PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TO MEN AND ANIMALS
LIVING IN A GIANT PRESSURE COOKER

Wild animals need to live free. So do people. Some people are lucky. Every fanciful dream or vision of their teen years seems to fall into place and become a reality. For some it happens because of their dedicated, determined efforts to make these dreams come true. But for others, though just as determined and ambitious, it just doesn’t happen. Out of each 1,000 people or more, there may be just one lucky guy, and the rest get locked into jobs and life pressures that they hate.

It doesn’t have to be this way for anyone. There is a lifestyle that can help anyone who follows it endure the pressures they must face, and still be happy and productive all their lives.

My Grandfather was one whose dreams never became a reality. Yet he lived a productive life and was always happy. He dreamed of being a teacher, but had to quit school to help his Dad on the farm during hard times.

Then he married a teacher and could never complete his education because of a family to support. Even though most of his jobs were classified as common labor, he studied on his own each evening, and could participate in lively discussions with well-educated people.

Born on July 4, Independence Day, he was intensely patriotic, believing solidly in the American ideal, as developed by our founding fathers. Tender and gentle, he earned a reputation for gentling teams of horses with kindness, which had nearly been ruined by previous cruel owners. Grandfather never went to movies, but once he took me to a hilarious Walt Disney movie. His rich, full voice that carried so well had a musical ring, and as he began to laugh aloud, people all over the audience commented, “Why, that's Floyd Ramsey!”

Grandfather finally became an elementary school janitor. His day began at six in the morning, for he had to stoke the coal furnace to warm fourteen classrooms. The furnace room became his office, since the furnace had to be tended regularly. Children began to come to him when they had problems, and for years he was the unofficial counselor for the school, and without a doubt the most popular member of the school staff. He studied Webster's dictionary evenings to challenge the teachers with proper spelling, or the meaning of a new word. More often than not, they were unable to respond with the right answers. He loved that game, perhaps more than any other.

A janitor’s job is not all fun and games, of course, and counseling kids with problems was not part of his official duties. As a kid, I followed my Grandfather as he prepared each classroom for its daily use. Without fail every desk, every seat, the molding around the big blackboards, and the high moldings up near the tall ceilings were dusted in 14 classrooms every morning before the students arrived. He took such pride in his work that 'his school' would successfully pass a white glove inspection at any time. When he finally retired, the school had to hire two men full-time to replace him.

Doing a job, no matter how distasteful, and doing it well, gives a man pride in accomplishment. Grandfather lived by the Golden Rule, had a cheery greeting and a kind word for everyone he met, and was loved by everyone in return. The Golden Rule helped him do his job well and overcome the disappointment of not being able to teach. His outlook on life brightened the lives of all who met him.

Young people today who dream of a different life style may be lucky enough for it to happen, through dedicated efforts. But many will get locked into life patterns and pressures before they reach their goals. Living by the Golden Rule can help anyone rise above the pressures of life and make the distasteful tasks endurable, or even enjoyable.

In seeking to return to a more natural way of life, I have had to make some compromises. I've not been happy about them, but sometimes changes in living patterns must be done slowly and carefully, so that these changes don't unduly affect others, or create unnecessary hardships to the people who are seeking to live a more natural life.

Your life style can be productive, satisfying, and imbued with happiness, no matter what form it takes, if you adopt the Golden Rule as your own personal way of life. Such a life style can also affect others and dispense a warmth and affection that creates an aura of kindness among everyone you meet. The spirit of Christmas, exemplified by the Golden Rule, can be yours all year long, no matter what tasks lay ahead, or how your life style develops.
GOLDEN RULES

Brahmanism: This is the sum of duty: Do naught unto others which would cause you pain if done to you. - Mahabharata 5:1517

Buddhism: Hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful. - Udanavarga 5:18

Confucianism: Is there one maxim which ought to be acted upon throughout one's whole life? Surely it is the maxim of loving-kindness: Do not unto others what you would not have them do unto you. - Analects 15:23

Taoism: Regard your neighbor's gain as your own gain, and your neighbor's loss as your own loss. - T'ai-Shang Kan-Ying P'ien.

Judaism: What is hateful to you, do not to your fellow man. That is the entire Law; all the rest is commentary. - Talmud, Shabbat 51a

Christianity: All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the Law and the Prophets. - Matthew 7:12

Islam: No one of you is a believer until he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself. - Sunan

PRESENTS FOR YOUR PETS

Animals sense a holiday spirit and enjoy the feeling of warmth and love of Christmas. They can often share in the fun of presents, too, if you plan ahead and wrap a special gift for your pets. The more a pet is part of the family the more appreciated he will be, and the better behaved he will be, too. Although we think some people pamper their pets too much, we don't think it's too much pampering for a pet to get a present at Christmas. We'll bet he will approve, too.

CATS AND CHRISTMAS TINSEL

It is a little-known fact that cats and Christmas tinsel just don't go together. If eaten, the bright tinsel can cut up a cat's stomach. A cat is also likely to want to play with the decorations on the tree, or climb it to find out what makes the lights flash on and off. For your cat's health and the sake of preserving your tree intact, keep them separated. Keep your cat away from other Christmas greens, too. Poisonous to cats are holly berries, philodendron, rhododendron, ivy, and, most dangerous, mistletoe.

THE ENERGY CRISIS AND CLASSROOM ANIMALS

Many schools are being asked to lower their thermostats to conserve energy in this present emergency when there is not enough fuel. Reducing the temperature of the classroom could harm or kill some animals kept in the classroom. Guinea pigs, for instance, should have temperatures between 68 and 72 degrees at all times. If the thermostat is turned below this overnight or on weekends, they will surely die. If your school has classroom animals, there are ways of protecting them from harm: 1. Keep them in a special room where the temperature is not turned down, 2. Keep a 40 watt light bulb, with a hood over it, in their cages, or 3. Arrange for someone to take them home each weekend.

TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE OWNER FINED

The United States Department of Agriculture has finally taken legal action against people who 'sore' their Tennessee Walking Horses. This action is the enforcement of the federal Horse Protection Act of 1970. Two owners were fined $1,000 each on September 7, and on October 23 another owner was fined $1,000, and two of his employees were fined $500 each. Both legitimate horse exhibitors and humane society investigators have been impatient with USDA investigators who inspected sored horses but did nothing about them. The horses' feet are made sore to make them raise their feet higher, creating an unusual style of gait. Soring is done because the competition in these shows is so fierce, and everybody wants his horse to win. One of the most common soring agents used, oil of mustard, is called 'scooter juice.' It is rubbed on the horses' feet and burns terribly. One rumor stated that two USDA investigators inspected a number of sored horses, but didn't disqualify them from the show. It wasn't until they had gotten into their car and driven away that they realized someone had smeared 'scooter juice' all over the car seat. Perhaps it was the 'scooter juice' that started all the action. KIND members can encourage more effective enforcement of this law by writing USDA officials and complimenting them on taking people who violate the law to court.

United States Department of Agriculture
Independence Ave. Bet. 12th & 14th Sts., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250
Dear KIND,

After reading about Clem and Jethro's horrible fate, I had a dream. The auditorium lights were hot, and as a large silver-gray wolf was led onto stage the crowd gasped, shocked by the animal's beauty. As the great wolf sat quietly on stage, we were instructed to form a line, to enable us to pet the wolf; Jethro--Goodwill Ambassador for wolves. Finally I was there on stage, my hand upon Jethro's silky head. I looked into his eyes and saw the trust that was hidden inside them, and I finally understood what months of patience, understanding and a great deal of love could produce.

Then suddenly, this happy picture faded from my mind and I saw Jethro stiff and lifeless, and when I finally awoke, I knew that I'd never get the chance to meet this beautiful animal.

Now I can only dream. Dream of the soft, silky fur, and the big brown eyes and gentle ways of Jethro--King of Wolves.

Elsie Oldewurtel

THIS LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE LOUISVILLE TIMES IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF HOW KIND MEMBERS CAN TELL OTHERS OF THE PLIGHT OF ANIMALS. PERHAPS AS A RESULT, MANY MORE PEOPLE WILL ADD THEIR EFFORTS TO OURS. SO MORE ANIMALS WILL BE SAVED. DAVID DICKEERSON IS A NEW KIND MEMBER. WHY DON'T YOU TRY A LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER?

ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL

There has been surplus breeding of dogs and cats and 10,000 are born every hour. Only one out of 10 finds a home. The rest become ill, starve, and have slow, agonizing deaths.

To stop this, the Humane Society of the United States urges people to have their cats and dogs spayed. The Humane Society hopes to have enough animals spayed so that unwanted puppies and kittens can find homes. Seventy-five per cent of the animals put in the dog pound don't find homes and are put to sleep.

Please have your cat or dog spayed. It's painless and will save the lives of innocent kittens and puppies.

For more information on overpopulation of animals or how to become a member of the Humane Society, write: The Humane Society of the United States, 1604 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Dennis the Menace and his friends visit the S.P.C.A. The comic book, $1.30, is on the newsstands now.

We have no more right to consume happiness without producing it, than we have to consume wealth without producing it.

George Bernard Shaw

PHOTO CONTEST

SECOND PRIZE WINNER IN ECOLOKIND'S SUMMER PHOTO CONTEST WAS TOM VOGELSANG, SUNMAN, INDIANA, WITH THIS PHOTO. TOM IS 17.

WINNING BRANCH CLUB PROJECT ENTRY

The Eagles Kindness Club sent the best project to help animals and won our project contest in the Branch Club category. Here is their report:

We are practicing to give a play for parents, neighbors and friends. We have chosen the book "How Joe the Bear and Sam the House Got Together." We are changing it to be "The Bear Family (boys) and the Samantha Mouse Family" (girls). Everyone will have a part. Admission charges and profits from sale of refreshments will be added to garage sale funds and given to our local humane society to help build a new shelter. We are making our own scenery and props. We are hoping to make some of the literature we ordered available to those who attend our show. Mrs. Nancy Raver is our Raccoon Captain.

REPORTS OF PROJECTS NEEDED

What are you doing to help animals? Perhaps your special project will give other KIND members a good idea. Send reports of your projects, and Branch Club reports to KIND. If you can send a photo of your project, we may be able to publish it in your newsletter. The Eagles Kindness Club is in Lima, Ohio.

WHY WE NEED TREES

A single automobile consumes as much breathable oxygen every minute as is required for 1,135 people. It takes ten trees a full day to produce the oxygen required to burn just one gallon of gasoline in an automobile. Every person who owns a car should maintain a grove of at least 28 trees to replace the oxygen his car consumes each year. And, unless he plants evergreens, many more trees would be needed to compensate for the winter months, when deciduous trees have lost their leaves.
ANIMAL NOTE STATIONERY

Order your animal note stationery offered by KIND. See your August newsletter for descriptions. All but #359 are still available, and we plan to keep this stationery in stock to fill your orders. You will also like the attractive wildlife pins described in your October newsletter.

TIME TO RENEW

If you haven't renewed your KIND membership for 1974, do it now. Use the form below and send your dues in right away.

1974 KIND MEMBERSHIP

New Member $2.00

Renewal $2.00

Name

Birthdate

Street Address

City State Zip Code

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Additional nine month subscriptions are available to schools only at 80¢ per subscription.

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