite Maku’s claim that UWA’s internal weaknesses have frustrated trade in animals.”

**Thank You Letters**

Please send letters thanking Ugandan officials for protecting monkeys from wildlife traffickers and request that all primate species remain protected and banned from export.

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<td>Ambassador of Uganda to the United States</td>
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<td>5911 16 St NW</td>
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<td>Washington, DC 20011</td>
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<td>Fax: (202) 726-1727</td>
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**Note:** Postage to Uganda from the United States costs 80 cents an ounce.

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**Asian Primates and Sanctuaries Spared by Tsunami**

The tsunami disaster, which took place on 26 December 2004, was a tragedy of immense dimensions. It took the lives of hundreds of thousands of human beings and domestic animals.

The Mentawai Islands lie off the west coast of Sumatra, Indonesia. The tsunami hit Aceh province, located further north, but miraculously the Mentawais were spared. These islands are inhabited by primates found nowhere else on earth: the Kloss’s gibbons as well as unique macaque and leaf monkey species. The Kalaweit Gibbon Sanctuary shelters gibbons on Marak Island, which lies between Sumatra and the Mentawai Islands. Like the Mentawais, it was also spared.

Aceh is a province of Sumatra and was the area hardest hit by the tsunami. Aceh’s wild orangutans, gibbons, and many other primates live at elevations well above the level of the huge waves. However, there are fears that the demand for wood for reconstruction of hundreds of thousands of destroyed homes may exacerbate the existing deforestation problems and further imperil Sumatra’s wildlife.

None of the primate rescue centers in Thailand, including the Gibbon Rehabilitation Center, Phuket, Thailand, took a direct hit.
Member Profile: Rebecca Austin
An IPPL Volunteer “Cat Person” Becomes a “Primate Person”

While growing up among the widely-spaced homes of her extended family’s neighborhood in Charlotte, North Carolina, IPPL volunteer Rebecca Austin (left of Shirley in the photo) specialized in cats. She spent the majority of her free time taming the semi-wild felines that made their home in the crawl space beneath her grandparents’ house next door. Thanks to persistence and patience, she tamed every single one of them—at one point she was taking care of 18 cats—and probably 100 kittens by now are resting in peace in her parents’ spacious back yard.

Rebecca has always loved animals, but a degree in chemistry from the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, led her to a career in industry. She has been involved in sales and technical service for paper colorants and process chemicals and, since 2002, for colorants in the food and beverage industry. She is now an Account Manager for Sensient Technologies, which formulates the cheerful colors that coat those little M&M candies, and (it’s true) she gets showered with yummy snack foods of every description wherever she goes. Her work involves a lot of travel throughout the United States, which she enjoys—but it does not leave her with much leisure time. When she does have a weekend to spare, she likes to volunteer.

Rebecca still lives in Charlotte (now a thriving city of over half a million residents that has become known as a center of the banking industry), but she regularly makes the three-hour drive south to IPPL’s sanctuary headquarters. About five years ago, she remembers, she decided she wanted to become “serious about getting involved with animal conservation—especially primates.” She started to surf the Internet for organizations and was excited to find IPPL relatively close to home. She joined, attended her first biennial Members’ Meeting at IPPL’s headquarters in 2002, and quickly discovered she had found a cause she could commit to.

Ever since, she has made the trip to IPPL as often as her schedule permits, these days about one weekend a month. When she first started visiting regularly, IPPL’s little hand-raised gibbon Courtney (who was attacked by her own mother when less than two weeks old) was just an infant and needed extra care. Rebecca quickly became one of Courtney’s “Aunties” and, whenever she comes to visit, still loves to play with the lively little ape. Rebecca also has developed special friendships with gibbons Tong, Igor, and Baby—she would rather be outside with the animals, even if that means cleaning their living areas. She also enjoys being a tour guide and has helped show visitors around the sanctuary. And she has fallen in love—with our blind canine mascot, Bullet, so Rebecca has become a dog lover as well as a “primate person.”

“The goal of IPPL is so pure—conservation and protection for all primates worldwide,” she notes. She is also glad that IPPL’s mission includes assisting overseas projects, which are “often overlooked by larger groups—but are doing all of the necessary grassroots work in the actual countries where the protection is needed!” If more is not done for primates in their own native countries, she fears, “industrialization and human greed will continue to destroy the last remaining habitats—pushing primates to the brink of extinction.”

Rebecca still has cats—five of them now, all rescues—but her favorite is Mini-Me, a one-year-old cross-eyed black Siamese with a large overbite and adorable personality. Fortunately, her cats have agreed to let her keep visiting the gibbons at IPPL!

A special gibbon who will always live in our hearts

❖ June Anna-Fey
❖ Victoria J. Brademan
❖ Theo Capaldo and the New England Anti-Vivisection Society
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## Primate Paraphernalia!

**IPPL Baseball Cap:** Cotton cap features the IPPL name and a swinging chimp.
- **Color:** Khaki
- **Sizes:** one size fits all
- **Cost:** US$12 (inside the US), US$16 (overseas airmail)

**Six Primate Species T-Shirt:** Features a gibbon, gorilla, chimpanzee, orangutan, squirrel monkey, and ring-tailed lemur; 100% Cotton
- **Color:** Tan
- **Sizes:** L, XL, XXL
- **Cost:** US$14 (inside the US), US$22 (overseas airmail)

**Gorilla T-Shirt:** 100% Cotton
- **Color:** Charcoal
- **Sizes:** S, M, L, XL
- **Cost:** US$14 (inside the US), US$22 (overseas airmail)

You can also order IPPL merchandise on the Web, via our secure server, at: [https://sims.net/clients/ippl.org/catalog.html](https://sims.net/clients/ippl.org/catalog.html)

### Order form:

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**Order Total**

**Method of payment:** All prices include Shipping and Handling.
- [ ] Check/money order, payable to IPPL. Overseas checks to be drawn on US banks. Add 30% if paying in Canadian dollars.
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- **Name**
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- **Zip**

**For verification purposes,** if credit card billing address is different from the **Ship to** address above, please give the billing address information below:

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**Mail your order to:**

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

Questions? Call 843-871-2280.
IPPL Gibbon T-Shirt: 100% Cotton. These T-shirts feature drawings by Michelle Winstanley Michie of three 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 had been blinded by illness.

Color: Forest green
Sizes: Adult sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL; Child sizes S, M, L
Cost: Adult – US$15 (inside the US), US$22 (overseas airmail)
Child – US$12 (inside the US), US$16 (overseas airmail)

IPPL Gibbon Notecards: 12 cards plus 12 envelopes, 3 each of 4 colorful IPPL gibbon portraits.
Cost: US$12 (inside the US), US$15 (overseas airmail)

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Primate Photography Book: Award-winning wildlife photographer Art Wolfe teams up with conservation writer Barbara Sleeper to create Primates: The Amazing World of Lemurs, Monkeys, and Apes.
Cost: US$25 (inside the US), US$30 (overseas surface shipping), US$40 (overseas airmail)

Forgotten Apes Video: Featuring IPPL gibbons.
Cost: US$16 (inside the US), US$22 (overseas airmail)

IPPL News
www.ippl.org

Orangutan T-Shirt: 100% Cotton
Color: Navy
Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL
Cost: US$14 (inside the US), US$22 (overseas airmail)

Gibbon T-Shirt: 100% Cotton. These T-shirts feature drawings by Michelle Winstanley Michie of three 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 had been blinded by illness.

Color: Forest green
Sizes: Adult sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL; Child sizes S, M, L
Cost: Adult – US$15 (inside the US), US$22 (overseas airmail)
Child – US$12 (inside the US), US$16 (overseas airmail)

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Adopt An IPPL Gibbon!

Each of the 31 gibbons living at IPPL Headquarters deserves a happy life. Many of IPPL’s residents have come to the sanctuary after years in research, as pets, or in sub-standard living conditions. By adopting an IPPL gibbon, you help to ensure that your chosen animal (and all the IPPL gibbons) will continue to get the best care possible: a quiet, peaceful life in sunny South Carolina, living in spacious enclosures with their mates, and eating only fresh, natural foods. For a donation of $15 or $25 per month for at least six months, you will receive the following:

- A signed Certificate of Gibbon Guardianship.
- A large glossy photograph of your gibbon.
- A biographical sketch of your gibbon.
- An IPPL sanctuary fact sheet.
- A gibbon fact sheet.
- A quarterly update on your gibbon.
- A set of gibbon stickers.

In addition, if you choose to adopt a gibbon at the $25-per-month level, IPPL will send you one of our forest-green T-shirts featuring several IPPL gibbons. And remember: adoptions make wonderful gifts that will last all year.

Yes, I want to adopt an IPPL gibbon!

Your name: _____________________________________________ Phone number: ___________________________
Street address: _______________________________________________________________________________________
City: ______________________________________________________ State: ________ Zip: ______________________
E-mail address: _______________________________________________________________________________________

Please check if this is an adoption RENEWAL: □

I would like to adopt (insert name of gibbon)__________________________.

I would like to pay in monthly installments □ OR I would like to pay in full □:

1. At the $15 per month level for 6 months (in full: $90) ___ 1 year (in full: $180) ___ 2 years (in full: $360) ___

OR

2. At the $25 per month level for 6 months (in full: $150) ___ 1 year (in full: $300) ___ 2 years (in full: $600) ___

For the $25/month level, select the desired size of T-shirt (circle). Adult sizes: S M L XL XXL Children sizes: S M L

☐ This is a gift. Please send the adoption packet and updates (and T-shirt, if applicable) to the following recipient:
Recipient’s name: _____________________________________________ Phone number: ___________________________
Street address: _______________________________________________________________________________________
City: ______________________________________________________ State: ________ Zip: ______________________

☐ I will be paying via a check or money order made payable to IPPL.
☐ I will be paying by credit card (circle): VISA MasterCard AMEX Discover

Name (on card): _______________________________________________________________________________________
Credit card number: _________________________________________________ Expiration Date: _________________
Signature: ___________________________________________________________________________________________
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

Arun Rangsi
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 Chairwoman Shirley McGreal, acting on a tip-off, rescued him from possible euthanasia. Once he arrived at the IPPL 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, and his family. To keep this sweet, gentle ape happy and healthy, we’d love for you to adopt him.

Courtney
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 we cannot place her with another gibbon until she is mature, she will continue to need special attention from her human caregivers for several more years. We hope you’ll consider adopting this spunky little ape.

Tong
Tong belongs to a different species from most of IPPL’s gibbons. She is a concolor 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.

Igor
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 out of sight but within earshot of IPPL’s other gibbons, he has not attacked himself once. Please think about adopting this wonderful, resilient fellow.
IPPL: Who We Are
IPPL is an international grassroots wildlife protection organization. Our mission for over 30 years has been to promote the conservation and protection of *all* nonhuman primates, including apes, monkeys, and lemurs, around the world.

IPPL has been operating an animal sanctuary in Summerville, South Carolina, since 1977. There, 31 gibbons (the smallest apes) live in happy retirement. IPPL is also proud to support a number of other wildlife groups and primate rescue centers in countries where primates are native.

IPPL is pleased to offer for sale a new set of gibbon greeting cards! Each one features a full-color portrait of one of our sanctuary’s resident gibbons—clockwise from top left: Courtney, Arun Rangsi, Donny, and Igor—and gives details of his or her personal history on the back. Perfect for sending a friendly note to the primate lover in your life! Cards come in sets of 12 (three each of four designs). To request your own set, please see the order form on page 24.

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