Happy Holidays from IPPL!

Iku, a baby chimpanzee orphaned by the Nigerian bushmeat trade, is now growing up at the Drill Ranch sanctuary.

Inside:
- Iku's caregiver: her dream
- IPPL protests NASA plans
- Maynard the gibbon arrives!
Dear IPPL Friend,

I hope you and all your human and nonhuman friends will have a wonderful holiday season despite the difficult economic conditions so many of us are facing. As usual, I plan to stay at Headquarters in Summerville where I’ll enjoy the company of IPPL’s unique family of gibbons, dogs, and our lively trio of Asian otters.

At IPPL Headquarters we are now caring for 33 gibbons. All are currently in good health thanks to our dedicated animal care staff. On the opposite page, you can read about the “new kid on the block,” a gibbon named Maynard. This year we also welcomed two new Asian otters who had been on temporary exhibit at a U.S. aquarium and have now retired to Summerville.

The highlight of the year 2009 was getting news from our friends at the Wildlife Watch Group in Nepal that a banner bearing the slogan “Stop the Monkey Business!” had been planted on the summit of Mount Everest on 19 May by a wonderful young Nepalese mountain guide named Jyamchang Bhote. Mr. Bhote climbs to the top of the world without using supplemental oxygen.

During 2009 we have had the continued pleasure of working with groups all around the world who are on the front lines of battles to ensure the continuation of monkey export bans threatened by greedy overseas companies and uncaring governments. We applaud all the unsung human heroes who make tremendous sacrifices to provide sanctuary, sustenance, love, and medical care to primates rescued from trade.

We continue to help overseas rescue centers in Africa, Asia, and South America. Besides small grants, we had a special three-sanctuary fall appeal that has raised over $40,000 so far. Siglo XXI in Chile, the Center for Primate Rehabilitation in Lwiro (in the Democratic Republic of Congo), and the Wildlife Friends Foundation of Thailand have already received $12,000 each, with more to follow. All have expressed their appreciation to you, our supporters.

It would be easy to get discouraged at the terrible plight of our world. However, if we give up the fight, who will do all the work that needs to be done? So let’s not get too discouraged to act or to support our favorite charities. **Let’s make 2010 another year of struggle and progress for the animals who share our world!**

All of us in the IPPL family—including all the staff, the gibbons, our canine mascots, and the trio of playful Asian short-clawed otters—wish you a very happy holiday season and much joy in 2010.

With best wishes for a happy holiday season,

Shirley McGreal

P.S. Be sure to visit IPPL’s Web site (www.ippl.org) and join our new and improved e-mail list!
Now we are 33!

On October 30, IPPL’s Headquarters Sanctuary staff welcomed our 33rd resident gibbon, a fine-looking seven-year-old honey-brown male named Maynard. He is a very sweet-natured gibbon. Although he had just endured an overnight flight from his prior home in Washington State as well as a six-hour drive from the Atlanta airport, everyone was amazed at how friendly and inquisitive he was, right from the start. He had no problem when we stroked his fingers, which he stuck through the slots of his travel crate. And within an hour of being released into his new enclosure, he was letting IPPL’s office manager Barbara scratch his back. Clearly, he had experienced a lot of love from his human caregivers at Sara’s Sanctuary, where he had lived for four years along with his companion Lewis, a bossy little white-faced capuchin monkey.

Maynard was originally bought as a pet (we have been unable to discover the identity of the original breeder/seller), but his owner turned him over to the sanctuary in Redmond, Washington. However, once Maynard started to reach maturity, he began to make the normal loud calls every gibbon makes. A neighbor suddenly began complaining about the noise and threatened legal action against the sanctuary; he even declared he would have Maynard shot. Concerned for the gibbon’s safety, the sanctuary owner resigned herself to parting with Maynard and, after months of searching, selected IPPL to be Maynard’s new home.

By now Maynard has settled in quite well. He has his own climate-controlled night quarters in Gibbon House #5, a structure he shares with his neighbors Helen and Peppy (who put on an impressive vocal and acrobatic display when they saw they were getting a new housemate). He also has access to several corn-crib-style outdoor enclosures, equipped with climbing and swinging structures, and to several long stretches of connecting aerial runways made of heavy-duty wire mesh. He likes to run down these “tubes” to check out what some of his more distant gibbon neighbors, like Palu-Palu and Jade, are up to.

Just like the other IPPL gibbons, he gets a varied mixture of fruits and vegetables daily. (Our caregiver Lauren recently reported that he really likes canned beets; he enjoyed them so much she gave him an extra helping.) He also likes stuffed toys (a little monkey is the current favorite) and special treats like Fig Newtons, and he is not shy about fishing in the pockets of his human friends to see if anything interesting could be hiding there. Maynard gets along well with our caregivers, but he does have a thing about hats: he insists on removing Lauren’s baseball cap before getting friendly.

Within about a week of his arrival, we could hear him singing along with the other gibbons at the sanctuary. Go ahead and sing all you want, Maynard!

You can see some pictures of Maynard’s first days at IPPL on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/InternationalPrimateProtectionLeague); say hello to Maynard and become a Facebook fan of IPPL.
Like many wildlife lovers, my tomboy childhood included bringing home injured wild creatures found near the house, then setting them free if they recovered. I enjoyed a steady diet of TV shows like Mutual of Omaha’s Wild Kingdom and movies like Born Free. Not surprisingly, doing volunteer work with an overseas wildlife conservation organization has always been a dream of mine, one that finally came true this year when I spent six months in Nigeria and Cameroon.

Don’t think this experience was without some sacrifice and compromise, however. I quit my (paying) job months earlier in preparation, assumed my own (costly) health insurance, got the necessary vaccines, sold my (still bank-owned) car to save money on premium payments and insurance during my absence, moved out of my rental property and in with generous friends (rent-free) until leaving and again after returning, re-routed mail to my mother’s address, and put my worldly goods in storage. Anyone can do all this, but being single without dependants made it easier. Was it worth all the effort? Without a doubt!

At Drill Ranch

It was during my time in Oregon at Chimps, Inc., while researching the bushmeat issue for a presentation, that I first got in touch with Liza Gadsby. The director of Chimps, Inc., Lesley Day, knew Liza and her partner Peter Jenkins, who are also from Oregon, and suggested I contact them for information. Liza and Peter have 21 years’ experience with primates orphaned by the bushmeat trade in Nigeria and Cameroon. After learning more about the work of their non-profit organization Pandrillus and their current need for qualified volunteers, I finally accepted Liza’s invitation to volunteer at the Drill Rehabilitation and Breeding Center (also known as “Drill Ranch”), in Cross River State, Nigeria, for six months. Suddenly, helping primates and other species in Africa wasn’t just a goal that might happen some day: it was becoming a reality!

The day I arrived at Drill Ranch, I had my first glimpse of endangered drill monkeys:
one of the six large family groups living at Drill Ranch, which boasts the largest captive population of drills in the world, totaling over 320 animals. I’d only seen drills in pictures, so having more than 40 standing in front of me was thrilling! This group is kept at the Drill Ranch project headquarters in the Cross River State capital of Calabar, while the other five groups live in the forest at Drill Ranch’s Afie Mountain facility. The group I saw contains a female named Calabar, the first drill rescued by Peter and Liza 21 years ago, now a mother and grandmother many times over. I didn’t know much about drills, so I had a lot to learn from Liza, Peter, and Asuquo (the head caregiver) from that day on. It was an opportunity-rich environment—to ask questions, observe how these primates behave, and get to know these animals as individuals.

I remember when, one by one, Double Chief, Koko, and Olivera came to Drill Ranch: they were all orphaned drills whose mothers were killed for bushmeat, a trade that continues despite being illegal in Nigeria. If they survive, such youngsters may be kept or sold as “pets.” Now, entrusted to the sanctuary, all three live together in a quarantine enclosure, where they play, bicker, and comfort each other like siblings, until the day they move on to join a group in the forest enclosures at Afie Mountain, about four hours’ drive upstate.

The Calabar group is kept in town, so visitors, especially local students, can easily come and see them and learn about drill monkeys (found in Nigeria only in Cross River State), other wildlife, and forest conservation, in general: Nigeria has the third highest level of primate diversity of any country in Africa, following Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Eventually, I would be able to give tours to visitors, giving me the opportunity to explain why people should protect these primates by avoiding bushmeat and not owning pet primates.

Getting to know the chimpanzees

The chimpanzees were more familiar to me from my experience at Chimps, Inc. Drill Ranch has 29 chimpanzees altogether, most of whom live at the Afie Mountain facility. The youngest stay in Calabar in the chimp nursery where they can receive the close care they need until they are ready for life in the forest.

The three chimpanzees in Calabar—Boo, Micky Jabar, and Lucy—each had different personalities, so getting acquainted was a gradual process. Seven-year-old Lucy was typically unpredictable: affectionate and calm one minute, mischievous and playful the next. My duties with the chimps were to support the caregivers’ basic work, provide supplements like juice or milk (day and night), and cut fresh greens for them to eat and nest in. We also played and groomed. Four-year-old Boo would laugh audibly with breathy gasps when chased around the enclosure from the outside. Micky, also four, was ultra-affectionate and enjoyed being massaged on his arms, legs, and back. He would heroically defend me against Lucy, who pulled my hair and stole my glasses if I was careless. Lucy never really bonded with me and was too big for me to feel safe with inside the enclosure. This wasn’t the case with Micky and Boo, who were still young enough to horse around with! These two enjoyed being swung around by their feet (which made me much dizzier than it made them), playing chase, yanking and chewing on my clothes, ambushing me from above by jumping on my head, being tickled, or just being held. Exhilarating…and exhausting!

In June, a new chimpanzee came to live at Drill Ranch. She weighed less than five pounds and arrived in a plastic shopping bag like a sack of potatoes, looking up at us when we peeked inside. The man who delivered her said he had bought her from the hunter who had shot...
A visit to Cameroon

Two and half weeks later, I made the short journey by sea from Calabar to Limbe in Cameroon to visit Pandrillus’ other sanctuary, the Limbe Wildlife Centre (LWC). At the Pandrillus manager’s house, my bedroom window overlooked the ocean. Hearing waves lapping at the shore each night as I fell asleep and upon waking every morning was quite therapeutic!

I missed Iku, but was glad for the break. I enjoyed having time to myself to explore the LWC. Peter and Liza founded the facility in 1993, only a few years after starting Drill Ranch. At the time, they were doing drill survey work in Cameroon and encountered so many needy primates, particularly chimpanzees, with no national facility for their care. The LWC is a fantastic place, with a dedicated staff of veterinarians, caregivers, and environmental educators. The buildings and grounds are beautiful and, considering the urban setting, the animals live in spacious enclosures with species-specific enrichment. I got acquainted with many of the Cameroonian staff and animals. Hours of watching the gorilla group up close made for great photographs!

There are 16 primate species at the LWC—gorillas, chimpanzees, drills, mandrills, baboons, three mangabey species, patas monkeys, and seven beautiful guenon species, including the lovely and endangered Preuss’ guenon, endemic to Cameroon. There are also other mammals, birds, and reptiles—no animal in need that is native to Cameroon is turned away. Like Drill Ranch in Nigeria, most residents are bushmeat orphans, many having suffered for years as “pets.” Some will be released back to freedom, like most of the 1,243 parrots that landed on the LWC’s doorstep a couple of years ago, while others will live out their lives securely at the sanctuary.

Fog rolls in on Afı Mountain, Nigeria.

Afi Mountain high

After a two-week visit, I returned to Nigeria to resume my Drill Ranch duties, including caring for Iku. At first she didn’t seem to recognize me. Like many animals, chimpanzees “punish” you for leaving by ignoring you, then warm up when they’re ready. Iku “thawed out” within 24 hours and resumed sleeping beside my bed after her last bottle every evening. By this time, she was sleeping through the night, which made me happy! On one of the many nights we had no electricity, Iku was sitting on my lap, looking up at me in the candlelight. She studied my face for several minutes, as if memorizing every detail. I wonder what she was thinking. It was one of many unforgettable moments I cherish from my experience in Africa.

I got to stay at the Drill Ranch’s Afi Mountain facility twice during my time in Nigeria. Afi Mountain is a paradise deep in the rainforest. No city sights, sounds, smells, or garbage! I slept well here under the mother; he brought her to Drill Ranch where she’d be cared for and be able to live with other chimps. Mr. Charles Tata deserves a lot of credit for taking the initiative to rescue this infant and pay his way to Calabar from his remote village, all for the sake of a little chimpanzee.

Soon I gladly accepted Peter’s assignment of my new role as foster mother for this infant, who would be the closest thing to a human child I would ever have! She was named Ikukoyi, which means “the one who escaped death” in Yoruba, the language of Drill Ranch manager Ade Egbetade. The man who brought her came from Iku village near Cross River National Park. Her arrival renewed my sense of purpose, but, at the same time, I couldn’t shake the bittersweet knowledge of why she was there: she had been denied a normal life with her mother in the rainforest where they both belonged, a tragedy perhaps beyond the hunter’s imagination.

Rearing an infant chimpanzee bears many parallels to human infant care. I was suddenly in charge of bottle-feedings every two to three hours around the clock, cleaning up after frequent peeing and pooping episodes, feeding baby cereal and fruit, scheduling naps once or twice daily, measuring weight gain, encouraging her to play, supervising her chewing of various objects (including fingers, furniture, and ginger leaves) as her teeth erupted, and watching her learn to sit up, crawl, and stand. Instructions were to keep her at a distance from visitors and any staff who were not directly involved with her care, to minimize the risk of her catching a cold or other infection. We were inseparable; I carried Iku everywhere, 24/7…while brushing my teeth, preparing meals, and doing deskwork. It was a crash course in living life with one free hand. But it didn’t matter: I was crazy about this chimp!

A visit to Cameroon

Two and half weeks later, I made the short journey by sea from Calabar to Limbe in Cameroon to visit Pandrillus’ other sanctuary, the Limbe Wildlife Centre (LWC). At the Pandrillus manager’s house, my bedroom window overlooked the ocean. Hearing waves lapping at the shore each night as I fell asleep and upon waking every morning was quite therapeutic!
insects, or look for jungle love. Once, while writing in my journal at my cabin, I saw something move out of the corner of my eye. About 15 yards away appeared the head of a large snake from the bushes, its tongue flickering in search of danger and/or food. As it slowly emerged, I realized this was a really big snake, so I suddenly stood up. At that moment, the snake did a U-turn and shot straight back into the bush, apparently more surprised than I was. Needless to say, it provided fresh material for the journal, but I’m glad I never saw that snake again.

The Afimountain location is a busy place. Ecotourism brings in some revenue for the project, and interesting people from around the world come to stay in the delightful hand-built cabins dotted around the forest. In addition to a long-planned expansion of the chimpanzee’s forest enclosure, the major current activity is preparing the first group of drills for release to the wild. This group includes four generations of monkeys, comprising 102 animals. Nearly all of them were born at Afimountain and have thus lived in a forest setting (although still in captivity) all their lives. The long process of screening and sampling every single drill in the group is almost over. Intensive surveys of the wild drill population surviving in the Afimountain Wildlife Sanctuary—the adjacent protected area where they will be released—was ongoing during my stay.

Coming home

Despite my excitement at returning to family, friends, my favorite foods, and hot showers, departure day was difficult. I really liked the people at Drill Ranch and had grown accustomed to the little inconveniences of living there.

Most of all, it was hard saying good-bye to Iku. It was pouring rain that morning, and she’d been sleeping in her make-shift crib. I thought I’d exit before she woke up, but on the last trip into the house for luggage, she was standing up, watching me go toward the door. I couldn’t resist hugging her one more time, smelling her hair, talking low into her big ears, and kissing her hard little head. She grabbed on tightly, as she always had, not knowing I’d be walking out of her life. My tears were huge as I realized what a privilege it had been to be her caregiver. How tragic it is that thousands of primates like her, deprived of a natural life with their own mothers and social groups, are being raised at sanctuaries throughout Africa as a consequence of the illegal bushmeat trade.

Fortunately for Iku, she’s in good hands with Liza, Peter, and the others who have reared so many chimpanzees over the years. Iku will grow up with them and, eventually, the other Drill Ranch chimpanzees who will be her extended family. I’m grateful to have been an intimate part of the process early on.

A Thank You—and an Invitation—from Pandrillus

It’s always fascinating for us to read a volunteer’s perspective on their time at Drill Ranch. After two decades, and parenting dozens of infant chimpanzees and drills, it’s helpful to see these experiences through fresh eyes. Despite the strains, fears, and stresses of keeping a project like this on its feet, these animals bring joy to our lives. Lesa’s comment on what a privilege it is to care for them rings true.

The hands-on assistance of volunteers such as Lesa in the daily running of the ranch frees up our time to focus on the real challenge: to prevent these primates from becoming orphaned in the first place. We’re always on the lookout for people willing to commit their time and energy. You can find out more about us (and see pictures of more of our monkeys and apes) at www.pandrillus.org, please contact us at info@pandrillus.org if you think you might be able to help us care for these magnificent animals. A positive outlook, sense of humor, and lots of energy are the most important qualifications.

On behalf of everyone at Drill Ranch—the drills, the chimpanzees, Ade, Tunji, Ainare, the primate caregivers, and the rest of the staff—we wish you a peaceful and bright holiday season. The many years of financial and moral support from IPPL and its members—both for Drill Ranch in Nigeria and the LWC in Cameroon—have made what Pandrillus does possible. IPPL is an organization that primates and the people who care for them can count on. Thank you!

Liza Gadsby and Peter Jenkins, Pandrillus Co-Founders
IPPL has learned that the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is planning to use monkeys in radiation experiments as part of its plan to send humans to the planet Mars. The tests could be conducted at NASA's Space Radiation Laboratory at Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island.

On 31 October 2009 the New York Post carried a story with the title, “Planet of the ape zappers: NASA's weird plan to nuke monkeys.” NASA scientists were reportedly insisting that lab rats and mice were not similar enough to humans to be used in tests and that the study would involve 18 to 28 squirrel monkeys.

Harvard Medical School behavioral pharmacologist Jack Bergman told the press, “We realized there was a need for this kind of work. There’s a longstanding commitment on the part of NASA to deep-space travel, and with that commitment comes a need for knowing what kinds of adverse effects deep-space travel might have, what are the risks to astronauts.”

In the 1960s, chimpanzees and monkeys were sent into space. The chimpanzees Ham and Enos, now deceased, were the first to go on suborbital flights. Animals were trained to perform various tasks and strapped into seats, presumably to prevent them from destroying the space cabins. Six of the surviving chimpanzees from the original Holloman Air Force Base experiments and their descendents now live at Save the Chimps Sanctuary, which has locations in Florida and New Mexico.

Monkeys have also been used in studies of radiation at military research facilities, such as the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute in Bethesda, Maryland. The experiments were designed to assess the effects of massive doses of radiation on rhesus monkeys trained by electric shock to run in giant tread wheels. After being irradiated, the unfortunate monkeys were returned to the tread wheels, shocked into running, and began to collapse and vomit till they died. On learning of these experiments, India banned monkey exports, and so did Bangladesh, in the 1970s.

In the new round of space experiments, the monkeys would not be killed, and whether they would actually be sent into space is not clear.

Many animal protection groups around the world are protesting the proposed experiments, including Physicians for Responsible Medicine, In Defense of Animals (IDA), and IPPL.

In a joint letter to Charles Bolden, the Administrator of NASA, Dr. Anand Ramanathan (IDA Executive Director) and Shirley McGreal (IPPL Chairwoman) wrote:

We read with alarm the news reports indicating that NASA plans to irradiate squirrel monkeys with a concentrated dose of radiation amounting to three years of space flight. Radiation experiments on nonhuman primates have been repeatedly conducted in the past, and have led to extreme suffering and death for untold numbers of monkeys and chimpanzees. Nonhuman primate irradiation experiments caused such international controversy and outrage that countries such as India and Bangladesh banned outright the export of monkeys to the United States—in large part because of the efforts of IPPL—saving thousands of primates from a truly ugly fate. We believe that NASA should stand for modern, cutting-edge and humane research that benefits all—not experiments that eerily echo those conducted a half-century ago. We will shortly be filing a complaint detailing why we believe this proposed experiment is cruel, duplicative and completely unnecessary. In the meantime, we respectfully but urgently request a meeting with you to discuss this pressing issue.

As of yet, no reply has been received regarding the requested meeting.

How You Can Help the Squirrel Monkeys

Please send a letter to Administrator Bolden and ask that the plans to use squirrel monkeys in cruel and unnecessary experiments be cancelled.

Charles F. Bolden, Jr., NASA Administrator
300 E St SW
Washington, DC 20546
USA
Fax: 202-358-2810
It’s November 2008, and I depart with Seba Koya (my trusty and resourceful motorbike driver, with whom I have just traveled 500 bumpy kilometers out of the bush) for my final investigative mission of the season: to see the Kisangani Zoo in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). I am mentally and physically exhausted from 13 months in the field, and I have been strongly advised not to go to this “depressing” place. But I am curious.

Jeroen Swinkels visited the zoo in 2007 and told me that it was pretty grim, with a solitary male chimpanzee sitting in a squalid cage smoking cigarettes for the amusement of visitors. This had led me to rule it out as a possible home for some chimpanzee orphans I was helping care for at the temporary Bonganzulu Refuge near the town of Aketi in the northern DRC, in spite of the insistence of some town officials that we send the animals there. (We ended up sending the Aketi Five chimpanzee orphans to the Center for Primate Rehabilitation in Lwiro, in the eastern DRC, as described in the May 2009 issue of IPPL News.) Now it is time to see for myself.

The zoo is advertised from the main road, and just after noon we arrive at a small collection of huts splashed with festive banners advertising the various brews of Congolese beer. We pass a barricade, greet the sentinel/manager, and announce that we have come to see the zoo. I pay 1,500 francs and, after Seba and I each receive a ticket, we tromp up the steep flight of stairs leading to the zoo.

The facility looks as if it has been recently bombed (and it is a pretty good bet that it has). It is even more dilapidated than most of the caved-in compounds we have seen in the DRC. Seba wistfully remembers that before the recent wars he visited the place and it was a proper zoo, featuring elephants and other big mammals. The elephants were later eaten by rampaging soldiers.

**Chimpanzee inmates**

We eventually locate the chimpanzee enclosure—but it would more appropriately be termed a dungeon. It is perhaps 5 meters long by 5 meters deep and 3 meters high (16 x 16 x 10 feet), surrounded by thick, solid bars and backed by a dingy, ruined brick wall. I begin clicking dozens of photos of the sole wretched inmate, who is peering out at me with a mix of curiosity and bleary boredom. He is a chimpanzee male named Freddy, perhaps 10 or 12 years old, with a fairly large, muscular body but a light-colored face and a still-youthful expression. I film and photograph him pacing back and forth, swinging to nowhere across the bars, offering me his hand (I touch him briefly), and repetitively displaying to me a big wad of something that he has chewed to a pulp and is carrying in his lower lip. The inside of his cage is filthy and lacks any enrichment. Fortunately, no one is here this time to offer him cigarettes.

Some zoo guards have grumpily followed me. They tell me that Freddy was brought to the zoo by a general in the military about one and a half years ago...
ago (during the time of the last war), but they do not know where the chimpanzee originally came from.

They then tell me that there is another, younger chimpanzee on the other side of the brick wall, locked alone inside a dark shed. She is kept there day and night, and the only contact she has with the outside world is when her keeper goes in to feed her, once in the morning and once in the evening. The guards cannot show her to me, as only that keeper has the key. I am determined to see her condition, and I move up to a small hole (possibly made by a bullet) in the locked door. Peering inside, I can barely make out in the dim light a tiny cage in the middle of the floor.

Finally, by squinting my eyes, I can just make out the movements of the baby chimpanzee clambering around inside her metal cage—and then I hear her soft whimper. I stick the camera up to the hole and take a photo, which will later show the cage’s occupant to be a small chimpanzee, maybe three or four years old. I have seen over thirty chimpanzee orphans for sale in the Buta area of the northern DRC over the last year, often languishing in miserable conditions, but nothing quite like this.

Monkeys at large

Also scattered about the zoo are several cages for other primates, most of them torn or perhaps bombed open, which at least allows the inmates to escape and wander about. This could be dangerous for visitors, but, mercifully, it gives the monkeys some freedom of movement. Sadly, one forlorn-looking little baboon cannot take advantage of this freedom, as I am told she is blind. She sits hopelessly in her metal cage—and then I hear her soft whimper. I stick the camera up to the hole and take a photo, which will later show the cage’s occupant to be a small chimpanzee, maybe three or four years old. I have seen over thirty chimpanzee orphans for sale in the Buta area of the northern DRC over the last year, often languishing in miserable conditions, but nothing quite like this.

Escape from the zoo

I have seen enough, and I descend the stairs with Seba. We are more than ready to leave. However, almost like clockwork, two shady-looking young men emerge from the shadows and pull Seba aside to discuss something as I walk towards the motorbike. “Let’s go, Seba!” I yell, but the men will not allow him to follow me. When I turn and look back, I see that they are still harassing Seba. I know exactly what is happening; it is probably the fiftieth time we have gone through it this year. A minute or so later, Seba drives up behind me, but bearing an unpleasant surprise: a fellow with a folder under his arm is perched behind my driver…on our

What Can Be Done About the Kisangani Zoo?

Please write a friendly e-mail (in French if possible, but otherwise English will do) to L’Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature (ICCN), the government agency responsible for overseeing wildlife and environmental protection activities in the DRC. Let them know that you are very concerned about the living conditions of the chimpanzees, as well as the baboons and other monkeys, in the Kisangani Zoo. Tell them that you are aware of the hard work that ICCN staff has put into confiscating ape orphans elsewhere and protecting them in the forest. Remind them that many tourists visiting the Kisangani Zoo will see the animals living in such terrible conditions, and that this does not present a good image of the DRC to the world. Ask that they consider improving living conditions for the primates or, if that is not possible, transferring the animals to a sanctuary where they will receive appropriate care, such as the Center for Primate Rehabilitation in Lwiro.

To leave an e-mail message: http://www.iccn.cd/elements.php?titre=Contacter%20ICCN

IPPL NEWS  www.ippl.org  December 2009
Estelle Raballand, Director of the Chimpanzee Conservation Center (CCC) in the African nation of Guinea, recently shared some great news with me:

I’m a grand-mother of the first baby chimp born in the wild from a released chimp in Guinea! The CCC manager Matthieu, called me tonight to announce the great news.

We follow the released chimps at a distance, but we usually have visual sighting once or twice a week. Today when we went to see them, the five released chimps who are together as a group were spotted with a new tiny addition....

The mother, Lottie, approximately 19 years old, who was released in June 2008, is fine. It’s her second offspring. She was a great mom to her first one, Andrew, who’s also released. The baby is suckling and looks healthy. They don’t know if it’s male or female yet as it’s only about two days old. The father is most probably Robert, a 23-year-old released male, since, at the time, he was the only male around her.

They’re going to be even more “wild” now. We’re all, management, keepers, and volunteers past and present, super-excited and happy about this baby, who will have a chance to live in his/her natural habitat!

IPPL has been helping the CCC with small grants since 2005.
ProFauna Battles Indonesian Primate Trade

Rosek Nursahid, President, ProFauna Indonesia

ProFauna Indonesia has been combating the illegal wildlife trade in Indonesia ever since this wildlife protection organization was founded in 1994. Primates have often been the focus of ProFauna’s direct actions and public awareness campaigns, as these animals are some of the most frequent targets of illicit trafficking.

ProFauna is known for engaging celebrities in the cause (Indonesian rock singer Melanie Subono participated in some of ProFauna’s demonstrations earlier this year, for example), which helps draw media attention to this issue. In addition, ProFauna actively encourages the police to enforce laws banning the trade in primates. According to the 1990 Indonesian Wildlife Act (No. 5), selling protected primates is punishable by up to five years in prison and a fine of 100 million Indonesian rupiah (IDR—or US$10,000). Unfortunately, the law is not enough.

Bird market surveys

Indonesia’s “bird markets” (popular open-air markets where many types of animals are sold) are common venues for

Thank Our Friends for Rescuing Illegally Traded Primates

Please send letters thanking the head of the East Java police for raiding the Nagwi bird market. Request that the bird markets be watched carefully and any protected animals seized. Ask that the wildlife dealers offering primates for sale be prosecuted, fined, and sent to prison. Postage from the U.S. to Indonesia is $0.98 per ounce. You may address letters to:

Mr. Brigjen Polisi Pratiknyo
Head of Police of East Java
Jl. Ahmad Yani No. 116
Surabaya, East Java 60231
INDONESIA
E-mail: humas@jatim.polri.go.id
reskrim@jatim.polri.go.id
the illegal trafficking of such protected primate species as slow lorises and Javan langurs. From May to July 2009, ProFauna visited 70 bird markets on the island of Java to survey the degree to which this kind of trading was happening. We found that 21 locations (23 percent of those surveyed) had primates for sale, including long-tailed macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*), Javan langurs (*Trachypithecus auratus*), slow lorises (*Nycticebus coucang*), and tarsiers (*Tarsius bancanus*). During our investigation, we recorded 126 primates being sold openly.

Of these four species, long-tailed macaques (also known as crab-eating macaques) were the most commonly traded; we counted 78 of them for sale. We also found 45 slow lorises on the market, while Javan langurs and tarsiers accounted for the remaining primates traded.

Javan langurs are bought primarily as pets, although some locals will eat them, as well. Some believe that langur meat can cure asthma, but others enjoy it as a snack, suitable for consuming with drinks at a party.

Slow lorises, one of the most popularly traded primates, are mostly bought to be kept as pets. They look cute and loveable, but buyers are not usually aware that slow lorises are nocturnal, so the animals are rather sluggish during the day; traders take advantage of this ignorance to sell more animals. In addition, slow lorises are also sold dead and stuffed, as some people believe such items can keep away evil. What an illogical belief!

The prices for animals varied. Slow lorises could be bought for 75,000 to 250,000 IDR (US$7.50 to US$25) and a Javan langur might cost around 200,000 IDR (US$20), while a small tarsier could fetch around 500,000 IDR (US$50). Babies or juveniles were more expensive than adult primates.

The venue with the most primates was the bird market in Ngawi, East Java. The market is located on the main road connecting East Java and Central Java. Most primates were kept in very poor conditions, crammed into small cages and suffering from stress. To add insult to injury, the traders there dyed the Javan langurs’ hair blonde to attract buyers.

ProFauna decided to act.

**Seizure of lorises and langurs**

In a dramatic operation conducted by the

![A slow loris—one of dozens of illegally traded primates (inset) seized during ProFauna’s daring November raid—is now in better hands.](image)

East Java police and assisted by ProFauna, the team successfully seized 21 slow lorises and 15 Javan langurs and arrested a suspected dealer on 5 November 2009 in a raid on the Nagwi bird market.

A month before the operation, the ProFauna team conducted an undercover investigation to observe the trade situation. The team managed to infiltrate the traders’ circle and won their confidence by placing orders for some primates. Once we knew for sure that the traders were in possession of a large quantity of protected primates, ProFauna immediately contacted the police, who had been waiting for ProFauna’s tip-off. In the middle of the night, the East Java police department team left their headquarters for Nagwi, which is six hours away by car.

At dawn, ProFauna and the police team arrived at their destination. They headed straight to the bird market in Ngawi to confiscate the primates and apprehend the criminals. The teams surprised the traders there, who ran away into the forest behind the market. The officers followed them into the forest, while ProFauna crews evacuated the lorises and langurs who had been thrown into the bushes.

As a result of this successful raid, we hope that other traders will be deterred from selling protected animals and that law enforcement officials will be encouraged to pursue even more illegal wildlife traffickers in Indonesia.

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**Thank You, IPPL Members!**

IPPL members have been supporting ProFauna (previously known as KSBK) for many years. In 1999, many members signed ProFauna’s petition in its campaign against the export of proboscis monkeys from Indonesia to the U.S. Over the following ten years, IPPL has continued to assist ProFauna, including supporting investigations into the illegal primate trade, community wildlife education, and primate protection at ProFauna’s Javan Langur Conservation Center. Thank you all for your support! Because of people like you, ProFauna is able to continue campaigning to protect Indonesian primates from exploitation.

*Rosek Nursahid*

*ProFauna President*
Good-bye to Jean Martin

Jean’s and my paths crossed in the winter of 2008. One of Camp Uganda’s volunteers had introduced me to the various primate Internet lists and said that one of the ladies who often posts to these groups is Jean Martin from Lantzville. I decided I wanted to get to know someone like her, who lives nearby and shares my interest in primates. I got in touch with her, and she invited me to her house. I accepted and brought along a DVD about Camp Uganda to share with her. Jean was very interested in hearing about Camp Uganda and quite enthusiastic about all that she learned. After viewing the short documentary film, she said I had to talk to her sister, Shirley. Right away she phoned Shirley, introduced Shirley to me, and suddenly I was talking to the President and Founder of the International Primate Protection League! It was all so quick. Shirley was very friendly and immediately asked for an article to be printed in their spring newsletter. And the rest is history! Jean was so helpful, so quick to act, and just an overall wonderful woman.

Haida Bolton, Founder and President of Camp Uganda, founder and president of Camp Uganda, lives near Jean’s home. She recalls how Jean brought Camp Uganda to the attention of IPPL, which has since raised thousands of dollars for this organization’s efforts to bring wildlife conservation education to Ugandan students:

Jean was born in England and was a graduate of the London School of Economics. Among her many skills was proof-reading, and she carefully scrutinized all issues of IPPL News.

After successful careers as schoolteachers in Ontario, Canada, Jean and her husband Peter retired near Nanaimo, a town on Vancouver Island off the west coast of Canada. They had a lovely house on a hilltop with wonderful views across the Strait of Georgia to the mountains of the mainland. This home was always shared with a large number of cats rescued from deplorable conditions. At the time of Jean’s passing she and Peter cared for fourteen cats, and Peter is still managing their care.

Jean and Peter travelled widely. One of
Peter Martin donated a classic Charleston Battery bench (right) to IPPL in memory of Jean, his wife. Behind it stands a lovely purple plum tree donated by the following IPPL staff members:

Barbara Allison  
Lauren Anderson  
Hardy Brown  
Ruthann Chesney  
Harriet DuPriest  
Dianne House  
Noreen Laemers  
Tina McCoy  
Donetta Pacitti  
Peter Scholz  
Sharon Strong  
Lynn Thomas

Gifts have also been made in memory of Jean Martin by:

Kate and Kevin Ashley  
Rebecca Austin  
Ann Barone  
Betty Brescia  
Courtland Cross  
Lesley Day  
Nigel Fields  
Janet and Walter Gadsby  
Liza Gadsby and Peter Jenkins  
Donna Gibson  
Ann and Bill Koros  
Donna and Bob Litowitz  
Michelle and Katrina Martin  
Yvonne Martin  
Dianne Taylor-Snow and Pepper Snow  
Heather McGiffin and Geza Teleki

On the local scene in Nanaimo, Jean and Peter were active in a variety of animal rescue causes. Jean appeared on the Canadian television program *Marketplace*, which aired nationwide on 28 November 2007 and several times in June 2008. The program exposed price gouging by some Canadian veterinarians. On 15 June 2009 Jean testified before the Nanaimo City Council in opposition to the use of gas boxes to kill stray cats. Jean’s eloquence moved the council to order an immediate ban on the use of this cruel device.

Jean and Peter had two daughters, Michelle and Yvonne. Both of them share their mother’s, and Shirley’s, interest in primates and all animals that inhabit the Earth.

Special Gifts to IPPL

Given by:

Roberta Burleson, in honor of Kit and Woody Woodcock  
Ruthann Chesney, in memory of Jessica Anne Chesney  
Brien Comerford, in honor of all God’s creatures  
Larissa and Christopher Hepler, in memory of Seth Heimlich  
Larissa and Christopher Hepler, in honor of Doreen Heimlich’s birthday  
Ann and Bill Koros, in memory of John Michael Koros, a champion of native plant and wildlife preservation in Houston, Texas  
Cam Martinez, in memory of Miranda  
Ann Smith, in honor of Don Dasinger’s birthday
On 16 February 2009, Charla Nash of Stamford, Connecticut, U.S., was attacked by a pet chimpanzee named Travis. Travis was “owned” by Nash’s friend Sandra Herold, who had kept him as a pet for fourteen years at her home in Stamford. Nash suffered horrendous injuries, including the loss of both eyes and hands and a large part of her face, including her nose. Travis was shot to death by the police.

This attack should have been enough to get the trade in chimpanzees and other primates as pets banned. Travis, the chimpanzee victim, was just as pitiable as the human he attacked. He never had a chance to grow up or live as a chimpanzee. He had been ripped from his mother at just three days old and had never lived with other chimps. It’s no wonder he went mad.

Nash is receiving care at the renowned Cleveland Clinic, where she has been cared for since the attack ten months ago. At first there were fears that she would have permanent brain damage. Fortunately, this has not been the case, and Nash is now able to speak slowly. She can walk with assistance around the hospital corridors and may be transferred from the clinic to a rehabilitation center. She hopes eventually to have reconstructive surgery to allow her to breathe through her nose and possibly to have a face transplant.

On 10 November, Nash’s 56th birthday, the U.S. talk show hostess Oprah Winfrey interviewed Nash at the clinic. The interview started, Nash wore a veil, which she later had removed so that viewers could see the appalling injuries that the chimpanzee inflicted. The courageous Nash told Oprah,

I’m getting stronger and healthier. I’d like to put across to people’s minds that these exotic animals are very dangerous and they shouldn’t be around.

Two lawsuits filed
On 13 March 2009 the Bridgeport, Connecticut, law firm of Willinger, Willinger, and Bucci filed a $150 million lawsuit against Sandra Herold, Travis’s “owner.” The complaint indicates that Travis had caused problems in the past:

Upon information and belief, prior to February 15, 2009, the Chimpanzee had displayed violent and erratic behavior typical of its wild nature. Upon information and belief, the Chimpanzee, in 1996, bit a woman on her hand and tried to drag her into a car; in 1998, the Chimpanzee bit a man on his thumb; in 2003 the Chimpanzee escaped the Defendant’s vehicle and roamed for hours in downtown Stamford traffic before it could be captured.

On 4 November 2009 the same law firm filed a notice with the State of Connecticut’s Office of Claims Commissioner requesting permission to sue the state for $150 million, claiming that officials had ignored complaints about how dangerous Travis had become over the years. According to the Hartford Courant,

A Department of Environmental Protection biologist warned state officials before the attack that Travis could seriously hurt someone if he felt threatened, noting that he was large and strong. “We believe the evidence will show that the state, acting through the Department of Environmental Protection, failed to adequately address a serious public safety issue that resulted in tragic consequences for our client,” said Matt Newman, attorney for Nash’s family.

Sadly, no amount of money can return Charla Nash’s quality of life. Nor can it bring Travis back to life or compensate him for the misery of his life as a pet.

Travis’s life as a pet chimp
Travis is just as much a victim as Nash. In an article run on 19 February 2009, the Associated Press revealed some details of the strangely humanized life poor Travis had suffered for 14 years as the result of being stolen from his mother at three days old to enter the world of “pethood.”

• As a youngster, Travis would ride a tricycle.
• Travis ate the finest human foods and drank wine from long-stemmed glasses.
• Travis and his owner took baths together and even shared a bed.
• Travis brushed Herold’s hair.
• Travis loved ice cream and even knew the schedules of the ice cream trucks, according to a relative.
• Travis ate breakfast at the table with Herold and her since-deceased husband.
• Travis was autopsied and found to have the drug Xanax in his system.

Travis was also a performing chimpanzee and appeared in commercials for Coca-Cola and the clothing chain Old Navy. He had appeared on TV on The Maury Povich Show and other programs.

All efforts to end the U.S. pet chimpanzee trade to date have failed. Sadly, performing chimpanzees appear regularly on TV talk shows and in commercials.

More Charla Nash News Online
You can read more about Nash’s interview with Oprah online (http://www.oprah.com/article/oprahshow/20091111-tows-charla-nash-chimp). In addition, on 16 November 2009, Nash was interviewed on The Today Show by Meredith Vieira; you can watch the video on the MSNBC Web site (http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/26184891/vp/33962327#33962327).

Nash’s lawyers also maintain a Web site with the latest news about her (http://www WWBLaw.com/charla-nash/). A copy of the complaint they filed on her behalf can be found at the Web site of the Hartford Courant newspaper (http://www.courant.com/media/acrobat/2009-03/45627153.pdf). The paper has also assembled a photo gallery about Travis’s bizarre life, which you can view online (http://www.courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-chimptravis-pg,0,3268016,photogallery). You can see photos of Travis sitting on his owner’s lap at the beach, Travis dressed in human clothing waiting for a car-ride, Travis driving a lawnmower in Herold’s yard, and the grown-up Travis wearing a ridiculous costume!
Legal matters—some settled, some still in progress—indicate that there may be some hope for laboratory primates, at least in Europe. And those of us not versed in legal wrangling have found other ways to make a positive impact on apes and monkeys, via a little creative fundraising.

**UK: House of Lords’ report more favorable to primates**

In the last issue of *IPPL News* (September 2009, page 16), we reported on the disappointing result of the European Parliament vote on the revised European Union (EU) Directive 86/609, which legislates animal testing. Notably for primates, the proposed restriction on the use of non-human primates for research related only to life-threatening or debilitating diseases was lifted, and the seven year deadline for phasing out the use of “F1” primates (the offspring of wild-caught parents) was postponed indefinitely. The European Union’s legislative authority is divided between the Council and Parliament. Thus, if the Council approves these amendments, the revised EU Directive as it stands will become law. However, if the Council does not accept them, further debate could continue well into 2010.

The European Union Committee of the House of Lords considers EU documents and other matters relating to the EU in advance of decisions being taken on them in Brussels. It does this in order to influence the UK government’s position in negotiations, and to hold them to account for their actions at the EU level. The House of Lords’ report on this Directive, published in November, states the following:

> ...we consider it crucial that the feasibility of the time-limits proposed for phasing out the use of non-human primates which are not the second generation bred in captivity should be reviewed, on a species-by-species basis.

> Conversely, as regards the proposed limitation of the use of non-human primates to research related to life-threatening or debilitating conditions, we are persuaded that this strikes the right balance between animal welfare and scientific research.

> While the wording of this limitation may be clarified to permit research into conditions which have a substantial impact on patients’ day-to-day functioning, we look to the new Directive to place tighter limits on the use of non-human primates than on the use of other species.

As some of the UK Members of the European Parliament were heavily involved in lifting the limitation on the use of non-human primates, the House of Lords’ contrary position is heartening. The UK government will need to show that this report has been taken into account in forming its position in negotiations.

**Switzerland: Success in a landmark case**

Last year, the Zurich Administrative Court banned two macaque experiments, which had previously been granted licenses. This was the first time that the Swiss law against violating the “dignity” of animals—and weighing the stress of the animals against the supposed benefits of the research—has been imposed (thanks to the Swiss Animal Welfare Act (2005), which came into force in 2008). Predictably, the researchers appealed the decision. We are delighted to confirm that, following a lengthy appeal process, the ruling has been upheld by the Swiss Supreme Court!

One experiment, to monitor changes in the cerebral cortex during perceptual learning, involved implanting a device into the macaques’ brains (under anesthesia) to measure neuron activity; the researchers then planned to deny the animals water for long periods of time to increase the “reward” factor of giving them a drink if they learned a new task correctly. During the tasks, the macaques would be restrained in what is known as a “primate chair,” designed to hinder movement of the head and body.
The second experiment, aimed at seeing how different regions of the brain’s neocortex interact with each other, required injecting a substance into the monkeys’ brains (under anesthesia) and then killing them to study the brains microscopically. The suffering and excessive damage to the dignity of the animals were considered unjustifiable. This is a huge leap forward, and one that we hope to see repeated in other EU countries.

Belgium: Ground-breaking new legal challenge

Dr. André Menache, a zoologist and veterinary surgeon who has previously represented IPPL in Israel, together with a Belgian anti-vivisection coalition (Anti Dierproeven Coalitie), has launched what will be a test case against researchers at a Belgian university for unnecessary primate experimentation. The case hinges on article 7.2 of EU Directive 86/609. This specifies that “an experiment shall not be performed if another satisfactory method of obtaining the result sought, not entailing the use of an animal, is reasonable and practically available.”

The first of the two studies in question investigated the activity of nerve cells in a part of the brain involved in the grasping action of the hand. Having received no response to his queries on whether an alternative to the use of non-human primates was sought, Dr. Menache is now challenging the researchers and the university to defend the decision in court. The following scientific objections have also been made: a) the study is a repetition, with minor variations, of research already carried out, b) the research does not provide meaningful information that is directly applicable to human or veterinary medicine, and c) non-animal methods exist that can provide relevant information.

Dr. Menache has also made similar objections against a different study, which investigated how macaque eye movements are made in relation to moving objects. Dr. Menache asserts that, had the researchers used human volunteers, they could have simply issued verbal instructions to ensure that the subjects kept still. Instead, in order to render the monkeys immobile during the procedure, a head restraint system was implanted in each macaque using dental cement and titanium orthopedic bone screws. Once again, in their conclusions, the authors made no mention of how the research could be applied to human or veterinary medicine and instead suggested that further research was necessary!

Many such questionable primate studies are carried out throughout the EU (and worldwide) every day. Dr. Menache’s valiant attempt will hopefully ensure that future researchers will no longer be able to perform such pointless and cruel experiments with impunity.

Paddling and pounding the pavement for primates

As the time came closer for my chilly swim across Lake Windermere for the Great North Swim, all concerns about the distance and the cold faded away because I had managed to develop a nasty ear infection, so pain became the most pressing worry. However, thankfully, the worst of it had subsided by the day of the event, and my relief was such that the swim itself seemed much less daunting.

My strategy was to start right at the back so that I would not be in the way of faster swimmers. I’m sure this also made it much more rewarding psychologically, because I then found myself overtaking lots of people! I did deliberately slow down at times, though; the sun had come out after an extremely foggy start to the day, and the view across Lake Windermere was breathtaking.

In the end, my time was 47 minutes, in simply setting oneself a goal and achieving it, which I did with the swim itself, and also with my fundraising for IPPL, by exceeding my £1,000 goal. I would urge anyone else with an interest in doing any kind of sponsored activity, whether it be a walk, a swim, a run, or a skydive, to go for it; you may be surprised at just how rewarding it can be.

And I have not been the only one undergoing physical challenges to raise funds for IPPL here in the UK. A whole team of brave supporters took part in the Great South Run, a 10-mile run in Portsmouth in October, collectively raising over £1,500 in sponsorship. Special thanks go to Kristina Stazaker, who travelled all of the way from Liverpool to do her bit for the monkeys, and to Keri Cairns, who managed to complete the entire run dressed in a monkey costume! I would also like to thank Phil Thirlway, who completed the Run to the Beat half-marathon in London, raising over £500 for IPPL in the process.
Hi, my name is Daniel, and I am 10 years old. Each week I get an allowance, and I use part of that money to give as donations. The reason that I decided to donate to IPPL is that I love animals and I wanted to provide support for saving them. I really like primates because they are very intelligent and sophisticated animals. Primates are amazing climbers and I'm glad that IPPL gives gibbons and other primates homes and a lot of fun things to do.

Remy, age 6, is fascinated by primates and other wild animals. He can often be found playing “animal rescue” near his home in Vermont. Remy has been a proud supporter of IPPL since 2007. He looks great in his IPPL T-shirt!

Q: What’s invisible and smells of bananas?
A: Monkey breath!

Q: What did the gibbon say to the keeper?
A: “Gibbon me some more!”

Q: What did the gibbon say to the keeper?
A: “Gibbon me some more!”

Henry and Oscar, age 8, England

IPPL’s gibbon Courtney ALWAYS wants more!

Ella, age 10

www.ippl.org ———————————————— December 2009
Taking Care of Primates—Now and Forever

Since our founding in 1973, IPPL has greatly benefited from caring supporters who have remembered IPPL in their wills.

You, too, can help us ensure that future generations will also have the opportunity to know and love a world in which primates are protected—where those in the wild will be able to live free from fear of abuse at human hands, and where those remaining in captivity will have access to expert, 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 overseas, 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 in the community and at our education center to share with others the plight of the world’s primates.

By making a legacy gift to IPPL, you will ensure that IPPL can continue to protect the primates you love. I 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. Please contact us at IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA, or 843-871-2280 if you would like to discuss providing enduring help for IPPL. IPPL’s tax identification number is 51-0194013.

Thank you for your concern for IPPL’s future.

Shirley McGreal, IPPL Founder and Executive Director

IPPL Supporter’s Membership/Donation Form

If you have received this magazine and are not currently an IPPL member, you can help sustain the important work of IPPL on behalf of the world’s primates by contributing your financial support. By sending in a membership contribution, 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 membership  ☐ $50 sustaining membership  ☐ Other amount: $____ (membership)
☐ $100 patron membership  ☐ $10 student/senior membership  ☐ Other amount: $____ (one time donation)
☐ I will be paying via a check or money order made payable to IPPL.
☐ I will be paying via credit card (circle): Visa  MasterCard  AMEX  Discover

Card number: ____________________________ Expiration date: ________
Cardholder’s signature: _____________________________________________
Name: _____________________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________
E-mail: _____________________________________________________________

☐ I would like to make a monthly donation with my credit card: $____ amount / month ($5 / month minimum) until the end date of _____ / _____ (month / year)

Please mail form and payment to: IPPL ♦ P.O. Box 766 ♦ Summerville, SC 29484 ♦ USA. Thank you!
Primate Paraphernalia!

Here are some holiday gift giving ideas from IPPL!

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<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Sizes</th>
<th>Cost (US)</th>
<th>Cost (Overseas)</th>
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<td>Mountain Gorilla T-Shirt</td>
<td>100% cotton; black</td>
<td>Adult M, L, XL, XXL</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$22</td>
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<td>Multi-Lemur T-Shirt</td>
<td>100% cotton; brown</td>
<td>Adult M, L, XL</td>
<td>$15 (US)</td>
<td>$22 (overseas)</td>
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<td>Multi-Monkey T-Shirt</td>
<td>100% cotton; gray</td>
<td>Adult M, L, XL, XXL</td>
<td>$15 (US)</td>
<td>$22 (overseas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gibbon Notecards</td>
<td>12 cards and envelopes, 3 each of 4 IPPL gibbons (Arun Rangsi, Courtney, Igor, and Tong)</td>
<td>Adult M, L, XL, XXL</td>
<td>$10 (US)</td>
<td>$14 (overseas)</td>
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<td>IPPL Gibbon T-Shirt</td>
<td>100% cotton; green</td>
<td>Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL; Child S, M, L</td>
<td>$15 (US)/$22 (overseas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IPPL Baseball Cap</td>
<td>100% cotton; khaki; adjustable</td>
<td></td>
<td>$12 (US)/$16 (overseas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IPPL Gibbon T-Shirt</td>
<td>100% cotton; green</td>
<td>Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL; Child S, M, L</td>
<td>$15 (US)/$22 (overseas)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orangutan Baby T-Shirt</td>
<td>100% cotton; brown</td>
<td>Adult M, L, XL, XXL</td>
<td>$15 (US)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orangutan Baby T-Shirt</td>
<td>100% cotton; brown</td>
<td>Child S, M, L</td>
<td>$12 (US)</td>
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You can also order IPPL merchandise using our secure server. Go to www.ippl.org and select How to Help > Shop at IPPL’s Online Store.

Method of payment:
- Check/money order, payable to IPPL.
  (Overseas checks to be drawn on US banks.)
- Credit Card (circle): Visa MasterCard AMEX Discover

Order form:

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Order Total

All prices include shipping and handling.

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

Address
City
State
Zip

Ship to:
Name
Address
City
State
Zip

Mail your order to:
IPPL • P.O. Box 766 • Summerville, SC 29484 • USA
Questions? Call 843-871-2280 or e-mail info@ippl.org

IPPL NEWS
www.ippl.org
December 2009
Adopt an IPPL Gibbon!

Each of the many 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.
• An IPPL window cling.
• A quarterly update on your gibbon.

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): ___________________________________________ 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 NEWS  www.ippl.org  December 2009
IPPL Gibbons Currently Available for Adoption

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.

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.

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 IPPL’s Donny!

Donny was born on 15 October 1989 at a zoo in Michigan. In April 1993 he was sent with his brother Johnnie to a zoo in Ohio, where Johnnie died at a young age. In July 1994 Donny was sent to a zoo in Indiana. His life there was very difficult, as he was placed with other gibbons who attacked him mercilessly. He received a two-inch-long wound above his right eye that became infected. The next attack produced a bad wound under his left eye. Next he received a two-inch rip on the right side of his scrotum. He also received hand wounds.

Understandably, Donny became depressed and spent a lot of time sitting on the cage floor. His next move came in 1998, when he was transferred to a small zoo in Northern Wisconsin, where he lived with a female called Goblin until she died of cancer in 2000. After that time Donny was housed alone. He seldom got outdoors, as the zoo was located in a very cold area. Prior to his departure for IPPL, the small zoo’s director told IPPL, “We were unable to spend much or any time interacting with him (very short-staffed).”

In early 2001, IPPL was asked to provide a forever home for Donny, and in June of that year he reached IPPL. He settled down really well and now lives with E.T., a lovely gibbon who came to IPPL from a New York laboratory in 1983. Donny and E.T. live very peaceably together, and this gentle twosome is much loved by all the staff.

IPPL: Who We Are

IPPL is an international grassroots wildlife protection organization. It was founded in 1973 by Dr. Shirley McGreal. Our mission is to promote the conservation and protection of all nonhuman primates, great and small, around the world.

IPPL has been operating a primate sanctuary in Summerville, South Carolina, since 1977. There, 33 gibbons (the smallest of apes) live in happy retirement. IPPL is also proud to help support a number of other wildlife groups and primate rescue centers in countries where primates are native, to reduce the illegal trafficking in these animals.

IPPL News, which first appeared in 1974, is published thrice yearly. It and IPPL’s Web site (www.ippl.org) provide information about primate conservation and welfare issues.

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