



IPPL

International
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Protection
League

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INSIDE:

- IPPL's 5 Monkey Export Bans
- Our Small Grants Program
- Ape Action Africa!



A Note from Shirley

Dear IPPL Friend,

The year 2016 is just around the corner, when IPPL will look forward to marking 43 years of our protecting primates worldwide. Thanks to our generous friends around the globe, we made nearly 30 small grants to grassroots groups around the world during our 2014-2015 giving season, as well as caring for the now-36 gibbons at our sanctuary in Summerville.

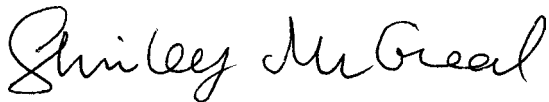
We have had very strange weather here in South Carolina this year, with several spells of huge amounts of torrential rain that made it very tough on our animal care and maintenance staff. Fortunately, the gibbons have really solid houses, so they stayed inside safely for many days.

Overseas, we were delighted that Sierra Leone was declared Ebola-free by the World Health Organization on November 7, 2015. Not long after the world began to appreciate the extent of the epidemic, we got in touch with our friends at Sierra Leone's Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary, which we have helped support since it was founded in 1995. Because of the threat of Ebola, volunteers had cancelled their visits, the sanctuary's eco-lodges were closed, and food for the animals was hard to get. IPPL immediately started to raise funds and ultimately provided over \$60,000 in much-needed revenue. Fortunately, no chimpanzees contracted the disease, and the animal caregivers stayed healthy and stuck to their posts. Tacugama survived the epidemic alive and well, thanks to help from IPPL and other organizations.

One highlight of my year was attending the 2015 Animal Rights National Conference in Arlington, Virginia, this summer. IPPL has had an exhibit at this conference for years. It is held one year on the east coast and the next year on the west coast. This year Hardy Brown, Tina McCoy, Linda Wolfe, and I staffed the IPPL booth with help from long-time IPPL supporter Susan Parker. There were many excellent presentations. I was on two panels and Linda on one. We met many old friends and made some new ones, too.

Thank you to all our supporters for their generous help over the years!

Best wishes,



Shirley McGreal

IPPL Founder and Executive Director



In This Issue:

Action Item!	Page
IPPL's 5 monkey export bans	3
IPPL's Small Grants Program	10
Ape Action Africa	15
The Douc Langur Foundation	21
The Sunrise Circle	25
Leave a lasting legacy	26
Indonesia on fire	27

IPPL News

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About the Cover

IPPL helps support dozens of primate sanctuaries and rescue centers around the world. One of the most impressive of these is Kalaweit, a gibbon protection and rescue organization with various locations and outreach initiatives across Indonesia. This lovely Bornean white-bearded gibbon is one of Kalaweit's resident rescued apes (see page 11). Cover photo © Kalaweit.

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, 36 gibbons (the smallest of the apes) live in happy retirement.

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

IPPL News is published three times a year.

IPPL and the Five Monkey Export Bans

Shirley McGreal, IPPL Founder and Executive Director

When I founded IPPL in 1973, my top priority was to stop the international trade in primates. I was living in Bangkok at the time and saw crated monkeys at Bangkok Airport awaiting shipment to New York. I learned that the monkeys were on their way to lives of experimentation. It all seemed so wrong. I decided I wanted to work to block this trade, but at the time there were no groups taking on this issue. That's why I started IPPL, and ending the primate trade has been one of IPPL's primary goals ever since. It's a goal that IPPL has pursued with great success.

Thailand

In late 1974, I was still living in Thailand when I received a message from the British Royal Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) asking if I could go to Bangkok Airport to collect a shipment of birds of prey. The birds had been confiscated at Heathrow Airport, London, and were being returned to Thailand for release into the wild.

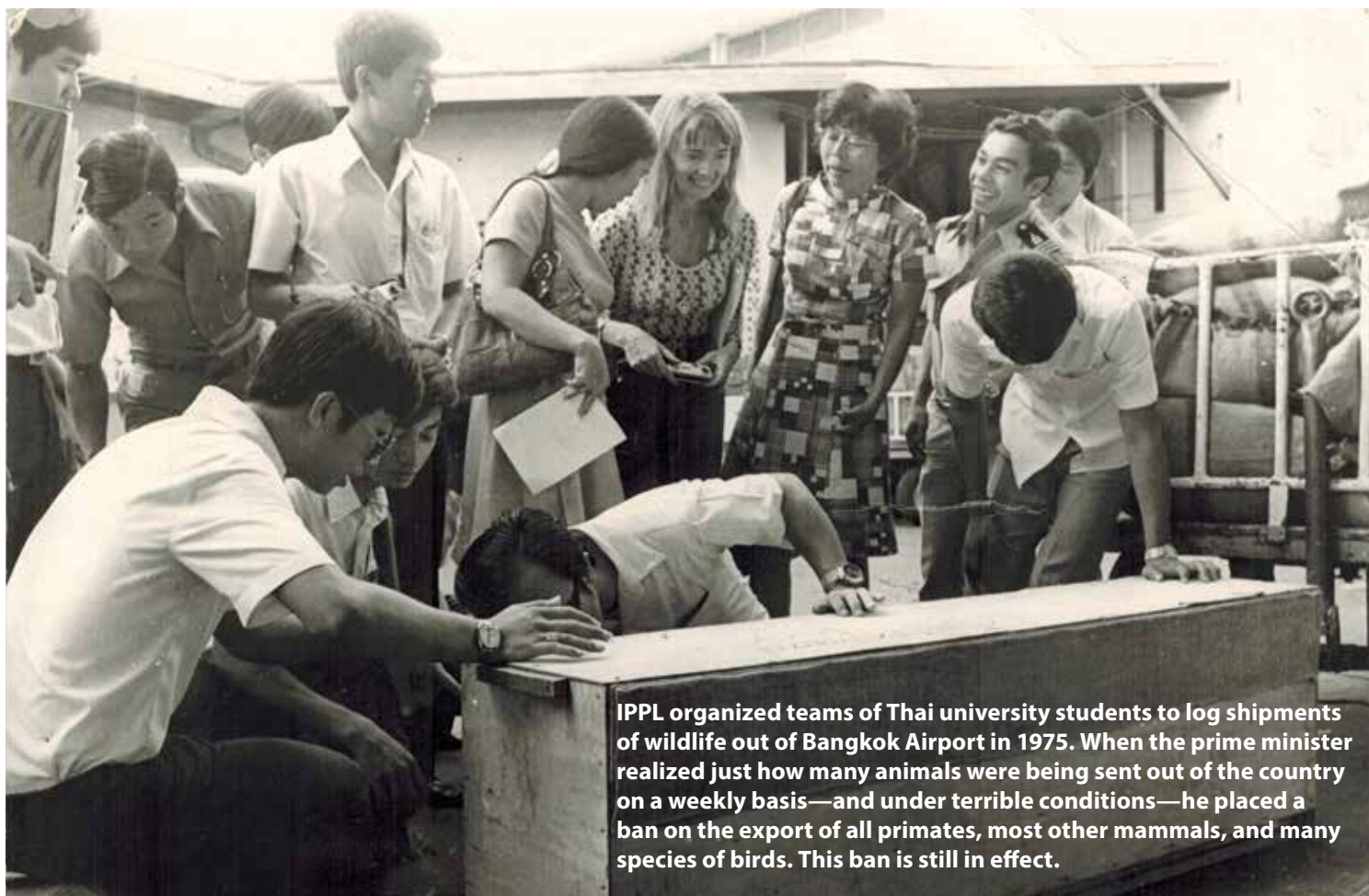
I had met a number of Thai university students at a recent party at the home of the late naturalist Dr. Boonsong Lekagul. I told them about the shipment of birds due to be returned to their homeland for release

into nature and invited them to come along. They were excited to participate. A few days later, a group of students came to the airport with me. The birds arrived safely, and we took them to a nature park where we set them free. But the students were horrified when they saw even more crates of birds of prey awaiting export! Many were ready to become wildlife activists then and there.

I started thinking of ways to bring these students into the battle against the Thai wildlife trade and came up with the idea of recruiting students to conduct observations of wildlife leaving



A rhesus macaque is forced to run on a treadwheel at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI) in Bethesda, Maryland, during the 1970s. The electrified footplate delivers shocks to compel the monkey to keep moving despite being subjected to lethal doses of neutron radiation. After IPPL publicized these gruesome experiments, both India and Bangladesh instituted nationwide bans on the export of their native rhesus monkeys. These bans remain in place today.



IPPL organized teams of Thai university students to log shipments of wildlife out of Bangkok Airport in 1975. When the prime minister realized just how many animals were being sent out of the country on a weekly basis—and under terrible conditions—he placed a ban on the export of all primates, most other mammals, and many species of birds. This ban is still in effect.

Bangkok Airport for overseas. The next step was to “recruit” the money to fund the project. Christine Stevens of the U.S. Animal Welfare Institute, the former International Society for the Protection of Animals (now renamed World Animal Protection), the British Fauna Preservation Society, the New York Zoological Society, and a very wealthy and well-connected Thai lady, Mrs. Katherine Buri, all pitched in. Students from Chulalongkorn, Kasetsart, and Mahidol Universities eagerly signed up.

The project lasted for a ten week period, March 31 to June 6, 1975. For two weeks, teams of students worked round-the-clock, then for eight more weeks the teams continued their tasks from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. They searched for crates containing animals, logging every shipment they observed. The students also got a lot of help from “airport urchins,” youngsters who hung around the airport. These children would take our teams to crates hidden away in mysterious corners! Of course, anyone could go anywhere at

the airport in the 1970s. Those were the good old days!

Close to 100,000 mammals, birds, and reptiles left Thailand during that ten-week period. Several crates contained monkeys, including baby monkeys. One night there was great excitement as two baby Himalayan bears shipped from Vientiane, Laos, were found and confiscated. Another time, a young lady named Suchira caught a man smuggling two gibbons. Forestry officials were summoned. They told the man to the follow their van to the forestry office to process the little apes. He drove away with the gibbons and never showed up. We figured he had bribed the officials.

Most of the crates were appalling and did not comply with the International Air Transport Association’s shipping standards, as implemented on February 1, 1975. The crates were not properly constructed, and the food and water bowls were seldom filled. Many animals traveled in boxes with tiny air holes, one-quarter to one-half inch in diameter. Inspectors could not search the crates to

verify their contents, but few inspectors were seen on the floor in any case. Most just sat in their offices.

After the project wrapped up, we tried to decide what to do with our thick sheaves of documents. Mrs. Buri called me a few days later in great excitement. She asked me to make copies of all the papers immediately, as then-Prime Minister Kukrit Pramoj had asked her for them. That took hours to do! Khun Pramoj was outraged at what he learned from the documents and immediately placed a ban on the export of all monkeys, most other mammals, and many bird species, including mynahs. That ban is still in effect.

IPPL was only two years old and had already achieved a great victory for primates.

India

In 1973, a total of 25,413 rhesus monkeys were imported into the United States from India. The late animal rights advocate Henry Spira discovered that many were being used in military experiments,

including some taking place at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI) in Bethesda, Maryland. In 1974, I learned about these enormous rhesus monkey exports to the U.S. and other countries.

At the time, India required a “certificate of need” for exported monkeys, and the importing facility had to promise that the monkeys would not be used in military research—promises that were apparently being ignored. We submitted requests under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for experimental protocols, autopsy reports, and other documents.

I managed to get details of the experiments, which involved training monkeys by electric shock to run on a circular treadmill, then irradiating them with massive doses of neutron radiation (see page 4 of the April 1978 issue of *IPPL News* for detailed accounts of the experiments provided by United Action for Animals). Researchers kept putting them back into the treadmill, shocking them repeatedly until they collapsed dead in a heap of vomit.

I was so disgusted that I prepared press releases describing the experiments and asking India to ban the export of all monkeys. At that time, we had no computers but used a big, red book called *Editor and Publisher*, which listed every newspaper in the world. We sent out hundreds of press releases by postal service to the *Times of India* and other English-language newspapers, as well as to all the Indian language newspapers we could, including those printed in Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati, Tamil, Malayalam, Bengali, Telugu, Tamil, Urdu, Kannada, Punjabi, Assamese, Odia, and many more. *The Times of India* ran an editorial calling for a ban on the monkey trade.

I also wrote letters to then-Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai, with whom I had a mutual friend, Indian M.P. Henry Daniel. I eventually learned that Mr. Desai had indeed implemented a ban on the export of monkeys. It was officially announced during the inauguration of the World Vegetarian Congress held in Madras (now renamed Chennai) in December 1977, with the ban to take effect on March 31, 1978.

Years later, I wrote to Mr. Desai and



Rhesus monkeys like these were once exported in huge numbers from their native India and Bangladesh to U.S. labs—until IPPL stepped in.

Photo © iStock/eROMANZc

asked him about a claim made by a U.S. scientist in a natural history magazine in 1985. The author attributed the ban on monkey exports to a desire to preserve “dwindling primate populations.” Mr. Desai responded to me with a handwritten note written on an old-style blue aerogram. The letter was dated April 16, 1985:

You are quite correct in saying that I banned the export of monkeys on a humanitarian basis & not because the number was decreasing. I had also banned frogs being exported for their legs.

I believe in preventing cruelty to all living beings in any form. This is the ancient Indian Culture and a part of vegetarianism.

[The writer of the article] is completely wrong in his view which perhaps is deliberate.

I also wrote Mrs. Indira Gandhi, who followed Mr. Desai as Prime Minister, asking her to maintain the export ban on

monkeys. She wrote back in a letter dated March 8, 1980:

I have seen your letter of the 21st February about protection of Indian monkeys.... The ban on export of monkeys from India continues, and there is no proposal to open this now.

The Indian monkey export ban has lasted until the present day. The letters from Mr. Desai and Mrs. Gandhi are treasured IPPL possessions.

Bangladesh

Following the Indian monkey export ban, the *Washington Post* ran an article on January 26, 1978, reporting that Bangladesh was going to begin trading in rhesus monkeys instead, starting with 3,000 to be exported immediately. Another urgent challenge! I asked my friend Bill Clark to call Dr. Benjamin Blood (who was head of the Interagency Primate Steering Committee, or IPSC) and find out more information about the

Bangladesh situation. IPSC was a U.S. government organization, located within the National Institutes of Health, that was charged with ensuring a steady supply of primates for research and testing. Dr. Blood made the unwise comment that Bangladesh was a Muslim country, unlike Hindu India, so the people there would not care about monkeys. How wrong he was! That comment would come back to haunt Dr. Blood!

IPPL learned that a company called MOL Enterprises had indeed secured a contract to export over 70,000 monkeys from Bangladesh. The company was based in Portland, Oregon, and managed by a man named Bert Viecele. I was in Oregon and phoned Mr. Viecele, who invited me to his home, where I enjoyed a great Italian dinner. We discussed the monkey situation.

My next stop was Washington, DC. A shipment of monkeys had recently reached the AFRRI labs. I called AFRRI and received an invitation to visit. There I met director Col. Darrell McIndoe and

Three Tales from Behind the Scenes:

Morarji Desai Loses His Dinner

The Indian Prime Minister was famous for his strict dietary habits, which included drinking his own urine in the morning and eating a completely vegetarian diet, mainly nuts and beans. One evening while travelling in New Zealand, he was invited to a formal dinner with Governor-General Keith Holyoake and his wife. Dinner was laid out, with a special platter for Mr. Desai. As the meal proceeded, Mrs. Holyoake started nibbling at what she thought were hors d'oeuvres. It turned out that she had eaten Mr. Desai's entire dinner. Desai, an austere man, made no comment and did not request a replacement meal!

A Lecture to President Carter

Mr. Desai was visiting the United States and was summoned to the White House for a meeting at which he was asked to lift the monkey export ban to help Americans develop drugs and vaccines. Mr. Desai said no. He told President Carter that he himself was over 90 years old and had never taken drugs or vaccines in his life. He commented that the President did not look as healthy as he (Desai) was. There would be no Indian monkey exports.

Samar Singh to the Rescue

The 1981 Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) conference was held in New Delhi. IPPL was amazed to learn that India and Nepal had jointly proposed that the rhesus monkey be removed from international protection under CITES.

Fortunately, I met an old friend from my life in New Delhi, Samar Singh, who was then with India's Department of Agriculture. He came over for a chat, and I told him of IPPL's alarm at the proposal to delist the rhesus monkey. “Well, what do you want me to do about it?” he said. I replied, “Please withdraw the proposal,” and Samar said “Fine!”

I noted that this would still leave the Nepal proposal in place. Suddenly Samar shouted out in a booming voice that carried right across the cavernous room, “Biswas, come here!” A man came scurrying from the far side of the room. Samar introduced me to Biswas Upreti, head of the Nepalese delegation, and told him, “Biswas, Shirley doesn't like our rhesus proposal; would you agree to withdraw it?” Biswas said, “Yes, sir,” and the proposal was withdrawn. A disaster for India's monkeys was averted.

veterinarian Cliff Roberts. Dr. Roberts had a photo of his children on his desk, and I wondered how he could care for his human kids and yet be involved in such horrific experiments on young monkeys. I saw the giant treadmill where the monkeys were trained by electric shock footplates to cause the wheel to circle. In a nearby room, I saw a long cupboard with pathetic young monkeys living in long rows of restraint chairs.

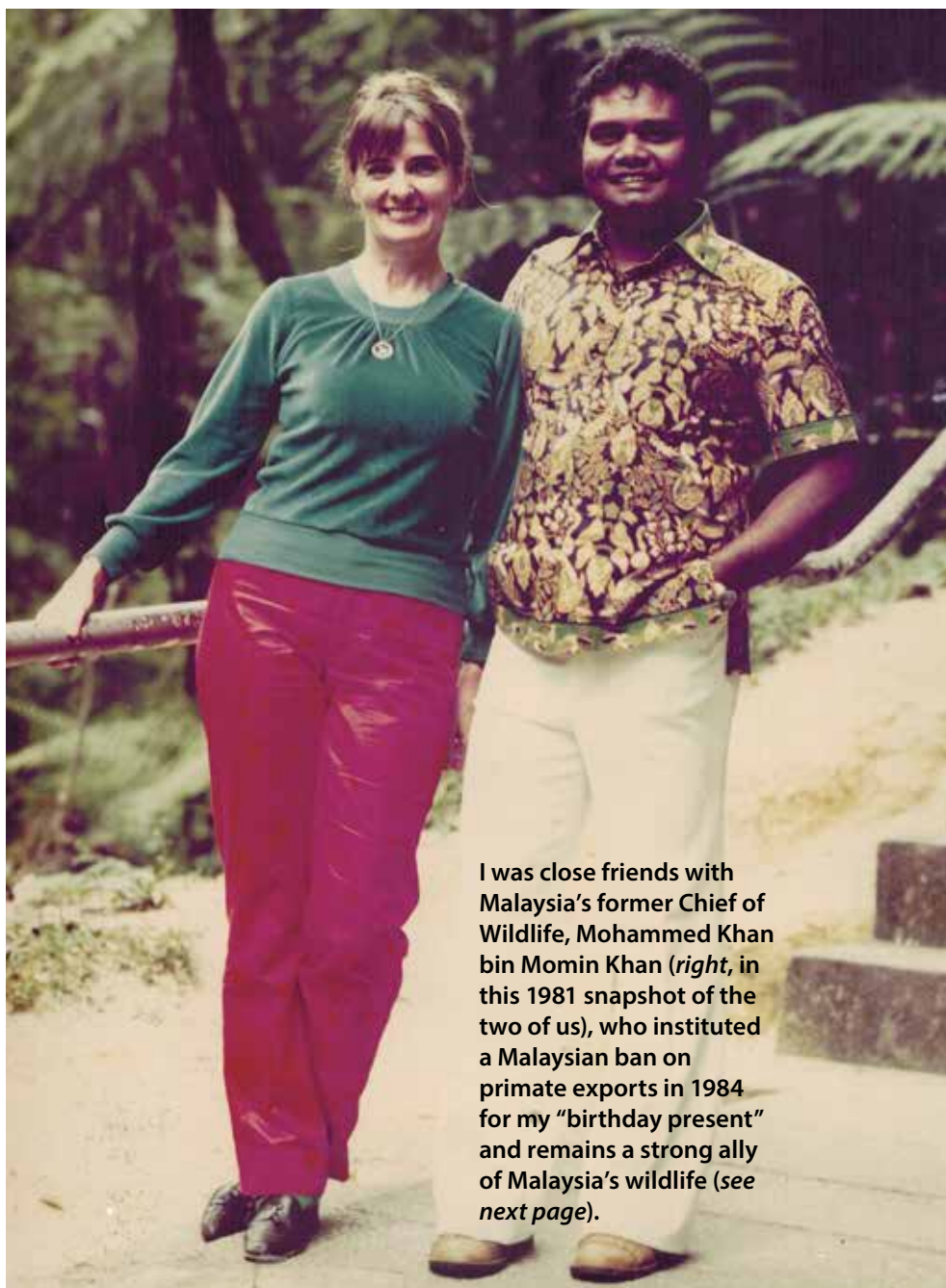
I was not allowed to take photos, but Col. McIndoe offered to send me some. As I was leaving, I thanked him for the visit and told him I had a better appreciation of what he was doing, which was true. He gave me a big bear-hug, and the photos arrived two weeks later!

Meanwhile, IPPL's late Bangladesh Field Representative, Dr. Zakir Husain, had managed to borrow a copy of the contract agreeing to the export of 71,500 rhesus monkeys and unspecified numbers of gibbons and langurs. It was between MOL Enterprises and a senior official of the Bangladesh Wildlife Department. A forestry department official lent him the contract overnight, but it had to be back on the official's desk the next morning. Of course, there were no copying machines or scanners at that time in his home, so Dr. Husain sat at his desk and typed away all night long! His young son hovered around, so there were some ink blots on the typed documents.

Once IPPL had the text of the contract in hand, we started protests, including a letter-writing campaign aimed at President General Ershad and press releases sent to all the newspapers.

We were delighted when Bangladesh cancelled the contract with MOL Enterprises in January 1979. Better still, the following April, Bangladesh followed India's example and instituted a permanent ban on monkey exports. General Ershad even wrote letters to some IPPL members thanking them for their concern, which he believed showed him that the American people were on his nation's side. He was also irked by Dr. Blood's claim that Muslims didn't care about primates, only Hindus did!

Soon afterwards, the Ambassador of Bangladesh to the United States called IPPL to tell me that the contract might



I was close friends with Malaysia's former Chief of Wildlife, Mohammed Khan bin Momin Khan (right, in this 1981 snapshot of the two of us), who instituted a Malaysian ban on primate exports in 1984 for my "birthday present" and remains a strong ally of Malaysia's wildlife (see next page).

have to be reinstated, as the U.S. was threatening to cut off humanitarian aid to Bangladesh if it did not renew monkey exports. He also said that pressure was coming from Senators Bob Packwood of Oregon and Howard Baker of Tennessee. Our friends at the Animal Welfare Institute, led by the late Christine Stevens, secured a meeting with Baker's office. Baker's assistant, Cran Montgomery, was so rude and arrogant that the tall and superbly elegant Christine announced that we were wasting our time and that we would all exit the room. We paraded out with our heads held high!

Bangladesh refused to yield, and the

nation was next hit with a lawsuit from MOL Enterprises. The company demanded US\$15 million from the impoverished country. Bangladesh ignored the lawsuit on the grounds that U.S. courts had no jurisdiction over the nation's natural resources, but the Animal Legal Defense Fund put their cooperating attorney Larry Silver on the case as an "amicus curiae" (friend of the court). The suit was dismissed. MOL filed several appeals, but Silver defended the nation all through the case till finally it got thrown out by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1984. The court expressed its appreciation for Silver's excellent work.

At last, the monkeys of Bangladesh

were safe. The ban remains in place. The Wildlife Society of Bangladesh awarded me an Honorary Life Membership in appreciation for my and IPPL's work, which has saved the lives of uncounted thousands of Bangladesh's primates.

Malaysia

Once rhesus monkeys from India and Bangladesh became unavailable, importers and U.S. scientists started to turn their attention to the long-tailed macaques of Malaysia as substitute research animals, and in 1984 shipments of these monkeys began reaching U.S. ports of entry. IPPL learned that long-tailed macaques were being used in bio-warfare research at Fort Detrick, Maryland, and submitted a FOIA request for relevant documents.

At that time, FOIA documents were produced with relatively little redaction. We received copies of experimental

protocols and autopsy reports. They were just horrific.

Among the disease agents being studied were Legionnaires' disease, Ebola, Rift Valley fever, Lassa fever, cholera, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Staphylococcal enterotoxin B, shigella, Machupo virus (the cause of Argentine hemorrhagic fever), Junin virus (the cause of Bolivian hemorrhagic fever), yellow fever, Q fever, Venezuelan equine and Japanese encephalitis, Yersinia, and tularemia.

The autopsy showed that negligence as well as disease agents led to monkey suffering. To cite just two examples:

Female crab-eating monkey assigned to Dr. Wannemacher. On 13 January 1979, this monkey chewed off and swallowed mercury tipped nasogastric tube. The tube was used in the force-feeding project. During the night of 17

January, the monkey broke its wrist restraint, reached the carotid catheter, chewed it open, and bled to death. The monkey had been able to reach the catheter via an uncovered right armhole—safety plate missing.

Female macaque, died 30 July 1979. The animal died of trauma due to inoculation with Junin virus. When injection was started on both sides, the monkey sighed deeply. Aspiration at the end of the injection on the right side brought cerebrospinal fluid into the needle, suggesting that some of the inoculum may have been injected into the lateral ventricle.

I was a close friend of Malaysia's then-Chief of Wildlife, Mohammed Khan bin Momin Khan, and sent the information to him. He was appalled. Why should Malaysia help make the world safe for



Nepalese mountain guide Jyamchang Bhote Salaka summits Mount Everest, without oxygen, in 2009 on behalf of his country's native rhesus monkeys. (see next page)

biological warfare, he wondered? At the 1983 Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) held in Botswana, we discussed what could be done. I happened to tell him that I had a birthday coming up, and he asked what I would like as a birthday gift. Of course I answered without hesitation “a monkey export ban!” In 1984, the chief delivered the ban—which remains in effect. Although retired, he remains a great friend to all Malaysia’s wildlife.

Nepal

In the early 2000s, two U.S. primate labs (the Washington National Primate Center and the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research in San Antonio, Texas) obtained agreements to establish research and breeding centers in Nepal. Their main objective was to initiate a program to send Nepal’s native rhesus monkeys to U.S. labs, even though Nepal had never exported its monkeys

before. IPPL began working with several Nepalese organizations that were opposed to this new development, primarily Wildlife Watch Group (WWG), in 2006.

Protests and awareness-raising campaigns followed. On November 5, 2007, a coalition of Nepalese animal groups (including WWG, Animal Nepal, Nepal Roots and Shoots, and the SPCA Nepal) issued a white paper titled “There’s Some Monkey Business Going On Here.” I wrote the preface, and Jane Goodall flew to Nepal to introduce the document at a press conference. The report stressed the lack of transparency in setting up these facilities and the possibility of dire consequences for Nepal’s cherished monkeys if foreign interests were to begin removing them from the wild in large numbers. But it looked like plans to move forward with the breeding facilities were proceeding nonetheless.

Then, in the middle of one sleepless

night (when I get my best ideas!), I had an inspiration. Get a monkey banner hoisted on top of Mount Everest! WWG’s Mangal Man Shakya located one of the most celebrated of Nepal’s mountain guides, Jyamchang Bhote Salaka, famed for summiting Mount Everest without using oxygen, to carry our banner to the top. He and his climbers reached the summit at 10 A.M. local time on May 19, 2009, and held up their banner saying “Stop the Monkey Business, Don’t Export Nepali Monkeys to American Labs.”

On July 29, 2009, Mangal presented a framed photograph of the historic climb to the Honorable Deepak Bohara, Nepal’s Minister of Forest and Soil Conservation. Minister Bohara reacted immediately, and on August 28, 2009, the *Kantipur Daily* reported that both facilities would be closed down and any resident monkeys—about 300 of them—released to the wild. No more monkeys would be trapped, bred, or exported. Nepal’s monkeys were safe again.

Follow-up, 1985

On 2 May 1985, Shri Satya Pal Malik, member of the Indian Parliament and husband of India’s leading primatologist Dr. Iqbal Malik, raised two questions,

“Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether Government proposes to continue providing legal protection to the monkeys of India, and whether the government proposes to continue the existing ban on export of rhesus monkeys and other species?”

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi answered “Yes” to both questions. The ban continues to this day.

Special Gifts to IPPL Given by:

- **Brien Comerford**, in honor of all God’s creatures
- **Judith Post**, in memory of Leona and Seymour Post
- **Madeline Hastings-Frank**, in memory of Richard Frank
- **Larissa Heimlich**, in honor of Doreen Heimlich’s birthday
- **Larissa Heimlich**, in memory of Seth Heimlich
- **Leigh Hill**, in honor of Elaine Spencer
- **Katherine Iosif**, in memory of Nancy Sue Groby Benedict
- **Ellen Jozoff**, in memory of Robert Schlemmer
- **Carol Leenstra**, in honor of the innocents
- **James and Sidney Martin**, in memory of Sam
- **Jessica Matuoizzi**, in honor of Shannon Clary
- **Shirley McGreal**, in memory of Baroness Mariuccia Zerilli Marimò, great friend to IPPL’s Courtney and Igor
- **Brenda Parks**, in honor of Liz Bills
- **Pam Shah**, in memory of Pallavi Shah
- **Graeme and Robin Smith**, in honor of Tika Sugar Blackie Smith
- **Linda Squier**, in memory of Igor
- **Dianne Taylor-Snow**, in memory of Pepper Snow
- **George and Linda Warriner**, in memory of Jake Gagnon
- **Grace Wegman**, in memory of Journey
- **Susan Wiebe**, in memory of Glenda

IPPL's "Small Grants Program" Has **BIG** Impact

Seed money for promising grassroots organizations. Timely emergency funds. General operating support for "unsexy" line items in a typical sanctuary's budget, like food for the animals, wages for the staff, and gas for the beat-up survey boat.

These are all ways that IPPL's Small Grants Program helps support primate protection work in habitat countries around the world. IPPL has been helping rescue centers and primate action groups in Asia, Africa, and South America. A little goes a long way in many countries!

In the unending scrum for grants, projects with a circumscribed beginning and end, with readily measurable

outcomes, are easiest to find supporters for, like a novel education program or a brand new quarantine facility.

Keeping the lights on in the clinic and reliable tires on the cars, though—those funds are harder to come by. But how do you measure the security of knowing that the tires won't blow out on rough roads during this week's supply run, or that you don't have to grope in the dark for that bottle of antibiotic tablets?

Those moments are priceless. So is support for that hardworking little startup nonprofit in the jungle that doesn't have a long track record to its name (yet), or for staff of that shoestring rescue center who just had to deal with the collapse of

their kitchen roof. So is support for the many organizations assisted by IPPL that work on behalf of "unsexy" primates. Those plain, brown macaque monkeys, the inconspicuous lorises—they deserve to live out their lives in peace and security just as much as the most magnificent, boisterous gorilla.

For many years now, IPPL has awarded most of its Small Grants towards the end of the calendar year, so we are currently in the process of screening applicants. But here are a few beneficiaries from the past who know the value of IPPL's support—and are more than happy to say so!

Siân Waters and the team at Barbary Macaque Awareness & Conservation, Morocco

IPPL has supported us, and therefore the endangered Barbary macaque in Morocco, for several years. It can sometimes be difficult to access funding for primates such as Barbary macaques, which are seen as less charismatic than, for instance, the great apes, but IPPL is a staunch supporter of all primates, no matter their appearance or behavior.

In 2012, we had a major funding crisis and it was beginning to seem that our organization's work would be forced to stop. Thankfully, IPPL came to the rescue and enabled us to cover our operating costs. They were also incredibly helpful in 2014 when our project vehicle, the Monkey Bus, needed significant repair work that was beyond our limited budget. Without the Monkey Bus, we cannot confiscate illegally held macaques, monitor wild populations, or access the communities we work with in remote areas. IPPL's help was truly a lifeline for the project.

Thank you, IPPL—it's so reassuring to know that the Barbary macaques have such friends on the other side of the world!



Edwin Wiek and the team at WFFT, Thailand

IPPL has been a continuous supporter of the Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand (WFFT) for many years. The support of IPPL has assisted WFFT in excelling and expanding and has made many good things possible, particularly our Education Project and Gibbon Rehabilitation Project. Several of IPPL's generous grants have allowed us to provide some gibbons with the best life possible by returning them to the lush, green forests of Northern Thailand.

WFFT has also been able to build our rehabilitation areas at the Wildlife Rescue Centre as part of our Gibbon Rehabilitation Project, giving many juvenile gibbons a home as close to nature as possible and the best chance for a wild life in the future. IPPL grants have also supported our undercover work within the wildlife tourism industry, where we have been able to assist authorities with the confiscation of many illegally held primates. We would like to offer our utmost gratitude to Shirley McGreal and her team at IPPL for their continued support over the years!



Aurélien “Chanee” Brûlé and the team at Kalaweit, Indonesia

The first time I heard about IPPL and Shirley McGreal, I was still a child, and it was in a book about Dian Fossey. A decade later, IPPL started to support Kalaweit, my gibbon conservation and rehabilitation project in Indonesia. IPPL has been a faithful supporter for the past 17 years, in moments of joy and also in midst of difficulties. There are few organizations that respond to the call, whatever the situation is, just to help the animals—but IPPL is one of them. I have great admiration and gratitude toward IPPL for fighting for the well-being of our gibbon friends. At Kalaweit, the gibbons can thank IPPL for their aviary enclosures, for their food, and for enabling our teams to do their best to take care of them. Thank you, IPPL!



Anna Nekaris and the team at the Little Fireface Project, Indonesia

Conservation funding and support all too often falls to large, colorful, charismatic species. I work to conserve something just the opposite—small, brown, slow, obscure little animals: the Asian slow and slender lorises.

Since the very beginning of my career in the 1990s, IPPL has supported my work in countless ways, from simply empathizing and recognizing the plight of less charismatic species, to supporting the elevation of slow lorises to a new level of international protection on Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) Appendix I, to allowing me to publish my work or contribute photographs to their newsletter to highlight the plight of lorises, to providing a network to sell handicrafts and receive small donations, to providing annual small grants for the work of myself and my team in Indonesia.

Working on an annual budget of less than \$30,000, it is incredible just how far a small grant can go. IPPL has contributed to so many aspects of our loris conservation

project: from funding law enforcement training workshops, illegal wildlife market surveys, training stipends for Indonesian students, and local education initiatives, to baseline support to help keep the project going.

Another vital aspect of the connection to the IPPL Small Grants Program is the constant support from Shirley and her

team, who keep optimistic in dark times, who inspire us to keep going when all seems lost, and who cheer in support when an initiative is successful. It takes more than funding to maintain the energy and morale to conserve a species, and the personal commitment of all the staff at IPPL makes the vital funding they give even more special.



Pharane Deters and the team at the Highland Farm Gibbon Sanctuary, Thailand

IPPL has been our primary source of funding since 2003. IPPL's grants allow us to build new enclosures for our ever-growing sanctuary, provide a nutritious diet of fresh produce for all our frugivores, and provide continuous veterinary care for our 66 gibbons and 21 macaques.

Several years ago, IPPL hired four veterinarians to fly to our sanctuary in Mae Sot from Hong Kong in order to safely vasectomize all of our male gibbons. In Thailand, veterinarians simply remove the testicles, which is an unhealthy and inhumane option. Without generous donations from IPPL, Highland Farm would be unable to continue providing a high-level of care for our gibbons and macaques. Thank you to IPPL for believing in us all these years.



Angela Maldonado and the team at Fundación Entropika, Colombia

We cannot express in words how grateful Fundación Entropika is to IPPL and especially to Shirley McGreal. Our long-term funding by IPPL has been critical to the successful implementation of our campaign against the illegal cross-border trade of Amazonian primates. Furthermore, IPPL's campaigning has helped us to raise awareness of our conservation goals at an international level.

Fighting the illegal trade in primates has been our most difficult challenge, owing to the lack of support from (and sometimes even persecution by) the Colombian government. Only with the support of IPPL were we able to attend a Standing Committee Meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species to denounce the trafficking of night monkeys for malaria research in the Colombia-Peru-Brazil border area.

Shirley's dedication and strength in supporting activists worldwide has been a source of inspiration. In times of persecution, we have always been able to count on her to help us keep

on fighting in spite of adversity. We are proud of being one of the organizations supported by IPPL, and we hope to maintain our long-term relationship

to continue protecting the primate community of the Amazon. Thank you, IPPL and Shirley, for supporting us always and unconditionally.



Roxane and Franck Chantereau and the team at J.A.C.K., Democratic Republic of Congo

For the last five years, IPPL has been a great source of support for J.A.C.K. The orphaned baby chimpanzees we rescued have grown into strong juveniles who need appropriate care and accommodation. Thanks to IPPL, our sanctuary has been able to build night rooms and open air playgrounds for our boarders. This is a hugely important step for J.A.C.K., as our main priority is always to provide these poor orphans with the best care possible.

Also, IPPL supported the construction of our Education Centre. Conservation goes hand in hand with Education, and, thanks to IPPL, J.A.C.K. is now able to make a difference in a country where respect for animals' rights doesn't exist! Thank you, IPPL, for trusting us and for loving these chimp orphans the way we love them!





Rosek Nursahid and the team at ProFauna, Indonesia

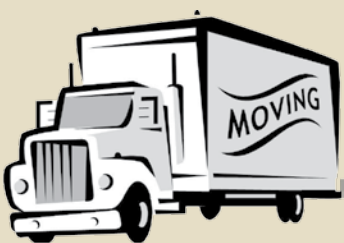
IPPL's support has played a big role in ProFauna's 21 years of work in protecting the wildlife of Indonesia and its habitats. For years, ProFauna and IPPL have been working closely to protect Indonesian primates through education, campaigns, advocacy, and investigations. This partnership has resulted in many victories for the primates: the foiled attempt to

export proboscis monkeys to the U.S., the repatriation of dozens of orangutans abused for animal shows in Thailand, the designation of the Javan langur as a protected species, the release of more than 50 confiscated Javan langurs, the arrests of primate dealers, and many more.

During 2014-2015, with support from IPPL, ProFauna has been undertaking scores of real actions for Indonesian primates. We provided assistance for the

police in a confiscation of six illegally traded primates, visited more than 36 schools and universities for educational programs, conducted forest patrols 20 times to prevent poaching, and initiated Indonesian Primate Days, which were celebrated in 50 different locations.

Without IPPL's support, it would be difficult for ProFauna to achieve such great accomplishments for the protection of Indonesian primates. Thank you, IPPL, for continuously supporting ProFauna!



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) 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*!)

Ape! Action! Africa!

Or: How an accountant who hates bananas became the CEO of one of Africa's largest primate sanctuaries

Sharon Strong



Shufai was at a critical stage in his young life.

Gorillas are sensitive animals, much more so than chimpanzees. One tragic consequence of this difference is that a gorilla orphan is much less likely to survive a poaching incident than an infant chimp.

If a gorilla between one and two years of age is caught up in the trauma of watching his mother and family members murdered (even if the youngster's physical wounds are not severe) the psychological shock can result in a complete mental and physical shut-down.

"They become glassy-eyed," says Caroline McLaney. "It's just horrible to see."

Caroline is the CEO of Ape Action Africa, one of the largest primate sanctuaries on the continent. While she primarily lives in England, she tries to get to Cameroon as often as she can. Her counterpart, AAA director Rachel Hogan, oversees daily operations on the ground. They make a great team. As Caroline likes to say, "We run AAA together: 3,000 miles apart!"

Located in Cameroon within a 1,000 hectare (2,500 acre) protected area of secondary forest known as the Mefou

Primate Park, the facility is home to over 350 primates, mostly monkeys (mandrills, baboons, and guenons) but also 110 chimpanzees and 20 gorillas. They have all been rescued from the grisly illegal trade in bushmeat and pets.

Witness to a murder

Shufai's wounds told the story: he had seen it all. He had shotgun pellets embedded in his arms and wrists; his left ear was shredded. It was clear that he had been clinging to his mother as she was being shot to death by poachers. And he was about one and a half years old.



Opposite, Shufai, an orphaned gorilla, has made an amazing recovery since he was brought to the Ape Action Africa sanctuary in Cameroon. Left, on arrival nearly 10 years ago, he was badly injured by the poachers who had killed his mother—and even more traumatized psychologically. Below, despite a recently amputated left arm, a consequence of his early wounds, Shufai is now healthy and active.

After he was captured, someone had tied him to a bed in a village a few hours' drive away from AAA. It was not clear how many days he had managed to hang on, in shock and pain, taunted by children and dogs. Fortunately, someone in the village contacted AAA, and a rescue convoy that included Bibila "Babs" Tafon (AAA's head veterinarian) and members of the Cameroonian Ministry of Forests and Fauna (MINFOF) went to confiscate the orphan.

By the time the AAA team arrived, Shufai was beyond terrified. No one could touch him. No one could approach him. He would not stop screaming.

Although he made it back to the relative calm of AAA, his mental and physical state barely stabilized. Staff members, careful to avoid traumatizing him any further, did not initiate contact. But Rachel found a chair and placed it next to his comfortable little cage.

She sat in that chair virtually 24/7 for two weeks. She did not speak to him. She did not try to hold him. That was not what he needed. Rachel just sat still, maintaining a quiet, non-threatening presence. She made sure that she was the first being Shufai saw on waking up and the last one on falling asleep. It's that kind of gentle persistence that guided her from being an AAA volunteer in 2001 to her current position in the organization.

But as the days passed, Shufai began to decline. He stopped eating. AAA staff decided they would have to risk a psychological relapse in order to treat his wounds. They took him to a medical center in the nearby town at around midnight, after all the human patients had been seen. Dr. Sheri Speede (founder of Cameroon's Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Sanctuary) performed surgery on Shufai's left arm—the first of many, as it happened—picking out as many shotgun pellets as possible and trying to piece together his shattered wrist.

As he groggily emerged from anesthesia, Rachel spontaneously reached out and picked up the battered little ape—and suddenly Shufai was OK with that.

In fact, he didn't leave her side for another year.

He continued to grow and thrive, quadrupling in size, but it was becoming clear that the wounds in his wrist had resulted in permanent damage. And it was not just a matter of being



unable to put weight on that hand—in itself a serious problem for a knuckle-walking ape. The pain was also interfering with his ability to play and socialize, and he was becoming more and more withdrawn. In 2013, AAA staff made the difficult decision to amputate the nine-year-old gorilla's left forearm just below the elbow. And they held their breath to await his reaction.

After he awoke from this last surgery at 5:30 A.M., Shufai took a good look at his missing extremity. Thankfully, he seemed to accept the fact that although his lower arm was now gone, so too was the pain that had radiated from his mangled wrist. He showed his new stump to the other gorillas in his group. At first they were inclined to treat it (and him) with appropriate gentleness, but soon it became clear that he was as ready as he could be for the old rough-and-tumble. Not only that, since he was no longer distracted by the discomfort of his old wounds, he even learned to climb trees single-handed. He regained his confidence and has become a gentle giant, the peacemaker of his group.

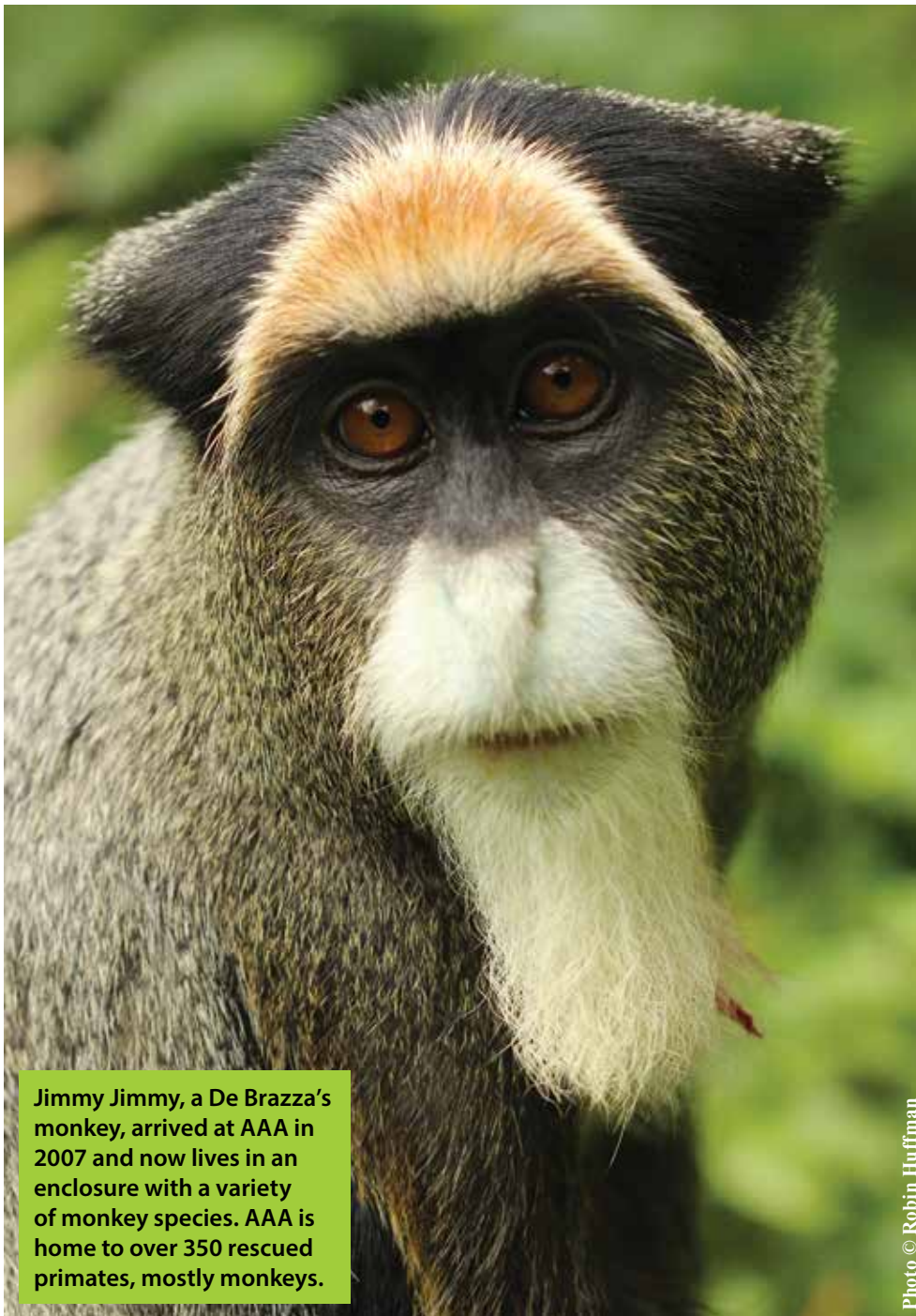


Photo © Robin Huffman

Jimmy Jimmy, a De Brazza's monkey, arrived at AAA in 2007 and now lives in an enclosure with a variety of monkey species. AAA is home to over 350 rescued primates, mostly monkeys.

Going bananas!

There are themes in Shufai's story that are echoed repeatedly throughout AAA. Not just the dramatic rescues and remarkable recoveries that characterize so many of their primate residents. More than that, AAA is a place where you can overcome your own perceived limitations. Caroline knows this as well as anyone.

Incredible but true for the CEO of a major primate sanctuary, but Caroline cannot abide bananas. They are unbearably squidgy, and (she claims) Cameroonian bananas have an especially pronounced

odor. "I remember once when I had to get a sick baby chimp named Karmal to eat. I had to hand-feed her individual pieces of banana. It was in my hands and hair. It was horrible!" she exclaims. But to the relief of everyone (including Caroline), Karmal finally accepted the mushy morsels, her first solid food in days. That's what it took to put her on the path to a complete recovery.

Not for Caroline, though. "I'm still not over it!" she grins.

Unfortunately for her, Rachel, is well aware of this Achilles heel and can't resist a little good-natured ribbing every now

and then. "Move on!" laughs Rachel when Caroline brings up this traumatic episode; "Let it go!"

There are other personal challenges, too. Many sanctuary volunteers are drawn to the close contact involved in hand-rearing orphaned animals, but that was never a task that appealed to Caroline. "I never wanted that responsibility," she said. "I'm an accountant with no experience caring for wild animals. I went to help with their finances." Nevertheless, on her first trip to AAA, she soon found herself hand-rearing three civet kittens, sleek nocturnal mammals that are often hunted for bushmeat.

But Caroline persisted, too. In fact, she found herself taking an increasingly active role on AAA's administration end. After her initial volunteer stint in February 2002, she returned for yet another go later that same year. She also agreed to take charge of AAA's bank account. ("I blame Rachel for telling the other trustees I'm an accountant!" she says.) Almost 14 years later, she continues to "commute" to Cameroon a couple of times a year from her day job in the UK.

The AAA backstory

In the mid-1990s, another Brit, a free-range zoologist named Chris Mitchell from the UK's University of Liverpool, observed the dreadful conditions experienced by the animals—especially the chimpanzees and gorillas—living in the Mvog-Betsi Zoo in Cameroon's capital, Yaoundé. Chris became committed to improving the lives of all the zoo's residents and, in 1996, founded the Cameroon Wildlife Aid Fund (CWAF).

His collaboration with MINFOF resulted in an agreement in 2001 to allow his organization access to part of the large tract of protected swamp and forest at Mefou. He eventually moved all the zoo's apes there (the zoo no longer displays chimps or gorillas) and started to develop the site as a sanctuary.

Mefou had been logged in the past and is now mostly secondary forest, but reportedly wild chimpanzees and gorillas were to be found in that very area as recently as the 1960s. CWAF became known as AAA in 2009.

The Mvog-Betsi Zoo supplied more vital contacts: Talila and her husband Avi Sivan, both Israeli expats. Talila had been feeding the zoo's chimpanzees since before Chris Mitchell showed up on the scene and was dedicated to their well-being. Avi, a retired colonel in the Israeli army, was the Special Military Adviser to the president of Cameroon and was responsible for training Cameroon's Rapid Reaction Forces, known as the BIR. Not only was Avi charismatic, well-connected,

and reliable, he frequently paid for the needs of AAA out of his own pocket. He became the director of AAA and, with his wife, provided the management expertise and drive to enable the fledgling organization to thrive.

Then, in a shocking turn of events, Avi was killed in a helicopter crash in November 2010. Talila, heartbroken, left Cameroon for France to be closer to her grandchildren. AAA found itself struggling—both emotionally

and financially—in the wake of this double blow, but fortunately Rachel was available to step into the management vacuum. She took over as director and kept the momentum going in a positive direction.

A little over a year ago, Larry Taylor came on board as deputy director. He had previously volunteered at the Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue Center and brought with him a wealth of practical experience. His presence on the



A group of rescued chimpanzees enjoys a playful moment at the AAA sanctuary.

Photo © Robin Huffman

You Can Support AAA's Sanctuary!

IPPL is a proud supporter of the vital work of AAA via our Small Grants Program (see page 20). You can help support them, too, and **IPPL will match your gift 1:1 up to \$10,000!** Please send a donation made out to IPPL (mark your check "for AAA" in the memo line) and mail your contribution to:

IPPL
P.O. Box 766
Summerville, SC 29484

Or you can donate online (www.ippl.org | **Donate Now**) and note that your contribution is for AAA. Let's help Shufai & Co. start the new year flush with bananas!



ground will free up Rachel to do more fundraising, outreach, and networking in the near future, Caroline hopes.

Making it work

It takes a particular skill set to make things work on the ground in Africa. As Rachel puts it, “Everything is the long way round in Cameroon.” A supply run takes all day (so don’t leave something off your grocery list, or you’ll miss your one chance that week). A trip to the doctor takes at least an hour. During the September/October rainy season, it’s a nightmare to find a network connection.

“In fact,” says Rachel, “I don’t sleep during the entire rainy season.” That’s when trees can suddenly fall and damage the fencing or cages. AAA has constructed over 16 electric fenced forest enclosures and satellite cages, all which require a lot of vigilance to maintain during times of extreme weather. You have to “learn to think on your feet,” says Rachel, because things can change day by day and hour by hour. Babs, the 17-year AAA veteran and head of veterinary services, likes to pronounce this particular caution: “Never

say ‘it’s gone really well today,’ because then things will go bad tomorrow!”

Nonetheless, somehow it all does work. Rachel praises her Cameroonian staff members: there are over 40 of them, many of whom have been there from the start of the project. AAA has two education programs (one based in the forest and one at the Mvog-Betsi Zoo, both targeting nearby schools), which, in addition to AAA’s Mefou Park guided tours, reach about 20,000 people a year.

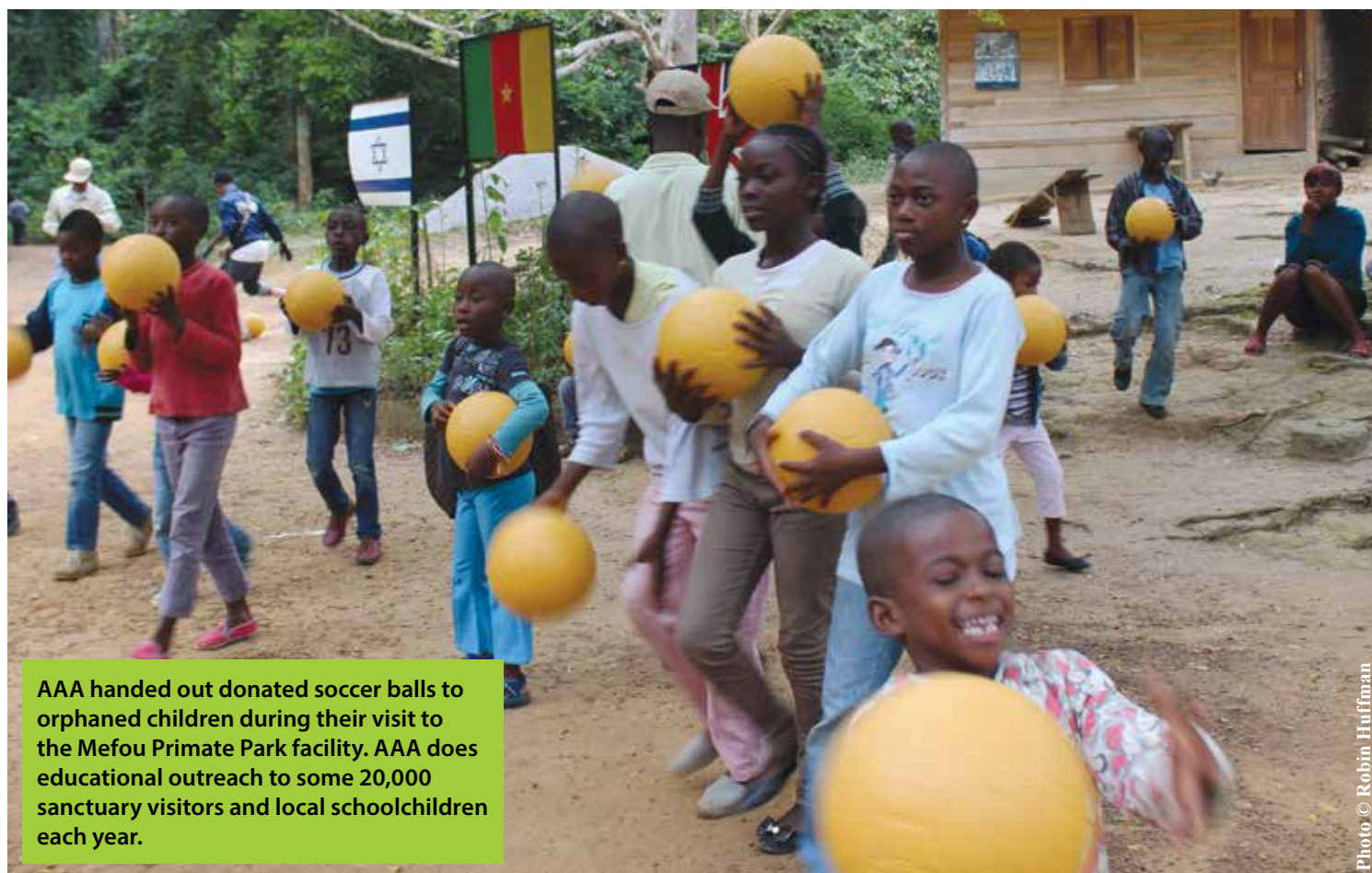
AAA cultivates local support by doing lots of projects with women, teaching them to make recycled handicrafts that can be sold to park visitors. AAA also opened a community bank so that the women will be empowered to pay for their kids’ schooling, bank loans, and death ceremonies themselves instead of requesting emergency funds from AAA on a regular basis. AAA helps area farmers by “buying local,” supports schools with grants for construction projects, and makes sure that all community members participate in vaccination drives and other public-spirited efforts.

And there has been some apparent

progress. People used to sell bushmeat openly in the markets, to the point of throwing bags of the stuff off the train at market towns, but now the trade is almost completely underground. True, sometimes you can see moustached guenon meat for sale at roadside stalls, but the chimp and gorilla meat is only available “behind the counter,” since people have learned that selling ape meat is illegal and the government is starting to enforce the laws more.

The flow of primate orphans seems to be slowing down, too. This could be thanks to the law enforcement work promoted by The Last Great Ape Organization (LAGA), a non-governmental organization that IPPL has helped support over many years. Sanaga-Yong’s Sheri Speede has also been successful in getting anti-bushmeat messages on the radio. And the Ebola epidemic seems to have reduced (at least temporarily) some customers’ desire for bushmeat. Perhaps the collective impact of these factors—in addition to AAA’s education and outreach work—are finally having their effect.

Give AAA an A-plus!



The luxurious volunteer quarters at AAA invite visiting helpers to linger on the verandah and listen to Shufai and his group indulge in their usual morning chest-beating display. The gorillas live just behind this building across the back fence.

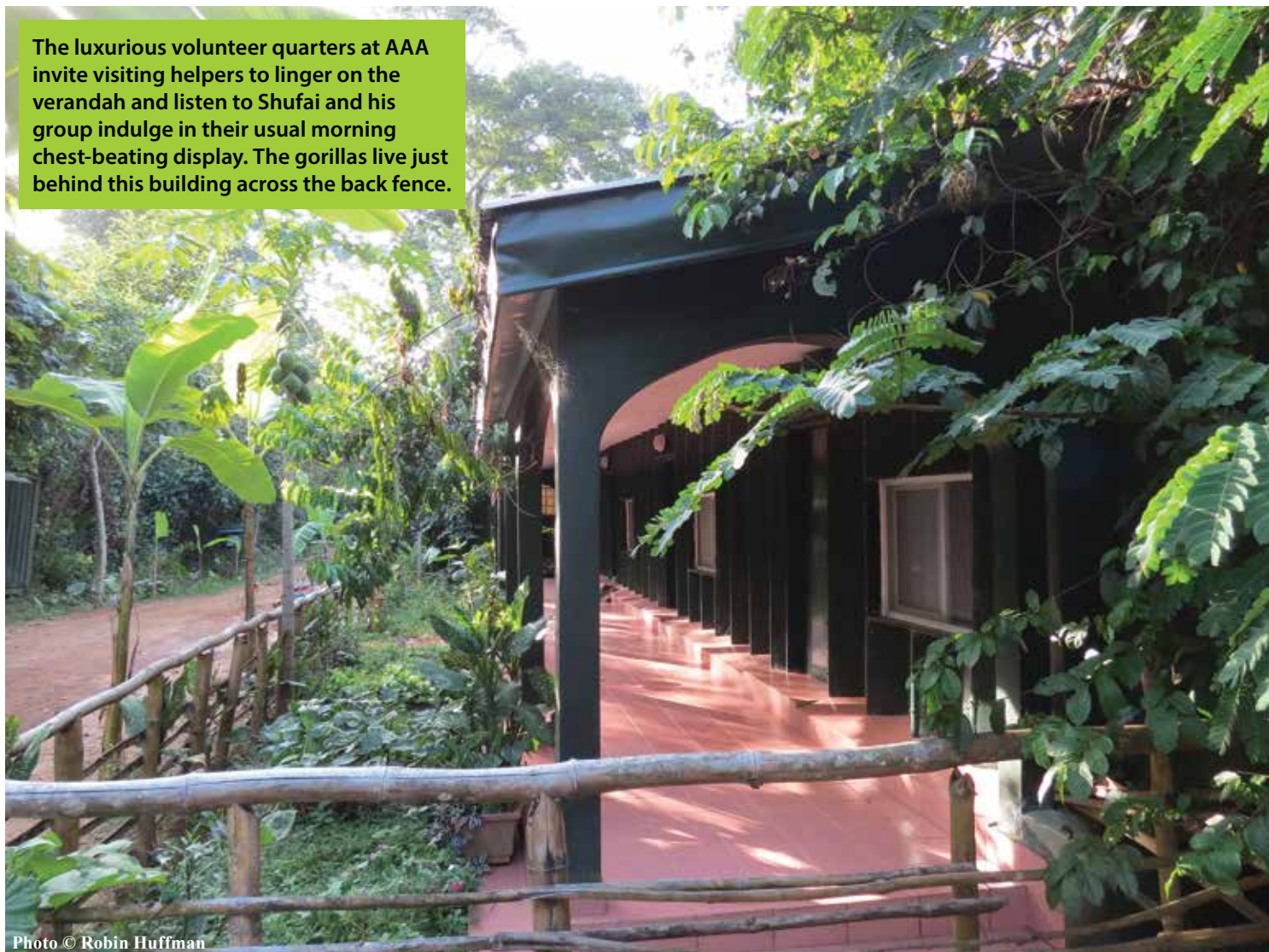


Photo © Robin Huffman

Ready for an AAA Adventure?

Warning! Addictive volunteer opportunities ahead!

Consider these alarming statistics:

- ❗ Rachel started volunteering at AAA in 2001 “for three months” and has now spent 14 years in Cameroon.
- ❗ Caroline started volunteering there in 2002, and, although she has a day job in the UK, she regularly “commutes” to Cameroon a couple of times a year to help out.
- ❗ Robin Huffman, an IPPL volunteer, started volunteering at AAA in 2007, went for a three month stint, and has gone back five more times for a total of 2.5 years at Mefou.

Would you like to join them? Here are some details:

- ❗ You must be least 21 years old to volunteer.
- ❗ Only four volunteers are on site at a time.
- ❗ Human contact with the animals will be minimized.
- ❗ Possible tasks include construction, painting, and school outreach.

Check out AAA’s Web site also for their downloadable volunteer handbook, www.apeactionafrica.org/get-involved/volunteer, or contact volunteer@apeactionafrica.org for more information.

Vietnam's Civil War on Primates: Douc Langurs and Gibbons at Risk

*Lois K. Lippold, Douc Langur Foundation Founder and President,
and Vu Ngoc Thanh, Douc Langur Foundation Director*

Douc langurs are among the most beautiful and endangered monkeys in the world. Found only in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, their survival is at risk due to habitat destruction, poaching, trapping, and illegal trade. This situation exists for many reasons, but the most important is a lack of effective law enforcement and a prevailing climate of corruption at all levels of government among those officials whose job it is to protect their country's wildlife.

Inspired by Shirley McGreal of IPPL, we set out to stop the serious threat to the survival of douc langurs—and of the equally threatened gibbons that share the same habitat in Vietnam. After spending more than 37 years studying the douc in captivity and the wild, we decided to establish the DLF to concentrate efforts on *in situ* protection. One of us (Lois) has studied various aspects of douc langur behavior and reproduction since 1972. Both of us have worked together to determine the douc distribution and conservation status throughout Vietnam since 1993.

Defeating the poachers

From the beginning, the mission of the DLF has been to provide direct protection to the douc langur population in a variety of ways. We work in the Son Tra Nature Reserve (STNR), outside the coastal city of Da Nang in the central part of Vietnam, and at Chu Mom Ray National Park (CMRNP), about 100 miles away near the border with Laos and Cambodia.

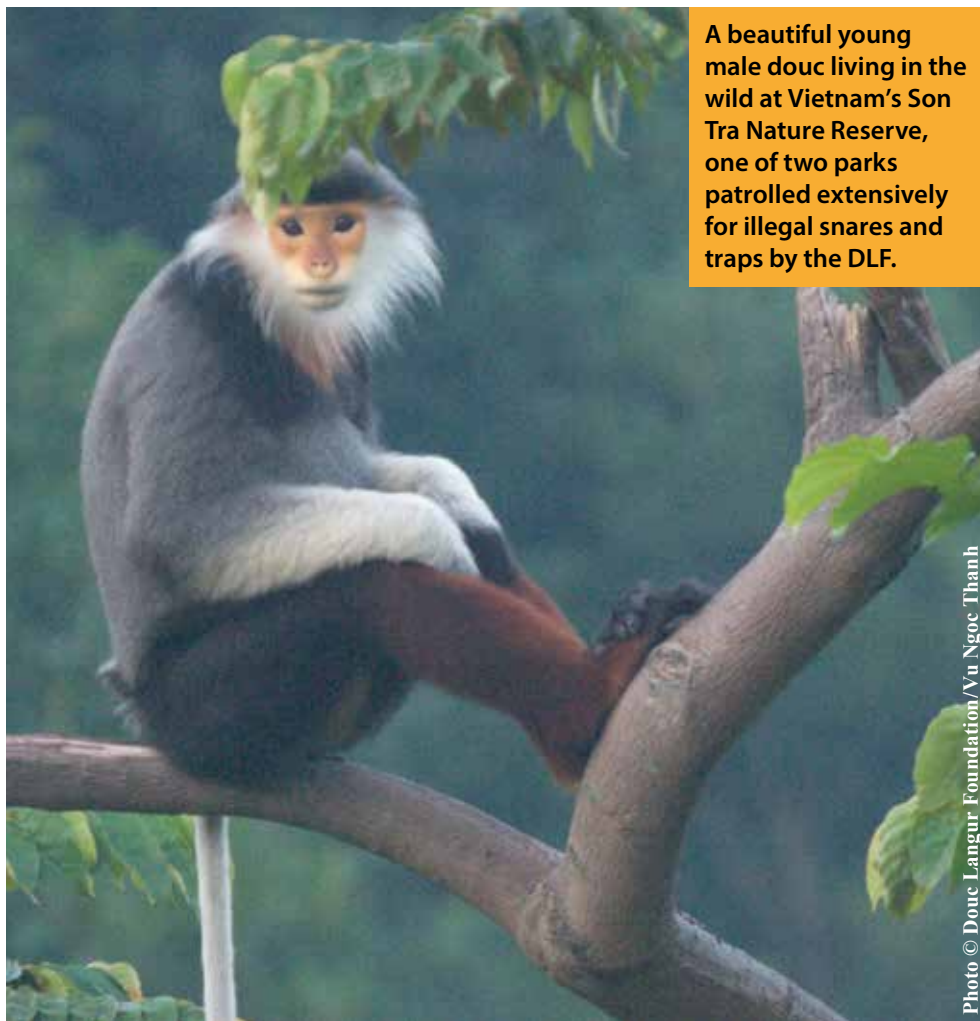
Our staff reports hunting, trapping, and wildlife trade to the Forest Protection Department (FPD) at both locations. The official response time at both sites is so slow, however, that poachers and hunters are usually able to escape. Recently, with the support of IPPL, we hired rangers to remove snares and traps, burn hunting camps, and eject collectors from the forest. We have also rescued animals in markets,

The DLF's first douc rescue, after a year at the Saigon Zoo, is now a healthy, handsome juvenile and a favorite of zoo visitors. Zoo staff drove 24 hours to Da Nang to retrieve him from the DLF when he was first confiscated.



The mission of the DLF:

To protect the douc langur and their wild habitat to ensure that they will survive in their home range for further generations. The foundation is dedicated to the proposition that much can be done to preserve the douc langur, including habitat conservation, research, education and local community involvement. We believe that if we can protect the douc langur, we will be protecting the forest and other species.



A beautiful young male douc living in the wild at Vietnam's Son Tra Nature Reserve, one of two parks patrolled extensively for illegal snares and traps by the DLF.

Photo © Douc Langur Foundation/Vu Ngoc Thanh

restaurants, and private homes. At STNR, 10 doucs have been rescued and more than 8,000 wire snares and 500 meters (1,600 feet) of fencing have been removed. At CMRNP, our teams have confiscated six baby gibbons and three doucs; they have also removed more than 19,855 wire snares and 5,000 meters (16,000 feet) of fencing.

The rescue process

Although it is part of the FPD's job to rescue illegally kept animals, we soon learned that no confiscations had ever taken place at either site. As an extension of our mission, the DLF let the FPD know that we would financially support the confiscation of doucs and gibbons.

We first started rescuing doucs at STNR by paying for forestry officials to check private homes and animal markets for illegally held animals. Whenever a douc was found, we paid to have the monkey confiscated. Next, the animal was transported to a facility that was able to provide adequate care for the rescue, either the Saigon Zoo or Wildlife At Risk.

The first confiscations took many days, much paperwork, and a lot of money to arrange. The entire process—from confiscation to transporting the animal back to the reserve or to a rescue center—took more than two weeks. This was largely because the FPD had never confiscated an animal before. It seemed that permits and authorizations from every ministry imaginable were involved.

We immediately set out to streamline the process. We were successful at reducing the wait time from two weeks to a few hours. We arranged for health checks by a local veterinarian and simplified paperwork so that (if feasible) we could return a rescued douc back to nature as soon as possible. If the douc was a juvenile or adult in good health, the monkey was returned to the forest. Infants less than one year old had to go to a rescue center. But a typical rescue still costs between US\$1,500 and US\$3,000, however. This covers vet fees, drivers, cars, FPD personnel, and a multitude of permits every time a provincial border is crossed.

This year another douc infant was confiscated at the Son Tra Nature Reserve by the DLF and Forest Protection Department. Here a member of the DLF team, Mr. Hoang, holds the baby prior to turning her over to zoo staff. She is doing well and is now in good health.



Photo © Douc Langur Foundation/Vu Ngoc Thanh



Photo © Douc Langur Foundation/Au Ngoc Thanh

Here a female trader holds a gibbon she was keeping illegally as a pet. The DLF was able to eventually persuade her to surrender the infant—who was discovered to have a broken leg when the DLF had her X-rayed.

Our first rescued douc

When our first douc infant from STNR was confiscated, Saigon Zoo staff volunteered to drive up to Da Nang immediately to take the baby. Zoo staff members, who have expertise in raising doucs, drove 24 hours to Da Nang to retrieve the infant. They have done a wonderful job caring for the little fellow. After a year at the zoo, he has grown into a handsome juvenile and become a favorite of zoo visitors. Recently, he was even paired with a female red-shanked douc.

This year another infant was confiscated at STNR and also taken to the Saigon Zoo. We notified the zoo that the infant was in critical condition, and they arrived very quickly. They transported the infant to the zoo, where she gradually regained her health.

The DLF also works at CMRNP, in western Vietnam. For the most part, we have been able to speed up the rescue process for doucs and gibbons at CMRNP, as well, with the help of generous grants from IPPL.

At CMRNP, it took almost six months to convince the national park to help us rescue our first gibbon. We were finally able to organize a team composed of DLF staff, park staff, border guards, and

environmental police to rescue an infant gibbon with a broken leg from a woman who was keeping it as a pet. She had no idea what to feed the infant but was nonetheless reluctant to relinquish it to us. It took all our combined persuasive power to finally convince her that she was breaking the law.

The usual way to obtain these baby gibbons is to kill the mother. Our informants tell us that it often takes killing more than 20 female gibbons to end up

with one live baby. They also tell us that when the mother is shot, the father comes over to see what is happening, and he is killed, too. That means that every infant gibbon brought into captivity has cost the lives of dozens of gibbon family members.

Progress despite setbacks

A few months ago, we encountered a disturbing development at CMRNP. We found that the park was building a mini-zoo and that they had kept a young critically endangered gibbon to put in their new facility. CMRNP staff was dead set against relinquishing the infant. The DLF had to threaten to withdraw all financial support for park programs until the gibbon was transported to Wildlife at Risk. It took us six months of tough negotiations to rescue this one little guy.

The DLF is dedicated to protecting all those doucs and gibbons in need of rescue that we encounter in Vietnam. And we have made progress. We are collaborating with the authorities at STNR and CMRNP to rescue all douc and gibbon confiscations. We have streamlined the lengthy process of rescuing and transporting animals across jurisdictions. We continue to financially support the man-power and transportation necessary for each rescue.

In the end, saving the lives of these unique, rare, and precious Vietnamese primates is worth every effort we can make!



Photo © Douc Langur Foundation/Lois K. Lippold

This gibbon was being held illegally for a mini-zoo to be established at the Chu Mom Ray National Park. After six months of negotiations, the DLF was finally able to have the gibbon transferred to a rescue station operated by Wildlife At Risk, a non-governmental organization based in Ho Chi Minh City that accepts and cares for confiscated wildlife.

Primate Poetry

IPPL's two-fold mission is to help preserve primate species in the wild and to promote their dignity in captivity. Each of these poems speaks to one half of IPPL's vision for a world where all primates are loved and respected.

Ode To A Species In A Time Of Extinction*

Clara B. Jones
for Dan Janzen

We are losing ground, Dan said.
And I responded, Yes.
Juan Santamaria's tears are falling on the rainforest
weeping for their loss
almost gone the way of jaguars

legumes and lianas missing their playful leaps
and figs finding another kind to spread their seeds
figs sweeter than mangoes could not prevent their exile
by new conquistadores born in their own country
with villas in Alajuela and partners in Miami and Austin

flying into Corcovado in Cessnas
collecting samples of timber and ore
as I once collected their fragile bodies
destined for museums in Cambridge and Albuquerque
an orange monkey, head crowned grey as soot

stalking them on horseback with campesinos
no longer rulers of Osa
their peninsula fragmented
diurnal omnivore
moving to another landscape

groups growing smaller
grasshoppers and birds' eggs once fed them
prey to eagles' talons
now lost to human predators
whose lives are bound by decades not by years.

**Saimiri oerstedii*

Clara B. Jones is a retired scientist who conducted research on primates in Latin America for many years. In 1976, she studied *S. oerstedii* (the Central American squirrel monkey) on the Osa Peninsula in Costa Rica. Dan Janzen, to whom this poem is dedicated, is a conservation biologist and one of Clara's former professors. Currently, Clara practices poetry in Asheville, NC and is a staff writer for the poetry journal *Yellow Chair Review*.

Outside These Bars

Heather Lei

She motioned for me to come to her.
Using only her hands,
she said, "Can you let me out?"
Dropping my gaze,
I shook my head.

Her thick, dark lips pursed
as she looked at the door,
then back at me.

"Tell me,
What's it like outside these bars—
to walk on rain slicked grass,
and suck on sun-ripened peaches
as the sun beats down on your face?"

"What's it like to hold your dreaming child,
never fearing that he will be taken
by the men in white coats?"

I began to cry.

Fixing her big brown eyes on mine,
She tilted her head and signed:

"What does it feel like to be free?"

I reached my arms in between the bars
and held her hands in mine. She moved
one of her hands and
wrapped it around my neck—
holding me, unaware if
the tears would
ever stop.

Heather Lei graduated with honors from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She holds a degree in English and works with Michelle Madrid-Branch, advocating on behalf of foster children and women worldwide. She is a mentor through the Big Brothers Big Sisters program and a volunteer for several organizations dedicated to the compassionate treatment of animals.



The Sunrise Circle

Helen Thirlway, IPPL Board Chair

The Sunrise Circle is named after the IPPL gibbon, Arun Rangsi, whose name roughly translates as “the rising sun of dawn.” The first lab gibbon IPPL rescued, Arun Rangsi was born in 1979 at the Comparative Oncology Laboratory at the University of California at Davis. Sadly, his mother rejected him—or so we were told. His lab record sheet notes “multiple abrasions over body,” and he was placed with a substitute “mother” made of wire. He was given the number HLA-98, which was tattooed in blue on his chest.

During the first year of his life, tiny HLA-98 had pneumonia twice and dysentery twice. He experienced dangerous weight loss and constantly banged his head, a symptom of chronic psychological stress. In 1980, the lab was notified that the National Cancer Institute was ending funding for gibbon research. All of the gibbons were sold to animal

dealers, zoos, or other labs. But nobody wanted tiny HLA-98, who weighed only 2.2 kilograms (4.8 pounds).

This was when things started to turn around for this little gibbon. Hearing that he faced death, IPPL stepped in to save him and took in its first rescued lab gibbon. We also contacted a supporter in Thailand, where Arun Rangsi’s parents came from, asking her to go to the Temple of Dawn in Bangkok and ask the monks to select a name for him. The name they chose was Arun Rangsi, the “rising sun of dawn.” With lots of love and care, Arun Rangsi gradually recovered from the traumas of his childhood, finding a mate and becoming a father. He is still in good health at the ripe old gibbon age of 36!

As well as being a much-loved character at IPPL’s sanctuary, Arun Rangsi is symbolic of the hope that our organization represents in rescuing

primates around the world from abuse and suffering—and working tirelessly to protect them in the wild. By joining the Sunrise Circle, you become part of this legacy of hope for the world’s primates, helping us to continue to protect primates like Arun Rangsi long into the future.

Members of the Circle are welcome to visit the IPPL gibbon sanctuary for a private guided tour with Shirley and will receive regular correspondence from the IPPL team. Should you wish for your gift to be publicly recognized at the sanctuary, there are a number of ways that this can be arranged.

Please get in touch (info@ippl.org or 843-871-2280) if you would like to discuss, without obligation, how you can help IPPL with a legacy gift or if you have already included a planned gift in your estate plans and would like to join the Sunrise Circle.

Leave a Lasting Legacy...

...for the Primates You Love

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

- ◆ build new gibbon houses and outdoor enclosures at our sanctuary;
- ◆ acquire new sanctuary land, now totaling 36 acres, which not only creates space for our gibbons but provides a buffer zone that shelters local wildlife;
- ◆ construct a much-in-demand guest cottage for our visitors, known as “Swan and Mary’s Cottage” after the lovely couple who left IPPL the funds to build it; and
- ◆ provide support to dozens of primate sanctuaries and rescue organizations around the world, wherever primates are native.



Arun Rangsi, rescued from a lab

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

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

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

With gratitude,

Shirley McGreal

Dr. Shirley McGreal

IPPL Founder and Executive Director



Gary, retired from a tourist venue

Indonesia on Fire, Gibbons at Risk

This fall, Indonesia saw its worst wildfires since the 1997 fire season, and about 90 percent of them were started by humans. A thick, toxic, yellow haze blanketed the nation for months, even drifting into neighboring countries.

According to media reports, these fires have resulted in the deaths of some 20 people and sickened approximately half a million more. Children were especially vulnerable to lung problems caused by breathing the polluted air. And it is impossible to calculate the damage to the country's wildlife: animals, of course, do not have access to face masks and indoor air filters.

Nearly 125,000 fires have been started in Indonesia since June. And this year's powerful El Niño event brought unusually warm, dry weather conditions to the region, which made the situation even worse.

Fires out of control

Fires have traditionally been a preferred method for clearing land for small scale slash-and-burn agriculture in that part of the world, but such fires can quickly get out of control if conditions are right. In addition, oil palm companies are believed to be illegally using this method for clearing large tracts of land. In some places, palm seedlings have actually been found planted on the charred remains of what was a living forest only a few weeks before. Government prosecution of such flagrantly unlawful activities has, unfortunately, been lacking.

As noted in an open letter by the Ape Alliance (an international coalition—to which IPPL belongs—of organizations and individuals working for ape conservation), the fires of particular concern are those taking place in tropical peat swamp forest, where about half of Indonesia's fires have been ignited. This type of habitat is “a globally-important refuge for endangered ape species, including the Critically Endangered Sumatran orangutan, Endangered Bornean orangutan and five species of

Endangered gibbon living on Borneo and Sumatra. Over one third of all Bornean orangutans are at risk from forest fires in 2015.” Sumatran tigers and elephants are among the other notable species that are threatened by the severe habitat disruption caused by these fires.

Peat fires can be treacherous, simmering below ground for some time

before erupting into flames. They are extremely difficult to extinguish.

Year of the (Endangered) Gibbon

The plight of orangutans who have been burned out their homes has captured the media's attention. These animals are accustomed to ranging over a wide territory to find their preferred

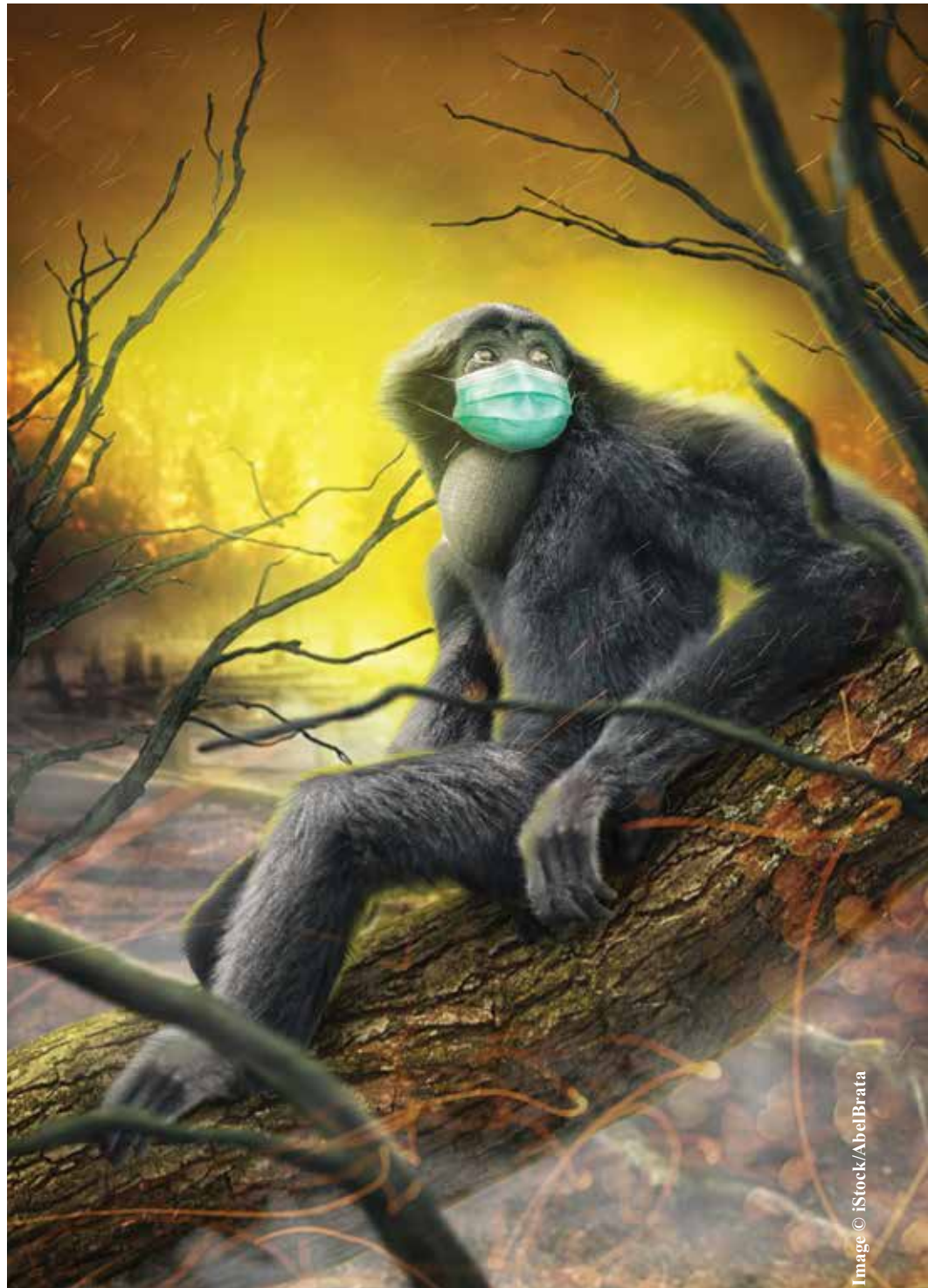


Image © iStock/AbelBrata

Take Action for Indonesia's Forests— And the Primates Who Live In Them!

Please send a letter to the President of Indonesia asking that he protect his country's valuable peat forests with their rich wildlife heritage—especially the gibbons and orangutans. Ask him to enforce laws prohibiting the use of fires for clearing large tracts of land for oil palm plantations. Ask him to halt the granting of concessions for the development of peat forests for commercial uses. We need to prevent this annual disaster from happening yet again.

President Joko Widodo
President of the Republic of Indonesia
Istana Merdeka
Jakarta Pusat 10110
INDONESIA

Postage from the U.S. to Indonesia costs \$1.20 per ounce.



Logo courtesy of Gabriella Skollar

sources of fruit, but the wildfires are driving them out of their natural habitat. This exposes them to poachers, among other hazards, but the country's gibbons are, in fact, at even greater risk. The Alliance further notes that "[b]ecause gibbons live at typically higher population densities than orangutans... their populations are expected to have suffered even greater total numbers of individuals lost."

Even those gibbons residing in the relative safety of a wildlife sanctuary have been affected by this crisis. At

one Indonesian facility known to IPPL, some of the animals have become ill with respiratory complications, and the unnaturally darkened skies have made them all less active.

The year 2015 has been designated the International Year of the Gibbon by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (of which IPPL is a member) and its Primate Specialist Group Section on Small Apes. The purpose of this initiative is to raise the profile of this neglected group of primates and draw the world's attention to their

dire conservation status. Indonesia's wildfire crisis is just one example of how these small-bodied apes tend to find themselves sidelined despite the greater risk these animals face compared to their larger-bodied cousins.

After all, at IPPL, *every* year is the Year of the Gibbon. And we believe that all primates, great and small, deserve to be protected from humanity's reckless excesses.

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). 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) |

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

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

Card number: _____ Expiration date: _____

Cardholder's signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

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

\$_____ amount / month

until the end date of

_____/_____
(month / year)

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

Primate Paraphernalia!



IPPL Baseball Cap:

100% cotton; khaki; adjustable

Cost: US\$12 (US)/
US\$16 (overseas)



Gibbon Notecards: 12 cards and envelopes, 2 each of 6 IPPL gibbons (Arun Rangsi, Courtney, Glenda, Igor, Maynard, and Tong)

Cost: US\$10 (US)/US\$14 (overseas)



IPPL Gibbon T-shirt:

100% cotton; green shirt features 3 IPPL gibbons:

Arun Rangsi, who came to IPPL as a baby from a biomedical lab; **Igor**, who spent 26 lonely years in research; and **Beanie**, who was blinded by illness.

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

Cost: Adult US\$15 (US)/US\$22 (overseas)

Child US\$12 (US)/US\$16 (overseas)

Shop online for more gibbon goodies including DVDs at www.ippl.org!



Primate Connections 2016 Wall Calendar:

Featuring IPPL's Spanky for December! Sales benefit primate conservation students.

Cost: US\$20 (US)/US\$27 (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**.

Method of payment:

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

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

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IPPL • P.O. Box 766 • Summerville, SC 29484 • USA
Questions? 843-871-2280 or 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.
- An IPPL sanctuary fact sheet.
- A gibbon fact sheet.
- An IPPL window cling.
- A quarterly update on your gibbon.

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 XL

☐ **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).

You can also adopt a gibbon on our Web site: go to 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 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.



Peppy was born in 1979 at a cancer lab run by the University of California at Davis. The laboratory used gibbons in painful and usually fatal viral cancer experiments. When the lab closed down, he was sent to yet another research facility, the Laboratory for Experimental Medicine and Surgery in Primates in New York. Fortunately, before LEMSIP closed its doors as well, he and his companion-for-life, Helen, were sent to IPPL in the early 1980s. They have been together ever since—and you can always tell them apart because he will be the one sucking his thumb. Miraculously, he never became ill as a result of the research carried out on him, so we have always called him "The Gibbon Who Got Away."



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Meet IPPL's Erin!

You might not guess it to look at her, but Erin is our resident ninja! Formerly a zoo gibbon, she was born in 1985 and came to IPPL with her long-time mate Ziggy and their daughter Cathy in 2007. Aggression within her group at the zoo had resulted in severe injuries, which led to her lower right leg being amputated.

But that hasn't slowed her down. Because gibbons mainly use their long arms, flexible shoulders, and curved fingers to swing quickly from perch to perch (a type of locomotion called brachiation), Erin does just fine getting around the extensive outdoor enclosure she still shares (in empty-nester bliss) with sweet Ziggy.

Her ninja reputation comes from a story we were told when she first arrived. Apparently, once when she was being darted for capture at the facility where she lived previously, she actually caught the dart in mid-air! She's also got this intense ninja gaze that she frequently directs at neighboring females in Gibbon House #7 (Elsa, E.T., and Uma) during their fearsome, prolonged staring contests. I suspect Erin usually wins.