



News

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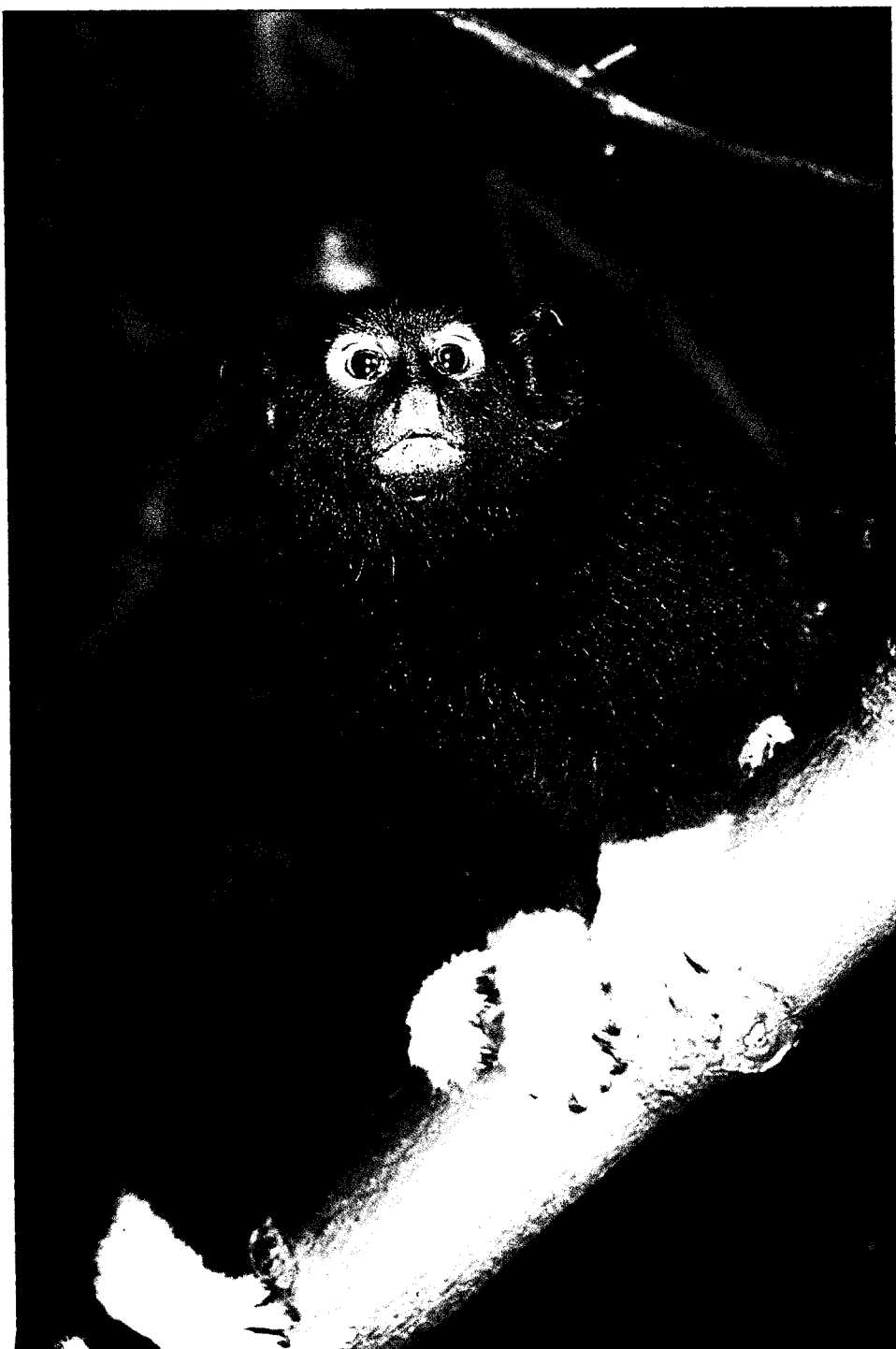
In this issue:

**“Taiping Four”
Gorillas Go To
Pretoria Zoo,
South Africa**

**IPPL Members’
Meeting 2004**

The golden-handed tamarin from
the forests of South America

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Letter from IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal

May 2004

Dear IPPL Member,

IPPL just held its 8th biennial Members' Meeting. We hosted a very diverse crowd at our Headquarters in the Lowcountry of South Carolina. The weather was delightful and the wisteria, azalea, dogwood, and sweet-scented Carolina jessamine were in full bloom.

The ages of members attending ranged from 8 years old (the irrepressible Maggie Smith) to 93 (the amazing Kitty Weaver, just back from a solo tour of Jordan). All continents were represented — except Antarctica! The nations represented were Australia; Brazil; Canada; Cameroon; Chile; France; Indonesia; Netherlands; Portugal; Sierra Leone; Singapore; the United Kingdom; and the United States.

The IPPL gibbons sang in the background as our speakers made their presentations. Even our two-year-old hand-raised gibbon Courtney tried her best to sing along!

It is a lot of hard work preparing for Members' Meetings. Our staff worked long hours and many of our volunteers lent a hand. We greatly appreciate those members who couldn't attend in person yet sent generous donations to sponsor our overseas speakers.

As always, the atmosphere at IPPL's 2004 meeting was one of harmony. All ages, races, and nationalities became one happy family for one very special weekend, and everyone returned home with new friends and renewed determination.

Thank you to everyone who made this wonderful event possible.



Shirley McGreal

Special Friend Revisits Igor

IPPL member Courtland Cross first met Igor in 1987. Igor is an IPPL gibbon who reached us in 1987 after two decades in research facilities. Because Igor used to self-mutilate at the sight of another gibbon, he was kept behind black Plexiglas for many years. So we needed to build him an enclosure in an isolated area of IPPL's grounds.

Despite his sad and lonely history, Igor has done well at IPPL and loves his human friends, the IPPL dogs, and watching the birds at the feeder near his recently expanded enclosure. Oddly, he seems to enjoy visits from our two-year-old gibbon Courtney, probably because she looked more like an extra-terrestrial than a gibbon when he first saw her as a near-hairless baby.

Courtland kindly set up a trust fund to help support Igor but family problems kept her from visiting him till IPPL-2004. She was delighted to see that Igor is alive and well.



Courtland Cross (right) with Shirley

Taiping Four Gorillas Secretly Flown to South Africa

As readers of *IPPL News* know, four baby gorillas ("The Taiping Four") reached Taiping Zoo, Malaysia, in January 2002. They had been smuggled to Malaysia from Nigeria, via Johannesburg, South Africa. They were carried on South African Airways. A South African import-export permit had been issued for the transit of these animals.

It is therefore very disappointing news that Malaysian authorities have sent these gorillas to South Africa's national zoo in Pretoria. The gorillas left Malaysia on 14 April 2004 despite repeated requests from the Government of Cameroon, supported by the Government of Nigeria, for them to be returned to what was certainly their country of origin, **Cameroon**.

IPPL exposes gorilla deal

In a press release issued around 19 April 2004, Willie Labuschagne, Director of Pretoria Zoo, announced that the gorillas had been confiscated on arrival at Kuala Lumpur Airport. He claimed,

The four gorillas were illegally transported from Nigeria to Malaysia almost two years ago. They were confiscated on arrival at Kuala Lumpur.

This was untrue. The gorillas had already been at Taiping over two months when IPPL learned from a confidential source that the zoo had recently acquired black market gorillas. **The situation would never have come to the world's attention except for IPPL's work.**

IPPL takes action

IPPL immediately complained to the Malaysian Wildlife Department. The Department cancelled permits issued to Taiping Zoo to import two more infant gorillas. Officials stated that they had believed Taiping Zoo's claim that the gorillas were captive-born. Although IPPL was pleased that the import permit for more gorillas was cancelled, we wanted to learn how it could be that, despite gorillas being protected (at least on paper) by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), they could still be shipped internationally.

Even when they are babies, gorillas are large animals that would be hard to conceal from customs inspectors.

An IPPL investigator went to Taiping Zoo and confirmed the presence of four gorillas. A zoo employee stated that they had reached Malaysia from Nigeria. Zoo director Kevin Lazarus refused to provide any information.

IPPL obtains documents

IPPL next contacted a member in Nigeria who confirmed that Ibadan Zoo had exported the gorillas, falsely claiming that they were born at the zoo. He and an Associated Press reporter visited the zoo and verified that it had only one gorilla, an elderly female. Zookeepers stated that the exported baby gorillas had all reached Nigeria from neighboring Cameroon — and that **many** other babies had been obtained by the zoo and had died before being shipped anywhere.

In addition our colleague obtained papers pertaining to the shipment, three of special significance: 1) **a South African Airways waybill for four gorillas** to be shipped from Lagos, Nigeria, to Penang, Malaysia, via Johannesburg, South Africa — even though South African Airways normally has a policy of not shipping primates; 2) **a South African veterinary import/re-export permit for FIVE lowland gorillas** to be shipped from Nigeria via Johannesburg to Malaysia (apparently this did not raise any "red flags" in South Africa despite widespread knowledge of the endangered status of gorillas; it also suggests that one of the five gorillas died before shipment) and 3) **a Nigerian CITES export permit** issued to Ibadan Zoo for export of five "captive-bred" gorillas. As noted, one gorilla was not shipped.

Cameroon and Nigeria request gorillas go to Cameroon

On 11 November 2002, during a Conference of the Parties to CITES, Dr. Imeh Okopido, Nigeria's then Minister of State for the Environment, and Mr. Denis Koulagna Koutou, Cameroon's Director

of Wildlife, presented the Malaysian delegation with a co-signed letter requesting the return of the gorillas to Cameroon. The letter went unanswered. On 27 August 2003, after learning of Malaysia's plans to send the "Taiping Four" gorillas to Pretoria, Cameroon's Minister of the Environment, Dr. Tanyi Mbiangor, sent an official letter to his counterpart in Malaysia requesting that the gorillas be returned to Cameroon,

I would like to emphasize the hope of the Nigerian and Cameroonian authorities to see these animals sent back to their native land instead of being exported to a zoo in South Africa as recently reported by Dr. Shirley McGreal of the International Primate Protection League... Let me inform you that two other gorillas smuggled probably by the same network were seized and repatriated to the Limbe Wildlife Centre in Cameroon...on May 23rd of this year. This information needs to be given in order to prevent Your Excellency from being convinced that the Pretoria Zoo is the only [facility] equipped for the rehabilitation of these animals, the argument that seemingly oriented the decision of sending the smuggled gorillas to South Africa. I would be grateful for any measure you will take for repatriation of the young gorillas to their native land instead of the Pretoria Zoo.

Minister Mbiangor sent copies of his letter to Dr. Okopido of Nigeria and the Secretary-General of CITES. The Minister also met privately with then Malaysian Minister Law Dieng Hing during the Convention on Biological Diversity conference held in Malaysia in February 2004, but he asked that this meeting not be publicized because he, naively as it turned out, believed that Malaysia would return the gorillas to Cameroon.

Pretoria Zoo chosen

Minister Law instead announced that Malaysia had agreed to send the gorillas to "the National Zoological Gardens of South Africa in Pretoria under a bilateral technical co-operation agreement." Law

said that the decision had been approved by the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) and the CITES Secretariat in Switzerland. Pretoria Zoo then owned one elderly male gorilla. According to the *International Gorilla Studbook*, three other gorillas owned by Pretoria died in their 20s, the last one in 1998. Two infants born at the zoo sadly survived less than a month.

In contrast, Limbe Wildlife Centre in Cameroon maintains a group of 12 rescued gorillas. Many of Limbe's animals reached the center in appalling physical and emotional condition, yet survived.

Gorillas moved secretly

There has recently been a change of government in Malaysia. Datuk Adenan Satem has replaced Minister Law Hieng

Ding. The name of the Science, Technology and Environment Ministry has been changed to the Natural Resources and Environment Ministry. Unfortunately, the decision to send the animals to South Africa was **not** changed.

On 16 April IPPL learned from the Malaysian press (see part of relevant article below) that the four gorillas had been secretly shipped to Pretoria Zoo, accompanied by a group of Malaysians. Animal groups worldwide are shocked that the wishes of the Environment Minister of the country where the gorillas' mothers were undoubtedly shot were flouted. Ian Redmond of the Ape Alliance commented,

We should recall that these four infants represent, at a conservative

estimate, 56 dead gorillas! (N.B. at least four out of five infant gorillas die in trade, so four live babies equals 20 captured, and each infant is captured by killing at least two adults - the mother and father - so four live babies equals 40 dead adults and 16 infants that died before reaching adequate care). Pretoria will doubtless stress the conservation education value of their new gorilla exhibit, but surely the place where this conservation education value of captive gorillas is most needed is in Cameroon.

Unfortunately, protests from IPPL and its members, from the Cameroon-based Last Great Ape Organization, and 65 other wildlife protection organizations had no effect, and the gorillas are now in South Africa.

Gorilla Move Kept Secret from Press and Public

The *Star*, one of Malaysia's leading newspapers, learned quickly that the gorillas had left Malaysia. In a story with the headline "Gorillas sent to South Africa" published on Friday, April 16, 2004, reporter Raslan Baharom wrote:

The four young gorillas illegally sourced from Nigeria have been sent from the Taiping Zoo to Pretoria, South Africa, in a hush-hush move aimed at dodging the media. It is learnt that the animals, accompanied by Taiping Municipal Council president, Datuk Jamalludin Al Amini Ahmad, their keeper, K. Mani, and a veterinarian, departed on Tuesday. Council officials

declined comment but a source said Jamalludin would disclose the matter to the media upon his return. The source said the media had been kept in the dark over the animals' departure on the instruction of a higher authority. A check at Mani's home here yesterday confirmed he was away overseas. A family member who declined to be named said Mani was recently issued with a passport and had flown abroad on a very secret assignment. "Ini rahsia besar kerajaan. Tak boleh kasi tahu. Nanti kami susah (This is a big government secret. We cannot tell. Otherwise we will be in big trouble)," she said.

What You Can Do

It is outrageous that nobody in Malaysia, in or out of government, has been prosecuted in connection with the "Taiping Four" affair. Dr. Kevin Lazarus, director of Taiping Zoo, has not made public the documents that show who played what role in the affair, nor has anyone expressed remorse over the gorilla mothers killed to supply the zoo with its babies. Please send a letter requesting that there be a thorough investigation of the Taiping Four gorilla smuggling case with anyone found to have acted improperly prosecuted or removed from his or her jobs. Contact the Malaysian Ambassador to your country (or High Commissioner if you live in a Commonwealth nation). The US address is:

The Ambassador of Malaysia
Embassy of Malaysia
2401 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008

Please send a letter to Dr. Klaus Toeffer, Director-General of the United Nations Environment Program which administers the CITES Treaty. Express your concern over the insulting treatment administered to the Honorable Tanyi Myianbor, Minister of the Environment of the Government of Cameroon: his request for the return to a respected wildlife center in Cameroon of four gorillas smuggled from his nation to Malaysia, was rejected in favor of sending the gorillas to a zoo in South Africa. This nation had allowed the animal smugglers to ship the animals through Johannesburg Airport on their way to Malaysia. Request that an objective panel be established to investigate the mishandling of this smuggling incident.

Dr. Klaus Toeffer, Director-General
United Nations Environment Programme
United Nations Avenue
Gigiri, PO Box 30552
Nairobi, Kenya

“Bahrain Willie” Goes to Wales

Peg Altemueller, BSPCA Volunteer and Executive Committee Member

The Bahrain Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BSPCA) is a charitable organization that takes in nearly 200 cats and dogs a month. Who would have thought that, back in December 2001, we'd receive a monkey? He was rescued from a local market, wearing baby clothes and a diaper, in a very small cage; he was very frightened by people poking and prodding him.

A friend and fellow BSPCA volunteer, Cheryl Gerring, and I decided to formally sponsor him, even though he would be housed at the shelter, and he was soon named “Willie.”

Learning about baboons

Having never worked with primates before, the task at hand was to find out his species type, how old he was, and how to care for him. Being an Internet advocate, I promptly got online to find answers, and quickly learned that having a monkey as a pet was not a wise thing to do. Since the BSPCA facility was never designed to care for a primate, the biggest challenge was to find him a new home. Bahrain doesn't really have a zoo or facility that houses and cares for monkeys.

In January 2002, after e-mailing nearly 80 primate sanctuaries, rehabilitation centers, and organizations, Willie was tentatively identified via photos as a three month old yellow baboon. Linda Howard (with AESOP in Texas) was instrumental in helping us connect with the right people; she referred us to Shirley McGreal at IPPL. We found that placing a needy baboon was far from easy, because he was not a member of a (technically) endangered species and the possible centers all had long waiting lists.

A home is found!

In February 2002, Willie was accepted by the good folks at the Centre for Animal Rehabilitation and Education (CARE) in Phalaborwa, South Africa. What wonderful news, after over 300 e-mails and many apologies from all over the world! We then began the tedious process

to secure official approvals and permits on both the Bahrain and South African side. We were in constant e-mail contact with Rita Miljo (founder of CARE) and Gien Elsas (her associate) to work out the necessary details.

During Willie's early months with us in Bahrain, many volunteers became involved with his care. Both Cheryl, myself, Vicky Swann, and Els Sintnicolaas were all part of his play routine. Of course the caretakers at the sanctuary not only kept his area clean, but fed and played with him on a daily basis. Special thanks go to Thusira, Prasad, and Siri who cared for Willie the longest, and did an amazing job. Vinard, Janaka, and Nuwan also took care of Willie during his later months with us.

Willie's daily buffets

Interacting with Willie was fascinating to us as we learned how smart primates

really are. We all quickly fell in love with him, as he proved to be quite the charming showman and loved to be chased, hugged, and groomed. My husband John often said that Willie ate better than us, as he received a lovely fruit and vegetable buffet twice daily, including his favorite yogurt and an occasional sweet treat. Cheryl and I became Willie's special friends. Cheryl's husband, Charlie, decked out Willie's enclosure to include tree limbs, hanging tires, and even a children's play station to keep him entertained. He loved stuffed animals, balls, and all sorts of children's toys.

“Monkey see, monkey do” was a phrase found true as Cheryl taught him to cover himself with his blanket when sleeping and jump into the palms of her hands from his play station. Seeing how quickly he was learning, we thought a mirror would be interesting to try. Kissing the mirror, looking behind it for the



Emirates Air staff with Willie as he starts his journey from Bahrain to Wales

handsome fellow he beheld, and dancing in front of it were just a few of his antics.

Willie the thief!

We found Willie to be quite the thief. If you were not quick, and it wasn't nailed down, he'd have it. From mobile phones to jewelry, we soon learned what not to take into his enclosure. My gold earrings will always bear his teeth marks.

Meanwhile, Norma Dennis, a friend and local pet shipper, worked hard to find a sponsor for Willie and his travels. Emirates Air—Dubai soon came to the rescue and agreed to ship him gratis to South Africa. We were elated.

Nonie Coutts Veterinary Surgery came to the rescue when it was time to have Willie implanted with a microchip. Patricia Edwards, an Australian vet, came to the sanctuary and microchipped Willie before he realized what had happened.

When Willie was quite young, there were other pups and rabbits housed in closed pens near his area. This lasted only a short time, as he quickly learned to open windows, locks, and hooks. Several times he was caught toting a pup or a rabbit under his arms, though he never harmed them and only wanted to play. Needless to say, his area soon became off limits to other animals.

Bathing a baboon

Thusira often told us he gave Willie a

bath, and we couldn't imagine how he managed. Our only presumption was that he squirted some shampoo on him and hosed him off. But Thusira recently showed us photos of Willie all soaped up with baby shampoo, being held in a towel and then being gingerly brushed out.

One day Thusira called and said Willie had horrible black eyes. We weren't sure if he had an illness or had injured himself, but he did not seem to be bothered by them. Taking photos and e-mailing our primate experts, we determined that he must have fallen in play and landed flat on his nose. Fortunately he healed quickly, after giving us quite the scare.

Denise Jennings from Titan Airways soon became a good friend of Willie, offering any business assistance her company could provide. Willie looked forward to her regular visits when she would just sit and chat with him. Of course she had to feed him his beloved yogurt, and he showed her he could be a gentleman, eating his yogurt from a spoon outside his enclosure.

Early one morning I received a panicked call from the sanctuary manager. Willie had been bitten on the arm by a dog that had jumped the fence and gotten next to Willie's enclosure. I raced to Dr. Jaffar's office to find Thusira overseeing Willie being stitched up. There he was on the table half sedated. Tears quickly fell down my face as Dr. Jaffar and Thusira

kept telling me he would be OK. Willie was grabbing my hand and holding it like a wounded child and it broke my heart. Seven stitches later, our primate friends told us he would heal quickly, and after a few days Willie was none the worse for wear.

Willie, smarter than most humans!

Our clever boy took great pride in proving to us that he was smarter than the average human primate. Having recently secured the windows in his enclosure with long screws to keep him from opening them at will, I tried to enter his area and was having difficulty getting the screw out. Of course, he began screaming, anxious for me to enter as I fumbled with the screw. Loosening the screw and leaving it inside the window proved to be a mistake: once his belly was full, he recalled my frustrations with the screw. He threw open the window, turned around, closed the window behind him, fiddled with the screw, reopened the window and ran out showing me what he had stolen. Just like with an earring, it took some gamesmanship to get the screw back from him, but it delighted him tremendously to know he had gotten one over on me. This sort of thing happened often with Willie!

Since Willie was accepted by South Africa and his transport arranged, we thought the battle had been won. Much to

Thank You, Emirates Air!

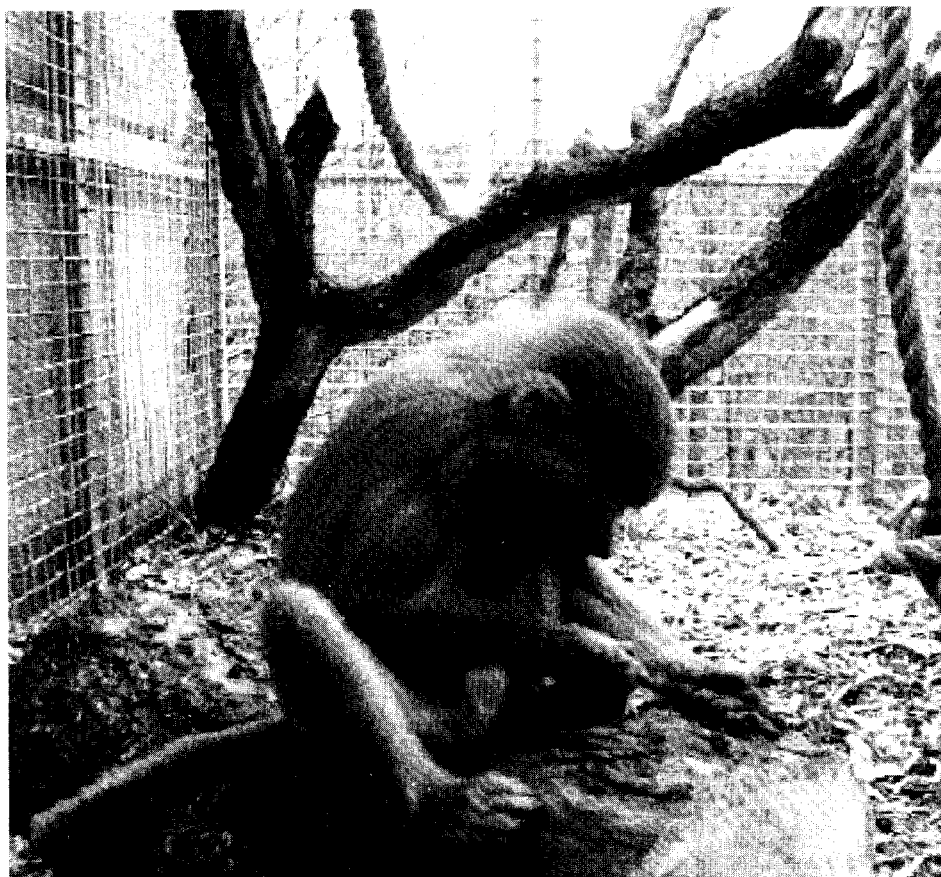
Please write a friendly letter to Emirates Air thanking the company for donating transportation for Willie, a baboon stranded in Bahrain for two years, to a rescue center in the United Kingdom.

***The President, Emirates Air
Corporate Communications Office
P.O. Box 686
Dubai, United Arab Emirates***

The Bahrain SPCA made an exception to its policy of working solely for cats and dogs and allowed Willie to be housed there for over two years. It also deserves thanks from IPPL members.

***The Members of the Executive Committee
Bahrain Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
P.O. Box 26666
Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain***

Postage from the United States to the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain costs 80 cents per ounce.



Willie in his new enclosure in Wales

our dismay, we encountered many stumbling blocks from the South African government over the next year that caused endless delays in sending him to his new home. But the people at CARE gave us the hope to keep plugging away. A year and a half had quickly passed from the time Willie was first rescued.

Norma connected us with Stuart King, from the Animal Reception Center (ARC) at London Heathrow Airport. Many e-mails went back and forth with Stuart to learn more about Willie's care and primates in general. We learned that Willie was actually a hamadryas baboon instead of a yellow baboon.

Time running out for Willie

By December 2003 (two years after his arrival), and many disappointments with the South African authorities, it was clear Willie needed another option. He was over two years old now, and his growing strength, maturity, and intelligence were causing concern. His makeshift home at the sanctuary would soon be inadequate. My husband and I were due to leave

Bahrain in early May. Time was running out for Willie.

After another panicked e-mail to Shirley McGreal, she put us in touch with our Knight and Lady on the White Horse, Graham and Jan Garen from Cefn-yr-Erw Primate Sanctuary in Swansea Valley, South Wales. Graham said that Willie could come there if all the permits and approvals could be obtained. It looked like our prayers were answered.

Norma again got on the phone to make sure everything was in place with the generous folks at Emirates for his travels, in addition to handling the permit process from the Bahrain side. Willie had grown from the slight 2 kg (4.5 lbs.) he was when we first got him to nearly 11 kg (24 lbs.). Emirates also agreed to fly out Willie's 100 kg (220 lb.) shipping cage from Cefn-yr-Erw, in addition to covering the costs of sending Richard Irons, a Welsh vet, to oversee Willie's travels.

Cefn-yr-Erw prepares!

What took place over the next two and a half months was incredible. The Garens

not only began the paperwork approval process, but started building from scratch a quarantine station and a new enclosure for Willie. IPPL-UK helped with the costs of this enclosure. All this was done at lightning speed with much blood, sweat, tears, and expense. Graham kept us posted on their progress.

March 28, 2004, was the big day—Willie was going to Wales! Everybody was up bright and early, Cheryl, Norma, Rick, Pam, the boys at the sanctuary, myself and my husband, and of course all the Emirates folks on standby at the airport. Willie knew something was transpiring because, several days earlier, his crate arrived from London and was set outside his enclosure. And with all the goodbye attention he was getting, he must have suspected something. I had spent nearly three hours with him privately the previous day just saying my goodbyes. Of course, Cheryl and Denise both had their private time with Willie, too.

We took lots of videos those two days. Thusira, Prasad, Janaka, and Nuwan were taped playing with him in his enclosure. We all laughed about Willie's ways and the different things we had all been through with him over the last two years and more. He had so many people making a fuss over him, he had to know something was up.

Willie's trip

While I was cutting up his vegetable/fruit buffet, Norma got his crate ready. Needless to say Willie was none too happy when Thusira tried to put him in it. Both arms and both legs went out to block his getting in the crate. Thusira did an amazing job, even though it took three tries! Once Willie was in, he settled down quite well. Thusira and Prasad drove the BPSA van to the airport, followed by an entourage of vehicles. Willie went to the front of the crate and looked at traffic and watched the men and their driving skills in the morning rush! Of course, we had to have a photo session with the great Emirates people at their office. Soon the truck pulled up to pick up Willie.

We have to admit that was the hardest for us, because after all this time, Willie was REALLY going. We all said we

wouldn't believe it until he got on the plane, and this was as close to the plane as we were allowed. So, we all said our final goodbyes and love-you's to Willie—and then the wooden door had to be closed.

Once the door was closed, much to our disbelief, Willie hugged his bear and began eating his buffet as if to say, "Well, now that the excitement is over I can eat my breakfast". We all told each other not to cry (not that it worked), as we waved goodbye to the truck. Willie was finally going to Wales.

With bated breath, we all waited for calls throughout the day to learn of Willie's status. Graham and Jan were wonderful about letting us know what was happening every step of the way. Richard, the vet, told us that once in London, when he got to look in on him, Willie was ever so calm, as if to say, "Why is everyone so worried?" Rick felt he had endured more with worry than Willie had obviously endured during the trip.

Jan informed us that, during the long ride from the airport to Swansea, Willie held her hand in between reaching in his food bowl, as if asking what kind of restaurant this place was (since his bowl was empty by now). Of course our little thief managed to steal one of Jan's earrings along the way—just like his usual self.

Over the next few days, we learned that Willie was adjusting to his new life quite well. He'd met all the great people at Cefn-yr-erw and had a chance to thoroughly explore his beautiful new home, which included an outside enclosure with trees and tires, and a bedroom with a color television.

Willie loves Wales!

Now Graham and Jan tell us Willie may be getting a new playmate (a girl) to join him in quarantine. We know that, thanks to Graham and Jan at Cefn-yr-erw and Emirates Air, Willie is one very lucky boy.

We have to admit we feel as if we have sent Willie off to college to learn how to be a monkey. You know, since Willie was never around monkeys before, he really doesn't know that he is one.

Graham and Jan have kept us well-informed of his progress. They've updated their Web site (www.cefn-yr-erw.co.uk) to include Willie. He's been on the BBC, in the Welsh newspapers, and on the local news. We hear he is developing his own fan club and has had many visitors come to see him. We can certainly understand why this little soul we love so much is also loved in Wales.

So Willie has a wonderful new life, new accommodations, new friends, and new parents. We hope he never forgets the 27 months we spent together in Bahrain, and the fact we never gave up on him. Graham tells us they never forget, and we hope he is right. We know we will never forget our dear sweet monkey friend.

Good-bye to Gale Martin

Gale Martin worked at IPPL as an animal caregiver for five years in the late 1980s. Always cheerful and hard-working, Gale had a wonderful rapport with IPPL's gibbons. Among her special friends were two of our veteran laboratory gibbons, Penny and Igor.

In April 2002 Gale returned to IPPL to help out with our injured infant gibbon Courtney. In the evenings, she loved to cradle Courtney until the little ape fell asleep. Despite Gale's failing health, she was a dedicated "nanny." In September, Gale was diagnosed with cancer. She died on 18 November 2003. Her ashes were scattered on IPPL's grounds in accordance with her wishes.

Former co-workers have fond memories of Gale. Betty Brescia, who worked at IPPL from 1988 to 1998, commented;

When you met Gale, the first thing you noticed were her bright, expressive eyes and her beautiful smile, which lit up her entire face. Once you got to know Gale, you were impressed by her love of the animals in her charge. She adored the gibbons and nothing stood in her way when it came to their care. Gale was a warm, kind-hearted person who made working with her a pleasure. The memories of her time at IPPL will always be wrapped in a special glow.



Gale is survived by her husband David Martin, who shared Gale's love for Courtney and often accompanied Gale to work.

The Life and Death of a "Photo Chimp" in Singapore

In memory of Ramba (1997-2004)

Louis Ng, President, Animal Concerns Research and Education Society (ACRES)

When we first met, I was about 21 years old and she was only 2 years old. It was a blind date. Don't worry: I am not a pedophile!

We met at the Singapore Zoo, and Ramba was the first chimp I fell in love with. She was beautiful and, when I first met her, she stared right through my eyes. This is the story of her hard life and tragic death.

On 5 April 2004, Ramba escaped from her enclosure. She was darted by zoo personnel, fell into a nearby reservoir, and drowned. It was a terrible death for a chimp who deserved so much more.

Taken from mother as an infant

Ramba was separated from her mother, Susie, when she was only one year old. She was slated to become a photography chimp and was kept in a cage, away from her whole family group, just so that the zoo could take her out for the photography sessions with tourists more easily. She would often cry during these sessions; I was volunteering at the zoo at the time and tried my best to comfort her.

I am ashamed it took me so long to realize that it was wrong to use chimps as photography props, and I look back now and think of all the times she had come to me for help.

I fondly remember playing with her during the breaks, tickling her and hearing her laugh. But when it was back to taking



Ramba, smiling, is reunited with her mother Susie

© SPH - The Straits Times

photos, she always had a look on her face that made me feel guilty for participating in these sessions.

I finally stopped volunteering at the zoo and started a campaign to end the use of chimps in photography sessions at Singapore Zoo. With the help of IPPL, the campaign was a success.

In 2001, Ramba was released back into the enclosure. She was finally reunited with Susie, her mother, and they spent

hours grooming each other. She no longer needed to participate in photography sessions.

She was just starting to get her life back, and now she is dead. Somehow, I wish I could have done more for her.

She lived a life of fear, and perhaps it is ironic that only through her death can she be free from it. She was only six years old when she died, but it was the only way out of a life she never chose.

Loving Memories

Ramba, to say that I am devastated by your death is an understatement.

I have learned so much from you; you have taught me everything there is to know about compassion and respect for other living beings.

I have grown so fond of you. I remember the times when you would come and hug me, seeking comfort when times were hard.

I would not be fighting for the rights of animals if not for you. You will always have a special place in my heart, and I will forever be indebted to you.

Rest in peace, you will not be forgotten.

Wakuluzu Update: The Colobus Monkeys of Kenya's Coast

Pam Cunneyworth, Wakuluzu Research Manager

It has been a long time since Wakuluzu (The Friends of The Colobus Trust) was featured in *IPPL News* (see the April 1997 issue, page 13), and the time is long overdue for an update.

Our monkeys' home area of Diani Beach, on the south coast of Kenya, is under continuous threat of habitat loss. The two key threats are from commercial property development, on the stretch of beach that borders the Indian Ocean, and subsistence agriculture, which occurs on the inland border of the coastal forest strip.

Eking out a living despite a rising tide of deforestation is the Angolan colobus, an endangered monkey with just over 2,000 individuals remaining in Kenya. These gentle, black leaf-eating monkeys have long white hair that frames their faces and cascades from their shoulders and the tips of their tails. Living more heartily, often on the dregs of human habitation in Diani, are the yellow baboons, vervet monkeys, and Sykes monkeys.

This means that our day-to-day work deals with human/wildlife conflict, including responding to calls on injured and sick primates, applying innovative solutions to conservation issues, and ensuring that schools in the area are a part of our conservation education program.

Specific threats to primates

The road kills in Diani that Paula Kahumbu wrote about in April 1997 were very severe: during one three-month period, 17 colobus met their deaths on a stretch of beach road only two kilometers (1.2 miles) long. To prevent the further decimation of the population by auto accident, rope ladder bridges over the roads in the area were developed to allow primates to cross safely. This technique, which was pioneered in East Africa by the Colobus Trust, is so effective in reducing the number of traffic accidents for monkeys that we are now in the second generation of bridge design and

have over twenty bridges spanning a road over a twelve-kilometer (7.2-mile) stretch. IPPL has funded several of these bridges.

A more recent threat to the monkeys is that of electrocution. Continued commercial development has led to an increase in infrastructure in the area, and high-power and low-power distribution cables are very tempting climbing frames for monkeys, especially as the tree canopy becomes thinned due to tree removal. As a result, monkeys regularly get electrocuted. When this happens, our rescue team is called out to collect the casualty, and often limbs and tails are amputated to enable the monkey to survive. Diani has a remarkable population of rehabilitated crippled monkeys that are able to lead a full and normal life.

To combat the problem of electrocution, the Trust works with the local electricity company to trim trees around the power lines. This hard, hot work in the tropical sun is an uphill battle—especially during the rainy seasons when vegetation growth is fast and furious—but we have seen a

reduction in the electrocutions as a result.

Other threats include poisoning, snaring, and capture for the local pet trade, and we work to minimize this. However, as Kenya's population rapidly increases, the issue of human/wildlife conflict grows daily.

Combating habitat loss

There are few conservation organizations that do not understand the term "habitat loss." Reducing it is the key to achieving our long-term goal of ensuring the continuity of the wild monkeys in Diani.

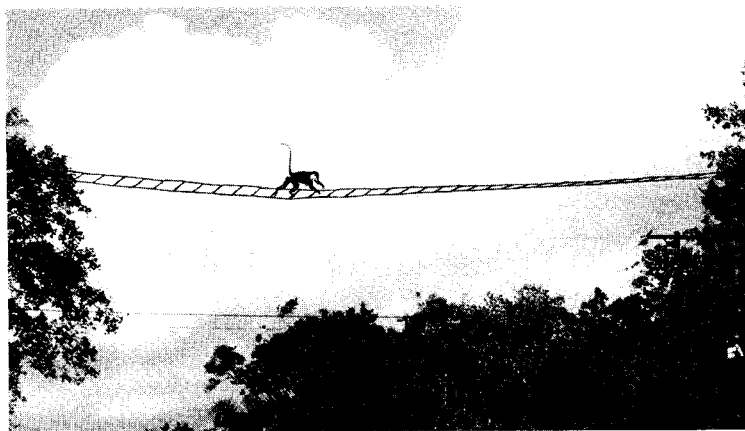
The Trust is now looking into buying forested land to tackle the habitat loss issue: this seems to be the only way to permanently preserve what forest remains. This will be done together with our long-term education program for the schools that exist in our community, ensuring that the curriculum starts early and continues through secondary education. It is critical to take steps so that the new generations of Kenyans understand the value of



Colobus monkey drinks fresh water while adult looks on.

habitat and wildlife to their own quality of life, as well as the intrinsic value of wildlife and wild lands.

If you are able to help, please consider sending a donation marked "For The Colobus Trust" to IPPL (see the mailing information below). For more information about us, please visit our Web site (www.colobustrust.org) to see the latest news about our activities. And think of paying a visit to our beautiful monkeys at Diani Beach!



Colobus monkey crosses rope ladder bridge

Help Support The Colobus Trust!

If you would like to assist this organization in its primate protection work, please send a check, payable to IPPL, to **IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA**. Please mark your donation "For The Colobus Trust," so that your gift will be correctly allocated to this project. We can also accept credit card donations (AMEX, Visa, MC, Discover). All we need is the card number, the expiration date, and the name on the card.

Taking Care of Primates – Now and Forever

Over the years, IPPL has greatly benefited from caring supporters who have remembered IPPL in their wills. Thanks to those wonderful people, IPPL can continue and expand its program of investigations and can help horribly abused primates in rescue centers in Africa and Asia. We assist groups working to help wildlife in remote parts of the world, and take care of the 33 wonderful gibbons, many of them research veterans, living at our headquarters sanctuary.

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

One kind member left a special gift for Igor, our lab gibbon who had spent 21 years behind black plexiglass because he self-mutilated at the sight of other gibbons. Igor has spent 17 years in "retirement" with IPPL.

We also care for our gentle blind gibbon Banie (seen above with his friend Bullet, our blind rescue dog).

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

We hope that you will consider including IPPL in your estate plans, to ensure that primates in need will have our hard-working and experienced organization to stand by them now and in the future.

Please contact **IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA**, if you would like a pamphlet about providing enduring help for IPPL.



The Monkeys of the Rock of Gibraltar

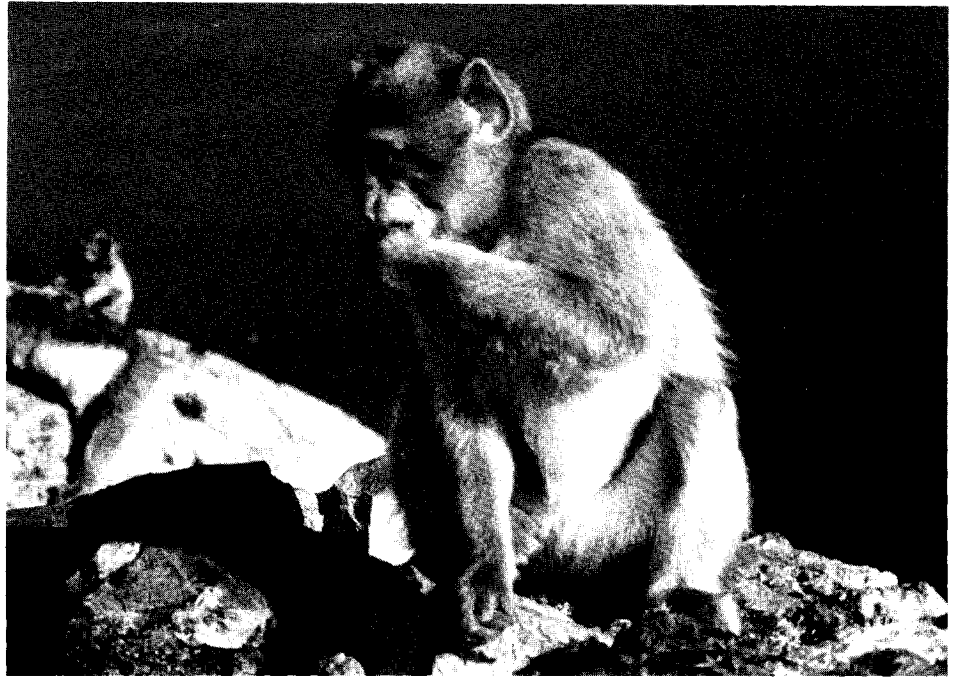
The Rock of Gibraltar, on the south coast of Spain, is a beacon on the narrow strait separating Africa from Europe. The only free-ranging monkeys in Europe inhabit dens in high reaches on the rock.

Commonly called "Rock Apes" in Gibraltar, the monkeys are actually Barbary macaques (*Macaca sylvanus*). Originally native to Northern Morocco and Algeria, these tailless, sociable monkeys are the only macaques found in Africa and they have the northernmost range of any monkey species on the African continent.

How Barbary macaques were first introduced to Gibraltar is unclear, but according to legend, Gibraltar will fall from British rule if the monkeys cease to exist on the rock. At the end of World War II, the number of monkeys in Gibraltar had dwindled to as few as three. Upholding tradition, Winston Churchill ordered the import of Barbary macaques from Morocco to replenish and maintain the monkey population.

Today, with over 7 million tourists visiting The Rock of Gibraltar each year, the Barbary macaques are the peninsula's most famous residents.

Given the unique history and popularity of the "Rock Apes," a 2003 article in the prestigious science journal *Nature* came as quite a surprise. The journal reported that, in recent years, the monkeys "have multiplied to nuisance levels" and, as a result, the government of Gibraltar ordered the killing (euphemistically called "culling") of a group of the "Rock Apes" for "vandalizing property and attacking children."



As early as 1997, primatologists studying the "Rock Apes" recommended the implementation of humane sterilization techniques and contraception to prevent the monkeys from outgrowing their habitat and being deemed nuisances. Unfortunately, these recommendations were ignored despite having support from the Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society (GOHNS), which has responsibility for management of the macaque colony.

After learning of the monkey culling, IPPL members wrote to Gibraltar governmental agencies imploring them to implement a humane sterilization and contraception program to curb the population of monkeys instead of resorting to culling. One IPPL member

visited the Gibraltar Tourist Board to plea that there be no future killing of the monkeys.

Our member is pleased to report that the government of Gibraltar has agreed to implement a humane sterilization program and, according to John Cortes of GOHNS, "Our intention is to avoid culling in the future as much as possible, except in cases involving badly injured animals, or particularly dangerous individuals. Both these categories will be very rare."

For this reason, it is especially important to enforce the law that forbids tourists and residents from feeding the monkeys. Unauthorized provisioning of the monkeys will cause them to approach humans and possibly become aggressive.

How You Can Help the Gibraltar Monkeys

Please write to the Gibraltar Tourist Board (contact information is listed below) and thank them for arranging the implementation of the sterilization program. Politely request that the Gibraltar law forbidding the unauthorized feeding of the monkeys be enforced for their protection.

Gibraltar Tourist Board
Duke of Kent House, Cathedral Square
Gibraltar
E-mail: tourism@gibraltar.gi

Meet Our Wonderful Speakers!

From 26-28 March, attendees at IPPL-2004 heard from a wide variety of speakers from many nations. IPPL Members' Meetings are held at Headquarters every two years. The conferences enable members to meet representatives of many of the overseas projects assisted by IPPL, to learn about primate problems worldwide, and to meet IPPL staff members and officers. Meeting photos were taken by Dianne Taylor-Snow, Shirley McGreal, and Jean Martin.

Dr. Carlos Almazán

The speaker at our opening dinner on Friday evening was Dr. Carlos Almazán from Chile, who introduced us to that nation's amazing beauty and diversity. Despite Chile's having no native primates, Carlos and his wife Elba Muñoz Lopez maintain a sanctuary named Siglo XXI for primates smuggled into Chile from neighboring Peru, Bolivia, and Argentina.

On Saturday morning IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal welcomed our guests. She announced that IPPL-2004 was our eighth conference. Only five people have attended every single one: these are Ruth Feldman, Bonnie Brown, Jean and Peter Martin, and Shirley McGreal.

Sara Laub

Sara has been working on a project of special interest to IPPL-UK, which has funded her study of the mona monkeys resident on the islands of São Tomé and Príncipe, which lie in the Gulf of Guinea, west of Gabon. Sara was returning from São Tomé on what she expected would be an uneventful trip home to England, with a change of plane in Lisbon. However, she found herself seated next to an inept monkey smuggler carrying two baby monkeys in cylindrical tubes. Even though her assertive actions got the man arrested for a misdemeanor, both of the traumatized mona monkeys died in captivity.

Leonor Galhardo

Leonor flew in from Portugal to tell members about her work with the Eurogroup for Animal Welfare, a federation of leading animal protection groups. The Eurogroup has developed a pioneering project in Portugal that is to pave the way for all European Union zoos

to be licensed. This will take place in April 2005, and Leonor described the work being done in Portugal to improve implementation of zoo legislation.

Chanee (Aurélien Brulé)

Chanee ("Chanee" is the Thai word for gibbon) was born Aurélien Brulé in Fayence in the South of France. He became interested in gibbons when he was just seven years old. After a decade observing captive gibbons and learning about their behavior, he decided he needed to do more. So, at the age of 18, Chanee set out for Indonesia, where he established a gibbon sanctuary named Kalaweit on the island of Borneo. Borneo is home to two gibbon species, the agile gibbon and Mueller's gibbon.

In 2003 the project established a radio station called "Kalaweit FM," which plays popular Indonesian music with regular conservation messages. The messages have deterred illegal capture and possession of gibbons and led some people owning gibbons as pets to hand them over to the sanctuary.

Kalaweit aims to rehabilitate all healthy gibbons to the wild and to provide compassionate care for those animals who cannot be released due to health or emotional problems.

In 2003 Kalaweit opened a sanctuary for siamangs and gibbons on the island of Marak off the coast of Sumatra. Within just a few months, over 60 animals had reached the center.

Bala Amarasekaran

Bala Amarasekaran founded the Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary in 1995. The sanctuary is located on 100 acres of rain-forest in a hilly area outside Freetown, Sierra Leone. Sierra Leone has endured many years of civil war and it is only rarely that Bala can leave his charges. So we were very excited that



Chanee, from Indonesia's Kalaweit sanctuary

Bala finally made it to an IPPL conference.

Bala told members about the sanctuary and its resident chimpanzees, most of whom live in large electric-fenced enclosures by day, yet move voluntarily into large cages at night. During recent hostilities, two free-living chimpanzees from a forested area took up residence in the protected area and later came back carrying babies.

Michael Budkie

Michael Budkie founded the group SAEN (Stop Animal Exploitation Now). It is based in Milford, Ohio. Michael founded the organization in 1996. While working for all animals, SAEN has always emphasized primate abuse. By using the US Freedom of Information Act, Michael has obtained documents showing the abuse to which primates were subjected in US laboratories. SAEN always follows up by local

publicity campaigns and complaints to government agencies.

Linda Howard

Linda Howard's presentation was about the US pet trade in primates. Linda has collected data about the abuse of primates kept as family pets and the biting incidents that result as the primates grow up and exercise their independence. She also discussed diseases that can spread from nonhuman primate to human primate and vice versa. At present no federal law regulates the sale of pet primates, although some states, counties, and municipalities do.

Louis Ng

Louis Ng is founder-director of the Animal Concerns Research and Education Society (ACRES), which is based in Singapore. In 2002 he was named winner of the 2002 Youth Environmental Award. The group works for a variety of animal protection causes. Louis' concern for animals started with his observations of the use of chimpanzees as "photo-props" at the Singapore Zoo. Thanks to ACRES' efforts, the practice was stopped. However, such use of orangutans continues. Louis has also investigated the living conditions under which many captive chimps in Southeast Asia live.

Recently Louis has been working on a case involving trafficking of wild-caught dolphins on documentation claiming the animals were captive-born. He compares this case with that of the "Taiping Four" gorillas shipped from Nigeria to Malaysia in January 2002 on similar false "captive-born" documentation.

Shirley McGreal, Dianne Taylor-Snow, Jane Dewar, and audience members

Shirley, Dianne, and Jane have all worked hard on the case of four gorillas smuggled from Nigeria via South Africa to Malaysia in January 2002. The case first came to IPPL's attention when a member attending IPPL-2002 showed us photos of the baby gorillas and



David van Gennep (Netherlands) and Leonor Galhardo (Portugal)

provided us with the business card of a company called NigerCom Solutions involved in the deal. Dianne flew to Malaysia and managed to find out that the animals were indeed there—but being kept off-exhibit.

Later, IPPL was able to identify the members of the smuggling ring and has been working tirelessly to get the members of the smuggling conspiracy prosecuted.

Jonathan Kang and Livia Wittiger

Jonathan, an African caregiver, and Livia, an overseas volunteer, made a presentation about Limbe Wildlife Centre. The Centre is based in Cameroon, and its

resident primates include gorillas, chimpanzees, drills, mandrills, patas monkeys, and several species of guenons, many of them extremely rare. With the help of IPPL and the Arcus Foundation, Limbe has been able to construct much needed additional enclosures for new arrivals.

Stichting AAP

David van Gennep, Executive Director of Stichting AAP, a sanctuary active in both the Netherlands and Spain, discussed AAP's program to provide shelter for confiscated primates and abandoned pets, now numbering over 100. In addition, AAP has undertaken the responsibility of caring for chimpanzees no longer used by the Biomedical



Gorilla Haven's Jane Dewar and Limbe's Jonathan Kang

Primate Research Center in the Netherlands. Spacious quarters are being built in the Netherlands for those infected with human diseases. The uninfected chimpanzees will be sent to live at Primadomus near Alicante, Spain, where they will live in large enclosures built on 200 acres of land.

Nancy Megna

Nancy Megna is a member of the Laboratory Primate Advocacy Group, which consists of former laboratory workers. She has prepared a presentation comparing the lives of monkeys in the wild with that of monkeys in laboratories, with a musical background. Especially touching were photos of individual laboratory primates killed in laboratories and lovingly remembered by their human friends.

Lucy Molleson

Lucy Molleson has studied primates in Peru. Forest destruction and the local pet and bushmeat trade threaten the animals. Lucy is working with a Peruvian couple named Carlos and Helene Palomino who, using their own resources and with help from IPPL-UK, have acquired 50 hectares of forested land inhabited by several primate species. Carlos and Helene also maintain the Ikamaperu Sanctuary for rescued Peruvian primates. Lucy's presentation introduced several rescued primates, which included rare woolly monkeys.

Elba Muñoz Lopez

Elba focused on the primates held at the Siglo XXI Primate Rescue

Center in Peñaflor, Chile. Species held include spider monkeys, woolly monkeys, squirrel monkeys, howler monkeys, capuchin monkeys, and a tamarin. Some of the primates reached the center from laboratories and some were held as pets, which is illegal in Chile. One abandoned pet was found roaming around in the arid Atacama Desert of Chile and would not have survived unless rescued.

During the Members' Forum, member **Valerie Buchanan** discussed how, with funds from IPPL and Save The Chimps, the two female chimps at Kumasi Zoo, Ghana, were united after spending two decades apart in separate cages. The two chimp friends now live together in a much larger enclosure.



Lucy Molleson relaxes in a hammock on IPPL's grounds

Thanks to our Gaterers

IPPL members were asked to submit questionnaires about the meeting. Everyone rated the quality of the vegetarian food as excellent or good. Thanks to Simply Delicious, a Summerville caterer, and Erimic Associates, for providing such great food.

Thanks also to members Ann Boone, Donna Gibson, and Jane Dewar, for bringing baked goods and to IPPL staffers Donetta, Lauren, and Danielle for making scrumptious cookies and cakes, including the famous IPPL conference "pineapple dump cake."

“Chunky Monkey” Creator Visits IPPL

Pauline Comanor, the cartoonist who created the Chunky Monkey character, visited IPPL Headquarters in March as part of IPPL’s Members’ Meeting. She was accompanied by her daughter, Linda Bonvie. After the conference was over, Pauline asked to be able to make a picture of Courtney, IPPL’s two-year-old hand-raised gibbon, who had caught the attention of many of the weekend’s visitors.

Sitting down with a large pad of paper and various pens and pastels, Pauline quickly made a sketch of Courtney as she was being cradled by one of IPPL’s staff members, who was kissing the squirmy little ape’s toes to keep her (relatively) still. In short order, Pauline produced an extra-large valentine of the little gibbon and her human friend. Pauline also jotted down some ideas for a rhyming poem about Courtney, but that was harder to do—after all, what rhymes with “Courtney”?



Pauline sketches Courtney Gibbon, as others look on (left to right, IPPL staffers Sharon and Donna with Pauline’s daughter Linda)

Web site offers creative, animal-friendly experiences for children

Pauline’s Web site (www.chunkymonkey.com) is the home of the Chunky Monkey fan club. A wonderful site for children, it offers drawing lessons, coloring pages, cartoons, stories, and rhymes. The site is full of positive, creative, animal-friendly messages, and without a lot of commercialism.

“The method I use in teaching children how to cartoon is to give them a bit of technique, and allow their natural aptitude and creativity to come through,” said Pauline. “I have always believed that art is one of the most basic forms of communication, especially for kids.” Her creative approach allows children to consider important environmental issues, too, such as rainforest destruction.

Years of experience produced Chunky Monkey

Pauline has been drawing cartoon characters since the 1930s. She worked with Paramount’s cartoon studio head Max

Fleisher, who promoted characters like Betty Boop and Popeye. In 1974, she invented a character named Chunky Monkey, a rotund fellow with a long tail and a big grin, based on a rather hefty monkey she had sketched in a zoo. This engaging fellow is 30 years old this year!

In cooperation with Ben and Jerry’s Ice Cream (which produces a “Chunky Monkey” banana flavored ice cream), she designed a stuffed Chunky Monkey doll, which she sells on her Web site. Proceeds from the sale of the toy benefit IPPL.

“Kids for Primates” mural

In 1998, Pauline launched a “Kids for Primates” group mural project on her Web site. Children six to fifteen years old were to contribute the pieces—trees, animals, and other elements of a tropical rainforest. Pauline posted drawing

lessons on her Web site (and they are still available there) for making flowers, leaves, bugs, and primates. The gibbon lesson features IPPL’s own former lab gibbon, Arun Rangsi.

A year later, the final mural was assembled by the Chunky Monkey team. It was 40 x 75 inches and toured all over the US, appearing with Pauline and her daughter at malls for workshops and shows. “Kids really enjoy seeing the work of other kids,” said Linda, “and I also think it helps them in their own drawings.” At the IPPL Members’ Meeting in March, Pauline brought the mural with her, and it is now on display at IPPL.

Part of the “Kids for Primates” mural



Members' Comments on IPPL-2004

As you can see from extracts from our evaluation forms, our members really enjoyed IPPL-2004!
If you haven't yet attended an IPPL Meeting, why not try to join us in 2006?

What I liked most was the sense of community—I met almost everyone at the conference and got to know them well. It was nice to feel that there are others out there working for the same cause. *Angela Reid, Pottstown, PA, USA, age 16*

I liked everything, not least the happy, healthy gibbons and the resident comedienne, Courtney Gibbon. *Sheila Dines, New York, NY, USA*

I like IPPL being so grass roots, with money going to animals, not fancy campaigns or huge administrative salaries. IPPL helps primates in so many different areas and aspects. *Traci Hoeltke, Manitowoc, WI, USA*

I found the sanctuary discussion [very useful] because I am interested in possibly working in the sanctuary system and want to know how and what is going on there. Could the conference last another day? *Terri Hunnicutt, St. Louis, MO, USA*

I most enjoyed Chanee's talk. He doesn't have any scientific training prior to opening Kalaweit but he had presented so many ideas, which have worked well. These ideas were never mentioned in my biology textbooks. I'll be focusing my efforts in conservation on the gibbons and the Kalaweit program is a great place to start...Perhaps the conference can be extended to two and a half days. *Louis Ng, Singapore*

My preferred talks were:

Sara Laub – You never know what could be happening around you!

Bala – Hope to volunteer at his sanctuary in the near future. Wonderful person!

Louis Ng – How could he improve from 2002? He did! His presentation and enthusiasm—great!

Taiping Four Update – was very interesting hearing about all the steps. I enjoy this type of update! *Pam Dauphin, Fairview Hts., IL, USA*

What I find unique about IPPL: You have a sanctuary. You fund other sanctuaries and projects. You have a courageous leader who inspires all of us. *Linda Gibboney, Van Nuys, CA, USA*



Hollis Woodard (left) and Angela Reid



A coffee break!

Don't change a thing! *Doug Cress, Portland, OR, USA*

IPPL actually uses donated funds to help primates all over the world. So many organizations just pile up donations and sit on them. *Ann Koros, Atlanta, GA, USA*

I thought this one was very interesting, fun, and well organized. I especially appreciated your keeping to the schedule. I'm sorry I can't be more helpful but I have no criticisms. *Coco Hall, Sausalito, CA, USA*

Continue with the diversity, so great to see so many countries represented and hear so many accents! *Linda May, Arcus Foundation, Kalamazoo, MI, USA*

I am still a student but have had a love and enthusiasm for primates my whole life. I am interested in working on primate protection in the future. I loved that the speakers came from all over the world. I also enjoyed the location of the conference amidst the gibbons. *Kristen Steele, College of Charleston, SC, USA*

Plantation Singers Entertain IPPL Members

Saturday is always the busiest day at IPPL conferences. We have lectures in the morning and afternoon, and we provide a catered dinner and entertainment on that evening.

This year the Plantation Singers performed for us. The singers, who are based in Charleston, South Carolina, play an important role in the preservation of the historic American Negro spirituals. They have performed in several countries.

Lynnette White, her mother Martha Brooks, and six other singers had IPPL members singing and clapping along with their renditions of songs like "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," "Amazing Grace," "This Little Light of Mine," and "Down by the Riverside." IPPL member Linda Richardson said it was worth the trip from Cincinnati to Charleston just to hear these wonderful musicians!

Members who missed the meeting but who would like to hear the songs they performed, and many more, may purchase CDs or cassettes through the group's web site www.plantationsingers.com



**The Plantation Singers with guests
Cameroon's Jonathan Kang (bottom left)
and Canada's Maggie Smith (front center)**



IPPL Earns Four-star Rating from Charity Navigator

Charity Navigator (www.charitynavigator.org), an independent organization that evaluates the financial health of non-profit organizations in the United States, has awarded IPPL four out of four stars. In a letter to IPPL, Trent Stamp, Executive Director of **Charity Navigator**, stated:

We celebrate the work of outstanding charities like yours by supplying you with unbiased information to share with your donors. The International Primate Protection League's 4-star rating means your supporters can be confident in your efforts to maximize the impact of their donations.

IPPL Member Profiles: Ruth Feldman and Bonnie Brown

Sharing a lifelong concern for animals

Both Ruth Feldman and Bonnie Brown share a commitment to helping this planet's animals—and especially its primates, through their connection with IPPL. They have something else in common: both have never missed any of IPPL's eight Members' Meetings!

RUTH: A vegetarian for over 40 years

Longtime IPPL member Ruth Feldman's enduring concern for animals takes concrete form in her vegetarianism, a path she has followed since 1961. "I don't want to eat anything that had a mother," she says, including sea creatures. She remembers visiting the Galapagos Islands in 1976 as part of a Ford Foundation Research Project to monitor green sea turtles. Her fellow workers would always catch excessive numbers of live crabs for the team's dinner. Nightly, Ruth made a point of releasing nearly a dozen crabs back into the sea. "We had plenty of provisions—everything from rice to raisins, and football-sized avocados grew right there by the lagoon," she said. "I was healthier and felt better knowing no creature died because of my whim."

She married a veterinarian (her high school sweetheart) and is herself a retired English professor. She began her professorial career at Northern Michigan University, having previously taught a combined fifth/sixth grade class while her husband was going to veterinary medical school. The chair of the Language Arts Division at the time was Dr. Barnard, and both he and his wife were vegetarian. "Dutchy and Mary were our earliest role models," she says. "They taught by example that you don't have to consume any other creature to preserve your own life. I'm better off not consuming flesh, and about 1,500 animals' lives will have been spared by my lifetime's pattern of consumption," she says. Ruth appreciates how Shirley models the ease of vegetarian eating by providing such tasty and nutritious vegetarian cuisine at the IPPL Members' Meetings.

Teaching compassion by living it

"I don't know if you can actually teach compassion," Ruth says, "but you can model it by example." The essays Ruth

used in her college English classes were chosen to raise awareness of animal and conservation issues. Her syllabus included essays by activist Dr. Helen Caldicott ("If You Love This Planet") and animal behavior psychologist Dr. Michael Fox ("Do Fish Have Feelings?"). "When students read and discuss well-reasoned ideas presented cogently and compassionately," she says, "they often alter their patterns of thought and, consequently, their habits of consumption."

Her teaching schedule gave her extensive opportunities for traveling—and witnessing animals in crisis across the globe. Her travel kit included humane traps, with which she has captured feral cats for spaying/neutering in such places as Venice, Rangoon, and Puerto Vallarta.

IPPL helps make a difference

Ruth first heard of IPPL in its early years and was drawn in by "Shirley's passion, which empowers each of us." Ruth appreciates the way that Shirley encourages IPPL members to act on their

convictions to make a difference for the world's primates. Either via the newsletter or the Internet, IPPL educates its members about situations where actions can be taken and urges everyone to write letters and let their voices be heard. IPPL's rescued sanctuary gibbons, she says, are "joyous proof that we can make a difference." She has been to every IPPL Members' Meeting, and this time she's certain the gibbons sang as never before.

She also values IPPL's Members' Meetings as an opportunity to acquire new knowledge, network, and act. During this Meeting, she discussed with Michael Budkie of Stop Animal Exploitation Now (SAEN) plans to reach alumni associations whose universities have the largest and most inhumane animal labs.

Like other women she admires in the primate protection movement, Ruth has chosen not to become a biological mother herself. Instead, she feels that her nurturing instincts have been channeled toward "preserving the planet, in its beauty and balance." IPPL, she feels, gives her an outlet for that ethic of compassion.



Long-time IPPL member Ruth Feldman (right) chats with Board Member Dianne Taylor-Snow at the 2004 Members' Meeting



IPPL Advisory Board member Bonnie Brown (left) enjoys a visit with IPPL senior member Kitty Weaver, age 93, at the 2004 Members' Meeting

During her tenure in Washington, Bonnie also volunteered at the National Zoo. She learned to do observational research involving primates and even assisted primate keepers, who were very short staffed during a long federal hiring freeze, with their feeding, cleaning, and enrichment duties.

A valuable ally in Washington

In the mid-1980s, following increased pressure to do research on primates aimed at the emerging AIDS epidemic, movements were afoot at the federal level to amend the Animal Welfare Act to address concerns regarding lab animals' psychological well-being. Chimpanzee expert Jane Goodall held a workshop to draft reasonable standards for captive primates, and both Bonnie and Shirley were part of this group.

With her Washington connections coupled with her primate expertise, Bonnie proved to be an extremely useful ally in this work. She was able to quietly pass along information about strategies being considered by the National Institutes of Health and the various pharmaceutical companies, so that the primate activists could effectively counter plans for taking more and more primates from the wild.

Although she still sometimes volunteers as a tour guide at the National Zoo, since her retirement Bonnie has become more active as a wildlife rehabilitator in northern Virginia. She now specializes in the care of rabies-vector animals, which include foxes, bats, ground hogs, skunks—and raccoons. She has marvelous stories to tell of resilient raccoons making amazing recoveries.

BONNIE: From raccoons to Capitol Hill and back again

Growing up in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York, IPPL Advisory Board member Bonnie Brown came to know about the plight of wildlife at an early age. Bonnie (along with her extended family of animal lovers) found lots of wildlife to care for: a neighbor family had a particularly industrious cat that regularly brought home wild creatures it had caught in the woods across the street. Bonnie would often go to nearby Cornell University to get advice on nursing baby birds back to health. The family also raised a tiny raccoon named Rosie, who came to have a special place in Bonnie's heart.

Throughout her childhood, Bonnie had assumed she would grow up to attend Cornell's prestigious veterinary school but, when 17 years old, she made a crucial discovery that changed her mind. She happened to visit the school with an uncle who (she thought) provided traditional care to the farm animals that belonged to Cornell; she was shocked on that day to suddenly find herself in the radioactive research lab where sheep, pigs, cows, and a variety of other species were being subjected to highly invasive (and to her mind, highly questionable) procedures. It turned out that her uncle's "farm manager" responsibilities included caring for these unfortunate animals.

She knew she could not be part of that system and instead started college in Ohio as an English/Journalism major, casting about for a new direction. This was in the late 1960s, a time of great political ferment, and Bonnie found herself with the opportunity to go to Washington, DC, as part of a new independent study/internship program, with Ohio senator Robert Taft, Jr. She was so useful to his press secretary that she was offered a job on graduation. She worked with Senator Taft for three years, then worked with the US Representative from Cincinnati, Republican Bill Gradison, for many years more. Her areas of expertise included social welfare issues and health policies.

IPPL's ripple effect

Bonnie thought IPPL's most recent Members' Meeting was wonderful, with its international flavor and intimate setting. (Though, with over 130 guests, we seem to have reached maximum capacity!) She enjoys being around people who are doing "interesting, compassionate things" and seeing the progress being made over the years and across continents. She also likes being able to catch up on the latest news about IPPL gibbons she has known for years, like Igor.

She has "always been an animal protectionist at heart," and finds that wild animals everywhere share common ground: she appreciates that the good work IPPL does on behalf of primates has a ripple effect that helps other animals around the world, too. She notes that, in her experiences dealing with animal groups and bureaucracies over the years, it was an eye-opener to her to find how poorly the large animal welfare groups work together, even though all are supposed to work towards a common goal. In contrast, she says, "IPPL has always generously shared its energy, expertise, and relatively limited financial resources with groups around the world that are committed to protecting primates, including those primates that most people don't often think about."

Lively Discussion on Primate Sanctuaries

David van Gennep and Ania Sharwood Smith, Stichting AAP, Netherlands

From across the globe, people gathered together in March this year for IPPL's 2004 Members' Meeting, to share inspiring stories of those fighting for the rights and welfare of primates. We thought (and Shirley McGreal agreed) that this conference would provide an ideal opportunity to organize a discussion about various issues that primate sanctuaries around the world must face.

We were glad to see so many (over 60) participants attend to listen and contribute to the discussion, which was held prior to the formal beginning of the Members' Meeting. We talked mainly about three issues: 1) **intake policy** (how to select the animals that are offered refuge), 2) **breeding policy** (the consequences of deciding to breed or to sterilize sanctuary animals), and 3) **release into the wild** (the risks and benefits of (re)introducing captive primates into the wild). Many nodding heads throughout the session confirmed we found a lot of common ground.

Attendees agreed that, when considering the intake of an animal, it is important to follow some kind of "decision tree" covering all important aspects relating to the specific circumstances. These should include the animal's situation (e.g., health status,

future prospects), the sanctuary's situation (e.g., funding, staff, space), and outplacement opportunities (e.g., release into the wild or to a zoo).

Everyone seemed to agree that a "no breeding" policy was best for sanctuaries (though this was not likely to become a policy in zoos), especially in countries where there are already a surplus of young primates and limited options of returning them to the wild. Shirley remarked on changing views towards breeding sanctuary animals: twenty years ago, it was considered quite acceptable. Of course, everyone agreed, accidents can happen—babies will sometimes appear even in a group of males with vasectomies and females with contraceptive implants.

Finally, there was discussion of reintroducing primates to the wild; this will become an increasingly hot topic, especially in Africa, where nearly all sanctuaries are already at or over capacity. It was suggested that sanctuaries should aim to become extinct, but in the meantime sanctuary animals can be a valuable educational tool to increase public awareness and sensitivity. Sanctuaries also play an important role by housing confiscated animals, which helps wildlife authorities enforce and improve existing laws concerning illegal trade in primates.

We at Stichting AAP (an exotic animal sanctuary in the Netherlands) have observed that in Europe there is a need for policy guidelines, and/or a code of conduct applicable to sanctuaries. Compared to the US and Africa, Europe seems to lag behind in efforts to encourage communication between sanctuaries and rescue centers in their policies and work methods. Even at the meeting, we noticed that limited communication and varying policies (such as ways of obtaining animals) can lead to one sanctuary's unknowingly compromising another sanctuary's effort to control problems at the source.

The Pan African Sanctuaries Alliance (PASA) for example, seems to have succeeded in bringing together primate sanctuaries that were previously isolated by distance as well as by mindset. It is important to realize that, even though we work under different financial, political, and other circumstances, we have the same goal. We should all try to learn from each other to improve our overall standards. Meetings such as those held at IPPL Headquarters can act as catalysts for this kind of development.

Hopefully we will all meet and discuss such issues again in two years' time!

Special Gifts to IPPL

Given by:

- Donna Craft, in memory of Gale Martin
- Sharon Cryan, in honor of Pam Skelly
- Susan Curtiss, in honor of Linda Berntsen-Curtiss
- B. B. Eilers, in memory of Lois Winchester
- Ruthe Feldman, in memory of Dr. Bernard "Bernie" Frank Feldman
- Casady Henry, in honor of Krista Fish
- Larissa H. Hepler, in honor of Doreen Heimlich
- Patricia E. Keane, in memory of June Meyer
- Evelyn B. Kimber, in memory of Sydney Smith II
- Ann T. Koros, in memory of Gale Martin
- Frances M. Latterell, in memory of Hanna Mosquera
- Linda J. Lavinson, in memory of Elsie Lavinson
- Elizabeth Lyons, in honor of Dr. Mary Louise Scholl
- Alice L. McCutcheon, in memory of Heidi, her beloved little Yorkshire terrier
- Larry L. Miller, in memory of Jabari, the Dallas Zoo gorilla
- Vickie Ruiz, in memory of Chris Dake
- Laura P. Weaver, in memory of Phil Piscitelli
- William D. Witte, in memory of Albert Schweitzer

Primate Conservation Workshop in Assam

Soumyadeep Datta, Director, Nature's Beckon

A two-day workshop on the "Conservation of Nonhuman Primates in Assam" was organized last January by Nature's Beckon at Kaziranga National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its wildlife. Nature's Beckon is a grassroots wildlife activist group in the province of Assam in northeast India. The workshop was sponsored by the United Nations Development Program, India's Ministry of Environment and Forests, and the Centre for Environmental Education. There were 74 attendees, individuals who are already deeply involved in the conservation of primates and their habitats, having worked previously to prevent poaching and conduct outreach in the region's villages.

In his welcome address, Nature's Beckon Director Soumyadeep Datta elaborated on the work of his organization for the protection and conservation of nonhuman primates of Assam over the last 15 years. After intense discussion in the technical sessions, attendees agreed that populations of hoolock gibbons, golden langurs, and stump-tailed macaques have been dwindling fast in almost all areas of Assam. Hoolock gibbons, rhesus macaques, and Assamese macaques are hunted for their flesh. Slow lorises are killed for the medicinal use of their body parts.

Dr. Jayanta Das, who is doing research on hoolock gibbons, reported that the habitats of this primate have been severely

fragmented. As a result, viable populations of hoolock gibbons no longer exist, only scattered individuals and small groups located in the isolated forest patches. Reforestation programs are needed to connect these isolated groups.

The conflict between humans and macaques (both the rhesus and Assamese species) also received attention. Various measures were suggested to reduce crop raiding. Possibilities include beginning community cultivation of primate foods on the forest fringe, or opening primate-feeding stations offering inexpensive grain at sites away from the villages' main crop fields.

Community training programs on the behavior and food habits of primates may also help in tackling the problem. Restoring primate habitat by planting an adequate number of food-bearing trees was also suggested. Another viable program may be to trap "nuisance" primates and relocate them in large, forested areas far away from the villages, after ensuring that the new habitat is suitable for primate foraging.

The workshop proposed 13 strategies for the conservation of primates throughout Assam. In addition, it was determined that 36 follow-up programs (village meetings, workshops, exhibitions, and seminars) will be organized in different primate habitat areas to ensure the implementation of the strategies adopted in the workshop. Further

educational materials on the conservation of nonhuman primates will be developed and distributed for the follow-up programs.

This workshop builds on the earlier organizational efforts of Nature's Beckon. For example, networks among the villagers have already been established to collect information about primate poaching, smuggling, and habitat destruction in the districts of Dhubri, Bongaigaon, Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, North Cachar Hills, and Golaghat.

Based on the information provided by this network, Nature's Beckon recently rescued two hoolock gibbons and one stump-tailed macaque from the possession of a person who had illegally captured these primates and kept them confined in a village in the North Cachar Hills district.

In addition, primate conservation awareness campaigns have recently been organized among schoolchildren of the villages near hoolock gibbon habitats. Colored posters of hoolock gibbons and informational brochures have been distributed.

Soumyadeep Datta feels that the direct involvement of village communities on the fringes of protected areas through awareness programs, photographic exhibitions, and field training to combat poachers is essential for the successful conservation of primates and their limited remaining habitats in Assam.

The workshop acknowledged with appreciation the long-term support of IPPL and its members to Nature's Beckon for the conservation of primates in Assam.

Fight Against Orangutan Smuggling

Rosek Nursahid, Chairman, ProFauna, Indonesia

Although the orangutans of Indonesia are protected on both national and international levels, trade still continues. Every week there are at least ten infant orangutans captured from the forests of Borneo. The animals are sent to Java, Indonesia's main island. In big cities such as Jakarta and Surabaya, some of the orangutans are sold illegally at bird markets and the others may be exported.

On 25 June 2003 the Regional Police of Jakarta and the PHKA unit of the Forestry Department, supported by ProFauna, successfully foiled a plot to smuggle two orangutans to Taiwan.

The plan was to smuggle the animals to Taiwan using a China Airlines flight from Soekarno Hatta International Airport in Jakarta. Fortunately, shortly before the orangutans were boarded, dozens of

police officials raided the airport, arrested the smugglers, and sent them to prison.

The raid was a result of ProFauna's hard work uncovering the primate syndicate operating in Indonesia. For almost a year, a ProFauna member investigated the syndicate. Almost every day our member made friends with and communicated with the wild animal traders. This undercover activity was

dangerous because, if the traders had uncovered the investigator's identity, this person would have been in danger of losing his/her life.

The case then proceeded to trial. An Indonesian man named Hansen was found to be the major conspirator. From Hansen's diary, which was read by ProFauna members, it is suspected that he had already smuggled 40 orangutans abroad! But this evidence could not be presented during the trial. He was prosecuted only for trying to smuggle two orangutans to Taiwan.

Unfortunately, although the orangutan smuggling plan was aborted, one of the orangutans died of an overdose of tranquillizer. The two smuggled orangutans had been anesthetized and then placed in a small box. The member of ProFauna who was involved in the raid was very shocked to see the dead animal.

Orangutan smuggler gets light sentence

According to an Indonesian law passed in 1990, trading orangutans is a criminal act and violators will be punished by five years' imprisonment or

a fine of up to 100 million rupiahs (US \$11,000). On 31 March 2004, the verdict was issued. Unfortunately Hansen was punished with just six months in jail!

This sentence is really disappointing to ProFauna members, who have tried so hard to uncover the primate trade syndicate. ProFauna believes that the smuggler should have received the maximum jail term. Instead the sentence was just six months. On the day of Hansen's trial, ProFauna members planned to conduct a demonstration in front of the courthouse in North Jakarta. ProFauna was informed that the trial would begin at 2 o'clock. Instead the trial took place at 11 o'clock, and Hansen got off with a very light sentence for trafficking in an extremely endangered primate species.

Despite the disappointing outcome, members of ProFauna continued the demonstration in front of the courthouse. They carried posters proclaiming that "Orangutans are not for sale." This demonstration received wide press coverage.

The light sentence administered to the



primate smuggler Hansen shows how weakly law enforcement is applied to the protection of wild animals in Indonesia. If a trader or smuggler receives only a light punishment, this will encourage the continued capture of wildlife for trade purposes.

ProFauna's fight against the primate trade will continue!

IPPL Membership Application



The International Primate Protection League is constantly working to increase its membership. If you have received this magazine and are not currently an IPPL member, your membership will guarantee that you continue to receive **IPPL News** and that IPPL can continue, and expand, its primate protection programs.

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

Name _____

Address _____

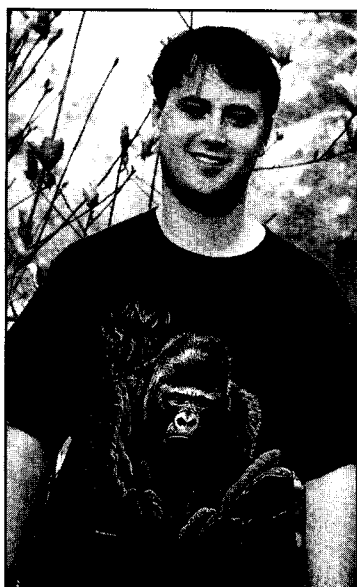
Amount of donation: _____ check _____ or credit card _____ (fill in details below)

Card type _____ Name on card _____

Card number _____ Expiration date _____

Please mail form and your payment to: **IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA.** IPPL accepts checks or credit cards (AMEX, Visa, MC, Discover). You can also use our secure Web site **www.ippl.org**

Primate Paraphernalia!



Six Primate Species T-Shirt:

Features a gibbon, gorilla, chimpanzee, orangutan, squirrel monkey, and ring-tailed lemur; 100% Cotton

Color: Tan

Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL

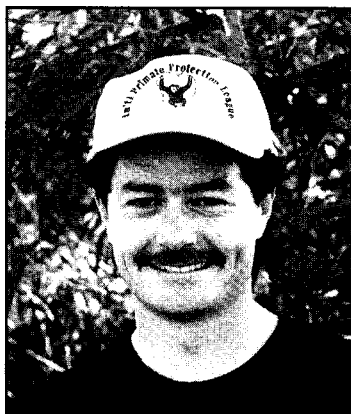
Cost: US\$14 (inside the US), US\$22 (overseas airmail)

IPPL Baseball Cap: Cotton cap features the IPPL name and a swinging chimp.

Color: Khaki

Sizes: one size fits all

Cost: US\$12 (inside the US), US\$16 (overseas airmail)



Gorilla T-Shirt: 100% Cotton

Color: Charcoal

Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL

Cost: US\$14 (inside the US), US\$22 (overseas airmail)

You can also order IPPL merchandise on the Web, via our secure server, at:
<https://sims.net/secure/ippl.org/catalog.html>

Order form:

Description	Size	Qty.	Each	Total
Order Total				

Method of payment:

All prices include Shipping and Handling.

☐ **Check/money order**, payable to **IPPL**. Overseas checks to be drawn on US banks. Add 30% if paying in Canadian dollars.

☐ **Credit Card** ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard
☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Card Number

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

Address
City State Zip

Mail your order to:

IPPL P.O. Box 766 Summerville, SC 29484 USA
Questions? Call 843-871-2280.

IPPL Gibbon T-Shirt:

100% Cotton. These T-shirts feature drawings by Michelle Winstanley Michie of three IPPL gibbons: **Arun Rangsi**, who came to us as a baby from a research laboratory; **Igor**, who spent 26 lonely years in research; and our blind gibbon **Beanie**.

Color: Forest green

Sizes: Adult sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL;
Child sizes S, M, L

Cost: Adult – US\$15 (inside the US),
US\$22 (overseas airmail)

Child – US\$12 (inside the US),
US\$16 (overseas airmail)



Orangutan T-Shirt:

100% Cotton

Color: Navy

Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL

Cost: US\$14 (inside the US),
US\$22 (overseas airmail)



Forgotton Apes Video:

Featuring Beanie and the other IPPL gibbons.

Cost: US\$16 (inside the US),
US\$22 (overseas airmail)



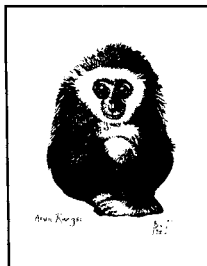
Primate Photography Book:

Award-winning wildlife photographer Art Wolfe teams up with conservation writer Barbara Sleeper to create *Primates: The Amazing World of Lemurs, Monkeys, and Apes*.

Cost: US\$25 (inside the US),
US\$30 (overseas surface shipping),
US\$40 (overseas airmail)

Gibbon Notecards: 12 cards
plus 12 envelopes, 3 each of 4
IPPL gibbon designs.

Cost: US\$10 (inside the US),
US\$14 (overseas airmail)



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Adopt An IPPL Gibbon!

IPPL's Adopt-a-Gibbon Program

Each of the 33 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; some are handicapped. 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:

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

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

Yes, I want to adopt an IPPL gibbon!

Your name: _____ Phone number: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____

Please check if this is an adoption **RENEWAL**: ☐

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

I would like to **pay in monthly installments** ☐ **OR** I would like to **pay in full** ☐.

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

OR

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

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

☐ **This is a gift.** Please send the adoption packet and updates (and T-shirt, if applicable) to the following recipient:

Recipient's name: _____ Phone number: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

☐ I will be paying via a monthly check made payable to IPPL.

☐ I will be paying by credit card (circle): VISA MasterCard AMEX Discover

Name (on card): _____

Credit card number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Credit card billing address (if different from above): _____

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).

Please mail your application to: IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA; or fax it to (843) 871-7988.

IPPL Gibbons Currently Available for Adoption

(Don't see your favorite gibbon? Ask us about others!)

Arun Rangsi

Arun Rangsi was born in 1979 at a California research laboratory. Abandoned by his mother at birth, he was raised with a substitute mother made of wire to which he clung. Then the laboratory lost the funding for its program, and IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal, acting on a tip-off, rescued him from possible euthanasia. Once he arrived at the IPPL sanctuary, his physical and mental condition greatly improved, thanks to a good diet and lots of love. Today Arun Rangsi lives happily with Shanti, another former laboratory gibbon, and his family. To keep this sweet, gentle ape happy and healthy, we'd love for you to adopt him.



Arun Rangsi
eating a grape

Beanie
poses next to a
children's
mural
constructed by
cartoonist
Pauline
Comanor



Beanie

Beanie is another gibbon who would not be alive if IPPL didn't provide him with a good home. He was born in August 1989 and was living at a primate research foundation in Florida with his parents—until tragedy struck. One morning when he was one year old, Beanie was found unconscious on the floor of his cage. Sadly, Beanie had been bitten by a mosquito carrying the encephalitis virus. He was left blind and suffering from epilepsy. The foundation decided to send Beanie to IPPL, and he arrived in March 1991. His handicaps have not prevented him from enjoying life. He sings like a healthy gibbon and is one of the best gibbon acrobats at our sanctuary. By adopting him, you'll help provide him with the extra love and attention he needs.

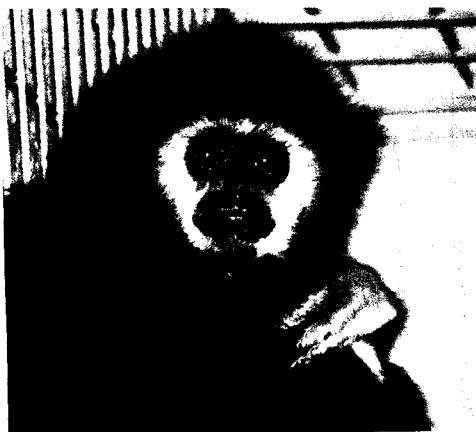
Courtney

Courtney was born at IPPL on 10 January 2002, the result of a failed vasectomy. When she was just 12 days old, her mother rejected her, leaving the little 12-ounce infant with a terribly mangled leg. Thanks to the skill of our veterinarian and months of attention from Courtney's special nannies, her injuries have healed remarkably well. She has had minor follow-up surgery, but is nonetheless extremely active. If you saw her leaping around, you would hardly believe how badly she had been hurt. Since we cannot place her with another gibbon until she is mature, she will continue to need special attention from her human caregivers for several more years. We hope you'll consider adopting this spunky little ape.



Courtney
as an infant
playing in the
grape vines at
IPPL

Igor
at home in
his enclosure
at IPPL



Igor

Igor was born in the wilds of Thailand some time in the 1950s. Most likely his mother was shot and he himself kidnapped while still an infant. Eventually, he was sold to an animal exporter who shipped Igor to the United States to live in a laboratory. Igor spent a total of 26 years in different labs. At some point early in his "career," he developed a bizarre and distressing behavior: he became a self-mutilator, savagely biting his own arms whenever he caught sight of another gibbon. As a result, he was forced to live isolated behind black Plexiglas. In 1987, Igor was allowed to "retire" after his years of service. Since arriving at IPPL, where he lives out of sight but within earshot of IPPL's other gibbons, he has not attacked himself once. Please think about adopting this wonderful, resilient fellow.



© Art Wolfe

IPPL: Who We Are

IPPL is an international grassroots wildlife protection organization. Our mission for over 30 years has been to promote the conservation and protection of *all* nonhuman primates—including apes, monkeys, and prosimians—around the world.

IPPL has been operating an animal sanctuary in Summerville, SC, since 1977. There, 33 gibbons (the smallest apes) live in happy retirement. IPPL is also proud to support a number of other local activist groups and primate rescue centers in countries where primates are native.

◀ Ears like a bat, teeth like a squirrel, a tail like a fox—but it's a primate! The shy, nocturnal aye-aye of Madagascar eats mainly insects and their larvae, which it extracts with its bony middle finger. It is endangered due to habitat destruction and superstition: thought to be omens of death, aye-ayes are often killed on sight.

IN THIS ISSUE:

🐵 Action Item!	Page
IPPL gibbon Igor gets a visitor	2
🐵 "Taiping Four" go to S. Africa	3
🐵 "Bahrain Willie" goes to Wales	5
Good-bye to Gale Martin	8
Ramba: Singapore photo chimp	9
🐵 Colobus monkeys of Kenya	10
🐵 "Rock Apes" of Gibraltar	12
Members' Meeting speakers	13
"Chunky Monkey" creator at IPPL	16
Members' Meeting comments	17
Plantation Singers at IPPL-2004	18
Member profiles: Ruth & Bonnie	19
Lively discussion on sanctuaries	21
Primate workshop in Assam, India	22
Orangutan smuggler sentenced	22

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