IN MEMORIAM

JETHRO--GOODWILL AMBASSADOR FOR WOLVES
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One of the most unique animals in the world was Jethro the wolf. Jethro was born in a zoo in Lodi, California, and suffered the humiliation of having three families try to convert him into a pet dog, before being rescued by the American Association for the Protection of Predatory Animals. John Harris, its president, recognized the dignity of this wolf at once. When they had established a friendship, he took Jethro with him on his lecture tours, where he talked to large audiences to persuade them to help save wolves and other endangered predators.

A lecture tour is hard on anybody. It means always being at your best, trying to look good, even if you feel lousy, missing sleep, trying to cover the miles to the next lecture that is scheduled. It means late hours, meals on an irregular schedule, hot, blinding stage lights, and then, after the lecture, throngs of people crowding around. Jethro endured each performance stoically; he seemed to realize he had a special mission. His job was to communicate with the crowds of people, in wolf sign language, that he wouldn’t harm them. His way of doing this was to lie on his back and stretch his neck, so any enemy could attack, by grabbing his throat or tearing his stomach. Wolves have a code of honor, and will not attack another wolf who demonstrates this sign of submission. It is a recognition of the dominant animal, by one who is not as strong or powerful, but it is also an indication of perfect trust that the dominant animal is an honorable wolf, and will not attack.

After his demonstration, Jethro permitted children and adults to pet him, pat him, squeeze and hug him. It was hardly a life for an animal who instinctively seeks the quiet of the deep woods, and an environment as far away from humans as he can possibly find. Yet Jethro’s mission was to convince people that wolves are not vicious, and that they should be respected and protected to live free and undisturbed.

Jethro’s mission is ended. The work is not finished, but others must carry on in his paw prints. One such wolf will be Rocky, Jethro’s nephew. Jethro and his partner, Clem, died July 29 in agonizing convulsions, from strychnine poisoning. The woman who murdered them claims she loves cats, but hates dogs. Neighbors report she also hates children, and throws bottles of water at them. She has been arrested and must take psychiatric treatments. During the 70 long years of life on Earth, she has failed to learn to respect life.

It isn’t possible truly to love one kind of animal and hate another. That so-called ‘love’ is only personal satisfaction from the pleasure the animals provide. Genuinely loving animals means appreciating all animals, or at least respecting their right to live, because they are living beings. It means wanting to help them survive and live as nature intended. To help animals best, it is necessary to love people, too, because it is necessary to recruit more people so more animals can be helped.
BE AN OUTDOOR DETECTIVE
AND INTERPRET THE SIGNS

FIND ANSWERS HERE
Bear Signs - Raccoon
Beaver Work - Otter Slide
Buck Deer Rub - White-tailed Deer
Crayfish Chimney - Owl Pellets
Fox Squirrel - Porcupine
Gall Rust - Scats (cottontail, Meadow Mouse)
Muskrat - Woodcock
Work of Black-backed, 3-toed Woodpecker

THE PLANTER'S PEANUT ELEPHANT

The winner of the contest chose the $500 prize instead of the baby elephant, so no elephant was ordered. (See March newsletter). Thanks to every KIND member who wrote Planters to protest their offering to give away a live baby elephant.

WHEN A PET DIES

Most pets do not live as long as people do. Even with the very best of care, sometimes a pet will die, and it may not be possible to learn what caused its death. Every person who has a pet must, sooner or later, face up to the fact that someday his pet will die. Dying is a part of living, and is a natural event that happens to every animal, including humans. It's a time of sadness for those who are left. But, as a part of the life cycle, each life must eventually cease. The vacancy that occurs when a pet dies can be filled with another pet, perhaps yet to be born, and a new friendship established. It represents a new and different experience, but it never replaces the fond memories of the pet that came before. Animals do not grieve over the death of a colleague; they accept death as a part of life and the total environment. If people lived each day to the fullest in such a manner that they had no regrets, as do animals, they could take the death of a loved pet in stride as a fact of life, as do animals.

ST. FRANCIS DAY

October 4 is the day we commemorate St. Francis, and his teachings of kindness to animals and people. Learn something about St. Francis during this week.
ARMY APPROVES SYNTHETIC FUR

When the U.S. Army placed an order for parka hoods, it specified they must be lined with wolf fur. People protested loudly. Wolves, already in danger of becoming extinct, would be slaughtered to meet the Army's demands. Agreeing with those who protested was Representative William Whitehurst, who happens to be a member of the House Armed Services Committee. He ordered the Army to make some tests and find out if a synthetic fur would work just as well. The results of those tests indicated that "untreated, undyed, modacrylic synthetic fur is an adequate alternate for natural fur." The surprising thing to come out of the tests, though, was that synthetic fur would cost almost $4 less for each parka hood! Since the Army needs 277,502 parkas, this will save the taxpayers $1,100,000 on this one order! The tremendous savings from use of synthetic fur is the final assurance that wolves will be no longer threatened by the U.S. Army for their fur.

Dear Mr. Hylton,

How do you broil lobsters without causing them to suffer as they die from the heat? Or should I really make all this fuss about lobsters?

A KIND member, Jane Bonnell, Glastonbury, Ct. age 12

Dear Jane:

Cold fresh water helps to leach the salt from the body fluids of lobsters and has an anesthetizing effect. By placing the lobster in a pot of cold, fresh water, which has a wire rack in the bottom to protect the lobster from the heat on the pot's bottom, and gradually increasing the heat, the lobster is first anesthetized, and then dies at approximately 40 degrees Centigrade. This still feels only lukewarm to your hand. Proceed then to prepare the lobster as you desire. Of course you should make a fuss about the feelings of a lobster. Even though it is considered a lower animal, there is no excuse to cause any animal any suffering, particularly when it can be so easily avoided.

Your friend, Dale Hylton

Dear KIND,

I carry a silver can and a Girl Scout Canteen filled with water. If I see a dog or cat that is thirsty I give them some water.

Thank you, Sheila Carpenter, Indianapolis, Ind. age 11

ANSWERS TO "NATURE DETECTIVE"


Dear KIND,

I want to urge DEFENDERS to please not buy dogs from pet stores. There are mostly disreputable people in the pet store business who will sell you a "rare breed" for an outrageous price, and when you take your valuable puppy home, a friend informs you that you bought a mongrel with your savings. There are several breeders who will sell you purebreds without papers for a low price. That way you can be sure of what you are getting. If you prefer a mixed breed, any newspaper will carry advertisements. These will be much less expensive than buying from a pet store. PROTECT PUREBRED DOGS; BUY FROM A BREEDER!

Nansi MacKay, Doraville, Ga. age 13

The dogs Nansi mentions that breeders will sell at a low price without papers are not up to strict standards for showing or breeding, but many are, nevertheless, beautiful dogs, and wonderful pets. The best breeders insist you have your dog spayed or neutered, because they don't want a poor quality representative of their breeding to reproduce. Also, don't forget the public pound or humane society shelter, where you can often even find a purebred dog who needs a home. - Editor

A SACRIFICE TO HELP ANIMALS

Raymond (13) and Bradley (6) Alexander wanted to help animals. They decided to sell some of their own toys to raise money so more animals could be helped. Both donated their own toys to be sold, and they raised a total of $10. We have stretched their gift just as far as possible to help as many animals as we could, because they cared enough to give up their toys.

Since America was first explored, 47 species of wildlife have become extinct on this continent. More than 120 species have become extinct throughout the world since 1600 A.D. Hundreds of other animals are now endangered.
THE ROBIN-BLUEBERRY BATTLE

In New Brunswick, Canada, there are huge blueberry farms. Robins, who normally eat mostly worms and insects, have begun eating the blueberries. Some say it is because spraying of insecticides have killed all the insects. Last year farmers obtained permits from the government and shot thousands of robins, but very few people knew they were doing it. This year people learned they planned to shoot robins again, and many people protested. New Brunswick is the headquarters of The International Kindness Club, and KIND is its American program. Among the protesters were many Canadian Kindness Club members. The government has now announced it will not issue permits to farmers to kill robins this year. It is working with the farmers to locate other ways of keeping them away from the blueberries. Robins are migratory birds and spend part of each year in the United States.

NEW TEACHING UNIT

An interesting unit for primary grades on pet care and responsibility is now available. Entitled "A Pet Is A Special Friend," the ten-minute, full-color filmstrip is accompanied by a recording narrated by Allen Ludden, with original music. A filmstrip guide, poster, resource guide, and 30 copies of a "Petiquette" booklet on pet owning responsibility are included with this kit. The unit is available for $5 from: Pet Food Institute, Attention: Mrs. Pat O'Keefe, 111 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601.

Photo by Nickerson