



▲ A free-living long-tailed macaque  
at the Angkor Wat temple, Cambodia

*Inside...*

**IPPL'S BIENNIAL MEETING: *Your Passport to Primate Protection!***



# A Letter from IPPL's Executive Director Shirley McGreal

Dear IPPL Friend,

The three days of this year's biennial conference at IPPL Headquarters were wonderful days for staff, visiting supporters, speakers, and volunteers. We had gorgeous weather. The grounds looked wonderful, and we had lots of newly-planted trees, shrubs, and flowering plants.

It took a while, but finally we lined up a great program with speakers from around the world. Getting visas and tickets was a little more hectic than usual.

It was wonderful to meet old friends of IPPL like Edwin Wiek and Ofir Drori, whom I'd met at wildlife conferences. Ofir was very excited that his book *The Last Great Ape* had just been published. After the conference he went to Atlanta, where he appeared on CNN. Edwin Wiek of Thailand was eager to get animals seized in a recent violent raid on his sanctuary by Thai wildlife officials returned.

It was a delight to meet Franck Chantereau of the J.A.C.K. Sanctuary (Jeunes Animaux Confisqués au Katanga/Young Animals Confiscated in Katanga). The facility is located in the city of Lubumbashi in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The sanctuary was born of tragedy when fire took the lives of several young chimpanzees. But, rather than give up, Franck and his wife Roxane went on to found an excellent sanctuary with a strong educational component. IPPL and the Arcus Foundation helped with the construction costs of the education center. The sanctuary is now home to nearly 40 chimpanzees as well as some bushbabies.

Also with us was Olatunji Olatundun, the manager at the Drill Ranch, in Nigeria, which has locations in the city of Calabar and at Afi Mountain, where drills are being housed in huge enclosures from which they will gradually be released in the wild under careful supervision. This was Tunji's first visit to the United States, and we hope it won't be his last.

I took a break from the conference to visit with Nigeria's Olatunji ("Tunji") Olatundun (left) and Franck Chantereau (right), who works in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



Now all our extraordinary guests have left for home.

Thank you to the many supporters and students who attended the conference and to the many who were unable to make it but kindly helped with the expenses. And thank you to IPPL staffer Noreen Laemers, who took many of the conference photos you'll see in this issue.

Best wishes,

  
Shirley McGreal

P.S. You can read more about the conference in an excellent story from Summerville's local newspaper (<http://www.journalscene.com/news/Primate-experts-have-a-meeting-of-the-minds-in-the-Lowcountry>).



# Orangutans Fight for Survival in Burning Swamp

For several months the Tripa Swamp Forest on the coast of Aceh Province on the island of Sumatra has been burning. The area is part of the Leuser Ecosystem and is an important habitat for orangutans and other endangered species. The fires were set by palm oil companies clearing land to establish palm plantations. This burning has placed the once-healthy orangutan population of the forest in severe jeopardy.

Dr. Ian Singleton, Director of Conservation at the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme (SOCP, <http://www.sumatranorangutan.org/>) in Indonesia has stated that the destruction of the forests could mean the extinction of the Sumatran orangutan by the end of 2012. The SOCP has been protesting and petitioning authorities to put a stop to the destruction of the forest.

Finally, after months of protests by conservationists in Indonesia and worldwide, a national police investigation was opened, and an investigative team visited Tripa. On May 6, 2012, Kamaruddin, the attorney representing local communities and who had filed a complaint about environmental crimes being committed in Tripa with the National Police in November 2011, commented:

*We have witnessed the collusion of Provincial Police with the palm oil companies*



Photo © Carlos Quilles

*who operate in the Tripa peat swamps. Over five months ago a directive was sent by the National Police to the Aceh Provincial Police ordering them to investigate the illegal issuance of permit number No. 525/BP2T/ 5322/2011, which very clearly was in violation of National Spatial Planning Law 26/2007. Breaking National Spatial Planning Law is a criminal offence for any level of government or company, and violations must be prosecuted.*

*Until the arrival of the National REDD+ Taskforce, the Ministry of the Environment, Attorney General's Office and National Police, the local Aceh Police made NO effort to investigate. It is only now due to the presence of leading National Indonesian Authorities that any investigation is taking*

*place, but it must not fall into the same trap of collusion as displayed by local authorities....*

*For the investigation to have any relevant meaning it must result in the revoking of permits, criminal prosecution of palm oil companies who continue to operate outside the law, government officials who violate National Spatial Planning Law, the restitution of land, and the restoration of the protected peat forest.*

Deddy Ratih, Forest Campaigner for Walhi (Friends of the Earth Indonesia) stated:

*The real test is now how much more illegal destruction the investigation team accepts. The companies must immediately be forced to stop work and close the canals draining and degrading the ecosystem in Tripa. National Police must take over the handling of the case and rapidly work towards the criminal prosecution of all violators of crimes in Tripa.*

IPPL applauds the work of all involved in the battle to save the Tripa Swamp Forest, and we call on our supporters to join the protest.

## How You Can Help



Photo © Carlos Quilles

Please send letters calling for an immediate end to the destruction of the Tripa Forest, revocation of all permits to palm oil companies operating in the area, and prosecution of those involved in illegal and species-destructive activities, to:

*President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono  
Office of the President of Indonesia  
Istana Merdeka  
Jakarta 10110  
INDONESIA  
E-mail: presiden@ri.go.id*

Also send letters to the Indonesian Embassy in your home country (check <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-of/indonesia> for more):

*His Excellency the Ambassador of Indonesia  
Embassy of Indonesia  
2020 Massachusetts Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
USA*

*His Excellency the Ambassador of Indonesia  
38 Grosvenor Square  
London W1K 2HW  
UNITED KINGDOM*

# A New Era for Gibraltar's Monkeys

*Helen Thirlway, IPPL Co-chair*

In December 2011, there was a dramatic shift in the political landscape in Gibraltar. The party which had governed Gibraltar for more than a decade, the Gibraltar Social Democrats (known locally as the GSD), was defeated in a general election by the Gibraltar Socialist Labour Party (the GSLP). **The new government brings with it a new policy: no culling of Gibraltar's monkeys.**

IPPL has long monitored the treatment of Gibraltar's celebrated Barbary macaques. Debate has raged over the culling of the monkeys, which has taken place sporadically for decades. Uncontrolled feeding of the animals by tourists (in addition to other problems) can result in mini population booms, causing the "extra" animals to stray from their approved reserve areas and into residential neighborhoods. There, having developed a taste for junk food, they can cause problems for the human inhabitants of Gibraltar. The result has been the capture and killing of unknown numbers of these free-living monkeys over the years by government intervention.

## The 2008 monkey killings

I first became involved in this issue in April 2008, when I had recently taken on

the role of UK Director at IPPL. Dr. Shirley McGreal received a tip-off when Gibraltar's (then) Environment Minister, Mr. Ernest Britto, had just confirmed in Parliament that a group of monkeys in the Catalan Bay area would be killed.

The organization contracted to "manage" the macaques at the time, the Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society (GONHS), was then run by Dr. John Cortes. When I spoke to Dr. Cortes, he said that GONHS action was "pending discussions with the Government" about the group of monkeys and that he could not confirm anything. I attempted to contact the Environment Minister but neither he nor anyone in his office would discuss the matter with me. However, when I phoned the Department for the Environment, I was informed that a license to cull the group had been issued. In what felt like a race against time, we set up an online petition against the proposed cull and hastily issued a press release.

Within days, the story had been covered by the majority of national newspapers in the UK. It quickly gathered momentum, with radio stations in Spain and the Netherlands reporting the proposed cull and IPPL's vociferous opposition. I accepted an invitation

from the Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (GBC) to take part in a live, televised debate on the issue. I was keen to cite all of the points previously made by numerous experts—including those at GONHS—on how human actions were responsible for the "nuisance" behavior of the monkeys, and how humane measures could be taken to address this.

## Finding allies

My ally on the "against" side of the panel during the GBC debate was the Hon. Fabian Picardo, who was then the Opposition Environment Minister for the GSLP, and a barrister for Hassans law firm. I met with Mr. Picardo beforehand to discuss his views on the macaques, and we were firmly in agreement that culling was not the solution to the problems that the human residents were experiencing. The participants on the apparent "for" side of the panel were Mr. Britto and Dr. Cortes. During the debate itself, Mr. Britto continued to defend his decision as a "last resort." Mr. Picardo and I argued that humane measures that could have been tried had yet to be taken, belying the "last resort" claim, while also vehemently opposing culling in principle. In the meantime, it was clear that Dr. Cortes was treading a diplomatic tightrope, speaking about how human behavior ultimately caused the problems while feeling unable to directly criticize the government and its culling policy.

That particular planned cull *did* appear to be halted by the international press interest that IPPL had harnessed; however, there were no changes to government policy. Indeed, around half of the same group of monkeys *were* killed quietly seven months later. IPPL was informed after the event (by a source close to government), at which point we again went to the press.

Over the following years, Dr. Cortes and I were regularly in contact about the macaques. IPPL, along with the Born Free Foundation in the UK and Stichting AAP in the Netherlands, made a number of offers to help the government, which Dr. Cortes tried to advance, ultimately to no avail. He did confirm that, following the furor in 2008, some changes were made, including securing rubbish bins in key areas, providing a second official feeding of healthy fruits and vegetables in the afternoon, and adding a pilot site where the feeding area was enlarged (we



Photo © Jason Cruz



had suggested this to ensure that subordinate monkeys could access the food more easily). Dr. Cortes informed me that, once the change was made, the group on which it was tested *did* stop wandering off into the town in search of more food.

### Very welcome news

In December 2011, a GBC journalist contacted me to let me know that the GLSP had been elected and that the new Chief Minister was none other than the Hon. Fabian Picardo, who so eloquently championed Gibraltar's macaques with me during our GBC debate—extremely promising news for the future of the monkeys. In March 2012, IPPL and the Born Free Foundation received letters from the new Environment Minister—none other than Dr. John Cortes—expressing his willingness to work with us to improve the situation for Gibraltar's monkeys. Having continually faced resistance from the government on proposed improvements for the Barbary macaques, Dr. Cortes had decided that the only way to effect change was to resign from GONHS and run for office himself.

In April 2012, I was delighted to meet with the new Environment Minister and his colleagues, Albert Bruzon, the Head of the Department for the Environment, and Liesl Torres, Senior Environment Officer at Gibraltar House in London, to discuss how IPPL could assist the new government. Dr. Cortes stated unequivocally in person that it is now official policy: “no culling.” A management plan previously drafted by GONHS—but not put into effect by the previous government—has now been revived. Dr. Cortes is inviting experts, including Agustin Fuentes (a Professor of Anthropology at Notre Dame University who had previously studied Gibraltar's Barbary macaques) and representatives from IPPL and Born Free to offer their input.

Dr. Cortes is keen to effect change as quickly as is practical, and he carries with him the momentum of a brand-new government. There have been a number of “false dawns” for Gibraltar's monkeys in the past. However, with a staunchly anti-culling Chief Minister at the helm, and a committed conservationist like Dr. Cortes on board, it looks like the famous “rock apes” will finally be treated with the understanding and respect that they deserve.



Photo © Jason Cruz

Above, IPPL Co-chair Helen Thirlway (*left*) meets with new Gibraltar Environment Minister Dr. Cortes to find humane ways of managing the Rock's famous monkeys.

## Monkey Management

Gibraltar's Barbary Macaque Management Plan is still in development, but some of the potential measures that have been discussed include:

- Humane population control through the use of contraceptive measures.
- Improved and enlarged government-run feeding sites (which offer nutritious, natural foods), including covered areas for shade, custom-built ponds, and running water.
- Official wardens on the Upper Rock reserve to provide educational information about the monkeys and to ensure that the ban on monkey-feeding by tourists is upheld.
- Interpretation facilities with information about the macaques' behavior and ecology as well as clear guidelines on how to behave around them to avoid potentially aggressive interactions.
- Humane measures to discourage the monkeys from straying into residential areas.
- Educational leaflets for residents explaining macaque behavior and outlining the humane options for deterring monkeys from private property.
- Educational leaflets for tourists explaining macaque behavior and why it is important to respect the feeding ban.
- An educational book about Gibraltar's Barbary macaques aimed at the general public (both residents and visiting tourists).



## IPPL'S 12TH BIENNIAL MEETING: *Your Passport to Primate Protection!*



*IPPL's twelfth biennial meeting sounded like we went on a round-the-world cruise without leaving the sanctuary.*

*We heard from one Israeli doing wildlife law enforcement in Cameroon and another doing community outreach in Peru. We heard from one Dutchman who was working at a sanctuary in Malawi, and another who was fighting government corruption in Thailand. We heard from a Frenchman saving chimps in the Democratic Republic of Congo and from a British couple saving monkeys in Kenya. We heard the voices of a Nigerian sanctuary manager and Bangladeshi wildlife photographer describe the beautiful primates of their respective home countries.*

*And those were just the people giving presentations. IPPL volunteers and supporters—from Tokyo to New York, from Montana to Florida—joined our guest speakers to discuss, share, learn, and brainstorm about the world's primates and their future on this planet.*

### Edwin Wiek and Jansaeng (“Noi”) Sangnanork: Thailand

It was a dramatic story.

Edwin Wiek, founder of the Wildlife Friends Foundation of Thailand (WFFT), and his wife Jansaeng (“Noi”) Sangnanork had been the target of a shocking government raid at their wildlife sanctuary in Thailand this past February. Edwin delivered the keynote speech at IPPL's biennial meeting to a very attentive audience.

#### Before the raid

At the beginning of 2012, WFFT was caring for 450 animals (70 percent of them primates) at their rescue center. Edwin, Noi, and their team are accustomed to going the extra mile for the animals in their care. Sample problem: their rescued tiger was not able to walk. Solution: get a hospital to give Meow an MRI (after hours), persuade some vets to do surgery to treat the cat's spinal stenosis, and then give him hydrotherapy so he can learn to walk again.

Not only that, WFFT even treats wild monkeys. Edwin shared some astonishing footage of one macaque who had been hit by a barbed fishing arrow, whose tip was deeply embedded in the animal's skull but whose shaft remained protruding from the bridge of his nose. It took four days to capture the monkey (who had perhaps learned something about the dangers of letting humans get too close), but, 10 days after surgery to remove



the arrow, the animal was freed to re-join his troop.

There are many problems faced by primates in Thailand. Although Thais do not eat monkeys, the foreign tourists do, and Thais readily sell bushmeat abroad. When monkeys are killed, it is easy to claim the justification that the animals were being “pests.” And although gibbons are protected by Thai law, many police officers are corrupt and allow them to be used as photo props. Edwin is known (and has been jailed multiple times) for speaking out on behalf of abused primates and other wildlife.

#### Elephant slaughter

On New Year's Eve, five elephants were killed a mere 40 kilometers (24 miles) from WFFT's sanctuary. With this massacre practically on his doorstep, Edwin published an article complaining about the poaching of baby elephants from the wild. They are worth up to \$40,000 apiece to people who run tourist camps, and as many as five protective adults may be killed for each infant removed. Many people think a baby was taken during the New Year's Eve slaughter.

Several confused stories circulated in the press in the wake of Edwin's public accusations, but at least one official must have been seriously embarrassed by the incident—because 10 days later the government came after him.



## OUR PRIMATE HEROES...

IPPL founder and executive director Shirley McGreal presented Jansaeng (“Noi”) Sangnanork and her husband Edwin Wiek with awards for their “compassion for wildlife,” in appreciation of their consistent stands against animal cruelty in Thailand and beyond. Their work at WFFT remains a model of caring and effectiveness, benefitting directly the hundreds of animals they have rescued. They are an inspirational example of courage and dedication to wildlife lovers everywhere.

Shirley also presented an award in absentia to IPPL’s long-time Overseas Representative Lynette Shanley, in gratitude for her service on behalf of primates in Australia. Lynette has served as a respected member of several government committees dealing with wildlife issues, and she has also carried out investigations herself of the problems with animal experimentation and the evils of sub-standard zoos. For years she headed the group Primates for Primates. Her commitment to the well-being of our ape and monkey cousins, no matter where in the world they are, has always been foremost.



### Government thugs

On February 13, officials from the Department of National Parks (DNP) showed up at WFFT and claimed that 15 young elephants were being held illegally at the sanctuary. Then, after failing to find any illegal elephants there, they demanded paperwork on all 450 resident animals within two-and-a-half hours. When that monumental task was not completed in the allotted time, they arrested Noi and forced her to spend the night in jail. Noi courageously refused to be deterred by this abuse of power and returned to work the next day.

Again and again for eight days they returned: as many as 100 government thugs and their cronies (some of them local drug addicts and others of questionable character hired from the village for the day, as Edwin learned later); some were armed, and some wore balaclavas to conceal their identities. They removed a total of 103 animals, including 33 gibbons and 47 monkeys. The seizures were remarkably incompetent, as was documented by nearly 17 hours of video footage showing darted animals dropping from trees and falling into water or being brutally restrained with bloodied noses. According to Edwin, the animals were removed to four government holding facilities (“in horrible conditions,” he said), where he and his staff could not access them. Although three civet cats were returned to WFFT, all the other animals that survived the raid are still being held: some gibbons are already known to have died as a result of the DNP’s gross mismanagement.

IPPL Founder Shirley McGreal (left) presents Jansaeng (“Noi”) Sangnanork with an award in recognition of her “compassion for wildlife.”



### Fighting back

At the time of Edwin’s presentation, he was able to deliver the good news that the court in Petchaburi had accepted WFFT’s criminal complaint, which was filed against the Director General and 17 staff of the DNP

for raiding the rescue center. The officials are being charged with (among other misdeeds) harassment, trespassing, slander, and armed robbery. A court date has been set for June 18. Edwin, Noi, and their staff remain hopeful that their traumatized animals will eventually be returned.



## Keri Cairns: Cambodia

Consultant Keri Cairns, an Irish zoologist (now living in England) with 14 years of primate experience, undertook another mission for IPPL earlier this year. IPPL has long been concerned about the massive (and likely poorly-regulated) trade in monkeys out of Cambodia to “breeding facilities” in China and labs in the West. In late 2011, IPPL had received a tip-off about monkeys being kept in dreadful conditions in a Cambodian monkey farm. Keri was sent to do some on-the-ground investigative photo-journalism.

### A deceptively familiar primate

Keri introduced to meeting attendees a primate whose characteristics sound oddly familiar. The species has a very broad geographic range. It is very adaptable to many different environments. It displays variety in its material culture, using tools in different ways in different regions—it has even been observed teaching its young how to floss.

Are they humans? No, they are crab-eating macaques (also known as long-tailed macaques), the third most widely distributed primate on earth, after humans and rhesus macaques. Crab-eating macaques have been the target of a massive amount of trade from their native home in Southeast Asia.

### Still largely unknown

Yet, their natural history remains poorly known; less than one percent of all scientific papers about these macaques describe their

ecology or conservation (compared to 84 percent detailing their use in biomedical research). There are no longitudinal studies of these animals in the wild, covering multiple generations in the same location. And because they do well in edge environments (like the borders of forests) they find themselves in competition with humans for similar resources. They get a bad rap as result, often being referred to as “weed” species, “camp followers,” and “pests.”

### The millionth monkey

However, they remain very popular among scientists. In the early 1970s, the rhesus macaque was the favored primate for biomedical research. But when India and later Bangladesh banned their export (in 1978 and 1979, respectively, as a result of protests spearheaded by IPPL), rhesus monkeys started to be replaced by crab-eating monkeys in U.S. and European labs.

According to data from the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (the primary treaty regulating legal cross-border exchanges of endangered plants and animals, which went into effect in 1975), 44 percent of legally-traded macaques have ended up imported into the U.S. **And in 2009, the millionth crab-eating macaque monkey on the global market was traded.** These are just the legally traded monkeys; there is evidence to suggest that CITES permits are reused several times.

Many fear that, without strong measures

to protect these animals, a once “common” monkey could be driven to extinction.

### A monkey farm in Cambodia

Camera in hand, Keri set out to investigate a Korean-owned monkey farm in Cambodia, about which IPPL had received a tip-off from an undercover source. He found a one-square-kilometer (nearly half a square mile) facility with high walls and a police guard. Informants told him of monkeys being taken out at midnight in converted trucks as part of an armed convoy every two or three months. He was also told he'd be shot if he tried to take a photo over the top of the walls. He also investigated another monkey farm known as the Angkor Primate Centre. A similar air of secrecy and tight security surrounds that facility, including guards dressed in Cambodian military fatigues and high walls topped with barbed wire.

In Cambodia a wild-caught monkey can be bought for between US\$20 to US\$100 depending on the animal's condition and age. A captive bred monkey can be sold for US\$1,000 to US\$1,500. They are viewed as a commodity. Many of these farms are suspected of acting as monkey-laundering operations, relabeling “wild-caught” monkeys as “captive-bred” on export documents, so they can be exported legally. Many of these facilities are reputedly very poorly run operations, where the animals get to sample the misery they will encounter later at their eventual destinations.



*Left and center, two of the photos taken by IPPL's undercover source inside a miserable Cambodian “monkey farm.” Right, what Keri saw: a Cambodian primate facility that looked like a prison compound with guard towers and razor wire.*





## Safari Worlds

In Southeast Asia, this cavalier attitude toward monkeys also extends to the great apes. Keri spent some time at two unpleasant “entertainment” venues. Safari World, Koh Kong, is located in the south-western corner of Cambodia beside the border with Thailand. It is part of the Koh Kong international resort and casino owned by Ly Yong Phat, a Cambodian tycoon, who is now a senator and advisor to the prime minister of Cambodia. It is a zoo, but its main attraction is its animal shows. Still, when Keri was there, only about 50 people showed up to an arena that could have held 10 times that number.

The orangutan show was a grim mélange of costumed apes made to perform cheesy slapstick routines: Superman flying in on a zip-line trailing a Safari World banner, dancers “shaking their booties” to hip-hop music, and boxers pretending to knock each other out to a “boing-boing” soundtrack. Keri witnessed a great deal of hair-pulling

to get the youngsters to perform, and once a trainer actually slapped one of the animals full across the face.

Strangely, a virtually identical show takes place at Safari World, Bangkok. These shows had been banned in 2004, and the investigation resulted in 48 orangutans being repatriated to a rescue center in Indonesia, in 2006. Sadly, the shows have resumed, and Keri was able to attend one of them, a reluctant witness to more ape degradation.

Although these Safari Worlds are supposedly not related, there is strong evidence of orangutans being smuggled from Thailand to Koh Kong: there are just too many coincidences of identical numbers of baby apes disappearing in one location only to reappear in another.

As IPPL continues to investigate this trade, we can expect to learn more about the shady business of the illegal ape trade. Keri’s eyewitness accounts gave an insight into this depressing world.





# IPPL'S 12TH BIENNIAL MEETING: *Your Passport to Primate Protection!*

## Ofir Drori: Cameroon

Although Israeli by birth, Ofir Drori was born to have a connection with Africa. In his recently-released autobiography, *The Last Great Ape: A Journey Through Africa and a Fight for the Heart of the Continent*, he points out that he was named after “an ancient and unknown African land mentioned in the bible. *Hiram's fleet brought gold from Ophir.*”

When he was 18 years old, Ofir was wandering through Kenya when he lost his way and was rescued by a kindly Maasai village. The experience determined a new path for him: instead of going off to college to study biology or physics after his required military service, he would return to Africa and spend years criss-crossing the continent as an adventurer, later turning activist/humanitarian and photo-journalist.

### Shocking discoveries in Cameroon

In 2002 he eventually found himself in Cameroon, where he thought he'd take “a rest” and write an “easy” article about the looming threat of ape extinction. What he found stunned him: a huge trade in ape heads and other body parts and smoked bushmeat by the barrelful. And this trafficking was being carried out not by poor villagers doing a bit of illicit hunting, but by wildlife ministry officials and dealers connected to the rich and powerful. He also found out that Cameroonian wildlife law mandated “up to three years in prison” for wildlife trafficking. Total prosecutions in Cameroon at that time: zero.

Ofir saw this as a failure on the part both of the government and conservation

NGOs working in the country. No one wanted to recognize the primary problem: corruption. Corruption is seemingly endemic in the governments of some countries, but the Cameroonian NGOs either refused to recognize it (“it's not our business—we do workshops and seminars, not law enforcement”) or they were corrupt themselves, says Ofir, spending their money on really nice offices (“like castles”) and expensive vehicles.

### A successful bluff

So Ofir took matters into his own hands and traveled to a small town outside the capital. Within five minutes he was told that he could buy either a live baby chimp or a gorilla. The baby gorilla, as it turned out, was dead already, but the poacher and his companion tried to sell him the one-and-a-half year old chimp for \$165.

Ofir bluffed. Seeing that the two men were unimpressed with his book of Cameroonian law, he pretended to call the headquarters of an NGO—a “new generation of NGO”—that took wildlife trafficking seriously and fought against bribery. Ofir told them that a car was already on the way to arrest them. Nervously, they offered to cooperate with Ofir in exchange for becoming illegal trade informants. And they threw in the sickly little chimpanzee for free. Ofir named the little ape “Future.” Looking into the chimp's eyes he must have seen a new future for himself, as well.

From that moment, Ofir began to create his own “new generation of NGO,” which he named LAGA (The Last Great Ape Organization). Within seven months, he had achieved the first wildlife prosecution in that region of Africa, with the arrest of an ape trafficker. He also made sure that Future had a home with other chimp orphans at the Sanaga Yong sanctuary.

### Active wildlife law enforcement

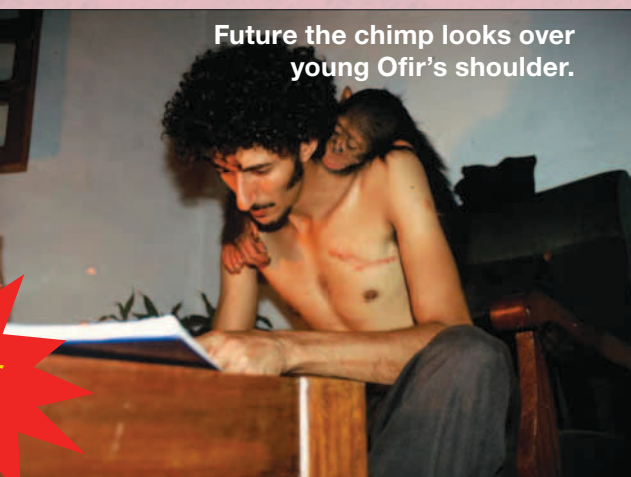
After LAGA's undercover Investigations Unit carefully gathers evidence, a team of activist operatives takes wildlife officials directly into the field. (“We don't tell them in advance where we're going, or there's a good chance one of them would sabotage the operation,” says Ofir.) LAGA is then on hand for official arrests and confiscations of contraband. LAGA's Legal Unit tracks the cases through the courts, and the Media Unit is tasked with creating a deterrent environment for would-be traffickers by publicizing these activities every single day.

The corruption hasn't disappeared, however. According to Ofir's calculations, 85 percent of his field operations and 80 percent of his court cases involve corruption. But that hasn't stopped him. Total number of wildlife traffickers behind bars in Cameroon, thanks to LAGA: over 450.

Ofir's brave and unique vision made him one of the most popular speakers of the conference. Someone asked whether his group ever gets death threats. “Oh, yeah. We get them all the time,” he said. “If we don't, we're not doing our job.”



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Future the chimp looks over young Ofir's shoulder.



## Jasper Iepema: Malawi

Jasper Iepema is the animal care manager at a sanctuary that may be new to *IPPL News* readers. The Lilongwe Wildlife Centre in Malawi cares for 185 animals of all sorts (a 50 percent increase over last year), primarily vervet monkeys and yellow baboons. Jasper had previously worked for six years as the head of the primate department at the Stichting AAP sanctuary in his native Holland, following on his experience doing behavioral research and writing the welfare policy of the Amsterdam Zoo.

Jasper told how the impetus for the Lilongwe Wildlife Centre began in 2005, when a small group of expatriate businesspeople decided to do something about the wildlife being sold illegally as pets. The national authorities did not seem interested in addressing this matter, so four-and-a-half years ago the facility came into being. Sustainable business practices are the name of the game here, and they try to cover all operating costs from gate fees and a volunteer program. But sponsorships and grants are needed, too, and this is the first year the Centre has approached IPPL for support.

### Primate releases

The Centre is fortunate to have plenty of space: 110 hectares (275 acres), part of which has been set aside as a nature reserve. The primates are cared for in large, naturalistic enclosures, and newcomers are paired with foster mothers of the same species as often as possible. One champion mum, a baboon named Ida, actually accepted three foster babies last year.

The next step is to try to release some baboons and vervets back into the wild, and a plan to release one group per year was initiated in 2011. (The bushbabies have already been released, so there are none at the Centre now.)

A troop of about 30 yellow baboons is currently being evaluated for group cohesion, and whether they are adapting to a wild diet, by a Cameroonian wildlife biologist. The animals are in a pre-release enclosure at the Centre but screened from view of the public and even from the caregivers, who supply some provisions by

**Jasper Iepema (middle) trains volunteers and caregivers at the Lilongwe Wildlife Centre in wildlife taxonomy.**



lobbing food over a high, opaque wall of reeds so that the fruit seems to be “falling from the sky” (and not associated with humans). If all goes well, the baboons will be set free by the end of the year. They will be tracked by radio collars for about nine months and returned to the Centre if they are not thriving in their new home.

### People benefit, too

The consequences of high (human) population growth in a small country are that natural resources are put under great pressure, so the Centre is trying to improve the local people’s relationship with their environment in several ways. These include promoting sensitivity toward wildlife by introducing schoolchildren to the rescued animals at the Centre (12,000 youngsters visit annually) and by providing educational modules to local schools, with units on littering and the importance of clean water. The Centre also does outreach to 12 communities on sustainable environmental practices, including the

transformation of wastepaper into fire briquettes (which can reduce the need for firewood), tree planting (at schools, along riverbanks, and in prisons), and the establishment of eco-friendly businesses (like a project by women to make the popular “malambe juice” out of the fruit of the baobab tree). The adult literacy project is also doing well; recently, at the end of its second year, 65 percent of the students passed their basic exams.

Jasper has already noticed a shift in the attitudes of the authorities. A year ago, not long after he took on his managerial role, he was being asked for bribes in exchange for cooperation. Compare that with a month ago, when eight policemen proudly showed up at the Centre escorting the single vervet monkey whom they had confiscated after arresting the animal’s seller at the market. They wanted to see what would become of the monkey, so Jasper obligingly took them on a tour of the quarantine area and facilities. It was a sign of better times ahead for Malawi’s wildlife.



## Andrea Donaldson and Keith Thompson: Kenya



Andrea closely supervises Baby Betsy's contact with a wild colobus monkey troop.



IPPL has helped support The Colobus Trust almost from the time of its founding in 1997. Since that date, the main site for the Trust has moved, so that it now is housed in a building only one block away from Kenya's lovely Diani Beach, 30 kilometers (18 miles) south of Mombasa. The area is a combination of biodiversity hotspot (the "coral rag" forest grows on a unique kind of soil based on fossil coral) and tourist destination, with villas and increasing development along the Diani Highway.

### Multiple hazards for monkeys

The Colobus Trust was represented by Andrea Donaldson, the Conservation Manager, and Keith Thompson, the General Manager. Keith explained that, while the main office has moved, the primary task of the trust has remained the same: to reduce the numbers of primates killed along a deadly 10 kilometer (six mile) stretch of the highway that runs through the forest parallel to the beach. The solution has been

to build and maintain aerial "colo-bridges" that enable the beautiful black-and-white Angolan colobus monkeys to cross the road in safety. These bridges have been a great success (other primates—like vervets, Sykes's monkeys, and bush babies—use them, too), but they require a lot of upkeep in the humid salt air, and they need re-tensioning on a regular basis.

Uninsulated power lines are also a hazard to the local monkeys. The Trust trims trees back five meters (16 feet) away from hazardous lines and assists the local power company in insulating problematic wires. The Trust also conducts weekly anti-poaching patrols; by now, they have amassed tens of thousands of illegal snares that were set to catch bush pigs and small antelopes but that often snag primates, as well.

One of their largest tasks remains educating the public. Monkeys are sometimes viewed as "pests" that damage grass roofs or steal food. The Trust tries to mediate human/monkey conflicts and encourage sustainable practices—like teaching tourists to avoid feeding the monkeys, urging developers not to clear-cut forest parcels where new houses are to be built, and educating local woodcarvers and tourists about using sustainable woods like neem and mango for crafts instead of tropical hardwoods.

Thanks to reaching out to a generation of schoolchildren, said Keith, "everybody knows who the Colobus Trust is. If anyone sees an injured primate, they call the Colobus Trust."

### Baby Betsy update!

Andrea brought a welcome update on Baby Betsy, an Angolan colobus infant who was abandoned by her troop in January 2011

when less than two weeks old. (See *IPPL News* articles in the May 2011 issue, page 9, and September 2011, page 18.) The Colobus Trust is not a sanctuary; injured animals are patched up and sent back to live in the wild, and there are no long-term residents, but Betsy is as close as they have come. After the Colobus Trust team rescued the baby monkey, Andrea and Keith broke all existing records for hand-rearing this sensitive species past infancy.

The diet of wild colobus monkeys includes leaves and unripe fruit that other animals can't digest. Their unique sacculated stomach allows them to thrive on this rough food, but discovering the best feeding regimen for Betsy's sensitive little gut required lots of experimentation. Straight goat milk, it turned out, was too strong, so it had to be diluted in water to 20 percent or less. Colobus monkeys can't absorb water with their food, so the liquid has to be given separately; when Betsy went through a "dehydration" crisis at 21 days, even though she was drinking regularly, it turned out that Hartmann's rehydration solution was the key to a dramatic recovery. Milk infused with tea turned out not to work (it made her throw up). But a small dose of fresh wild colobus feces diluted in milk—her weekly "poop shake"—was vital for colonizing her gut with essential bacteria.

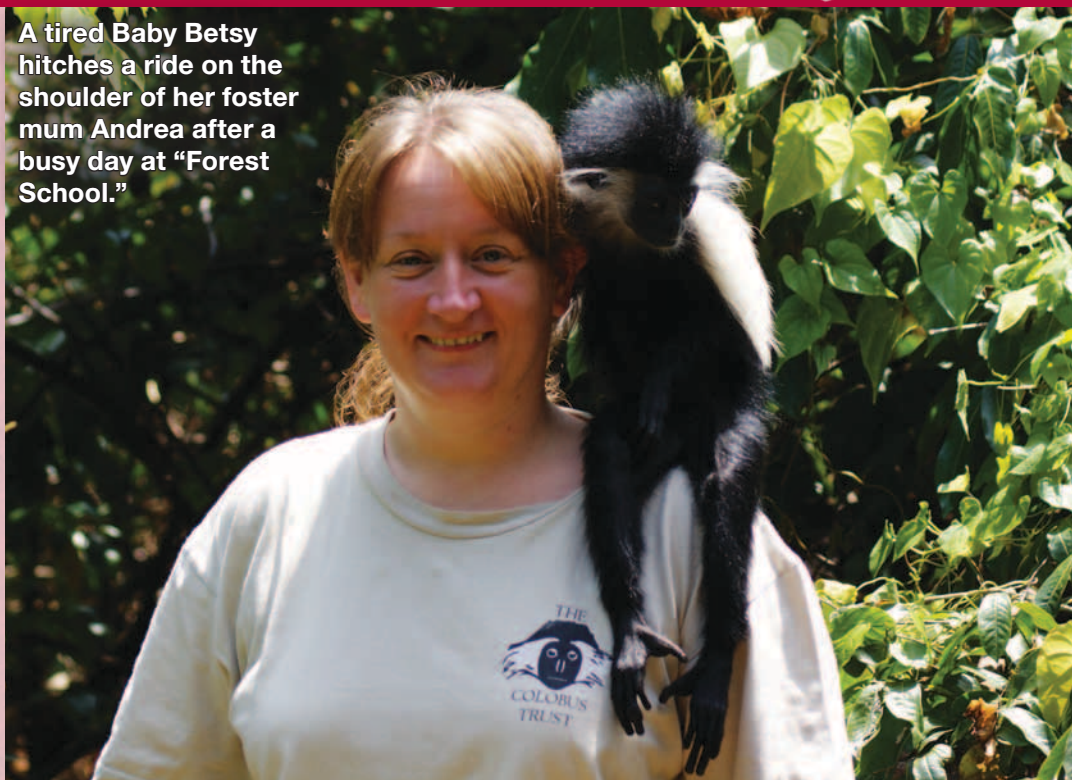
Personalized human care has been crucial, too. Andrea explained that colobus monkeys are prone to separation anxiety, and even adults get distraught if they are removed from their troop more than two or three days. This is one reason why the Trust likes to release their "monkey patients" as soon as possible. Betsy lived essentially strapped to Andrea for



months, with help from Keith, and this close bond enabled Betsy's surrogate parents to read subtle signs about the little monkey's delicate health. (A dedicated volunteer caregiver had to shadow Andrea and Betsy for two months to enable Andrea to come to the IPPL meeting!) At well over a year old, Betsy still comes home with Andrea and Keith every night.

Betsy is now a big girl who spends each day in "Forest School." Attempts at socialization with other rescued monkeys at the center didn't work out, so instead she is learning to climb, forage, and interact with other monkeys in the wild. Under close supervision by her caregivers, she is starting to get acquainted with the local alpha male Sykes's monkey and members of the nearby colobus troop. Betsy is usually appropriately cautious ("The rule seems to be, she can touch them, but they can't touch her!" said Andrea); however, a quick tug on her tail is generally enough to remind her to keep out of harm's way. And when it's all too much, Betsy still crawls inside Andrea's T-shirt for an afternoon nap.

**A tired Baby Betsy hitches a ride on the shoulder of her foster mum Andrea after a busy day at "Forest School."**



## Debra Durham: USA

Nearly twenty years ago, when she was a student, Debra Durham wrote IPPL founder Shirley McGreal a letter, saying how inspirational she was. And Shirley wrote back! Debra had just switched from a major in communications to anthropology, and this encouragement helped confirm Debra's determination to pursue her own unique path. She now blends classical ethology (the scientific study of animal behavior) with psychology. As she likes to say, "I help other people solve problems for animals."

Debra had studied primates under a variety of conditions, including an infant primate lab at a university, a zoo, and the leech-infested rainforests of southern Madagascar. She learned that one of the things she really wanted to do was to take what she'd learned about animals (mostly primates, but also creatures from elephants to elk) and apply that knowledge to help those in captive settings.

She brings an evolutionary/ecological view to the solutions she helps to devise. "Animal welfare outcomes should be meaningful and animal-based," she says. For example, the U.S. Animal Welfare Act was revised in the

mid-1980s to specify cage size minimums and similar "improved" standards for lab animal care. However, she and her colleagues recently reviewed the data and found that the rates of self-mutilation among primates in labs before and after the AWA amendment were about the same. For Debra, this means that there was no rock solid evidence of real improvement in the psychological well-being of lab primates, in spite of the change in rules. And the problems for the animals go far beyond mere boredom.

In fact, abnormal behavior is apparently the norm in primate research facilities, with formal reports showing that upwards of 90 percent of lab primates exhibit pathological behaviors ranging from hair-plucking to "whole-body stereotypies" (abnormal repetitive behaviors involving the entire body, like complex route-tracing). Debra feels that we are now ready to move beyond the old 1950s-era language of animal welfare and start incorporating psychological tools to evaluate and promote the mental health of captive primates—as individuals with unique needs and capabilities.







It was a new experience for Olatunji Olatundun: traveling to IPPL's conference was the first time this native Nigerian had ever visited the United States. But the Drill Ranch Project Manager (who, fortunately, invited everyone to call him Tunji) is not new to primate protection, since he has worked for the Pandrillus Foundation at their Afi Mountain field site for the past four years.

### Good news from the mountain

Tunji reported that Pandrillus is putting what they hope are the final touches to a plan to release 150 drill monkeys into the Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary. This forested area is adjacent to the Drill Ranch's field site (where groups of drills, living in enclosures, are prepared for reintroduction) and has been declared off-limits to logging and hunting. It is about four hours' drive from the Drill Ranch's urban facility in Calabar, which is used for quarantine and public education purposes. The Pandrillus Foundation is an umbrella organization

that oversees both sites as well as a sister sanctuary in Cameroon, the Limbe Wildlife Centre. Tunji and his team intend to carry out the release as scientifically as possible, using satellite telemetry collars, GPS units, and human trackers to monitor the animals as they adapt to life in the wild.

### It's always something

Drill monkeys have a very limited natural distribution, being native only to the forests of Cross River State in Nigeria, part of southwest Cameroon, and Bioko Island in Equatorial Guinea. They are magnificent animals, with adult males weighing up to 90 pounds: "Some say they look like lions," said Tunji.

Drills live in groups of 15 to 70 members, including a dominant male. As a result of his status in the troop, this male displays vivid hormonally-induced coloration: a scarlet lower lip, a flaming red groin area, and a blue-and-purple rump. The other males wait patiently to ascend the ranks, and the younger ones form rowdy side-groups of "area boys," said Tunji, a phrase used by the residents of his native Lagos to describe street hoodlums.

Pandrillus co-founder Liza Gadsby told attendees at IPPL's last biennial meeting in 2010 about forests being cut for illegal timber (as reported in the May 2010 issue of *IPPL News*, page 15), which leads to habitat fragmentation and the isolation of small groups of drills. Tunji reported that Liza's partner Peter Jenkins is now the chairman of the Cross River State Government's Task Force on Anti-Deforestation and has stepped up patrols to seize raw planks as they are floated downriver to market.

But yet another challenge has emerged. When political instability in the Ivory Coast started to drive up the price of cocoa a couple of years ago, Nigerians saw an economic opportunity. People started clearing trees for cocoa (and bananas, too), even within

forested "reserves." The West's appetite for these crops encouraged this latest assault on the drills' native habitat.

All this makes the mission of Pandrillus even tougher to fulfill. For the past 24 years, the goals of the organization have been to rescue and care for orphaned drills, curate breeding groups of these rare forest monkeys to reinforce wild populations, engage in conservation education, and cooperate with local communities as well as government officials to promote a change in the way Nigerians perceive their wildlife heritage. Tunji and his team have their work cut out for them.

### Hearts and minds

Changing hearts and minds is difficult, Tunji noted, partly because many Nigerians "are basically afraid of the wild environment," and partly because the weight of tradition has shaped how Nigerians view their country's wildlife. He mentioned that he still gets questions like "Why are you wasting money feeding all these animals?" A couple of months ago, Tunji said, he met with a group of young men at a local village, and he noticed how even members of the rising generation spoke about hunting bushmeat the same way their ancestors had. Instead of discussing Tunji's suggestion to just "leave wild populations alone," the young men insisted that "that's the way their fathers have been doing it, so that's the right way to do it."

One way to chip away at these old customs is the distribution of Green Grants, competitive cash awards given out annually by Pandrillus to communities in and near the Afi Mountain Sanctuary area. These grants fund eco-friendly development projects like tree-planting, sanitation measures, and scholarships. Even more popular among the locals are sustainable alternatives to bushmeat, like raising poultry, pigs, or fish. As a result, although some poaching still occurs, it is no longer as socially acceptable as it was when Drill Ranch was founded, said Tunji; the hunters are no longer proud of their activity. They do it secretly.



## Bob Ingersoll: USA

Bob Ingersoll, now the president of Mindy's Memory primate sanctuary in Newcastle, Oklahoma, admits that he used to be a "chimp snob." He had worked intensively with several apes who were part of the fad for sign language experiments in the 1970s.

But 16 years ago he was put in touch with Linda Barkley, a former pet monkey owner who came to recognize the terrible lives in store for most monkeys raised by humans. Linda, he was told, wanted to start a sanctuary in Oklahoma for macaque monkeys, in memory of a rhesus macaque named Mindy Sue. Mindy had been given to Linda in 1992 and died five years later, never having fully recovered from the life of abuse she had previously endured.

### Macaque mania!

Creating a macaque sanctuary was an ambitious undertaking. Macaques are the most commonly traded monkeys, and they are the primates most frequently used for experimentation, but there is little love for these brownish-gray workhorse monkeys once their lab careers have ended. They are also sometimes taken on as pets when young, only to be discarded at miserable roadside zoos once they grow up and become too aggressive and unmanageable.

But Bob has grown to love them all: rhesus macaques, pig-tailed macaques, Java macaques (also known as long-tailed or crab-eating macaques), bonnet macaques, Barbary macaques, and stump-tailed macaques. He has also gotten to know a few other monkey species at Mindy's Memory, including nimble patas monkeys and chatty vervets. That's in addition to a number of dogs and 15 pot-bellied pigs who were at risk of euthanasia after their former sanctuary residence in Florida could no longer keep them.

Mindy's Memory is now home to over 100 monkeys, but the need is even greater, and Bob knows what it's like to turn monkeys away. "We turn away monkeys weekly," he said.

### Bob turns "monkey psychologist"

There are many individual monkeys who stand out in Bob's



**Neeko, a former pet, was rehabilitated by Bob at Mindy's Memory monkey sanctuary.**

experience. Take Neeko, a pig-tailed macaque who was about eight years old when he was turned over to the sanctuary. A former pet, he had lived in an apartment without contact with others of his kind. His skin was in bad shape from chronic diaper rash, and "his gut was messed up from eight years of baby food," said Bob. Not only that, he was terrified of the other monkeys.

According to Bob, it's easier to integrate former lab monkeys than ex-pet monkeys, who (like Neeko) have often been raised in species isolation. "Pets," said Bob, "don't know what the hell they are." Bob is certain there must be tens of thousands of pet monkeys out there, living their sad, lonely, unnatural lives.

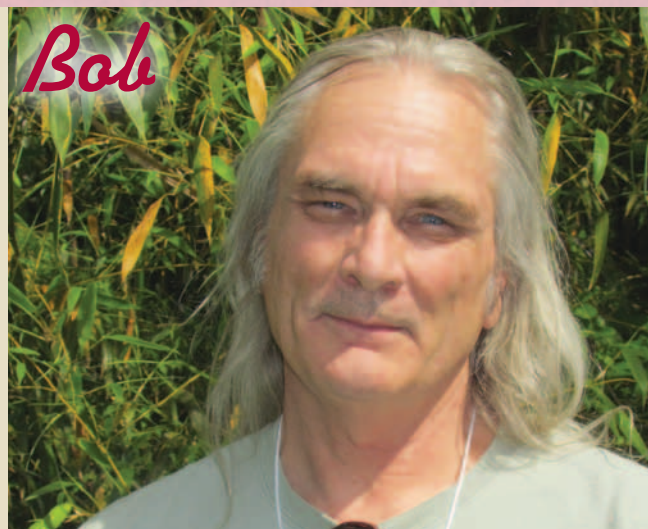
So Bob was obliged to be Neeko's "monkey psychologist." He would let Neeko groom him, and since Bob is "alpha male" to a lot of the sanctuary monkeys, Neeko's status gradually improved. It took two years, but Neeko was finally integrated with two females.

Said Bob, "We like to see monkeys being monkeys."

## Thank you, Bob!

A big thank-you to Bob for hosting a special screening, followed by a Q&A session, of the acclaimed documentary *Project Nim*. Bob plays a major role in this film, which tells the story of a chimp named Nim Chimpsky who was taught sign language. The movie shows that Bob was a dedicated advocate of Nim's in the years after the end of the experiment (see a review in the September 2011 issue of *IPPL News*, page 9).

Bob says that he is still "blown away" by the fact that the movie was made at all. Producer Simon Chinn and director James Marsh had recently finished *Man on Wire* (about the high-wire artist Philippe Petit) and were being pursued by all manner of high-powered Hollywood types with offers to do a picture with them. Instead, after Simon's wife Lara Chinn discovered Elizabeth Hess's book *Nim Chimpsky: The Chimp Who Would Be Human*, they chose to focus on the peculiar, yet tragic, life story of this one unique ape.





## Franck Chantereau: DRC

Franck has been passionate about apes ever since he was 12 years old in his native France. He still remembers how, when his family moved to Spain, he became upset at seeing baby chimpanzees dressed in human clothing and used for taking pictures with tourists on the beach.

### A chimp challenge in the DRC

After he and his wife Roxane moved to the country then known as Zaire in 1994, they saw baby chimps for sale on nearly every street. Chimps are mostly found in the north and east of the Democratic

Republic of Congo, but even though their home town of Lubumbashi (in the south) is not in chimp country, these apes would regularly arrive there via rail and plane. For years Franck documented about three infants coming through town per month; each one represented an estimated 10 protective adult chimpanzees who died, as well. This meant that, during the 1996 to 2006 period that Franck was recording these appearances, the trafficking in Lubumbashi alone represented 4,000 dead chimpanzees.

In 2006, things began to change with the first legal chimp confiscation in Lubumbashi, and the infant known as Jak was handed over to Franck and Roxane for their care. They soon established the J.A.C.K. chimp sanctuary (which stands for Jeunes Animaux Confisqués au Katanga/Young Animals Confiscated in Katanga and was named in Jak's honor), and they have since taken in 43 great apes seized by the authorities. Although there is still a lot of potential for illegal international ape trade in the DRC (which has borders with nine other countries), there are no longer any chimps being trafficked via Lubumbashi, thanks to the hard work of the J.A.C.K. sanctuary team.

### An Education Center for 180,000

The sanctuary occupies four hectares (10 acres) on the grounds of the old Lubumbashi zoo but operates completely independently. Located as it is in an urban area, J.A.C.K. is not only popular with children, but Congolese authorities also visit, including DRC President Joseph Kabila and his ministers.

Message boards in French and Swahili reach out to all kinds of audiences. The Education Center that they are in the process of building (thanks to a grant from IPPL, with the help of the Arcus Foundation) is already a hit. The Center includes a puppet theater and a series of huts with displays about the many threats to wild chimpanzees. The common denominator to all the challenges facing these great apes and their habitat? J.A.C.K. has included a mirror as part of one display to provide a clue. In 2011, 180,000 people visited the sanctuary.

Future projects for J.A.C.K. include making improvements to the Education Center complex, building a greenhouse to grow more veggies for the chimps, and constructing a camp for volunteers. As the chimps get older and stronger, J.A.C.K. is also looking ahead to a new place to keep them and has identified a 21 square kilometer (eight square mile) area called Kiziba Baluba. This was a former Belgian buffalo-hunting reserve and is now owned by the DRC's Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature (ICCN). J.A.C.K. is working on getting the appropriate permits to use the area but will keep the Lubumbashi facility for nursery care and public education.

The next big challenge? According to Franck, there are 21 official chimp sanctuaries in Africa. Only two of them have succeeded in actually returning chimps to the wild. In the end, that will be J.A.C.K.'s greatest challenge.





## Noga Shanee: Peru

In 2007, Noga Shanee thought that she and her husband Sam Shanee would stay just a few months in the foothills of the northeastern Peruvian Andes. They wanted to do a project involving yellow-tailed woolly monkeys, one of the top 25 most endangered primates. The terrain was mountainous and rough, the mud was incredible, and the local people were said to be “violent and hostile.”

It turned out that Noga and Sam were the first foreigners many of the local people had ever seen. Terrified mothers even thought that they were coming to steal children!

Noga and Sam had intended to do just a “short project,” but when they realized that “Nobody would be crazy enough to work here!” they decided to stay a bit longer. They set up a new non-profit, called Neotropical Primate Conservation (NPC), then returned to the field to establish a small (2,000 hectare/5,000 acre) reserve.

### A “short project,” long-term results

Now NPC works on the creation and maintenance of a network of eight wildlife reserves run by local organizations (totaling nearly 80,000 hectares) and helps with five more state- and privately-run reserves. They are volunteer-dependent and prefer to respond to requests from local people to set up these protected areas. Sam does the investigation of primate habitat distribution, ecology, and GPS mapping within the reserves, while Noga is in charge of the social outreach.

When possible, NPC also engages in capacity-building activities with promising government officials (though perhaps not with one particular woman who was in charge of confiscations—and who turned out to be terrified of all animals, even babies). NPC arranges field trips into the forest for government biologists (a novel experience for many of them) and helps provide wildlife authorities with guides for them to recognize illegal species. They also take an active part in most of the wildlife confiscations to make sure they are done correctly and that the animals are treated well.

Environmental education, for both children and adults, is a large part of NPC’s mission. “You used to see a pet monkey in every house,” Noga says, “but now they are rare, and only in the most remote villages.” NPC has created free conservation books for the schools and poster campaigns in response to popular requests; all were funded by IPPL. Other non-profits working in the area are often dismissive of the environmental commitment of the local people, but NPC has found a lot of strength there: “We discovered that the people didn’t even care about ‘economic alternatives,’” Noga said. “Even when it was hard to find markets for their seeds or handicrafts, they conserved the forest anyway.”

### People power in Peru

Noga wants to harness more of this people-power for future projects, like improving the rescue center situation: officially, there are five, but only one is any good, says Noga—and the well-managed Ikamaperu center (which IPPL helps fund) accepts only some species.

All the rescue centers are usually full. There especially needs to be a place for abused capuchin monkeys, says Noga. Unlike yellow-tailed woolly monkeys, who quickly die in captivity, capuchin monkeys are more resilient and can hang on for years in spite of being miserable—but the authorities have no good place to put confiscated animals. Noga is confident that the Peruvian people will pull through for their fellow primates again.





## Sirajul Hossain: Bangladesh

You can tell Sirajul Hossain is used to tracking wild animals. He's so quiet you often don't know he's in the same room with you. Even in conversation, he speaks gently, as if he doesn't want to disturb a single creature, human or non-human. He has surely developed these skills while making his way through the forests of his native Bangladesh, seeking rare hoolock gibbons and other amazing birds and beasts that are struggling to survive in an increasingly fragmented forest.

Sirajul has an electronics business but his passion is wildlife photography. He started out with an interest in astronomy, and in 1995 planned a trip with 20 of his closest friends to see the total solar eclipse visible from the Sundarbans mangrove forest that year. The excursion turned into a boat trip with 250 friends of friends on board, including a noted Bengali wildlife photographer. Sirajul soon learned that there is still lots to see right here on Planet Earth.

### Close to his subjects

Unlike many of even the most seasoned primate protection experts, Sirajul regularly gets close to apes in their native habitat. He seems to be especially fond of gibbons. As he reminded conference attendees, gibbons were the first primates who developed an erect body posture—not horizontal like monkeys and their kin. It's from our gibbon-like ancestors that we and all our large-bodied ape cousins inherited this distinctive body plan.

But other forest primates are fascinating, too: from the tailless, nocturnal Bengal slow loris to the orange-bellied capped langurs (the name "langur" means "tail" in Hindi, as these animals boast a tail longer even than their head and body together). The dark-furred Phayre's leaf monkeys look curiously at the photographer through white eye-patches that look like spectacles, and rhesus macaques, whom most people associate with research labs, go about their daily business in the mangrove swamps.

The local Hindu sects place a great deal of emphasis on nature, and in their interpretation of the natural world hoolock gibbons are

almost human. Sirajul feels that, in previous generations, these sentiments led to the peaceful coexistence of humans and animals in the forest, with people cultivating betel nuts, pineapples, and limes. However, with the increase in prosperity in the past 20 years, "the next generation is not interested in preserving the jungle," says Sirajul. "They just want the timber for big houses."

### Sirajul's jungle stories

Although he is a quiet man, once Sirajul starts to talk he has the most amazing stories—like the tale once told to him by a Tripura headman.

Once upon a time there was a prince who followed two girls into the forest. One girl insisted that she wanted a certain beautiful flower to put in her hair, the way the women

often do in that part of the world. This particular blossom, an orchid, grew high in the canopy, so the prince climbed the tree to fetch it. He threw the flower down to the girl and asked her to wait until he reached the ground before putting it in her hair. But the girl, enchanted by the beauty of the orchid, forgot the prince's request—and when she placed the flower in her hair, the prince turned into a hoolock gibbon and remained forever in the treetops.

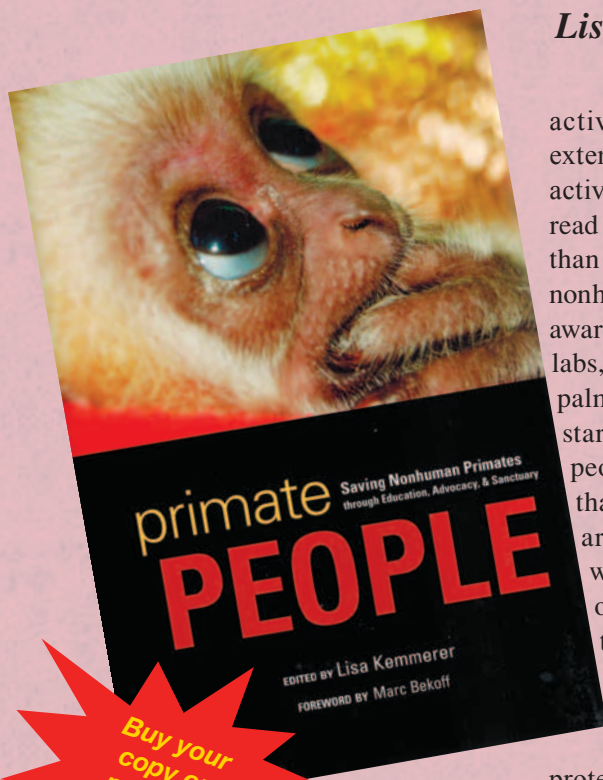
Then there's the story about a Muslim lady, a second wife who was abandoned in the jungle with her two children and who became the tiger goddess Bonbibi. She is venerated by Hindus and Muslims alike, particularly in the Sundarbans mangrove forest that is home to the big cats, some of which are man eaters. But that's for another time.





## IPPL Meeting is Inspiration for Primate Book

*Lisa Kemmerer, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religions,  
Montana State University Billings*



At IPPL's 2008 meeting I was mesmerized by fuzzy, diminutive, hooting gibbons. I was also captivated by a battery of presenters—fresh from the front lines of primate activism—who described trafficking in bushmeat, research on primates, and trade in “exotic pets.” I listened to people who see, first hand, what is happening to nonhuman primates in U.S. laboratories, in the disappearing forests of Peru, and on oil palm plantations in Indonesia. Their voices—their knowledge—inspired me to create a book: *Primate People*.

IPPL is an international hub for primate

activism—a hub that generously shares extensive expertise and limited funds with activists around the world. Those of us who read IPPL's magazine probably know more than most people about extensive threats to nonhuman primates. When citizens become aware of what happens inside animal research labs, when we witness the suffering that oil palm plantations cause, when we see—from start to finish—the life of an “exotic pet,” people are more likely to avoid behaviors that support such selfish cruelty, and they are more likely to support legislation that will block such shameful mistreatment of animals. Consequently, it is up to us to help inform others of the desperate needs of primates in Uganda, Peru, and Charles River Laboratories—and to let others know what we can do to help protect them.

*Primate People* is an anthology designed to educate readers and bring much-needed support to primate advocacy. Twenty contributors depict the personalities and antics of capuchins and lorises, gibbons and chimpanzees, baboons and macaques. The words of people like baboon sanctuary founder Rita Miljo, undercover primate lab investigator Matt Rossell, and IPPL's own Shirley McGreal bring primates to life as individuals. Their stories remind us that the lives of nonhumans are not merely important in the light of some abstract interest in biodiversity, but are deserving of

respect in their own right.

Nonhuman primates are increasingly crowded out of diminishing forests, hunted for food and medicines, captured for the lucrative pet industry, and either kidnapped or bred for science. As a result, every primate species on the planet—except *Homo sapiens*—is either endangered or threatened. If we are to meet their needs as individuals, and save them from extinction, we must inform others of what we as IPPL supporters already know about primates around the world. It is my hope—and I believe it is the hope of every contributor to this book—that *Primate People* will stir hearts to action on behalf of these vulnerable individuals, lest their lively voices and nimble limbs disappear along with the earth's remaining wilderness.

Lisa with her canine companion Mango.



### Spread the Word!

Because of the extraordinary work of those featured in *Primate People*, I am confident that at least some readers will be moved to support primate rescue, sanctuary, and advocacy. Perhaps they will also change a few behaviors on behalf of primates—maybe even change careers. If this is to happen, I need your help to put this book into their hands. Please let others know about this new anthology. Offer a comment about *Primate People* on Amazon, Goodreads, Facebook, and other networking sites. Keep a copy on your desk at work to spark meaningful conversations, and please share your copy with others.



## **IPPL Monitors U.S. 2011 Primate Imports**

*Shirley McGreal, IPPL Founder and Executive Director*

Every year IPPL obtains a spreadsheet from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that provides details of all primate shipments imported to the U.S. during the previous year. In 2011, 18,078 primates were imported from around the world, in contrast to 21,315 in 2010. Most of the decrease was due to Shin Nippon Biomedical Laboratories (SNBL), which imported only 565 monkeys in 2011, in contrast to 2,727 in 2010.

In addition, not one chimpanzee was imported. The only imported apes were four endangered hoolock gibbons imported from Rangoon (Yangon) Zoo in Burma (Myanmar) by the Gibbon Conservation Center in California. All four were classified as wild-caught by the USFWS.

### **Decrease may not be “real”**

However, this reduction in primate imports does not necessarily indicate a reduced global demand for monkeys, since many U.S. companies are now operating facilities abroad and conducting their experiments there. The reasons are obvious. In China, for example, there is a vast pool of cheap labor, and there is no active movement to protect primates. Legislation is weak, and there is no national inspectorate equivalent even to the underfunded U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. There is a great deal of secrecy around the Chinese monkey breeding facilities, and obtaining information is difficult.

Getting information can be challenging in the U.S., as well. Some problems with the USFWS spreadsheet are that it does not report how many primates were dead on arrival, where the imported animals went, or how they were used. IPPL has submitted Freedom of Information Act requests to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding the number of monkeys imported and copies of the CDC inspectors' reports, which would

show mortality figures and the condition of the monkeys and the shipping crates, but the agency demands extortionate search and copying fees and then tends to give out documents with most of the information blacked out. A similar request to Customs to see how their totals match USFWS's was met with a flat refusal and with an insulting demand that I prove that I have legal ties to the importers!

### **The Chinese puzzle**

Of the 18,078 imported primates, 89 percent were crab-eating macaques. (Only eight percent of the imports were rhesus macaques. The other imported primates—including pig-tailed macaques, common marmosets, green monkeys, squirrel monkeys, and small

numbers of several less-well-known species—accounted for less than 3 percent of the total.) In 2011, 11,238 crab-eating macaques came from China, although China has no wild crab-eating macaques. China reportedly vacuums up crab-eating macaques from its neighbor countries, including Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos.

A somewhat different situation exists on Mauritius, another significant source country for non-native crab-eating macaques. There, the monkeys are an introduced species. They descend from monkeys originally brought over as pets. They lived peacefully prior to the advent of large jet planes, as Mauritius is a remote island off the coast of East Africa. The monkeys are resented as crop and nest raiders. This has created an opening for Western entrepreneurs to make money off of them, now that the island has become more accessible. Persistent efforts by overseas organizations to get the trade closed have not been successful.

Another part of the Chinese puzzle is that, of the 12,574 monkeys exported from China, all but 68 of them were described as captive-bred. In fact, the USFWS spreadsheet shows that only 312 of all primates imported to the U.S. were wild-caught, that 3,743 were born in captivity at the F1 level (as in, they were born to wild-caught mothers), and that 14,023 were captive-bred.

This runs contrary to information provided to IPPL by concerned inhabitants of supplier nations. One Chinese farm that did not exist two years ago is now trafficking captive-born monkeys, yet it is suspected that most of the monkeys originate from the forests of Cambodia. Unfortunately, there is no reliable way to tell the difference between wild-caught and captive-born monkeys. IPPL has requested the U.S. authorities to investigate whether wild-caught monkeys are entering the country on fraudulent captive-born documents, but no action has been taken in recent years that we know of.



**A crab-eating macaque—the monkey most commonly imported into the United States—with her infant, living in the wild in Cambodia.**



## Species and Numbers

Crab-eating macaque (*Macaca fascicularis*): 16,119  
 Rhesus macaque (*Macaca mulatta*): 1,516  
 Pigtailed macaque (*Macaca nemestrina*): 142  
 Green monkey (*Chlorocebus sabaeus*): 115  
 Common marmoset (*Callithrix jacchus*): 78  
 Squirrel monkey (*Saimiri sciureus*): 50  
 Saki monkey (*Chiropotes chiropotes*): 12  
 Black-tufted marmoset (*Callithrix penicillata*): 11

## Counties supplying over 100 primates to the U.S.

China: 12,574  
 Mauritius: 3,011  
 Vietnam: 960  
 Cambodia: 870  
 Indonesia: 242  
 Israel: 120

## Primary ports of entry

Los Angeles: 8,157  
 New York: 6,414  
 Chicago: 3,371

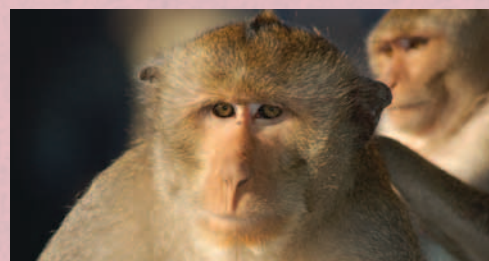
## U.S. companies importing more than 500 monkeys

Covance Research Products, Pennsylvania: 8,210  
 Charles River Laboratories BRF, Texas: 2,082  
 Charles River Laboratories Research Models and Services, Massachusetts: 1,815  
 Charles River Laboratories, RM Houston, Texas: 1,140  
 Worldwide Primates, Miami: 1,058  
 Primate Products, Miami: 800  
 Buckshire Corporation, Pennsylvania: 694  
 SNBL (Shin Nippon Biomedical Laboratories), Texas: 565  
 Harlan Laboratories, Indiana: 517



## Overseas animal dealers exporting more than 500 monkeys to the U.S.

Huazheng Laboratory Animal Breeding Center, China: 3,780  
 Guangzhou Blooming Spring Biological Technology Development: 2,900  
 Bioculture Mauritius, Mauritius: 2,141  
 Guangxi Wemei Bio-Tech, China: 1,680  
 Beijing Puliuyan Trading, China: 935  
 Yunnan Laboratory Primate, China: 720  
 Vanny Bio-Research (Cambodia) Corporation, Cambodia: 630  
 Hainan New Source Biotech, China: 600



## Urge the U.S. to Investigate Monkey Imports!

The United States is the single largest importer of monkeys from China and its neighboring countries. IPPL believes that it is essential that the U.S. investigate whether fraudulent claims of captive-born status are being made in connection with shipments of crab-eating macaques. Please send letters to:

*Ken Salazar*  
*Secretary of the Interior*  
*Department of the Interior*  
*1849 C St NW*  
*Washington, DC 20240*

*The Director*  
*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*  
*Office of Law Enforcement*  
*4401 N Fairfax Dr*  
*Arlington, VA 22203*  
 Phone: 703-358-1949  
 Fax: 703-358-2271



## The Global Macaque Trade: Problems and Solutions

IPPL's Biennial Meeting started off with a roundtable discussion that focused on the alarming global trade in crab-eating macaque monkeys. Ever since rhesus macaques were largely removed from international markets in the 1970s (thanks to export bans in India and Bangladesh that IPPL helped to bring about), the slack has been taken up by the trade in crab-eating macaques. Despite being fairly widespread (in Southeast Asia, Indonesia, and the Philippines) as well as adaptable, this species is now in danger of being driven to extinction, according to some macaque experts. Monkeys are being taken from the wild at what many fear is an unsustainable pace to satisfy the demands of biomedical research labs.

### SOME VOICES FROM THE FORUM...

#### **Problem I: Crab-eating macaques are rapidly disappearing from the wild**

"Crab-eating macaques for sale on the black market in Thailand used to be \$7 apiece in 2001; now they are \$30 each."

"There are just not as many wild macaques left to be gotten: they have been decimated in the last 10 years."

#### **Problem II: Macaques get a bad rap in their native countries, and in developed countries the monkeys lose out to chimps in popularity and the struggle for donations.**

"People are surprised I'm not still working with chimps, but I saw the writing on the wall years ago: the monkeys are the ones taking the hit."

"Except for support from IPPL, I can hardly get any funding to care for the macaques at my rescue center; the money often has to come from surplus funds raised for more popular projects."

"At international meetings, there are people who give talks about 'primates as a renewable resource' or 'turning a pest into a resource.'"

#### **Problem III: The U.S. is responsible for much of the demand, but other countries are increasingly to blame.**

"There are more and more animal welfare laws being passed in Europe—not as strong as we could want, but still better than what exists in the U.S."

"In France, large pharmaceutical companies are setting up shop in the U.S., where the research climate is more friendly for animal testing."

"As of 20 years ago, the only countries taking monkeys from places like the Philippines and Indonesia were the U.S. and Europe—but now China and other countries are getting into it, too. Demand is changing, so that it is no longer possible to stop the trade just by taking action in the U.S. and Europe. Even in Thailand people are talking about setting up a lab there."

#### **Solution I: Greater awareness? Use the media to advocate for the monkeys and change people's perceptions of the animals.**

"Just as media can influence people in a negative way (like when a monkey's appearance on a sitcom sparks an increase in the pet trade), you can use the media in a positive way, too."

"That's why apes are in a better position now: they've gotten a lot of positive media attention."

"We need to tell the story of the monkeys' exploitation, as was done with chimps."

#### **Solution II: A grassroots effort? Enlist aspects of the wider community on behalf of macaques, in culturally appropriate ways.**

"In South Africa dead monkeys have traditionally been hung from trees as a kind of magic. However, when rural kids were read Bible passages that said how 'everything was created by and for Jesus,' they were encouraged to think about the monkeys in a different way. You just have to use what's most important to people."

"Stronger local communities in Peru have been making changes in recent years, like not allowing monkeys to be taken from the forest, and this has happened at the grassroots level, without police or government involvement."

"If the community is against something, it's hard for people to do illegal activities."

#### **Solution III: A top-down approach? Upgrade macaques from Appendix II to Appendix I on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), to give them more protection from international trade.**

"If animals do not have official protected status, the authorities won't do anything."

"At the global level, it's not a bottom-up problem, where one local person finds and sells one animal: it's a top-down problem. And it only takes one corrupt Director of Wildlife to make a mess of things."

"A good report on the issue, understandable by the mainstream media, should be made available to the press at the upcoming CITES meeting in Bangkok next year."





★ Nigeria ★ Thailand ★ Malawi ★ Peru ★ Bangladesh ★ Cameroon ★

## FEEDBACK AND PHOTOS

We asked our guests: What three words would you use to describe IPPL?  
Here are some of their responses...



*The road to IPPL is filled  
with friendship and the songs of gibbons...*





**Cathy (left) and Michael,  
IPPL's latest newlyweds.**

## Cathy and Michael Find Romance

This is a tale of how two gibbons living at IPPL came to live happily ever after together.

One is Michael, son of IPPL's Arun Rangsi and his mate Shanti. Like all gibbon youngsters, Michael was rejected by his parents when he became mature. He was moved to a long run near some other gibbons, so he could sing along with them, but for a long time we had no companion for him.

In 2007 Cathy arrived at IPPL with her parents, with whom she remained closely bonded for a long time. Then, five years later, they finally decided it was time for Cathy to move on, too. Michael is a sweet, gentle gibbon, and we thought that shy Cathy would be a perfect match.

We wanted them to get acquainted first, so in late February we

moved them into special adjoining night quarters. They were separated from each other only by heavy wire mesh. The move was made easy by the system of runways that connects all of IPPL's gibbon enclosures. There was no need to tranquilize either of them.

At first Cathy would periodically look toward her mother and father across the field that now separated her from them. But, from the beginning, she and Michael were clearly a compatible pair, grooming each other through the wide-mesh door that divided them. In less than two weeks, we permanently removed all barriers between them, and they have now become a happy gibbon pair. And "shy" Cathy has been known to smack at people who approach to scratch Michael's back without her permission!

## Youngsters Deliver Gibbon Goodies!

Sophie Heinold from Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, who just turned nine years old, decided that, instead of getting gifts for herself, she would collect food treats for the IPPL gibbons. She told us, "I have plenty of things from my family, so I am going to ask all of my friends, instead of gifts, I want them to bring food, toys, and stuff for your gibbons."

Sophie, Caroline Mackay Drolet, and Estelle Bauer came to deliver the goodies, which included dried and fresh fruits. Four other girls also contributed food items.

Thank you, girls, for such a generous thought. The gibbons enjoyed their treats!

*Left to right, Shirley McGreal welcomed Caroline, Sophie, and Estelle to the IPPL sanctuary. The three girls came to deliver treats for the gibbons in honor of Sophie's ninth birthday.*



You can see more photos of the IPPL gibbons on our Facebook page. "Like" us! ([www.facebook.com/InternationalPrimateProtectionLeague](http://www.facebook.com/InternationalPrimateProtectionLeague)).





Marianne loves visiting her old friend Gibby at IPPL.



## Gibby and Marianne: A Story of Bonding

*Shirley McGreal, IPPL Founder and Executive Director*

A few months ago I had a very interesting phone-chat with the Florida woman who originally obtained IPPL's sanctuary gibbon Gibby as a baby. She told me she had acquired him in 1962. He must have been at least six months old at the time. She also told me that he had a pet rat as a baby! That tells us that our wonderful Gibby has passed 50 years. That's a *very* ripe old age for a gibbon!

2012 is also Gibby's fifth year living with IPPL. Gibby is a very beautiful buff-colored gibbon. During his lab years he had two female companions. One named Gabby died. When the lab decided to get rid of its gibbons, Gibby's mate Georgia was sent

to a zoo, which left Gibby alone. We have recently placed him near Tong, but neither seems interested in the other!

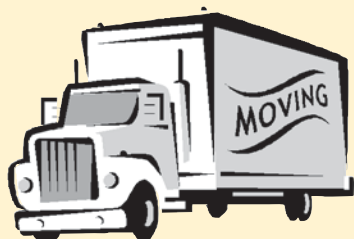
Soon after Gibby's arrival, I had a phone call from Marianne Crisci, who introduced herself as Gibby's caregiver when he lived at a lab.

The lab was conducting locomotion studies on gibbons. The experiments involved tranquillizing primates, inserting electrodes into their muscles to record muscle activity, putting a jacket on, and hooking the electrodes up to a computer, after which the primates had to go through motion routines. They were tranquillized again while the whole of the apparatus was removed.

Marianne told me lots of stories about this wonderful animal. She writes:

*One day my friend the vet tech and I were transferring Gibby from one cage into another when out of nowhere he got out. My other friend, a graduate student who was male (here I must inject that Gibby did not like males at all), was in the corridor. I shouted "Dan, run!" and run he did—with Gibby following close behind. They ended up at the end of the corridor with Dan raising his legs in defense. I got there just in time to coax Gibby back down the hall and place him in his home cage. Needless to say, Dan was traumatized!*

## 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 post card 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*!)



She continued:

*On a more solemn note, the experiments became increasingly difficult for Gibby. I can remember the last few, and I was quite upset once at even leaving the building because I could not take the stress he was under. Usually after an experiment I would carry Gibby back to his cage until he awoke from anesthesia. This was to ensure he was OK and I could feel comfortable leaving him.*

Marianne eventually left the lab, but she never forgot Gibby and kept his photo on her refrigerator. After she learned that Gibby was living with IPPL, Marianne came to visit us in 2010. She also came to our biennial meeting in April and commented:

*Many of my experiences at the lab were intense and frustrating, although I feel it was a great experience to get to know intimately these magnificent primates. I have tried very hard to keep up with their whereabouts*



Marianne was Gibby's caregiver in the lab.

*and contact the people currently involved with their care. Unfortunately, I have many sad endings to this story. I am very thrilled to be back again at IPPL and see Gibby once again, leading what I know is a very good life—and he certainly deserves it for sacrificing most of his life in research.*

Gibby was recently moved to Michael's old enclosure (see "Cathy and Michael Find Romance," page 24, this issue). It is a long unit connected to the indoor house via a bridge that is overgrown with grape vines. Gibby spends a lot of time munching on tender young grape leaves and swinging around.

Marianne hopes to return to Summerville soon to see her precious "Gibster." She makes one last comment:

*Oh, by the way, one time Gibby ripped the shirt off one of our researchers. Way to go, Gib!*

## Special Gifts to IPPL

Given by:

- ✂ Carol Adams, in memory of Marti Kheel
- ✂ Kate and Kevin Ashley, in memory of Bullet
- ✂ Rebecca Austin, in memory of Dian Fossey
- ✂ Pamela Benbow, in honor of Patricia Bass
- ✂ Debra Bruegge, in memory of my sister Bonnie Brown
- ✂ Lisa Cisneros, on behalf of saving animals from cruelty
- ✂ Michelle Cisneros, on behalf of saving animals from cruelty
- ✂ Brien Comerford, in honor of all God's creatures
- ✂ Sharron Cordaro, in honor of Debra Slater
- ✂ Martin Eskenazi, on behalf of Daniel Eskenazi
- ✂ Alexandra Finale, in memory of Pinkerton
- ✂ Linda Frankl and John J. Kaufmann, III, in honor of Ron Frankl
- ✂ Brian Giovannini, on behalf of Gibby's birthday
- ✂ Clive Greaves, in honor of Ronda Greaves
- ✂ Harriet Gross, in memory of Jem, a wonderful kitty
- ✂ Sharon Harvey, in honor of Alison and Dane Harvey
- ✂ Larissa and Christopher Hepler, in memory of Seth Heimlich
- ✂ JoAnn and Larry Hertz, in honor of our sister Nancy Tobin
- ✂ Theodora Hooton, in memory of her sister Amory Winthrop
- ✂ Andrew Horning, in honor of R.P. Brotherton
- ✂ Kathy and Randy Howell, in honor of Kit Woodcock
- ✂ Joan Jenrich, in memory of Bullet
- ✂ Sylvia Kaloustian, in honor of Shirley McGreal
- ✂ Joan Claire Knitaitis, in memory of IPPL's gibbon Beanie
- ✂ Ann and Bill Koros, in memory of Bullet
- ✂ Claudia Labbe, in honor of Joanne Zeliff
- ✂ Regan Lacey, in memory of her mother Sharon Joy Willis
- ✂ Noreen Laemers, in memory of Bullet
- ✂ Kristin Lasek, in honor of Gibby the Gibster
- ✂ Cathy Liss, in honor of Ann Barone
- ✂ Donna and Bob Litowitz, in memory of Bullet
- ✂ Shane Lundberg, on behalf of Vivian Lundberg
- ✂ Jim and Marie-Paule Mahoney, in memory of Bullet
- ✂ Arthur Margolis, in memory of Bernie and Katy
- ✂ Joanne McClelland, on behalf of primates everywhere
- ✂ Shirley McGreal, in memory of Bullet
- ✂ Amanda McNulty, on behalf of Gibby's birthday
- ✂ Ashley Mijeski, in honor of Ronda Greaves
- ✂ Scott Mosby, in memory of his parents
- ✂ Ilse Mwanza, in memory of Carole Noon, David Siddle, and Chimfunshi's hippo Billy
- ✂ Georgianne and Brett Nienaber, in memory of Dian Fossey
- ✂ Jacqueline Park, in memory of Maria Kutlik Jatka
- ✂ Ellen Pearson, on behalf of primates in medical research
- ✂ Terry Quinn, on behalf of Peppy
- ✂ Van Reilly, in honor of Ann Barone
- ✂ Jeffrey Robinson, in memory of Annie Handy
- ✂ Clare Rosenfield, in honor of Lishi Baker
- ✂ Barbara Sleeper, in memory of Norma Sleeper
- ✂ Frank Smith, in honor of Catherine Mesrobian
- ✂ Nancy Stone, in memory of all the innocent animals
- ✂ Louise Swig, in memory of Judge Herbert Donaldson
- ✂ Dianne Taylor-Snow, in honor of Gibby
- ✂ Alan Turton, in honor of Beverly Alexander
- ✂ Gail Vogel, in memory of my beloved pet Shannon
- ✂ Vernon C. Weitzel, in memory of Elizabeth May Weitzel
- ✂ Friedrich Wendl, in honor of Peppy and Gibby



# News from IPPL's Headquarters Sanctuary

## Good-bye Bullet

***Shirley McGreal, IPPL Founder and Executive Director***

One of the most beloved animals at IPPL was not a gibbon. He was a happy little dog named Bullet with an endlessly wagging tail. Now he has left us, leaving a trail of tears and broken hearts.

Here's his story, which I told to our supporters after we found him on November 19, 1998, when he was about ten months old. My letter was written on December 8, 19 days after his arrival with us.

*IPPL's "honorary primate," Bullet the stray dog, who invited himself to live with us by plastering his emaciated body against our perimeter fence, is doing far better than expected. The bullet wound on his right side has healed. He has grown from 29 to 39 pounds in the 19 days he has been with us. He is no longer skin and bones.*

*Sadly, this lovely little fellow was blinded by foreign objects that found their way to the back of both eyes, most likely shotgun pellets. We are medicating him in the hope that his*

*eyes will not have to be removed—but our veterinary ophthalmologist thinks he may lose one or both eyes.*

*Bullet is a lovely dog who has made himself at home. From wandering in the woods for many days, this animal, whose ribs stuck out and who was covered top to toe with ticks, has become a clean little house-dog and gets along with our other dogs.*

*He has had four regular vet visits, neutering surgery, and the visit to the ophthalmologist. We have dewormed him and he is on heartworm preventive. He will have weekly eye check-ups and possibly future eye removal surgery.*

Bullet settled into a daily routine, following the animal caregivers around and occasionally being taken home by Donetta, an animal caregiver at IPPL. He was aided by a very special Great Pyrenees named Ivy, who found her vocation as a guide dog for the blind. The two became inseparable. Bullet

went to a dog training class and learned everything as quickly as a sighted dog. His teacher was amazed.

He had an especially great period when he was friends with our blind gibbon Beanie. Beanie reached us in 1992 when he was less than two years old. He had become blind after an encephalitis outbreak in Florida in 1990. He was sent to IPPL for special care. Beanie played on the lawn with the animal care staff and dogs, especially Bullet. The two blind animals got along well until Beanie's death in 2004.

In late November 2011 Bullet was diagnosed with cancer of the spleen. He carried on like the trooper he was and was present at our IPPL-2012 conference. His condition suddenly deteriorated, and we decided to let him go on May 2, since there was nothing our vet could do. He had lost his fight, and that ever-wagging tail stopped wagging. It was Bullet's message to us that he was ready to leave us.

**Among the many tributes to Bullet reaching IPPL was one from Jim and Marie-Paule Mahoney. Jim has been a consultant veterinarian to IPPL for many years. He wrote:**

Bullet had a lot to teach us about life—more than just about any dog I have ever known. How could he be so happy in his dark world? Yet his tail never stopped wagging. I feel privileged to have known him.

**Bullet gets a birthday treat, as our Great Pyrenees Zoe waits (somewhat) patiently.**





# Remember the World's Primates—In Your Will

*Ever since I founded the International Primate Protection League in 1973, IPPL has benefited from many caring supporters who have remembered IPPL in their wills.*

*You, too, can help us ensure that future generations of apes and monkeys will live in a world where primates will have IPPL working tirelessly on their behalf—working to ensure that primates in the wild are free from fear of human abuse and that those in captivity have access to loving care.*

*Thanks to the foresight of many of our departed supporters, IPPL has been able to accomplish many wonderful things to improve the lives of the primates we cherish:*

- ◆ *Providing the best possible care for the special gibbons at our Headquarters Sanctuary.*
- ◆ *Giving support to primate rescue centers in countries where primates are native.*
- ◆ *Assisting grassroots wildlife groups in their efforts to promote concern for primates.*
- ◆ *Carrying out investigations of primate trafficking and abuse worldwide.*
- ◆ *Doing outreach to make others aware of the plight of the world's monkeys and apes.*

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

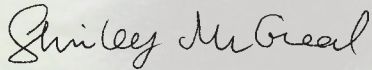
*If you would like to discuss providing enduring help for primates around the globe through IPPL, please contact us:*

**IPPL**  
**P.O. Box 766**  
**Summerville, SC 29484**  
**USA**

**843-871-2280**

**IPPL's tax identification number: 51-0194013**

Thank you for caring,



Dr. Shirley McGreal

IPPL Founder and Executive Director



Photo © Alison Spalter

## 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:**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 regular dues  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 sustaining dues     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other amount: \$_____ (dues)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 patron dues  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 student/senior dues | <input type="checkbox"/> Other amount: \$_____ (one time donation) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I will be paying via a check or money order made payable to IPPL.        |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I will be paying via credit card (circle): Visa MasterCard AMEX Discover |   |  |

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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amount / month  
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\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
(month / year)

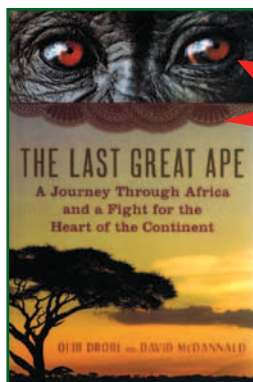
Please mail form and payment to: IPPL ♦ P.O. Box 766 ♦ Summerville, SC 29484 ♦ USA. **Thank you!**



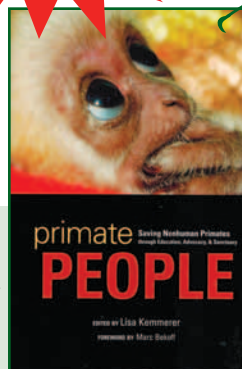


**IPPL Baseball Cap:**  
100% cotton; khaki;  
adjustable  
**Cost:** US\$12 (US)/  
US\$16 (overseas)

# Primate Paraphernalia!



**Two terrific new primate books:**  
**The Last Great Ape**, by Ofir Drori & D. McDannald  
**Primate People**, edited by Lisa Kemmerer  
**Cost:** Each: US\$30 (US)/  
US\$40 (overseas)



**Orangutan Baby T-Shirt:**  
100% cotton; brown  
**Sizes:** Adult M, L, XL, XXL;  
Child S, M, L, XL  
**Cost:** Adult US\$15 (US)/  
US\$22 (overseas)  
Child US\$12 (US)/  
US\$16 (overseas)



**Gibbon Notecards:** 12 cards and  
envelopes, 3 each of 4 IPPL gibbons (Arun  
Rangsi, Courtney, Igor, and Tong)  
**Cost:** US\$10 (US)/US\$14 (overseas)



**Mountain Gorilla T-Shirt:**  
100% cotton; black  
**Sizes:** Adult M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL  
**Cost:** US\$15 (US)/  
US\$22 (overseas)

**IPPL Gibbon T-Shirt:** 100% cotton; green  
Shirts feature 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 M, L, XL; Child S, M, L  
**Cost:** Adult US\$15 (US)/US\$22 (overseas)  
Child US\$12 (US)/US\$16 (overseas)



You can also order IPPL merchandise using our secure server.  
Go to **www.ippl.org** and select **How You Can Help > Shop at Our Store**.

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(Overseas checks to be drawn on US banks.)  
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Questions? 843-871-2280 or [info@ippl.org](mailto:info@ippl.org)



# Adopt an IPPL Gibbon!

Each of the many gibbons living at IPPL Headquarters deserves a happy life. Many of IPPL's residents have come to the sanctuary after years in research, as pets, or in sub-standard living conditions. By adopting an IPPL gibbon, you help to ensure that your chosen animal (and all the IPPL gibbons) will continue to get the best care possible: a quiet, peaceful life in sunny South Carolina, living in spacious enclosures with their mates, and eating only fresh, natural foods. For a donation of \$15 or \$25 per month for at least six months, you will receive the following:

- A signed Certificate of Gibbon Guardianship.
- A large glossy photograph of your gibbon.
- A biographical sketch of your gibbon.
- A quarterly update on your gibbon.
- An IPPL sanctuary fact sheet.
- A gibbon fact sheet.
- An IPPL window cling.

In addition, if you choose to adopt a gibbon at the \$25-per-month level, IPPL will send you one of our forest-green T-shirts featuring several IPPL gibbons.

**And remember: adoptions make wonderful gifts that will last all year!**

## Yes, I want to adopt an IPPL gibbon!

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

**OR**

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

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

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

Recipient's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I will be paying via a check or money order made payable to IPPL.

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

Name (on card): \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card billing address (for verification purposes): \_\_\_\_\_

For information about adopting your gibbon through a monthly automatic checking account withdrawal, or if you have other questions, please call us at 843-871-2280, or send us an e-mail ([info@ippl.org](mailto:info@ippl.org)).

You can also adopt a gibbon on our Web site: go to [www.ippl.org](http://www.ippl.org) and click on the "Adopt an IPPL Gibbon" link.

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



# IPPL Gibbons Currently Available for Adoption

**Tong** belongs to a different species from most of IPPL's gibbons. She is a yellow-cheeked crested gibbon and was wild-born in her native Vietnam probably around 1970. When she was an infant, she was sold as a pet to an American serviceman stationed in Vietnam; her mother may have been one of that nation's many wild animals that succumbed to Agent Orange or other hazards of war. When Tong's owner left the country, Tong remained in the care of his servants. Unfortunately, the servants did not know much about gibbon nutrition, so Tong developed rickets, a deforming bone disease. Eventually, in 1973, Tong was transferred to the protection of newly-founded IPPL, and she has been a part of the family ever since. By adopting Tong, you'll share in IPPL's commitment to lifelong care for beautiful apes like her.



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



**Courtney** was born at IPPL on 10 January 2002, the result of a failed vasectomy. When she was just 12 days old, her mother rejected her, leaving the little 12-ounce infant with a terribly mangled leg. Thanks to the skill of our veterinarian and months of attention from Courtney's special nannies, her injuries have healed remarkably well. She has had minor follow-up surgery, but is nonetheless extremely active. If you saw her leaping around, you would hardly believe how badly she had been hurt. Since she is now mature, she has accepted a gibbon companion to share her life, our gentle lab gibbon Whoop-Whoop—but she still enjoys regular visits from her human friends. We hope you'll consider adopting this spunky and determined little ape.



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



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Palu-Palu started life as the pet of Sam Pryor, a retired airline pilot living on the island of Maui who had a collection of pet gibbons. The pilot had bought him as a baby from a Japanese animal dealer and named him “Boy.” Pryor died without making plans for his gibbons’ future, and “Boy” ended up at the sub-standard Maui zoo, where he lived for several years with his mate Jade and their son Maui.

Following protests from Hawaiian animal lovers and criticism from government officials, the zoo closed its doors, and “Boy” and his family were sent to IPPL. They arrived in March 1996 along with several boxes of delicious pineapples. One of the first things we did was change his name from “Boy” to “Palu-Palu,” which means “Softly- Softly” in the Hawaiian language, as suggested by a Hawaiian supporter.

Palu-Palu and Jade are still living together. Palu-Palu’s favorite place to be is in a long aerial runway that runs alongside the windows looking over IPPL’s office. Sometimes assertive Jade joins him there—and when she does, he is careful to get out of her way and let her have the best spot.

He is less cautious in his dealings with people, though. During IPPL’s conference this spring, he would “lie in wait” for the perfect moment when visitors moved by. Then he’d try to shake the biggest branch he could reach to make sure they noticed him!

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, 33 gibbons live in happy retirement. IPPL also helps support a number of other wildlife groups and primate rescue centers in countries where primates are native.

*IPPL News* is published thrice-yearly.

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