



# *Venus*

ISSN-1040-3027, Vol. 47, No. 2

Fall 2020



## **INSIDE:**

- ♦ India's hoolock gibbons
- ♦ Meet the amazing aye-ayes

# A Note from Shirley

Dear IPPL Friends,

We had hoped when we sent out our June issue of *IPPL News* that the world would be better by now. While there has been some progress, sadly we are all still dealing with COVID-19—with no real end in sight. And then there is the heat!

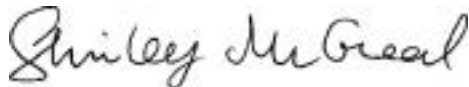
The US has had some astronomical heat waves—including here at our sanctuary. For three consecutive weeks, temperatures were between 95 and 99 degrees Fahrenheit (35–37 centigrade). Even the gibbons have not wanted to go out. Fortunately, their houses are cool, and they even have TV's, but it is eerie when they are all inside on a summer day because there are no songs to serenade us! If you have never heard a “gibbon choir,” you have missed something very special!

Following the heat wave, we had severe rainstorms every evening for several days but so far no hurricanes and we hope it stays that way.

For the first time, the June issue of *IPPL News* featured an appeal for some of our primate partners around the world which were struggling to make ends meet during the pandemic. An update on the enthusiastic response to this appeal can be found on page 18.

IPPL was way ahead of most when we made the decision to cancel the meeting set for 27–29 March 2020. Since we have had some recent inquiries as to if we can go forward in 2021, we want to let you know that it is just too early to make a decision. Given the current situation, with so many flare-ups in the US and elsewhere, it seems doubtful. If there are major and positive changes by the first of the year, we will let everyone know because nothing would please us more than to see the world safe from the pandemic, our opportunity to see many of you again, and for you to greet the gibbons!

Warm regards,



Shirley McGreal  
IPPL Founder



## In This Issue:

	Page
Hoolock Gibbons	3
Endemic animals of Ethiopia	5
Aye-ayes	7
Raising Baby Otters	9
Operation Christmas	10
Bamboo at IPPL	13
Report from Nepal	14
IPPL's Book Choice	16
PETA Press Release	17

## IPPL News

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR** . . . . . Joan Brooks

**MANAGING EDITOR** . . . . . Shirley McGreal

## About the Cover



The gelada baboon is sometimes called the bleeding-heart monkey. The male gelada is a spectacularly handsome and distinctive animal, possessed of an imposing golden mane and a heart-shaped red patch on his chest. They are grass-eating primates. Read more about these unique primates on page 5.

## IPPL: Who We Are

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

IPPL has been operating a sanctuary in Summerville, South Carolina, since 1977. There, 34 gibbons (the smallest of the apes) live in happy retirement.

IPPL also helps support a number of other wildlife groups and primate rescue centers in countries where monkeys and apes are native.

*IPPL News* is published  
three times a year.



# India's Hoolock Gibbons

*By Florian Magne*



Espoir

I was 20 years old in the winter of 2005—the winter I discovered gibbons in literature. I was astonished. Nothing, to this date, has captured my soul the way they did. There was something in them that just made them seem perfect to me. If millions of years of evolution did its work, gibbons have taken the best of it all. Now, let's face it: We live in societies that highly value beauty, class, accuracy, and manners. While it takes us over twenty years to, sometimes, become adult individuals with some kind of skill, be it social or artistic, gibbons develop the same much quicker and often in such a way that it is never far from perfection.

I love to qualify them as the “Romantic Ape” in reference to the French romantic movement of the 19th century. In this regard, romantic they surely are. In the course of the past 14 years, I contributed to many scientific writings, explaining why gibbons should be preserved, what they have been and are to us and to their environment. But there is something more in this. There is a genuine love for the beauty of their being and their souls. And at the end, that is all that one will remember.

I wanted to contribute to saving them in a humble way. If I were looking for a life of comfort and security, I would not have chosen India, but I wanted to contribute to saving this beautiful

and endangered species. Since 14th February 2006, the day I landed in India, I never left again except for a visit to France and Switzerland in 2019. I hold on, as one holds on when he knows that what he is trying to do makes sense. I also hold on, thanks to some beautiful people, who have helped and continue to help me. We hold on together, hoping tomorrow will be brighter, both for the hoolock gibbons and for India.

Meghalaya state, squeezed between Assam in the North and Bangladesh in the South, offers some of the last undegraded forest India still has. Twelve years of work have allowed us to pacify relations between locals and hoolock gibbons in the Western part of the state (Garo Hills) but so much work still has to be done in the Eastern part (Khasi Hills), where gibbons are still killed, eaten, sold as pets and used for irrational traditional medicinal beliefs.

Hoolock gibbons are quite different from other gibbons, as the three species (western hoolock, eastern hoolock, and the recently named skywalker hoolock), are all members of a separate genus. The adult male is always black, the adult female always blonde and the newborn infant has the same color as the mother, later turning brown at two years old, and changing his/her color again when reaching adulthood (seven to eight years old). Their songs are



also very complex and often louder than those of the other gibbon species, siamangs apart. Furthermore, compared to other gibbons, hoolocks grow more slowly to adulthood (sometimes not before 10 years old) suggesting a more protracted learning

process!

Today there are fourteen gibbons at the center. There are also two release sites with one pair in each. Our educational program has also provided full fledged education to over five hundred rural kids in the process, allowing them, on top of getting basic education, to appreciate nature, gibbons, and other wildlife. HURO watches over the largest stock of western hoolock gibbons in the world. All the gibbons at the center, except for two born on site, were rescued from illegal custody. Our team always had to find



HURO School

information for each of them through a network of informers and local wildlife lovers, and intense patrolling missions.

For example, Athena and Phoenix were both rescued in the Khasi Hills after their respective mothers were killed and they were about to be sold on the pet market by their traffickers. Sadly, for each gibbon saved, three or four are found killed. In 2018, HURO recorded many deaths in illegal custody in the Khasi Hills region. Three gibbons were safely rescued, and eleven died in custody before rescue. This does not include the casualties inflicted on the gibbon families during the capture process (which normally involves shooting the mother). It is estimated at least one, and probably many more, mothers are killed in each capture.

The very low rescue success rate lies in the absence of any rule of law of any kind and the remoteness of the places. Information, despite important efforts in networking and tracking, often takes several days to several weeks to reach to us and our patrolling manpower never allows us to carry out more than one operation at a time.

Our oldest gibbon living at the center is Espoir. Espoir was rescued when he was an adult, at the estimated age of ten years old. His jaw was broken in four places after he was struck by catapult projectiles, back in 2009. Today Espoir is the proud father of two



Dawn

offspring and he and his mate Dawn form a wonderful couple. Dawn was also rescued from illegal custody in 2009 when she was five years old.

The end of 2019 gave us great hope with a fresh collaboration with the Meghalaya ministry. As the actions (building of a new rehabilitation center with this new collaboration, intensifying of patrols and sensitization drives in Khasi Hills region) were scheduled for April but the COVID-19 pandemic has frozen everything.

We are proud of the way our teams handled the different lockdowns and restrictions, and how we have been able to keep both the gibbons and the staff safe. But now we are facing a tremendous financial hardship and a bleak future as the number of COVID-19 cases increases steadily every day.

Even though the present Meghalaya government is trying its best, it looks almost impossible that we can come out of this situation without much harm. Isolated, as all foreigners have left India to its fate, we are trying to hold on. But every time we lift our heads up and look at the gibbons, we think: “Yeah—you guys are worth every sacrifice!”

And I know, as Antoine de Saint Exupéry writes in “The Little Prince,” that “Nothing can ever be the same” once one holds them in his heart!

*Florian Magne is Founder and Director of the HURO Sanctuary in India*



Phoenix and Athena at play



# Endemic Animals of Ethiopia

By Maereg Zewdu



*Ethiopia has remarkable fauna, including many animals that are “endemic”—found nowhere else in the world. Meet two of them here!*

## Gelada Baboons

The gelada baboon is sometimes called the bleeding-heart monkey. They are grass-eating primates who mostly live in the land of deep gorges of the central Ethiopian plateau at an elevation of 5,906–13,123 feet (1,800–4,000 meters) above sea level.

Geladas live in a complex multilevel society and they have strong social bonds. The smallest and most basic groups are the reproductive units, which are made up of one to twelve females. A gelada typically lives an average of 15 years and mortality among infants occurs at its highest in the wet season.



Gelada baboons have a huge population; therefore, they cannot be regarded as endangered. This singular primate is unique in that it feeds entirely on grasses and it is the most sociable of African monkeys, with maximum conglomerations up to more than 400 regularly recorded in one field.

It has a harem-based social structure that is regarded to be the most complex of any animal other than humans. The male gelada is a spectacularly handsome and distinctive animal, possessed of an imposing golden mane and a heart-shaped red patch on his chest. He is larger in size than the female.

In most areas of Ethiopia the major threat is a reduction of the range



as a result of agricultural expansion.

At night, geladas sleep on the ledges of cliffs. At sunrise, they leave the cliffs and travel to the tops of the plateau to feed and socialize. When morning ends, social activities tend to wane, and the geladas primarily focus on foraging. When evening arrives, geladas exhibit more social activities before descending to the cliffs to sleep.

Aggression is more frequent between members of different reproductive units and is usually started by females, but males and females from both sides will join and engage if the conflict

escalates.

A male can take over a

reproductive unit either through direct aggression and fighting or by joining one as a subordinate and taking some females with him to create a new unit.

At copulation time, the female points her posterior towards a male and raises it, moving her tail to one side. The male then approaches the female and inspects her chest and genital areas. A female will copulate up to five times per day, usually around midday. Breeding and reproduction can occur at any time of the year. Most births occur at night. Newborn infants have red faces and closed eyes, and they are covered in black hair.



***Geladas are unique. No other primate species on earth lives on a diet consisting solely of grass. Of course, there is no competition over grass so in general geladas live “peaceably.”***

## Walia Ibex



Another of Ethiopia's rare endemic species is the walia ibex, formerly widespread in the mountains of the north, but now restricted to the Simien Mountains, where it is uncommon but quite often seen by hikers. The walia ibex is the type of goat that lives on narrow mountain ledges; both the adult male and female have large decurved horns. The male's horns are larger than those of the female, and measure in excess of three feet (one meter). The ibex has no natural enemies.



*Maereg Zewdu, from Ethiopia, works as a trekking guide around Lalibela and the surrounding Abune Joseph Mountains. He focuses on animals like gelada baboons and the walia ibex.*



## Moving Soon? Let Us Know!

Millions of people around the world change their place of residence every year. That makes it hard to keep our mailing lists up-to-date. You can help us lower our postage costs by telling us of your new address in advance. Just send us an e-mail ([info@ippl.org](mailto:info@ippl.org)) or postcard with your old and new addresses. That way we can spend less money on overhead and more money on primates! (And you won't miss a single issue of *IPPL News*!)



# ***Nos Maisons Brûlent!*** **Our House is Burning!**

*By Clayton Pilbro*



The smell of burning is everywhere after the recent late September bush fires in Ankarafantsika National Park in Western Madagascar. On the unprotected outskirts East of Lokobe National Park in Northwestern Madagascar, smoke stings our eyes as we pick our way between the last few standing trees as ash crunches beneath our boots. This is what's left of pieces of the ever-shrinking territories of the critically endangered lemur, the aye-aye. The aye-aye's scientific name is *Daubentonia madagascariensis*.

Although the aye-aye has been studied as an oddity for centuries, the aye-aye's reclusive, nocturnal lifestyle has limited our understanding and knowledge of its ecology, demography, and population genetics in natural, free-living populations. Up until very recently, the aye-aye wasn't even recognized as a lemur as it has rodent-like, continuously growing incisors; bat-like, dish-shaped ears; an elongated, thin, highly-flexible middle finger; and the largest relative brain size of any lemur. Aye-ayes lead naturally solitary lives and have the largest species range of any existing lemur.

Dr. Edward Louis Jr.'s Madagascar Biodiversity Partnership (MDP) and the Henry Doorly Zoo, Omaha, Nebraska are currently working at three sites that have been selected to represent aye-aye habitats across the geographic range of the species: the humid Eastern forests (Kianjavato and Torotorofotsy) and the dry Western forests (Anjiamangirana). Because of the demand on the forests

they call home, aye-ayes are especially vulnerable to extinction due to climate change, deforestation, and hunting. The MBP and OHDZA are working with local guides to follow these elusive primates. Using radio collars placed on individual aye-ayes, they are collecting data on demography, habitat use, and food resources.

Previously, Dr. George Perry of the Department of Biology at Penn State and Dr. Edward Louis Jr.'s team worked three different localities. These are the Northern sites, the Western sites, and the Eastern sites. They found that the Northern aye-aye population is genetically distinct from the Eastern and Western groups. There are likely only around 5,000 aye-ayes living in the wilds of Madagascar and only around 27 aye-ayes are living in captivity worldwide.

Aye-ayes travel the largest home range of any lemur species. Due to deforestation, aye-ayes must now travel between patchy "islands" of forest to get between habitation zones. This forest "hopping" brings them into contact with humans and villages.

Unfortunately there is a traditional Fady (a taboo or superstition) that suggests that, if you see an aye-aye, and it points its finger at you, you will die if you don't kill the aye-aye and hang it outside your village. There is some disagreement about where this superstition originated, but it likely came from when the Malagasy used to bury their dead under the Ramy Tree. Aye-ayes like to eat the nut of the Ramy tree and this likely brought humans into

contact with the reclusive lemur for the first time. Aye-ayes have a unique appearance and were associated with death and burial. Skip ahead a few centuries, and it's not difficult to see why a violent myth has arisen around these poorly understood creatures.

The drought and late arrival of the rainy season in Madagascar that started in 2008 forced hundreds of farmers into charcoal production that in turn devastated the Northwestern forests. The World Wildlife Fund says,

*Whole charcoal villages just seem to spring up like mushrooms out of nothing, says Rasolonandrasana, and other rural communities start a charcoal business although they have never been active in it. Some people even start cutting fruit trees because the forest was already losing ground. Every village has a Tamarind tree in the middle of the village. In its shade, village elders gather to discuss and perform rituals. Those trees are well respected. I have seen some of those old trees being cut down for charcoal, mainly by immigrants. It's heartbreaking... A flourishing charcoal export is the last thing this country needs.*

Deforestation isn't the only pressing concern that comes from charcoal fields. As charcoal burns, it releases carbon monoxide, a very poisonous gas that is particularly dangerous, as it has no



Aye-aye eating coconut

©javarman www.fotosach.com

the charcoal industry and slash-and-burn farming have destroyed most of the aye-aye's nesting trees and homes.

If aye-ayes could talk, they would scream, "*Nos maisons brûlent!*" (Our houses are burning!). They would look to us with those big, round, yellow-orange eyes and plead with us to help. Here at Aye-Aye Conservation, we are working with local Malagasy community members, educators, and researchers to teach conservation, sustainable living strategies, reforestation,

50 large endemic trees cut in one weekend



taste or smell. It is also lethal to lemurs and other animals, as it displaces oxygen in the blood and deprives it from their hearts, brains, and other organs. The lemurs in the unprotected areas also have to contend with wildfires that can break out easily from charcoal fields, either from an errant spark or from transfer of heat through the ground.

The charcoal business is unsustainable. Lack of regulations and control make it highly destructive to the environment. Aye-ayes



Young aye-aye

are caught in the middle and are on the brink of extinction. Their only means of survival has been to isolate themselves on small offshore islands or "islands" of forest in-between the deforested areas around villages in Madagascar. Tragically,

Sleeping bags are wrapped around timber to carry out undetected



and good stewardship. We're working with organizations that have had their feet on the ground for far longer than we have (i.e. Madagascar Biodiversity Partnership, Lemur Love, Lemur Conservation Foundation, Lemur Conservation Network, the Duke Lemur Center, The Mad Dog Initiative, and others) to coordinate aid where it's needed most.

Aye-aye Conservation is happy to put on Facebook fundraisers several times a year to garner funds to help these organizations meet funding deadlines or research costs. We also try to connect researchers across different disciplines (such as paleontology, geology, and primatology) to help look at the whole picture of Madagascar holistically.

*Dr. Pilbro founded Aye-Aye Conservation. He is based in New Mexico where he majored in forensic and evolutionary anthropology and learned that aye-ayes are a living fossil and were going extinct. To protect them, he founded Aye-Aye Conservation in 2015.*

To learn more about aye-ayes, visit Dr. Pilbro's website: <http://www.ayeayeconservation.org>



# Raising Otter Triplets

*By Alison Harvey*



I was a surrogate mother to three orphaned, Asian small-clawed otter pups, born in captivity at IPPL's headquarters on May 13th, 1988. Peggy, their biological mother, produced numerous healthy litters with Ottie, her life-long mate at the sanctuary. Now Peggy was a senior and, although she survived giving birth to triplets, she developed pneumonia and died when her pups were only two weeks old.

Chunky, Jerry and Gloria were easily distinguishable from the beginning. Chunky was plump, hence his name, and took to the bottle enthusiastically. Jerry was the "runt of the litter," and I constantly fretted about him. Gloria, bright-eyed and alert, was an average newborn but eventually surpassed Chunky in size and weight.

I was a member of a rotating team of three volunteer round-the-clock caregivers. We quickly implemented a feeding schedule. I worked the "night shift" and took the pups home. Accepting responsibility for the vulnerable trio, members of an endangered species native to South and Southeast Asia, was a dream come true.

The Asian small-clawed otter, also called the Asian short-clawed otter, is the world's smallest of the thirteen otter species. A semiaquatic animal, its fleshy, semi-webbed paws resemble child-like human hands, dexterous enough to grasp small fish and shellfish to feed on.

I had never seen such stunning baby animals in my life. Being alone with them that first night was daunting, but my maternal instincts kicked in, and I was determined the pups would thrive on my watch. Bottle-babies can decline rapidly after a bout of diarrhea. Dehydration, aspiration, and pneumonia are all serious concerns, especially for exotic and wild animals.

I kept a journal, moved from master bedroom to guest room, equipped myself with an alarm clock, cardboard box, hand towels, washcloths, heating pad, kitchen scale, special veterinarian-

recommended formula for otter pups, tiny bottles and nipples that I sterilized after every feeding, and my treasured coffee mug.

The amounts of formula the pups drank increased with every ounce they gained. They stretched their bodies while nursing and "paw kneaded" the air. They squealed when hungry, burped when full, and even got the hiccups. I observed every sound and movement they made with awe. I especially loved watching them dream. Their supple bodies twitched, and they whistled faintly. Were they remembering their mother Peggy?

The babies thrived as they transitioned from bottle to pulverized food on a plate. Soon our team was working together during the day, teaching them how to swim and grasp solid food with their rubbery paws. Gloria engaged in "play-fights" with her brothers. She was quite a tease, and so bossy that we referred to her as the "sassy sister". Another volunteer duty was swimming instructor. Baby otters cannot swim, they have to be tutored by their mothers. So, we volunteers had to give swimming lessons to our little otters!

When Jerry was nine months old, he went to Gaffney, S.C. to live with IPPL member Ellen Pauly. A young female otter named Aggie was chosen to go along with him as his companion. The pair had their own private pond and otter house which was safely enclosed on wooded acres. Jerry and Aggie never reproduced but remained together until Aggie's death in 1998. Jerry eventually returned to IPPL and was reunited with his siblings. The three lived long, happy lives.

Never has there been quite the anticipation and excitement within the otter community at IPPL as there was during the months after Chunky, Jerry and Gloria arrived. Peggy and Ottie's last litter, a legacy of precious memories, is cherished in my heart forever.



# OPERATION CHRISTMAS:

## IPPL and Entropika fighting wildlife trade at the Colombian-Peruvian border of the Amazon

*By Angela Maldonado and Andrea Hinek, Fundación Entropika – Colombia*

Leticia, capital of the Amazonas department in Colombia, shares a geographical boundary with Peru and Brazil, as well as certain characteristics of the political landscape such as negligent central governments, unchecked corruption of regional authorities, and an economy based on money laundering. Consequently, many economic sectors are financed by illegal activities, including mass tourism.

In 2012, Entropika began investigating the wildlife trade driven by tourism on the Colombian-Peruvian border. As part of our long-term study, we found that Colombian tourism operators exploit not only wildlife, but also Colombian and Peruvian indigenous people. Although there are ethical local tourism venues, which actually improve the economy of Leticia and the surrounding communities, in addition to providing Entropika with critical information to take law enforcement action, they simply cannot compete against mass tourism's low-cost packages.

In 2015, the Colombian company OnVacation began tourism development plans in Leticia with a large hotel primarily built with illegal timber and palm leaves and the labor of underpaid indigenous workers. Their local partner is a powerful family that controls the politics and public



Confiscated monkey

© Kirsten Luce

Tourist posing with wild animals



© Kirsten Luce



Woolly monkeys with child, Aldea



© Kirsten Luce

institutions of Leticia, distributing public servant jobs among the same staff who have worked for the municipal and state government for years, swapping positions without proper training. Thus, a handful of underequipped and virtually illiterate people serve the city of Leticia.

This family owns the land where the hotel was constructed, and they additionally built a zoo posing as a non-profit rehab center for wildlife rescued from illegal trafficking. Staff members claim the Colombian regional authority, Corpoamazonia, delivers confiscated animals to them to be rehabilitated and released into the wild, but on the contrary, the animals initially exhibited at this Ikozoa Zoo were purchased from Peruvian communities. Zoo personnel paid indigenous people to poach animals from the wild, including primates, reptiles, fish, and birds.

Entropika carried out an undercover investigation, and we discovered that Ikozoa had 120 wild animals on the premises without possessing the necessary permits. Despite local opposition to the zoo, local authorities granted the controversial permits to legalize the tenancy of the animals.

Beginning in 2012, Colombian tourism operators propositioned the Peruvian indigenous community of Puerto Alegria (located at 10 miles (16 km) from Leticia by river) to procure wildlife to be used as photo-props with tourists. Community members could keep tips from tourists, while Colombian operators enjoyed the bulk of the profits. Approximately 30 various mammal

and reptile species were kept in poor conditions without a proper diet just for tourism entertainment.

OnVacation invested in a tourism complex in Puerto Alegria called Irabay Reserve, where they first held a jaguar, and then manatees for visitors to bottle feed for a small fee. It is worth noting that in Colombia and Peru, the jaguar and the manatee are listed as vulnerable and endangered species, respectively.

OnVacation took between 20–250 tourists daily to Puerto Alegria where locals would meet them in a wooden hut carrying wild animals for tourists to pass around and take photos. The local economy became reliant on this tip income, as Puerto Alegria abandoned their traditional fishing and farming livelihoods and became known as the “beggars with animals” tourist attraction.

In 2018, with support from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from the U.S. embassy in Lima, the U.S. Department of Interior, and the U.S. Embassy in Colombia, Entropika proposed a tri-border workshop to train local authorities to take coordinated actions to execute timber and wildlife confiscation operations. In August, we carried out the workshop with 65 participants from five countries (Colombia, Brazil, Peru, Chile, and the US). As a result of this workshop, the prosecutor’s office from Iquitos, Peru asked Entropika for logistical and financial support to seize all the animals exploited in Puerto Alegria.

In December 2018, Entropika organized Operation Christmas with assistance from the Lima police force. Thirty-four police officials from Lima and a team of authorities from

Woolly monkey infant, Aldea



© Kirsten Luce

Iquitos confiscated 23 animals including several primates, sloths, birds, reptiles, one manatee, and one margay. Animals were transported by two hydroplanes to rescue and rehab centers in Iquitos. Thanks to the rapid support from IPPL, we completed the necessary budget to execute the operation and secure a proper enclosure for the margay.

Entropika helped Puerto Alegria register their own legitimate tourism association and provided funding to build a small museum and train community members in ethno-tourism. However, OnVacation blocked all tourism association activities. The operation had drastically damaged Colombian tourism operators' finances and reputation, and in retaliation, they began using intimidation tactics against Entropika. We alerted the authorities in Bogota because corruption and lack of accountability hinders law enforcement in Leticia.

In August 2019, Entropika director, Angela Maldonado, received a death threat demanding that Entropika stop working in Puerto Alegria and all other Peruvian communities. Thanks to the prompt actions of the Green Party of the Congress in Bogota, all Colombian and Peruvian authorities were called on to protect Entropika's members.

In February 2020, with the financial support of the U.S. Department of Interior and logistical support from the USFWS and Entropika, Iquitos authorities carried out a second operation in Aldea, Peru, confiscating 11 primates (woolly, spider, capuchin, night and howler monkeys), animal skins, skulls, and other animal parts that were on display. Further invoking the ire of tourism operators created a big risk to Maldonado,

so in June 2020, the Colombian National Protection Unit (*Unidad Nacional de Protección*) provided her with a security protection scheme consisting of a bodyguard, a bulletproof vest, and a secure phone that cannot be traced.

Entropika keeps up the good fight to stop wildlife trade at the Amazonian triple border, as well as to protect the rights of indigenous people in Colombia and Peru. Thanks to support from IPPL, Entropika has been able to maintain a long-term strategy to produce actions that effectively counter wildlife trade. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to IPPL supporters who have made it possible to continue with our law enforcement efforts and improve primate conservation in this delicate ecosystem.



Angela Maldonado at 2014 IPPL biennial meeting



Tri border workshop



# Our Gibbons Get a Gift of Bamboo!



Mature Alphonse Karr bamboo

To say the IPPL gibbons are spoiled might be right, but our goal is to make sure that their lives are stress free and happy as possible after what many of them endured before coming to our sanctuary.

For this to happen, our gibbons have a dedicated Animal Care team, a nutritious diet, and many forms of enrichment—even holiday treats and birthday parties!

Gibbons are from Southeast Asia. Some of ours were wild born, then captured and sent to live in research labs for years. We thought it would be nice to add some plants from their native range. We already have some running bamboo which is very hard to control, but the gibbons enjoy eating the shoots.

This year Cold Hardy Palms delivered 20 containers of Alphonse Karr bamboo. Last year and this year our supporters had donated the money to buy these special bamboos. This

variety of bamboo was developed by the company and does not run, like the bamboo at the other end of our property which is very hard to control. Instead Alphonse Karr bamboo grows tall and in clumps. Henry Ancrum, our wonderful grounds man, did a great job of planting them where the gibbons could watch them grow. Soon they will be 15 feet high!



Read more updates about IPPL's activities on our Facebook page. "Like" us!  
[www.facebook.com/InternationalPrimateProtectionLeague](https://www.facebook.com/InternationalPrimateProtectionLeague)



See more images from the sanctuary and IPPL activities.  
Follow us on Instagram!  
[www.instagram.com/ippl\\_summerville](https://www.instagram.com/ippl_summerville)



# Monkeys of Nepal Impacted by COVID-19 Lockdown

*By Mangal Man Shakya*

There are concerns galore about the ongoing lockdown's impacts on the public's daily life in Nepal. Media outlets in Kathmandu have published and broadcast dozens of stories about shortages and the government response to the crisis. But it seems that only a few people are concerned about what monkeys in the Kathmandu Valley eat during such hard times.

There are thousands of monkeys in the Pashupati, Swayambhu and Thapathali areas of Kathmandu. However, with the lockdown enforced, human beings are scarce on the road and around the temples in the past months. Consequently, the monkeys are starving! For many people in Nepal, animal welfare is an elitist agenda as there are thousands of people struggling 'like animals' for mere hand-to-mouth existence.

As the extended nationwide lockdown enters its next phase, the normally bustling Thapathali Temple area has no visitors. Normal worship at the temple has been halted until further notice, owing to the possible spread of novel coronavirus. The sadhu (holy man), has said that routine worship is being conducted as usual, but without visitors. Although peoples' entry to the temple has been restricted, the Thapathali premise has a large number of monkeys. In the absence of regular worshippers, monkeys are scrambling for food.

With people's movement restricted and restaurants closed, I was worried that the lockdown would starve these monkeys to death. Although all movement outside of the house has been prohibited, the police have allowed me to continue as long as I maintain a distance from other humans. I



Nepal's macaques before pandemic

Our observation during lockdown indicates that over 200 monkeys living along the banks of the Bagmati in Kalmochan Ghat, Thapathali, are in trouble. Their habitat has been degraded, and they don't get enough to eat. Officials say they are not aware of the habitat of monkeys; others want to cage them to stop them from troubling people.

People who have seen the monkeys roam the area freely in the past are concerned that the primates' man-

made habitats are also under threat. "As the trees here are already gone, the monkeys used to live in old satals (travellers' rest houses) and the Shivalaya (Shiva temple)," said a priest at Ram Mandir in Kalmochan, who was born and raised in the area. "Even the satals are being demolished for reconstruction now, but nobody is concerned about the issue."

A food shortage has also affected the monkeys. Ramananda Giri, 59, the head priest of Synashi Aakhada who has been living in Kalmochan for nearly two decades, says: "Unlike at Swayambhu and Pashupatinath, the other two monkey habitats in Kalmochan area of Katmandu does not get visitors and pilgrims who would feed the monkeys," said Giri. "Thanks to Mangal Man Shakya the monkeys are getting regular foods now."

Due to disturbances in their habitats and lack of food in Kal Mochan Ghat, the monkeys have started coming out and are getting more aggressive, locals say. "They used to come here frequently until a few months ago, but they now come here regularly, snatch biscuits, or whatever they can and run," said a man who runs a grocery shop in Thapathali. "More than that, these monkeys are troubling pedestrians. People can't walk on this road section carrying

use my press card to go near monkey areas as police won't allow people to wander during lockdown. As the lockdown is extended, it becomes difficult for organizations and people to function. I have appealed to the public to continue being vigilant about monkeys in critical conditions, asking people to contact authorities if they come across any monkeys requiring attention. We were willing to try to address the issue any way we could.

On the government end, the Kathmandu Metropolitan City Environment Division Chief said that a meeting had been held regarding the monkeys, but no decision had been taken so far on keeping them fed. "There was a discussion regarding feeding monkeys, but how we will do it is still undecided, because people should not walk in groups," said the chief. The most sustainable solution could be people feeding monkeys in their respective neighborhoods. This will mean people like me won't have to go far feeding monkeys in these difficult times. Previously, the monkeys of the Pashupati and Swayambhu areas used to find hundreds of devotees throwing various foodstuffs to them every day. Like in Boudhanath, Basantapur Durbar Square, and other places there used to be sufficient food for monkeys.



Chickpeas left on deserted street



food items. In many instances, they have even snatched mobile phones and also handbags from women” he said.

“I don’t see any other way out of the situation. They are troubling people,” said the ward chairman. He said the ward plans to build a “monkey zoo” in the area, where people can pay to see them. The money would then be used to feed the monkeys, he added. But priests and sages who have been living in Kalmochan for decades term Tandukar’s announcement as “cruel and insensitive.” “Who would pay to see monkeys?” asked Giri. “These monkeys have been living here for years and they haven’t done any harm to people. If they are given enough food, and their habitat is preserved, they won’t trouble people.”

### Before the pandemic

We had been implementing a program in Kathmandu valley since December 2018, supporting and feeding wheat, corn, chickpeas and sometimes bananas every morning and afternoon every day to 100 plus

Mangal feeding the monkeys



abandoned, restless and free wandering monkeys along Kathmandu’s thoroughfares in Thapathali. This place is perhaps the world’s only place where an urban setting and rhesus monkeys blend perfectly. Monkey temples are a quite normal phenomenon in Kathmandu, but the monkeys in Thapathali are not exactly normal; they are thought to be descended from one monkey brought by the sadhu some time ago. The sadhu left the monkey and that lone monkey later met a female and contributed to the growth of the population.

Here people do not feed the monkeys, as they do in other temples. Thus, the scarcity of food made these monkeys quite aggressive in terms of snatching food from pedestrians.

The monkeys also stayed in a nearby Kalmochan Temple, dedicated to the Hindu god Lord Vishnu the preserver, that was a part of the Thapathali Durbar complex on the bank of the Bagmati River. It was built outside the walls in the early 18th century. It was built in Mogul Kathmandu-Gothic architectural style and has Moghul and Nepal art.

The monkeys extend their habitat up to Tripureshwor Temple which is the largest temple in Kathmandu Valley. Built by Lalit Tripura Sundari Devi in the nineteenth century, it has three roofs—the upper two crafted of metal, while the bottom one is of baked terracotta and sits on a raised platform. Lalit built the temple in memory of her husband, King Rana Bahadur Shah, for his eternal bliss and for the goodwill of her nation. It was probably the last major temple in the tiered style.

We have been involving the holy men in feeding the monkeys. We also observed marked reduction of monkeys wandering in the street and snatching things from people with the start of this program during pre-corona lockdown days. On one holy day, when sadhus gathered in our Thapathali monkey area, we fed them too as they are

Macaques grateful for delivery



supportive of our monkey feeding program.

These monkeys are wandering in temples. We feed them fresh bananas and water-soaked chickpeas, the favorite food of the rhesus macaque. Chickpeas need to soak in water for at least 12 to 18 hours—only then will they be ready for the monkeys to eat. Along with the monkeys, we also fed some elders and monks who are staying in temples along with monkeys. These elders have been abandoned by their families or have just chosen to live alone near the temple where monkeys also live!

Today, monkeys are not fed chickpeas regularly; they are haphazardly fed by temple goers and sometimes monkeys snatch food from passersby, but they still prefer chickpeas over junk food.

We are now in a process of multi stakeholder consultation to make sure these monkeys will get their favorite food regularly and on time. We know this is going to be a huge task, but we must do it as no one else is helping them!

*Mangal Man Shakya is the president of Wildlife Watch Nepal.*

Macaque protective of an orange treat



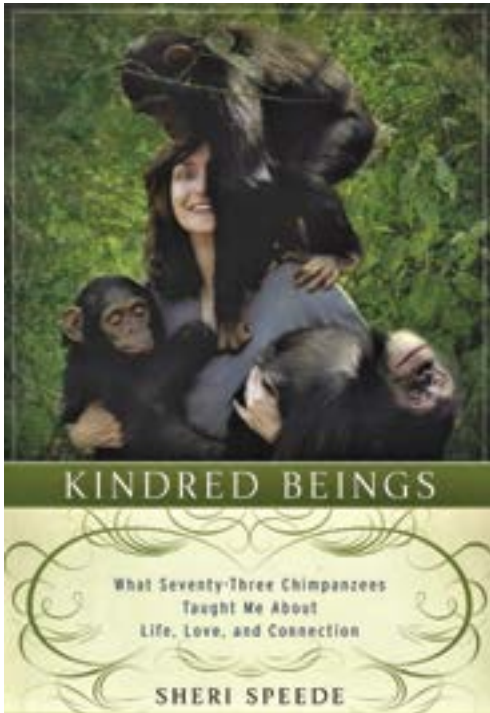


## IPPL's Book Choice

*By Shirley McGreal*



### **Kindred Beings: What Seventy-Three Chimpanzees Taught Me About Life, Love and Connection by Sheri Speede**



Sheri Speede, DVM, is the founder of the Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue Center in Cameroon.

IPPL got to know her through our gibbon Arun Rangsi. After he had fathered several babies with his mate Shanti, we brought Sheri here to perform a vasectomy. Unfortunately the vasectomy failed and one more baby was produced. When I told Sheri, she was both overjoyed, asking what's the baby's name, what color is it? And disappointed (how awful!). Arun Rangsi was later vasectomized successfully.

I had visited Cameroon and seen three adult chimpanzees housed in appalling conditions behind the Atlantic Beach Hotel. Their names were Jacky, Peppy and Becky. Sheri later went to Cameroon and when she saw these three chimps, she decided she had to do something to help them. She moved to Cameroon to establish a sanctuary named the Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue Center. The sanctuary now houses 76 chimpanzees.

Sheri has visited IPPL to speak at conferences, and I hosted a fund-raiser for her at her hometown of Portland, Oregon. Sanaga-Yong has been a recipient of IPPL small grants for many years. Sheri has also been a contributor to previous issues of *IPPL News*.



In 2013 her book *Kindred Beings: What Seventy-Three Chimpanzees Taught Me About Life, Love and Connection* was published. Sheri describes her relationships with the chimpanzees she has come to know and love, and their relationships with one another. She demonstrates that chimpanzees, like humans, are capable of a broad spectrum of emotions. Along the way, Dr. Speede candidly reveals her own struggles as a stranger within a country and culture that were so different from what she had known.

*Kindred Beings* can be purchased on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



## **AmazonSmile and IPPL's Amazon Wish List**

More than ever, people are shopping online. If you are shopping on Amazon—PLEASE use AmazonSmile. All you have to do is visit <https://smile.amazon.com/> and select International Primate Protection League as your charity. At no additional cost to you, Amazon will then donate a portion of your purchase price to us!

And while you are shopping—please consider our gibbons because they enjoy getting special items from our supporters. There is a link to IPPL's Amazon Wish List at <https://www.ippl.org/gibbon/how-you-can-help/> Purchases are tax deductible!

For Our Gibbons and Otters—Thank you!





# Dr. Shirley McGreal Condemns Cruel, Worthless Government Monkey-Fright Experiments

On July 29, 2020, PETA released the following press release: **International Primate Protection League Founder Was Shocked by Video**

**Summerville, S.C.** – This morning, Dr. Shirley McGreal, OBE—founder of the locally based International Primate Protection League (IPPL)—joined a coalition of scientists, medical doctors, primatologists, and other experts in condemning National Institutes of Health experimenter Elisabeth Murray’s painful and deadly behavioral experiments on rhesus macaques. In these tests, sensitive monkeys are inflicted with permanent brain damage and then terrified with fake snakes and spiders.

In her statement McGreal says,

*“Rhesus monkeys come from Asia and are revered in India. They run wild and free. The thought of them living in tiny cages or restraint chairs and undergoing multiple brain surgeries gives me nightmares. And to think this has been going on for decades at taxpayers’ expense! Also offensive is the use in the reports of the term ‘euthanasia’ which means the putting to sleep of a suffering animal. To use the correct word, these poor monkeys are killed. I am also shocked that any veterinarian would participate in these cruel experiments.”*

In June, PETA filed a formal complaint with the U.S. Department of Agriculture alleging violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act after obtaining documents revealing that the monkeys in Murray’s laboratory are subjected to a litany of procedures that cause acute or chronic pain and distress, including the following:

- Monkeys are subjected to multiple invasive surgeries—including craniotomies in which

sections of their skulls are carved out, a head post is implanted at the top of their skulls so that their heads can be held still, and a large hole is cut into their skulls so that experimenters can inject drugs directly into the brain.

- Monkeys are fitted with a permanent metal or hard plastic collar and strapped into a restraint chair that keeps their head, arms, and/or legs immobilized. **For some experiments, their arms are tied behind their backs while their heads are kept stock-still via a head post. They are held in this manner for hours at a time as often as five days a week.**
- Monkeys’ food and water consumption is severely restricted so that they will be motivated to “prompt[ly] respond” to the experimenters and “earn food or fluid ... rewards.”
- Highly social rhesus macaques are caged alone, which frequently leads to self-harming behavior, as shown in video footage obtained by PETA.

Baby monkeys in research



## Coming Soon!

Each year, IPPL participates in this campaign for awareness and an opportunity to raise funds for our gibbons—the smallest of apes!

The event is October 13, 2020 but you can start giving on September 14th. More than 30 qualified sanctuaries and rescue centers in Africa and North America will participate.

Please watch IPPL’s social media posts, then spread the word, to make this our best Giving Day for Apes—ever!

Thank You!



## ~We Asked and You Responded~



In our June issue of *IPPL News*, we featured articles from four of our overseas partners who were being impacted by COVID-19. Dealing with the absence of staff and volunteers, and the critical loss of revenue, they continued to work but were in desperate need of funds.

The response from you, our supporters, has been overwhelming as IPPL received over \$25,000!

These donations have been divided and sent in equal shares to C.A.R.E., Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand, J.A.C.K., and Drill Ranch.

For all of them, we extend our heartfelt appreciation for this tremendous response!

## *Special Gifts to IPPL Given by:*

- **Anonymous**, in honor of Carol Leenstra
- **Anonymous**, in memory of Auristella Valle
- **Terrence Burke**, in honor of Helen M. Burke
- **Ursula Coleman**, in honor of Shirley McGreal
- **Melissa Dutton**, in memory of Banks A. Dutton Jr.
- **Dr. Lois Lippold**, in honor of Shirley McGreal
- **Marie-Paule Mahoney**, in memory of Jim
- **Katherine Nadolny**, in memory of Nancy J. Woods
- **Loren Ostler**, in honor of IPPL and EAGLE Network
- **Myriam Parham**, in honor of Bill and Myriam's birthdays
- **Brenda Parks**, in honor of my sister, Liz Parks
- **William Reynolds**, in memory of my mother, Anne C. Reynolds
- **Robert Spice**, in honor of Courtney and friends
- **George and Linda Warriner**, in honor of Jake Gannon
- **Paula Weiner**, in honor of Rachel Rodkey

## *Go Nuts for Gibbons!*

Our friends at Nuts.com have put together a special care package that gibbon fans can purchase for our sanctuary residents. This goody box includes the following healthy snacks, which are favorites that Spanky and all our gibbons love:

- ◆ 5 lbs. jumbo roasted unsalted peanuts (in shell),
- ◆ 1 lb. raw unsalted cashews (shelled),
- ◆ 1 lb. dried mango (unsulfured, low sugar),
- ◆ 1 lb. dried Turkish figs, and
- ◆ 1 lb. dried diced Turkish apricots.

**Nuts.com**

**9 lbs. of specially selected treats for the IPPL gibbons!**

**Only \$50.00 (includes shipping)**

**[www.nuts.com/gifts/nutsforbirds/ippl.html](http://www.nuts.com/gifts/nutsforbirds/ippl.html)**



Spanky goes nuts for peanuts!



## *Leave a Lasting Legacy...*

## *...for the Primates You Love*

Over the years, IPPL has benefitted greatly from bequests left to us by departed supporters. Their thoughtfulness has allowed IPPL to...

- ◆ build new gibbon houses and outdoor enclosures at our sanctuary;
- ◆ acquire new sanctuary land, now totaling 45 acres, which not only creates space for our gibbons but provides a buffer zone that shelters local wildlife;
- ◆ construct a much-in-demand guest cottage for our visitors, known as “Swan and Mary’s Cottage” after the lovely couple who left IPPL the funds to build it;
- ◆ provide support to dozens of primate sanctuaries and rescue organizations around the world, wherever primates are native.



**Ahimsa, son of Arun Rangsi and Shanti**

Some of our bequests have come from people who have only been able to make small donations during their lifetimes. Others honor friends. For some, there are tax advantages to making bequests to charities.

Your bequest to IPPL will ensure that our unique work can carry on long into the future. Our address to include in your will is: IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA. Our U.S. federal tax ID number is 51-0194013.

If you are thinking about remembering IPPL in your will or trust, know that your love for primates will continue to live on through your generosity.

With gratitude,

Dr. Shirley McGreal  
IPPL Founder and President Emeritus



**Gary, retired from a tourist venue**

## IPPL Supporter's Donation Form



If you have received this magazine and are not currently an IPPL supporter, you can help sustain the important work of IPPL on behalf of the world's primates by making a financial contribution. By sending in a donation, you will be sure to continue receiving thrice-yearly issues of *IPPL News*. You may also donate online, if you wish, on IPPL's secure Web site ([www.ippl.org](http://www.ippl.org)). All donations are welcome!

*Please accept my contribution to support the work of IPPL. I have enclosed the following donation:*

**I would like to make a one-time donation to help IPPL's overseas partners during COVID-19: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

- ☐ \$20 regular dues      ☐ \$50 sustaining dues      ☐ Other amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (dues)  
☐ \$100 patron dues      ☐ \$10 student/senior dues      ☐ Other amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (one time donation)

***I wish to honor someone special with a Tribute Gift:***

This donation is ... ☐ In honor of ☐ In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please note: We acknowledge tribute gifts in each issue of *IPPL News*

- ☐ I will be paying via a check or money order made payable to IPPL.  
☐ I will be paying via credit card (circle): Visa MasterCard AMEX Discover

U.S. federal tax ID number:  
51-0194013

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV#: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like to make a **monthly** donation with my credit card:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
amount / month

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

### IPPL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shirley McGreal, President Emeritus and Founder

Pam Mendosa, Chairwoman

Alison Gina Harvey, Co-treasurer

Siân Evans, Co-treasurer

Lynne R. Baker

Lois Lippold

Deborah Misotti

Ian Redmond

### OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES

S. Theodore Baskaran (South India)  
Vijay Bhatia (North India)  
Katriona Bradley, DVM (Hong Kong)  
Bernadette Bresard, MD, DVM (France)  
Dr. Roland Corluy (Belgium)  
Olga Feliu, DVM (Spain)  
Dr. Ranjen Fernando (Sri Lanka)  
Evelyn Gallardo (Costa Rica)  
Dr. Gustavo Gandini (Italy)  
Martha Gutierrez (Argentina)  
Bettina Hickman (Zambia)  
Milka Knezevic-Ivaskovic (Serbia)

Dr. S.M. Mohnot (Central and West India)  
Elba Muñoz Lopez (Chile)  
Louis Ng (Singapore)  
David Root (Costa Rica)  
Valerie Sackey (Ghana)  
Josef Schmuck (Austria)  
Jean Senogles (South Africa)  
John Spowart (Taiwan)  
Dr. Akira Suzuki (Japan)  
Andrzej Szwagrzak (Bolivia)  
David van Gennepe (Netherlands)  
Hilko Wiersema (Netherlands)

### ADVISORY BOARD

Dr. James Alcock  
Dr. Frances Burton  
Dr. Jane Goodall  
Rosalind Hanson-Alp  
J. Mangalraj Johnson  
Ann Koros  
Dr. Iqbal Malik  
Heather McGiffin  
Dr. William McGrew  
Dr. Vernon Reynolds



# Primate Paraphernalia!



## Two-sided Gibbon Tote

Each unique bag was air-brushed by San Francisco artist Ken Holley  
Cost: US \$25 • Overseas: US \$35



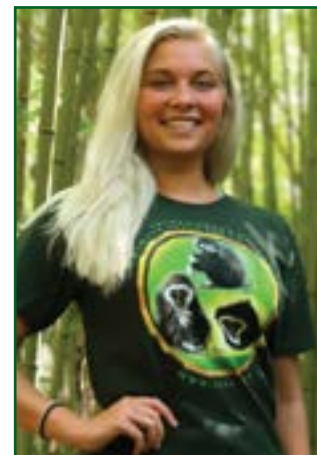
## T-shirt with Black Swinging Gibbons

100% cotton. Also in yellow and pink  
Sizes: Adult S, M, L, XL  
Cost: US \$20 • Overseas: US \$30



## T-shirt with Orange Swinging Gibbons

100% cotton. Also in green  
Sizes: Adult S, M, L, XL  
Cost: US \$20 • Overseas: US \$30



## IPPL Gibbon T-shirt:

100% cotton; green shirt features 3 IPPL gibbons: **Arun Rangsi**, who came to IPPL as a baby from a biomedical lab; **Igor**, who spent 26 lonely years in research; and **Beanie**, who was blinded by illness.

**Sizes:** Adult L, 2XL; Child S, M, L, XL

**Cost:** Adult US \$15 • Overseas: US \$22

**Child** US \$12 • Overseas: US \$26



## IPPL Swinging Gibbon Roomy Totes

with a side pocket and an inside pocket  
Cost: US \$25 • Overseas: US \$35



**Two-sided Gibbon T-shirt:** 100% cotton T-shirt with gibbon design front and back. Gray long sleeved option in Adult S, M, L and XL.

**Sizes:** Adult S, M, L, XL; Child S, M, L

**Cost:** Adult US \$20 • Overseas: US \$30

**Child** US \$15 • Overseas: US \$19

Shop online for more gibbon apparel at [www.ippl.org/](http://www.ippl.org/)!

You can also order IPPL merchandise using our secure server.  
Go to [www.ippl.org](http://www.ippl.org) and select **How You Can Help > Shop at Our Store.**

### Method of payment:

☐ **Check/money order**, payable to **IPPL**.  
(Overseas checks to be drawn on US banks.)

☐ **Credit Card** (circle): Visa MasterCard AMEX Discover

Card Number	CVV
Signature	Expires
Phone Number	E-mail

### Order form:

Description	Size	Qty.	Each	Total
Order Total				

**ADD SHIPPING AND HANDLING FEE OF \$6.95 TO ALL ITEMS.**

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

Address		
City	State	Zip

### Ship to:

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip

### Mail your order to:

IPPL • P.O. Box 766 • Summerville, SC 29484 • USA  
**Questions? 843-871-2280 or [info@ippl.org](mailto:info@ippl.org)**

# Meet the Gibbons Available for Adoption



*Please adopt me at [www.ippl.org](http://www.ippl.org)!*  
*Courtney*

**Courtney** was born at IPPL on 10 January 2002, the result of a failed vasectomy. When she was 12 days old, her mother rejected her, leaving this tiny infant with a terribly mangled leg. Since she could not be returned to her mother, she was hand-raised by IPPL staff, special night-nannies, and volunteers for over six years. Many caregivers took turns feeding her, playing with her, and taking her for walks around the sanctuary grounds. Always curious and energetic, she was a real handful! Courtney has made an amazing recovery since the difficult time of her early life. She now runs, swings, and climbs so well you would never guess how badly she had been injured.

Despite Courtney's high level of activity, she is the biggest gibbon in our sanctuary. If asked what her favorite food is, we would have to say "grapes, and well... everything!" Since May 2009, Courtney has been paired with a former lab gibbon by the name of Whoop-Whoop. His mild-mannered personality is a good match for her wild ways as he always lets her have first dibs at their lunch pail. We hope you will consider adopting this spunky and determined "not so little" ape!



*Adopt me  
too at  
[www.ippl.org](http://www.ippl.org)!*  
*Peppy*

**Peppy** was born in 1979 at a cancer lab run by the University of California at Davis, where the gibbons were used in painful and usually fatal viral cancer experiments. When the lab closed, he was sent to another research facility, the Laboratory for Experimental Medicine and Surgery in Primates (LEMSIP) in New York. Fortunately, LEMSIP closed in 1982 and he and his companion-for-life, Helen, came to IPPL. They lived together at our sanctuary for 35 years until Helen suddenly died of cancer. Peppy sucked his thumb the day he arrived and has never "kicked this habit."

Peppy is the only gibbon who favors veggies over fruit, and in the morning, in addition to looking forward to breakfast, Peppy has his own ritual. When let out of his night quarters, Peppy begins every single day by running from one end of his outdoor enclosure to the other—the whole length of it, arms flung up, out of sheer excitement: it's as though every day he's grateful not to be stuck in a lab! Wouldn't you like to adopt this grateful little guy?



**Visit [IPPL.org](http://IPPL.org) for more information**





**Tong** travelled the farthest to get to IPPL—all the way from Thailand! She is a yellow-cheeked crested gibbon who was wild-born in her native Vietnam around 1970. When she was an infant, she was sold to a US serviceman. When he left the country, Tong remained in the care of his servants. Unfortunately, they knew very little about gibbon nutrition, so Tong developed rickets, a deforming bone disease. Fortunately, Tong ultimately ended up in the care of newly formed IPPL in 1974. The only gibbon of her kind at IPPL, her coat color is reddish-gold, with a little patch of black on the top of her head. Her song is quite different from those of the other gibbons and ends with a lovely, bubbling trill. She is known for doing happy gibbon calls and somersaults whenever she sees special treats coming.

Tong's favorite foods are citrus fruit and all kind of beans. She loves her blue ball and is ready to play as soon as one of the animal care staff rolls it to her. She squeaks and dances around it—rolling it with her feet. She can get distracted, but as soon as it is rolled back to her, she starts dancing again! Would you like to adopt Tong? The only IPPL gibbon who came from Thailand and “wears” a stylish black hat—you would be helping care for this charming senior girl!



*Don't forget about me!  
Visit [www.ippl.org](http://www.ippl.org) now!  
Tong*



**Shanti**, whose name means “Peace” in Sanskrit, was born on 7 February 1978 at the Laboratory for Experimental Medicine and Surgery in Primates (LEMSIP) in New York. IPPL was looking for a potential mate for IPPL's very first rescued lab gibbon, Arun Rangsi (Rui). In 1983, Shirley and a former animal caregiver drove to New York to bring Shanti back to IPPL to begin her new life at our sanctuary. They found her living alone in a small cage—what a change she was about to have! Once at IPPL, we observed that Shanti had a very laid-back disposition. Her favorite food became figs and her favorite pastime became picking fresh figs from trees next to her outdoor habitat. When she was introduced to Rui – it was love at first sight. For over three decades they rarely left each other's side and even shared food. Sadly, in December 2018 Rui became very sick and he was gently put to sleep. After all the years that he and Shanti spent together, we thought it was fitting to offer Shanti as our newest gibbon available for adoption. We have a feeling that Rui would approve and hope that many of you will want to make Shanti your new adopted gibbon!



*Share your love by adopting me  
at [www.ippl.org](http://www.ippl.org)! Shanti*

**Adoptions make wonderful and unique gifts – all year long!**



P.O. Box 766  
Summerville SC 29484  
USA

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
SOUTHERN MD  
PERMIT NO. 4507



PRINTED MATTER

# Meet Gideon!

Gideon was born at a Nebraska zoo on January 11, 1995 where he lived in an indoor exhibit with his brother. Unfortunately, after his brother died, Gideon failed to pair with any of the zoo's female gibbons. The zoo contacted IPPL and asked if we would take him in. Of course, we said, "Yes!"

On 26 October 2019 Animal Care staff members picked Gideon up at the Charleston Airport and drove him to his new home. The next morning, he stepped outside for the first time in his life and appeared fascinated by the grounds and his new neighbors! His spunky personality allowed him to quickly settle down at IPPL and capture everyone's attention.

Gideon is one of the more interactive gibbons here at IPPL. And everyone enjoys his lively personality. He has become comfortable with all his caregivers and neighbor gibbons. His favorite food is grapes! His personality continues to blossom, and we are looking forward to spending lots of time with our newest boy. Maybe this friendly fellow will bond with a female gibbon one day!

