DEFENDERS

KINDNESS IS NEVER USING OUR STRENGTH
TO HURT THOSE WEAKER THAN WE ARE
Dear friends,

Springtime makes everyone feel glad to be alive. Even animals romp and frolic when days get warmer, and birds sing glad songs, and the whole world turns green again. Green is Nature's favorite color. Perhaps that's why the Irish wear green on St. Patrick's Day.

But spring brings Easter, when baby chicks, bunnies, and ducklings suffer horribly and die—as Easter toys. Young children don't realize they hurt baby animals when they play with them. Most people don't know how to give proper care to baby animals, and don't have the food and equipment at home they need for them. Babies need special warmth, proper food, times for naps, and must not be handled much.

There is a big white rooster at the Humane Society that was one of the lucky ones. We named him Cheap, because that's the way people treat animals' lives at Easter—as if a life was cheap.

You can help prevent the sale of live baby animals as Easter toys with the use of this month's poster. Just show it to store managers and ask them not to sell live baby animals for Easter toys. Those who make this promise will want to display your poster in the store.

If a store has planned to sell live Easter toys, their order for them has probably already been sent, and they may not be able to cancel it. But any store that knows about this poster will probably decide not to sell live Easter toys next year.

This project will have to be done next year, too, if it is to help animals effectively. But with this poster, it may take only one full year, until next Easter, for Kindness Club members to stop the sale of live baby animals as Easter toys. It's worth a try. Order your poster pack today.

Your friend,

BE KIND
ARAHKUN
FACT: Bobwhite quails are so named because of their cheery song. Father quail helps hatch the eggs—as many as 18 in a clutch. Chicks do not need to be fed, but can eat and follow parents soon after they hatch. Chicks like this are called precocial (pre-ko-shell). Chicks scatter and hide on a signal from the hen. The group is called a covey (ku-vee).

PURPOSE: Quails eat many weed seeds. They loosen the soil with their scratching. They are one of the first animals to let us know that 'clean farming', (keeping every field mowed or cultivated), works against nature. They have to have cover, and must move on when no cover is left in mowed or cultivated fields.

KINDNESS: We can ask farmers to leave small areas of grass to grow tall for cover and food for quail. We can plant the vines and shrubs that give them the food they like best. We can make brush piles before winter comes for more cover, and put out seed around the bird feeder for them.

YOU CAN STOP EASTER CRUELTY
The Humane Society estimates over 4 1/2 million baby animals die every Easter. That's 4,500,000! These are the animals sold as toys for very young children.

Only 15 states have laws to forbid the sale of baby animals as Easter toys. There are many other laws in cities and counties. But often they are violated, or stores learn how to get around the law, anyway.

One law was passed that forbids the sale of less than six baby animals. It was written this way so hatcheries would not be affected by the law. One store got around the law by selling baby chicks in boxes of six each.

Many people bought a box of six chicks, even though they only wanted one. Usually they took one chick out of the box, then set the box down just outside the store with five baby chicks still in it. The Humane Society had to rescue them.

Sometimes laws aren't the best way to help animals. The Easter poster may do more good than all the laws we could get passed. Distribute a pack of posters and help baby animals.

THE KINDNESS CLUB GOES TO COLLEGE
Oto Dodoo, a student from Ghana, is organizing Kindness Clubs all over Reno, Nevada, where he is attending college. Active groups in high schools and the college have already been reported.
KINDNESS IN ACTION

BEAVER DEFENDERS -- Peg Rowan, Youngstown, Ohio

ORDERED POSTER PACKS --

Laurie Lamanna, Amsterdam, New York
Lee Rubin, New Hartford, New York
Brenda McKay, Seattle, Washington
Meg Van Dorn, Short Hills, New Jersey
Bobbie Jean Horiacher, Duncan, Arizona
Kim Bryan, Sterling, Virginia
Ronda Covert, Corapolis, Pennsylvania
John Donegan, Treasurer, Harp seal Club, (ordered posters for the club) Chevy Chase, Md.
Debbie Gibbons, Springfield, California
Nancy Kane, Purcellville, Virginia
Mindy Ball, Bristol, Indiana
Lisa Thomas, Chevy Chase, Maryland
Ellie Oldewurtel, Baltimore, Maryland
Donna Jean Girman, Dyer, Indiana
Jennifer Winters, Anaheim, California
Debbie Comer, Louisville, Kentucky

SOON THE POSTER LIST WILL BE TOO BIG FOR THE NEWSLETTER. FROM NOW ON, ONLY MEMBERS WILL BE REPORTED WHO WRITE AND LIST THE PLACES WHERE POSTERS HAVE BEEN DISPLAYED. LIST THE STORES WHERE YOU HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PUT UP A POSTER, AND WHICH POSTER YOU DISPLAYED. THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR THE EASTER POSTER FOR ASKING THE SAME STORES TO HELP AGAIN, NEXT YEAR. WHENEVER YOU WRITE, PLEASE PUT YOUR AGE BESIDE YOUR NAME.

BRANCH CLUB REPORT

Susan Schmidt, a long-time Kindness Club member, has organized a branch Kindness Club for young children. They went on a nature walk in the woods and found tracks of rabbits. When they returned to the barn where they have their meetings, they drew rabbit tracks for a new scrapbook, and discussed what they thought of animals. The new club is called 'The Little Weasels'.

Dear Kindness Club,

WOW—I'm so happy that there's finally one finally listening! I've written several letters and it was either 'go away' or no reply at all. I like to join The Kindness Club today! I'm only 10. And I LOVE ANIMALS!! Please, if you have any other information on your club send it to me, Dig?

O.K. Peace,

Thank you

Laura Nagy, Southfield, Michigan

Dear Arahkun,

Molly, the colt we raised with the new mare's formula, after her mother was killed by lightning, is a big girl now. She got her picture and an article about her in the Morgan Horse Magazine. My big brother clicks his teeth at her, and she clicks her teeth right back. Now when Molly sees him she starts to click her teeth.

Master Raccoon

Susan Schmidt, Fair Haven, Vt.

Dear Arahkun,

Ever since we have fed our birds we have learned so many things. The blue jay is a very helpful 'police-bird'. When a cat is coming he starts screeching and all the birds take flight. All my life I have wanted a bird to nest in our backyard and last year I was rewarded. A robin built her nest in our dogwood tree. We didn't let anyone near it.

I also tried to help a deer last summer at the park. He lived in a meadow, with not one bit of shade. We called the humane society. The manager of the park promised to move everything, and a bigger cage was built. So far so good. I am no longer a Lone Raccoon. I have started a club.

Yours truly, Inara Punga, Vernon, Conn.
The Wearing of the Green

Is there anything finer than green, Pat?
It's the color of grass in the spring.
And if you had to choose just one shade from them all,
For the trees, it would be just the thing.

Why the hills & the mountains without it
Wouldn't gladden the heart as they do.
And the bay, when you look from the top of the hill,
You'll admit, is as green as it's blue.

T'is as good for the eyes as the soul, lad,
For it's nature's own color, it's true.
So if green is so grand for the rest of the world,
We'd best have some on both of us too!

M File