



# *Venus*

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## **INSIDE:**

- ◆ IPPL's Gibby Turns 62!
- ◆ Dr. Ohlandt's Years as IPPL's Veterinarian
- ◆ The Vervet Monkey Foundation



# A Note from Shirley

Dear IPPL Friend,

The year 2021 is a historic year for IPPL. We are 48 years old! It was back in 1973 when I founded the organization while living in Bangkok, Thailand, and so much has happened since then.

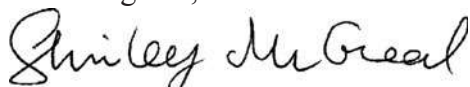
I started a gibbon sanctuary in Summerville, SC in 1975. Since then, we have welcomed many gibbons from research labs, zoos, and even private “owners.” We also established relations with many primate organizations around the world. Over the years we have provided financial assistance during catastrophic events as well as through our Small Grant Program (see page 12).

Since March 2020, the pandemic has been a horrible experience for all of us. I was in quarantine for over a year until I finally got vaccinated. The weather during the first part of 2021 was horrible with endless cold and rain. Sections of our 47-acre property remained flooded for some time.

Finally, we had a nice day in late February, and I was able to get outdoors again and see the gibbons after a long break. Our long-time maintenance director, Henry Ancrum, took me round in a golf cart. What a joy to see Courtney and Whoop-Whoop again! Such a great couple! And Gibby, aged 62, who is the oldest gibbon in the United States.

Soon spring will be here – a welcome sight for our gibbons, otters – and me. We already have a few daffodils and look forward to all the other flowers that will soon be in bloom. I am sure all of you were glad to see the end of 2020. During the year we published three issues of *IPPL News* and distributed 23 grants to rescue centers and sanctuaries in Africa, Asia, and South America. We thank you, our generous supporters, who helped us through 2020 and helped us prepare for 2021.

Warm regards,



Shirley McGreal  
IPPL Founder



In This Issue:	
	Page
IPPL's Gibby Turns 62!	3
My Years at IPPL	5
Zimbabwe Monkey Project	7
Promoting Waste Management in Nigeria	10
IPPL Grants Awarded	12
Vervet Monkey Foundation	14
Goodbye to Prince Philip from Shirley	17

## IPPL News

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR** . . . . . Joan Brooks  
**MANAGING EDITOR** . . . Shirley McGreal

## About the Cover



Gibby was wild caught, sold to dealers, and then spent decades in U.S. research labs before arriving at IPPL in 2007. Read about his incredibly, long life on page 3.

## 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. Here, 30 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.



# Gibby turns 62!



Photo: Wesley Lang/IPPL

## *On March 23, IPPL celebrated a very significant birthday – our Gibby turned 62!*

Born in the wild, Gibby should have grown up with his mother and father. But that's not what happened. Gibby's mother was shot by poachers who snatched the clinging baby as his dead mom fell from a tree. Sadly, this was just the beginning of an often-difficult future for this little ape as he was sent to a Bangkok dealer and, after an unknown time in holding, he was flown to an animal dealer in the United States.



Gibby at Stony Brook lab

After some years as a pet, he was sent to a lab at Hofstra University on Long Island in New York State where he began his difficult life as a research animal. We do not know what studies he was used in, but no research conducted on primates is ever a good thing.

Sometime in the 1970s, Gibby was sent to the State University of New

York, at Stony Brook. Here he was used in locomotion experiments. He was anesthetized, had electrodes and thin wires inserted into his muscles, and was trained to run on a treadmill wearing a harness while measurements of his muscle movements were taken.

It was there that Marianne Crisci later took care of him while she worked as a lab technician and research primate caretaker from 1988 to 1996. Crisci formed a special attachment to Gibby. For years Gibby was the victim of these daily, cruel experiments that eventually became extremely hard on his little body.

In 2003, Gibby was sent to a sanctuary in the Southwest. Sadly, he was separated from his long-time research mate who was sent to a zoo. In his new environment, Gibby was no longer subjected to daily experiments – but his life was far from good! The indoor quarters were so small and inferior that the gibbons sometimes remained outside at night, occasionally enduring cold weather and exposure to the potential perils of frostbite.

In March 2007, we were contacted and asked to take twelve gibbons, including Gibby, from this sanctuary. A



special truck was rented, and a qualified primate veterinarian and experienced handler were located to assist our staff in preparation for the journey. Twenty-four hours and 1,400 miles later, Gibby and the others arrived in South Carolina.



**The long journey is over for Gibby and the others.**

Finally, after decades of suffering, this little gibbon's life was about to change forever! Shortly after his arrival, Shirley McGreal observed: "When Gibby arrived, he was quite thin so the IPPL staff hand fed him for the first few days. As we watched him begin to gain weight, we found him to be extremely friendly with his "preferred caregivers" – and me!"



**Once at IPPL – life has been great for our Gibby!**

When Gibby arrived at IPPL, we knew very little about him. However, Marianne Crisci, who had spent eight years with him in the research lab, saw a story about him in a 2008 issue of IPPL News and contacted IPPL. In 2010 she visited her special little friend – and Gibby remembered her!

Marianne wrote, "What can I say about Gibby? He went through many experiments under anesthesia and wearing clothes. Afterwards, he was always gentle and kind. He wasn't a fan of males, but he proved to be a great friend to me and all the



**Marianne visiting Gibby**

females he encountered. I physically sat with him more times than I can remember. When I left the university, he was the hardest to leave behind. When I finally found out that he was at IPPL, I knew his life would be changed for the better/forever."

In 2013, Gibby was paired with Tong. They were a wonderful pair until September 2020 when Tong died.

Stacy Lambert of the Animal Care staff told us the following, "After his loss, Gibby has done remarkably well due to the constant attention and love given to him by our incredibly dedicated staff. Because of his close bonds with our female Animal Caregivers, they have been able to shower him with all the love and attention he could ask for.

Between specially created enrichment items, long leisurely grooming sessions, and countless hours just spent hanging out with him, Gibby began to perk up and started acting like himself again. We like to think that by always engaging with us for one-on-one time and he started to sing along with the other gibbons on the property, that Gibby is telling us that he knows how much we love him."

Gibby holds a special place in the hearts of everyone at IPPL as well as those who have met him or read his story over the years. From a tiny gibbon orphan, through decades of suffering – Gibby has amazed us all.

Shirley added, "At 62, Gibby has no problem swinging and singing – he is truly a Wonder Boy! We look forward to celebrating Gibby's 63rd birthday next year!"



**Still spry at 62!**



# My Years at IPPL

*By Dr. John Ohlandt*

It was 1979 and I was a fledgling vet in a mixed animal practice when I first met Shirley and John McGreal. They brought in an Asian short-clawed otter who was sick. It turned out that the otter had kidney stones and was in kidney failure. As we were talking, I realized I had seen a sign on a fence saying “McGreal otters” while on my way to Summerville to treat a colic horse in the middle of the night. I was impressed by their knowledge of otters and was first introduced to the word “gibbon!”

Soon after this meeting, Shirley was getting a new baby gibbon in and she asked me to come up to Summerville to check him out. This was Arun Rangsi. We sat on her couch and held this little baby and Shirley and John told me about the IPPL organization she was growing, and of the celebrities that were donating to it. I was overwhelmed and felt inadequate since formal training in primates was not available to me. Also, I was able to meet the initial four gibbons: Durga, Sapphire,

Ting Tong and Brownie. They were in large enclosures in the two-car garage with runways going to the outside. There was something about this first trip that got me hooked, and I formed a bond of friendship with the McGreals.

After that, one of the primates had some issues that turned out to be diabetes. I made an appointment with a human endocrinologist to discuss diabetes management in humans and try to design a program for treatment that would not involve injections. He met me dressed up in an ape suit which took me by surprise. Unfortunately, there was no magic bullet, so Shirley did what she always did best and connected with experts to help me out. I was quite concerned that without proper treatment we would lose her. It seems now that these animals can live long periods without specific therapy by managing the diet.

As the early years went by, the only problems seemed to be injuries on hands or feet. The population was growing due to breeding and the ongoing arrival of new gibbons. My mentor, Dr. Jim Mahoney, worked at the Laboratory for Experimental Medicine and Surgery in Primates. When they stopped working with gibbons, they sent Peppy, his mate



**Dr. Ohlandt and baby Courtney, 2002**

Helen, and then Shanti as a mate for Arun Rangsi. Later they sent Shanti's parents Blackie and Penny and their newborn baby E.T, followed by Igor. And Dr. Mahoney started coming in for wellness visits. He taught me better ways of doing physical exams. Brownie was vomiting acutely and upon palpation on the abdomen, there was a mass. We had to drive him to my practice an hour away and then, while he was under sedation, we did an X-ray and then exploratory surgery. It was a peach pit that was hung up in the small intestine. It was removed and the patient had a full recovery. On two other occasions, the IPPL staff and I have had to remove foreign objects ingested by gibbons.

On one of Dr. Mahoney's wellness visits after he palpated an abdominal mass, we did surgery together and removed a cancerous mass blocking the junction of the large and small bowel. The patient survived for many years afterward. Also there have been times when an injury has led to finger or toe amputation. One gibbon, named Gary, who had arrived at IPPL from a Florida zoo, had brittle bones and broke his arm. By the time a specialist



**Dr. Ohlandt examines two of the twelve gibbons after their arrival at IPPL.**



**Dr. Ohlandt receives award for his work with IPPL gibbons.**

arrived from Illinois, the fracture was getting stable and surgery was avoided. Unfortunately, he then broke the other arm. It was beyond repair, so I was forced to amputate it. There have been two other limb amputations. It's amazing how these guys recover and go on to live a full life.

Only once do I recall "sick" gibbons. It was one of twelve who came from a sanctuary that had fallen on hard times. Several gibbons stayed outside in freezing weather to avoid going into inferior night quarters. Several had coughs and loss of appetite and needed to be anesthetized for fluids and antibiotics. Fortunately, the illness didn't spread to the whole sanctuary.

It seems that in the now aging population, the horrible, dreaded diseases of cancer, pancreatitis and heart disease are raising their ugly heads. Whereas the treatment for injuries is quick and definitive, the "old age" problems demand more attention and time and unfortunately, we don't always have a successful outcome. To help the staff and me do a better job, Shirley has found grants to finance a medical/surgical room where we can do procedures and also house the patient after procedures. Treatment of the pancreatitis and cancer patients has been made much easier on the animals and staff. I am so grateful for opportunity to have such a great working environment.

Since I live an hour away, I have to rely on the staff to discover problems and inform me of the issues. In the beginning, it was John McGreal. He was an encyclopedia of knowledge about each gibbon. I could barely remember all their names, but he had every detail memorized.

I enjoyed our times together

and admired his engineering capabilities to build the gibbon housing. Also, there was Hardy who I relied on in the middle years. He was quite observant and dedicated. More recently, Stacy, Jennifer, Wes, and Trish are my eyes and ears. Unfortunately, they are the ones to have worked so hard with the

aging problems and know firsthand the heartbreak of losing one. But they persevere and push on. I am proud of all the staff.

I can't forget the animals that brought me to IPPL, the otters! What happy creatures they are! In the beginning, they were breeding and what a prolific bunch of otters! Living in large family units was the norm. IPPL currently has six otters, all zoo surplus and sterilized. Watching them is watching perpetual motion. So fun and active they are. Unfortunately, the kidney stone problem hasn't been solved but they live a wonderful life in the outdoors in very large enclosures with their own swimming pools. They are enjoyable to watch, and I believe help the staff decompress from the stresses of a long day.

IPPL is dedicated to the comfort and welfare of all their patrons. Pulling up to the gate, the songs of the apes take my mind away from my work for a moment. To see all the work and effort that the staff does and to be with Shirley for over forty years and to see her vision become reality, has been my pleasure. I am proud to work with them.

**Dr. Ohlandt with Shirley and Courtney**





# Zimbabwe Monkey Project

*By Roxane Chantereau*



Franck at Zimbabwe border

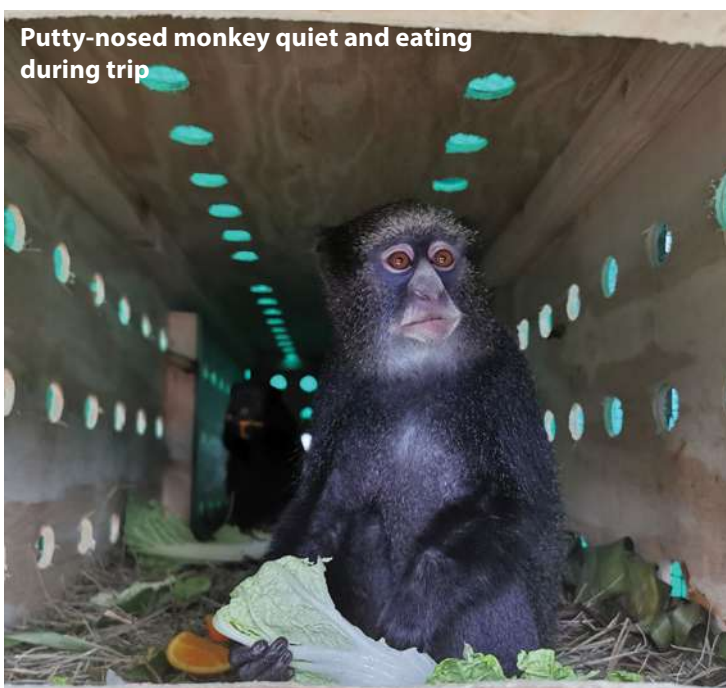
I will never forget the day Franck, my husband, and I heard about 32 chimpanzees that had been smuggled from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and intercepted in September 2020 by the Zimbabwean Wildlife Authorities on their way to South Africa. We were at the sanctuary, feeding the 34 chimpanzee residents we had rescued over the last 14 years and we just couldn't believe that the same number of orphans were deadlocked less than 12 hours away from us. We both were wrecked. However, we had the intense feeling we had to do something for these poor victims of the wildlife trade. We couldn't abandon them!

After investigation, we learned that the primates were not

chimpanzees but monkeys and that there were 25 – not 32! We also learned that 29 monkeys initially had left the DRC and that 4 of them died before arriving at the Zimbabwean border. However, neither Franck nor I changed our minds. Even though these creatures were not apes, our determination was as strong as initially: these animals were from the DRC, they had to come back home!!

This is how the whole story started. Franck and I knew it wouldn't be easy to repatriate the monkeys, but we didn't expect the procedure to be so compelling and so devastating emotionally. When you start something from scratch, you never know if you will take the right direction and or knock on the right doors. To transfer these monkeys back to their homeland required the intervention of the Governments of the DRC and Zimbabwe. It seemed a huge course of obstacles was ahead of us, but we weren't afraid: 25 lives were waiting for a better future and we had to fight for them!

Of course, our sanctuary couldn't start the repatriation process without the agreement of the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation (ICCN), the DRC Wildlife Authority and Partner of J.A.C.K. The Congolese wildlife belongs to the State of the DR Congo and we couldn't make any decisions alone. Unexpectedly, in October 2020, the Director General of ICCN, Pastor Cosma Wilungula, came for a visit at the sanctuary and it was a sign things had to be set in place for the primates stuck in Zimbabwe. Franck had a private meeting with him to explain that J.A.C.K. could help the DRC repatriate the monkeys and accommodate them at the sanctuary. This brief audience was significant, and it was going to have a huge impact on the lives of these survivors. The DG finally gave Franck the go-ahead so the whole repatriation process could begin!



Putty-nosed monkey quiet and eating during trip



Our determination in rescuing these monkeys has, from the very beginning, been comforted by the fact that Franck and I weren't alone!

When you see how exceptional the officials of the Zimbabwean Republic Police and Mineral Flora and Fauna Unit (ZRP/MFFU) have been when apprehending and arresting the three traffickers and how professional the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Authority, the National Prosecuting Authority of Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwe Department of Veterinary Services have been when dealing with such an important case, you can feel your efforts are not in vain. It was clear these Zimbabwean law



**Franck finally crossing border into DRC**

**First monkey released upon arrival**



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enforcement agencies had the same ultimate goal as us: rescuing these smuggled lives!

In addition, Franck and I were relieved to know that, after their confiscation, the monkeys had been held in excellent hands in Chirundu. Our generous friends of the Chirundu Anti-Poaching Unit and of the Hemmersbach Rhino Force have gratuitously looked after the primates by providing the best care and we are extremely grateful for all that they did for them. They all did a wonderful job!

But this wasn't all. On the Zimbabwean side, we were further reassured with the multiple interventions of Lisa Hywood from the Tikki Hywood Foundation. We had known her for years through the different pangolin rescues that J.A.C.K. made. However, this time, although the victims were primates, Lisa kindly assisted us to overcome the many administrative obstacles we encountered in this incredible repatriation project. Working with two Governments at the same time, getting stuck because of the language barrier, sometimes making calls, or sending emails to fall on deaf ears. Many people would have abandoned, believe me! But Lisa was confident and, along with Tara from Rhino Force, she encouraged us a lot in this bureaucratic fury. Thanks again, Lisa and Tara!

Getting the monkeys back to the DRC was one thing. Accommodating them at best was another major issue. Since 2006, J.A.C.K. had been a chimpanzee project and when my husband and I agreed to take in the primates, we didn't know where to put them because there weren't any appropriate facilities for monkeys at our sanctuary!

This is how at the end of October 2020 construction started thanks to some of our regular donors who reacted to our cry for help. IPPL, Réserve Africaine de Sigeian, Fondation Brigitte Bardot, Pro Wildlife, Zoo de La Palmyre, Les Amis de JACK and Prosteeel responded immediately knowing our dedicated work for years. We were happy the Zoo de Mulhouse and PANACO also joined us in this project.

Also, through the tireless endeavor of the PASA, additional aid was found for the building of enclosures



**Next morning in satellite cages**





**This is how the filthy crates were placed in the trafficker's truck.**

and for the rehabilitation of the monkeys. J.A.C.K. thus obtained the unexpected support of amazing institutions like the Olsen Animal Trust, San Diego Zoo Global, Columbus Zoo, Kansas City Zoo, Global Wildlife Conservation, IFAW, GaiaZoo, Kansas City Zoo AAZK and AZA Old World Monkey Tag.

Finally, four months later, Franck and I couldn't believe our ears as repatriation of the monkeys was scheduled for end of January 2021. On the DRC side, Franck was given all the permits of ICCN and of DRC CITES. The Governor of the Upper Katanga Province assigned the repatriation mission to the Provincial Minister of the Environment and to J.A.C.K. This wildlife transfer was going to be unique in the DRC Conservation world!

It was with deep emotion that Franck, along with the Provincial Minister of the Environment, one ICCN representative and a J.A.C.K. veterinarian, retrieved

the monkeys at the Zimbabwean border! A truck, kindly sponsored by the Hemmersbach Rhino Force, brought the animals back to their home country. The four days of the repatriation mission fees of J.A.C.K. were generously covered by the Dutch Federation of Zoos – which was more than helpful as last-minute challenges occurred on the road!

A long story was shortly coming to a happy end! On February 2, 2021 when Franck arrived at J.A.C.K. at night just before curfew, and I saw all these little eyes staring at me through the little holes of the crates, I couldn't stop crying. And when Franck opened the four crates and released our newcomers in their new facilities, I totally forgot



**Golden Mangabeys forage in new permanent enclosure**



**Workers who built enclosures**

about the sleepless nights and the health issues we both had had during all these stressful months! None of the monkeys had suffered during the repatriation – the mission had been a real success!

However, additional challenges are ahead of us! We desperately need support to urgently build warm night rooms because these monkeys won't stand the cold weather of our dry season (from May till the end of July), health checks must be scheduled in the coming weeks and these little creatures must be fed decently. Also, reintroduction is on the agenda too! It is obvious our mission is not finished yet!

The journey of this rescue was hectic, and my husband and I are very grateful for all the people involved. It was the largest and the most unique repatriation of trafficked monkeys in Africa and it was successful only through international collaborative effort! As an IPPL donor you have been part of it, and we thank you for this!

*Roxane and Franck Chantereau are the co-founders of J.A.C.K.*



# Promoting Waste Management for the Wellbeing of Monkeys and People in Nigeria

By Emmanuel Ken Ekwerem,

*Akpugoeze Conservation and Development Association (ACADA)*

By 2050 Nigeria will be the third largest nation globally, with more than 400 million people, according to the United Nations. This rapid population growth has led to widespread pollution and environmental degradation. Yearly, for example, every Nigerian is exposed to air pollution that is, on average, almost four times greater than what global health officials consider safe. Southeastern Nigeria is among the most densely populated regions of Nigeria and has been widely deforested and urbanized.

This region is also the only home of the endemic Sclater's monkey which is classified as Endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). In one locale, the Akpugoeze community complex in Oji River Local Government Area in Enugu State, a viable population of Sclater's monkey is protected by local culture (through social taboos). The species



Photo by The Great Photos

Clean-up campaign manager, Emmanuel Ken Ekwerem, with the initial set of equipment purchased for the project.

is therefore not hunted or harmed here. While the Sclater's monkey is protected by cultural beliefs in a few other sites, Akpugoeze holds the largest "sacred" population in Nigeria, making Akpugoeze a critical site for conservation of the species. Like many urbanizing areas, however, Akpugoeze has no waste management program; waste collection and management are not provided by the government. Rubbish is therefore thrown around homes and along streets, as well as in forest patches,



Photo by The Great Photos

forests, and natural springs and streams (which thousands of people rely on for drinking water). Accumulation of waste can lead to an increase in pest animals and the spread of disease. Open burning of waste, especially waste that contains plastic or electronic materials, releases toxic gases and can pollute soil, water, and food. This is a public health risk and a risk to the local monkey population. For example, rubbish is piling up in small forest patches used by monkeys.

Supported by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE), Wells Fargo, and some community stakeholders, I organized and conducted a community-wide education campaign and clean-up initiative in Akpugoeze from September 2020 to March 2021. The goals were to clean up rubbish across the community (from the town center to forested areas), increase awareness about the value of waste management, and initiate proper waste management practices. The project helped to alleviate the rate of land and water



Team members working at the Aki sacred forest, considered the home of a deity that is dedicated to the monkeys



pollution, increase community pride, and form the foundation for effective waste management in the future.

As part of the program, I recruited and hired 11 coordinators and more than 20 volunteers: all indigenes of Akpugoeze (like me). Safety equipment such as rubber boots, gloves, face masks, and trash pick-up sticks was acquired. Funds also supported the purchase of 15 large signboards (with messages printed in English and Igbo languages), a lawn mower, and various-sized waste bins, including large bins placed in key locations throughout the community. We held a kick-off event (on Oct. 3, 2020), which included local and state leaders, and we printed more than 400 campaign polo shirts, showing images of Sclater's monkey using a waste bin placed beneath a tree.

During the program period, the clean-up team accomplished a great deal, including cleaning up: 16 streams and associated



Photo by The Great Photos

#### **Team members sensitizing primary-school students about good environmental practices at Akpugoeze Central School**

waterways, the main/central market (cleaned twice), a larger shopping complex (cleaned twice), a mini-market, seven forests (including three that were used as major dump sites), seven major roads and their drainage ditches, 10 dump sites along roads and households, and several walking paths and minor roadways. This work included meticulous collection and sorting of solid, non-biodegradable wastes and recyclable wastes for removal to the state capital. We partnered with GreenAxis to collect recyclable items.

As part of the program, we also worked to create awareness throughout the community. The environmental education component focused on the benefits of a healthy environment, the need to protect biodiversity and the local monkey population, and the importance of trees and nature in promoting environmental and human wellbeing. We conducted education programs with household groups, in schools, and in churches, including programs in all seven villages within the Akpugoeze community complex and 20 wards of the villages; 10 churches, both large and small; and eight schools. The team held four meetings with traders and market sellers across the community and one meeting with the Akpugoeze Traders Union, which represents all traders and shop owners in Akpugoeze.

These efforts have gone a long way to promote a healthy environment and a better standard of living for the people and Sclater's monkeys of the Akpugoeze community complex.

Photo by The Great Photos

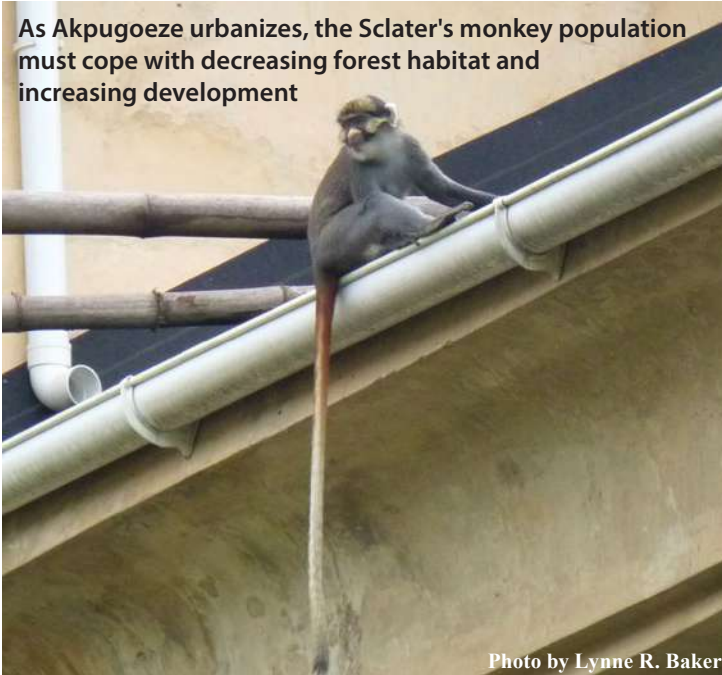


**Clean-up campaign team members with several local women after a successful joint effort to remove waste from in and around the Ogbanenu stream in Umuopu village**

Though much still needs to be done, the Clean-up Campaign has yielded enormous benefits as we are beginning to see residents acquire their own waste bins, clean their surroundings, show environmentally friendly behaviors toward their surroundings, and show greater respect for the local monkey population.

Project coordinators deserve much credit for the project's success. I would like to sincerely thank Honorable ThankGod Okoli, Emmanuel Ekeh, Chiagozie Udeh, Chibueze Nweke, Ikechukwu Ibeh, Victoria Nwekegbazuagu, Joy Umeh, Ngozichukwuka Nwekeogoli, Esther Nwabuikwu, Emmanuel Amarah, and Gloria Nwedu. I am also grateful for the help of several hard-working volunteers: Christiana Ekwueme, Chinwendu Ekemezie, Geoffrey Okoli, Oluchi Mmolokwu, Jonas Onyi, Grace Okoro, Peace Nnuka, Roseline Nwabuikwu, Elizabeth Nwankwo, Peace Arinze, Mabel Anigbo, Bridget Abugu, Victoria Onuh, Constance Egbu, and Chinonso Okoli. Finally, I would like to appreciate the community leaders and stakeholders who supported this program as well as our long-time mentor and supporter, Dr. Lynne Baker.

*Dr. Baker is a member of IPPL's Board of Directors.*



**As Akpugoeze urbanizes, the Sclater's monkey population must cope with decreasing forest habitat and increasing development**

Photo by Lynne R. Baker



# IPPL 2020 Grants Awarded to 23 Organizations

*By Joan Brooks*

Each year, IPPL invites our overseas partners to apply for an annual grant. For most, if not all, these funds are critical to their programs as well as lifesaving for the primates they are dedicated to helping. Last year, as the pandemic swept around the globe, all these organizations were seriously impacted financially.

In December 2020, IPPL awarded \$150,000 to these deserving organizations. This program would not be possible without donations from our many generous supporters. We thought you would like to read what some of them have had to say about the importance of these grants.

**J.A.C.K., Democratic Republic of Congo** – “Many thanks again for the support you have been providing J.A.C.K. this year and in previous years. Without your generosity and Love, we wouldn’t have been able to offer the best living conditions to our chimpanzee orphans nor to our personnel!”



IPPL also assisted with the guenon rescue

**Neotropical Primate Conservation, Peru** – “Please find attached NPC’s end of year report for activities funded by IPPL in 2020. We hope you enjoy reading it and that you are happy with what we were able to accomplish given the circumstances. Thank you, as always, for all your support and for all that you do for primates worldwide!”



**C.A.R.E., South Africa** – “We are very pleased with what we have achieved with the funds to date and once again, a heartfelt thank you for the continued support we receive.”



**Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Sanctuary, Cameroon** – “The support from IPPL means so much to Sanaga-Yong, especially during this challenging time. Thank you very much for all you do as an organization, including making your grant application and reporting requirements uncomplicated. We’re very grateful to you.”





**Liberia Chimpanzee Rescue and Protection** – “Thanks for your patience and your incredible support of LCRP and to many other primates! We so appreciate IPPL’s work.”



LCRP currently cares for more than forty chimpanzees, most under five years old.

**Vervet Primate Foundation, South Africa** – “Gratefully, we received a grant towards general funds from the International Primate Protection League. This grant gave us the opportunity to drill a borehole to extract water from the underground to secure our water supply. Thank you, IPPL!”



Food supplies also purchased with grant.

**Wildlife at Risk, Vietnam** – “On behalf of Wildlife At Risk, we would like to say thank you to you for your support in our conservation work in Vietnam.”



**Chimpanzee Conservation Centre, Republic of Guinea** – “We are very grateful for IPPL’s continuous support to Project Primate Inc. for the Chimpanzee Conservation Center. It helps us cover the local team of caregivers, increasing the quality of care given to the resident chimps, the sustainability of the sanctuary, and to train professional caregivers with high qualifications in chimpanzee care.”



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)



# The Vervet Monkey Foundation

## An update on an unprecedented year....

*By Claire Turnbull*

As for so many other animal sanctuaries, non-profit organizations, and individuals worldwide, 2020 was an unprecedented year for us, with the COVID-19 pandemic having a huge impact on our work. The imposed lockdowns and international travel bans (some of which are still in place) meant that many of our volunteers could no longer reach us, which has had serious implications for our monkey care and vital financial support.

Our international volunteers have been the lifeblood of the Foundation for the past 18 years – helping us care for the monkeys by assisting with important day to day tasks, such as preparing food and feeding and caring for



**Baby Bru, a former pet, and Reggae**

our orphans. Our small team has been under considerable pressure caring for almost 600 monkeys without this additional help. Along with paying for their food and accommodation, our volunteer fee also includes a donation towards our work, which is one of our main sources of funding, but the number of volunteers who were able to join us dropped from 133 in 2019 to just 42 last year! We were also forced to close our site to our regular guided tours and cancel all upcoming international events, which are an important source of funding and promotion for us. As a result of the international travel bans and the national lockdown,

we have seen a 63% decrease in visitor numbers.

**Loustic, orphaned in 2020, now lives in the trees again with foster family.**





**Pascall was rescued after his mother was stoned to death for bushmeat**



Critically, sourcing food for the monkeys also became very difficult, with prices increasing up to ten times the normal price. Our local community farmers had no choice but to either close or sell food exclusively for human consumption during the food shortages we experienced in South Africa and this

only contributed further to our financial pressures during the pandemic.

These unexpected difficulties really did leave us in an extraordinary financial emergency, as we had obviously not accounted for the global crisis in any of our contingency plans. Thankfully, due to incredible fundraising efforts from our dedicated supporters and a wonderful grant from the International Primate Protection League we have managed to continue to be here for the vervet monkeys. IPPL's generous grant helped us to cover the loss of funds we experienced due to a lack of volunteers, as well as the extra fuel costs we incurred, the increase in food prices and purchasing all-important milk powder for the babies.

Our local staff and volunteer team usually spend a considerable amount of time working on maintenance projects during South African wintertime, but this past year we were forced to focus on securing our vital food supplies. This meant that many maintenance projects had to be put on hold, but we are proud to say we still managed to complete several projects to improve quality of life for our monkeys! Projects included the planting of forty indigenous evergreen trees and the building of shade shelters in monkey enclosures to combat drought conditions, which caused tragedy at our sanctuary at the end of 2019. Temperatures soared to around 47°C (116° F), causing the air around the sanctuary to heat up like an oven, which is totally abnormal for that time of year. Without warning, we had monkeys in serious trouble... Our dedicated staff and volunteers worked around the clock to bring them to safety and provide them with medical attention and nursing, but we sadly still lost some of our

**Terk, whose mother was killed on the roads, had to have most of her tail amputated. Today, she lives happily with her foster mom and family.**







**Food purchased with IPPL funds**

much-loved monkeys to the freak heatwave. A previous, generous grant from IPPL also gave us the opportunity to drill a bore hole to extract water and secure our water supply, which is a vital and imperative addition to protect against this happening again.

We also completed a new bathroom block and re-painted some of our existing staff and volunteer communal areas for a more welcoming atmosphere, as well as continuing the construction and revamping of monkey areas to increase environmental enrichment and improve hygiene. In addition, we were able to make vital safety alterations to our baby area in order to protect them from our resident wild vervet troops, as the lack of volunteers meant we only had one person who could watch over them.

In spite of the global crisis, our rescue work continued, and we took a total of 28 vervet monkeys, 2 bushbabies and 1 samango monkey into our care last year. Fifteen orphaned vervets were happily released into troops with their foster mums. Our “Foster Mum” program was first established in 2011 and, since then, it has enabled 181 orphans to be integrated into troops living in large, natural habitat enclosures from as young as 3 months old.

This enables them to maintain an inherent fear of people and ensures the best possible outcome for their rehabilitation into a wild state.

We are still feeling the effects of the pandemic this year, but we have already welcomed 23 orphans this season and expect many more to come. The subsequent veterinary bills for injured babies, baby milk, bottles, blankets, food and supplements come at a significant cost, so IPPL’s ongoing support really is helping our work. Despite the current ongoing situation, our limited team is doing a fantastic job. Some of this year’s orphans (Bru, Punim and Kinney) went out with their monkey foster mums into our “Skunkey troop” for the first time recently and they are all doing really well. They are enjoying exploring all the indigenous vegetation and are having a great time being carried around by their new mums!

We are still facing difficult times as we move into 2021 but, as always, we are moving forward with hope and positivity. We are determined to continue to be here for vervet monkeys and to help people understand, respect and value them, and all other wildlife, long into the future.



**Vital shade shelters in large, natural enclosures**



# Goodbye to Prince Philip – a message from Shirley

I was saddened to hear that Prince Philip did not reach 100, he came so close. He died on 9 April 2021, just two months before what would have been his 100th birthday.

I first met the Prince at the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Conference held in Christchurch, New Zealand, in October 1981. We kept in close contact, and in June 2008 I received the Order of the British Empire (OBE) from the hands of Queen Elizabeth.

Over the years, I have received dozens of supportive letters from him. Here is one of my favorites, the “Chocolate Letter.”



SANDRINGHAM HOUSE

9 April 2015

*Dear Shirley,*

Thank you for your letter with the splendid news about the IMMUNO chimps. I do indeed remember the whole ghastly story. It is great to know that they are now all to be properly cared for.

I hope you have a great time in Vienna. I cannot imagine a better place a chocaholic to indulge themselves ! I hope you will make a full recovery in due course ! Those 37 gibbons need you !

I am keeping reasonably occupied, and the busy months of May, June and July are coming up – these days any formal activity makes me feel over-worked !

*Yours ever  
Philip*

My first meeting with Prince Philip. This is my only photo with him!



# *Special Gifts to IPPL Given by:*

- **Anonymous** in memory of Contessa Noel
- **Anonymous** in memory of Auristella Valle
- **Anonymous** in honor of Carol Leenstra
- **Josh Abrams** in memory of Rochelle Smith
- **Peggy Altemueller** in memory of Willie
- **Barbara Beierl** in memory of Kitlette and her 4 kittens
- **Dierdre Braley** in memory of Georgette K. Maroldo, PhD.
- **Michael Briselli** in honor of Kili and Cody
- **Debbie Bruegge** in loving memory of Mildred Brown, Bonnie Brown and Beckie Toney
- **Dominique Cheyns** in honor of Shirley
- **Judy Christrup** in honor of Janet Christrup for her birthday
- **Andrea Coffey** in memory of Madeleine
- **Judith Cuevas** in memory of my husband, Raymond Cuevas
- **Larry Dandridge** in memory of Tong
- **Lesley Day** in honor of Shirley
- **Melissa Dutton** in memory of Banks A. Dutton Jr.
- **Lollie Eykyn** in memory of Thai and your twin sister. In honor of Shirley
- **Bruce Fallick** in memory of Rhoda Winter Russell
- **JoAnn Farb** in memory of Bernie and Judy Fremerman
- **Shirley Feldman** in memory of my beloved husband, Bruce Feldman
- **Veronica Ferguson** in loving memory of Kara and Ernie's Samantha and Bailey
- **Charlotte Gallagher** in honor of Deb Carstens
- **Anita Garcia** in honor of Zoe, my rescued Siamese mix cat
- **Roslyn Giardullo** in honor of all my beautiful cats and dogs
- **Mary Hanson** in memory of Sterling Lace
- **Michelle Harvath** in honor of Randall Cohen
- **Kathryn Howell** in memory of Kit Woodcock
- **Angela Huffine** in memory of Arun Rangsi
- **Kevin Ivester** in memory of P.J., Chip and Chad
- **Kerry Johnson** in memory of Shannon Baker
- **Diane Karol** in memory of Tong
- **Elaine Katz** in memory of Ladybug
- **Emily King** in honor of Prof. Robert Shaw Oliver Harding on his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday
- **Jane Mann** in memory of Will Wright
- **Shirley McGreal** in memory Maureen Cameron
- **Shirley McGreal** in memory of Shannon Baker
- **Linda Morton** in honor of Shanti's birthday
- **Carol Novak** in memory of Denise Stable
- **Brenda Parks** in honor of my sister, Liz Bills
- **Lenora Rodah** in memory of Victoria Selmier
- **Sandra Rose** in memory of my faithful dog, Webster
- **Brad Ross** in memory of Pook
- **Rhoda Russell** in memory of Rhoda Winter Russell (1930-2019)
- **Sheila Rybak** in memory of all the animals I have rescued and loved
- **Nancy Sandoval** in memory of Ivy
- **Rose Marie Shramick** in memory of Shirley Davies
- **Jamie Silverman** in memory of Puddy Zoom
- **Benjamin Slay** in honor of the birthday of Olivia G. Zeppetella
- **Ed Snape** in memory of Koko
- **Rhonnell Sotelo** in honor of future conservationist Kathleen Sotelo
- **Louise Swig** in memory of Judge Herbert Donaldson
- **Greta Sybers** in honor of Kelle Coggins
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- **Phyllis Weiner** in memory of Myron Weiner, my dear husband
- **Joan Weisenberger** in honor of Donna Tichenor
- **Friedrich Wendl** in memory of Tong
- **Jean Widlicka** in memory of Patricia M. Gibson
- **Susan Wiebe** in honor of Gary Gibbon
- **Cheryl Wilke** in honor of Dr. Shirley McGreal
- **Eleanor Ziegler** in memory of my husband, Roland K. Ziegler



## *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:**

☐ \$25      ☐ \$50      ☐ \$100      ☐ \$500      ☐ Other amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**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*

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51-0194013

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☐ 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!**

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# 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.  
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(Overseas checks to be drawn on US banks.)

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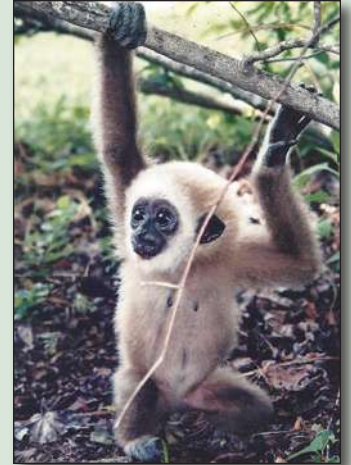
# Meet the Gibbons Available for Adoption



*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**





**Val** was born at a wildlife park in southern Florida where he lived with his parents and a few siblings. In the fall of 2017, the facility suffered extensive damage from Hurricane Irma and fell on hard times. We got a call in October of 2017 asking if we could take in two of their gibbons and after some quick preparations two staff members drove down to Florida, picked Val up, and brought him to his new home in November. Val's father, Snowy, followed a month later. After the long drive back to IPPL, Val quickly bonded with the animal care staff. We got him settled into his night house and he even presented his back for grooming.

Today, Val is one of the most engaging and entertaining gibbons out on the grounds. He loves interacting with the staff and demands that they play tag with him! He spends his mornings swinging through his enclosure and, when a staff member approaches, he drops down in front of them to get their attention. Once he has them focused on him, he'll hop and roll around on the ground, swing upside down from his ropes and reach out for them, then the chase is on! His enthusiasm for the game quickly wears out the staff and he doesn't seem to understand why we need to take breaks to catch our breath! Wouldn't you love to bring some more excitement to Val's life by adopting him?



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



**Shanti**, whose name means "Peace" in Sanskrit, was born on June 24, 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!**





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# Meet Jade!

Originally from the Honolulu Zoo, Jade was living at the Maui Zoo with her mate Palu-Palu and their son Maui. Unfortunately, the zoo was closed after they were charged with multiple violations of the Animal Welfare Act. As a result, in March 1996, Jade and her family were sent to IPPL along with several crates of fresh Hawaiian pineapples, one of her favorite foods to this day! Jade is a lovely sable colored gibbon, a color that's not very common in white-handed gibbons. She loves to spend her days singing and swinging in her outdoor enclosure. She and Palu-Palu also spend time in one of their aerial tubes that runs along the outside of our Brach Building where she has a wonderful view of the grounds beyond our perimeter fence. Jade likes to keep an eye out for delivery trucks who might be bringing tasty snacks for her and the other gibbons and is always the first to start singing when one comes down the driveway. Jade also gets really excited if we get a lot of romaine lettuce donated by one of our local food suppliers. The Animal Care staff will hand out a head to each gibbon and, instead of peeling off the leaves like the others, Jade sticks her head straight down the middle and starts eating the lettuce from the inside out!

