
C.A.\$.H. -- The Committee to Abolish \$port Hunting

Spring, 1994-Premier Issue

"HOPE"

Hope was a Canada goose illegally rescued during a legal special hunt at New Jersey's Ringwood State Park.

She had been shot in both wings and near a vital organ. Our side took "possession" of her (if a wild animal can ever be "possessed") in defiance of conservation law that said she belonged to the hunter. She was relayed to a car outside the park and whisked to a veterinarian. Over a three week period she stayed in different homes and visited veterinarians in an attempt to put her back together again. We had the choice of leaving the shot in her body, which we were warned might cause infection, or removing it with some risk as well. It was a group decision to have the shot removed. The freedom we trusted would be restored to her, and her name, would be a symbolic message.

Ann Ilkiw, a wildlife rehabilitator, spent many hours caring for Hope to help mend her body. Ann sent the following letter to the Coalition to Prevent the Destruction of Canada Geese:

Saturday, Sept. 25th 1993, 11:50

Just learned Hope died while under anesthesia. She was not euthanized. Her heart gave out and she died as she lived, fighting. The day before, she had stood up on her own two legs, walked, escaped her enclosure and managed to flap her bandaged wings while having a good look around. She was happy when I found her.

Hope's broken body gave way to free her soul. Now her spirit can fly free in all of us if we let it.

She did not die in vain.
She was not an exercise in futility.
She gave me far more than I ever gave her.
She gave herself.

"Oh if I could only be half as tenacious as were thee."

When we parted at the vet's office she let me stroke her head, I kissed it. Then, remembering herself, she bit me but not hard.

As a rehabber, I see death almost on a daily basis and I've come to understand the significance and importance of it within the context of one's existence. Death is just the next step. I forget no one and I know they are not gone. Just the same, this one comes hard. For me, this issue is now personal.

Hope alive united us.
Hope dead, galvanizes us.

Hope was a lean mean fighting machine. And now there is a little bit of her in all of us...

We buried Hope at Hidden Lake, a secret place where many geese meet safely. She is back with her people. She is also buried deep in our hearts. As I leave her with our love, I hope she is happy.

Henry Vth said, "In peace nothing so becomes a man as modest stillness and humility. But when the blast of war blows in our ears then imitate the actions of the tiger."

This is war!

Ann placed an eternal flame on Hope's grave that evening. Hope is still our message.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of C.A.S.H. - Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting - is to accomplish what its name says in the shortest possible time. Understanding that abolishing hunting entails a process, a series of steps taken and not a single action that would effect our goal overnight, a time frame cannot be established. We hope for building a succession of wins, and if not wins immediately then at least a succession of stirrings of consciousness. We hope to encourage those who are still silent to speak out, awakening community after community about the heavy hand of state and federal wildlife management agencies. We hope to alter whatever belief still exists that sport hunters are conservationists and champions of the environment to a realization that they are destroyers of wildlife and ecosystems in the narrow and broad sense. Where the natural feeling for wildlife doesn't exist, we strive to engender among citizens outrage that their own rights are violated by legal hunting and that their quality-of-life diminished.

Luke A. Dommer was the founder of the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting. He was its president from 1976 until his passing in August 1992. Mr. Dommer's research and publications served as the foundation for the anti-hunting movement. He remains, through this organization, an invaluable and dedicated warrior in the battle to save wild animals, the environment, and general public from the silent economy that encourages and preys on the passion of a few to kill the wildlife that belongs to all.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anne Muller - President
Ron Baker - Vice President
Jennifer Stein - Vice President
Barbara Aster - Treasurer
Peter Muller - Secretary

C.A.S.H. is a 501(c)3 Not-for-Profit Corporation. Contributions are tax deductible.

C.A.S.H.

P.O. Box 44

Tomkins Cove, NY 10986
914-429-8733 - Phone
914-429-1545 - Fax

Anne Muller - Editor

THE GREATEST CHALLENGE is designed to stimulate dialogue among activists who battle pocket-hunts independently without formally becoming "organized"; to small groups formed out of a pre-existing passion or in reaction to a kill threat; to large organizations battling on many fronts. Individuals are encouraged to send creative ideas. We ask that you send responses directly to authors. Copies can be mailed to C.A.S.H. for our records.

THE GREATEST CHALLENGE FACING THE ANTI-HUNTING MOVEMENT TODAY IS... TO DEMOCRATIZE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

BY ANNE MULLER

PRESENTATION:

Luke Dommer, the founder of C.A.S.H., said the military teaches to identify and then attack the weakest point of the enemy.

Based on observation and conversation with other activists, the weakest point of the enemy appears to be federal and state despotic authority over local governments; and the undemocratic process by which decisions affecting wildlife are made. **Conservation law itself was created by hunters for hunters and greatly impacts the 93% non-hunting public.** I would go so far as to say it subjugates the non-hunting public to the will of the 7% minority that hunts. The despots are becoming sensitive to the public's increasing awareness. They are taking steps to construct a democratic facade, while doing nothing substantive to change.

To make it appear that hunters and trappers are not making unilateral decisions for wildlife, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) Wildlife Division has been initiating "task forces" to include the "general public." I contend that task forces or "citizen advisory boards" are orchestrated by wildlife management agencies and will be comprised of individuals who will do their bidding.

Task forces give the illusion of democracy at work. They seduce the public and press into believing that government is responsive to the larger population by encouraging its inclusion. The task forces that I'm aware of have been shams.

A task force set up to discuss the Canada goose issue in Rockland County, NY is a good example. The task force was formed by a local legislator (who had taken our side) at the suggestion of a DEC official. She set it up to discuss non-lethal methods that could be used in the county to redistribute geese from areas where they are "unwanted." [Note that legal hunting of Canada geese, the issue which really should be addressed and exposed, is not within the purview of the task force.]

The Coalition to Prevent the Destruction of Canada Geese was invited to be on the task force, being told to have one representative from our group present as there would only be one representative from several other groups in the county. At the first meeting, and as of this writing the last one, thirty people attended. Most represented "themselves." There were six people from one school, someone from out-of-state

who is a well-known agitator for hunting, the town supervisor who wanted to gas 10,000 geese (a member of the local Audubon Society, by the way) and his staff. Most were recognizable from meetings held on Canada geese in the past, and were known for their pro-kill stance.

Three individuals now claimed to be coordinating the task force: 1) the legislator (on our side) 2) the head of the Environmental Management Council (on our side), 3) a director from Cornell Cooperative Extension (a DEC arm). The latter commandeered the meeting early from the other two coordinators and recommended that the DEC be brought into the task force. The representative from the Coalition to Prevent the Destruction of Canada Geese was the only individual to object. Screaming ensued.

The following week, the Coalition to Prevent the Destruction of Canada Geese submitted a proposal for a format for future task force meetings to all three coordinators to ensure that the staged free-for-all by the pro-kill forces didn't recur. The coordinators responded by saying they would incorporate some suggestions, adding that we could expect this to be a slow process taking years to resolve!

We originally had faith in the fairness of the task force because we had confidence in two of the coordinators. However, the task force itself can be taken over by the opposition any number of ways: through local political maneuvering, through state maneuvering - I won't go into detail here

In a meeting on another hunting matter with the head of the NYS DEC Wildlife Division, we were asked if we would be willing to participate in a task force with hunters and trappers. Sure, we all agreed. I cautioned that based on our experience in Rockland, task force meetings could be unproductive unless properly run and that a format had to be established. He confessed that they had none and I faxed him our draft. Several days later he faxed a response saying that our format wouldn't work because a 50-50 split of proponents of lethal methods on one side and proponents of non-lethal methods

on the other side made for a deadlock. The composition of a task force, he said, should have broad representation regardless of how the individuals felt about lethal methods.

A week later, another DEC official said he thought it was a bad idea to set up a task force to discuss only non-lethal methods since lethal methods were a legitimate way of controlling populations as well, and it appeared to be undemocratic! I said I could agree so long as decisions were made by consensus. "Of course," he said. "**By the way, how do you define consensus?**" I asked. "**Unanimous minus one,**" he answered.

Press releases could read, "A decision was reached by consensus of the goose task force to permit the taking of....." (Federal and state wildlife management agencies, as you know, are formidable propaganda machines.)

What's even more disturbing, as already mentioned, is that hunting regulations have no place in this task force, which is set up to discuss non-lethal methods the county can use to dissuade geese from areas where they are unwanted. Regular and special hunting seasons are unaffected by our decisions. They will continue unabated as part of the state's "long term management plan" to reduce "resident" Canada goose populations.

Another attempt to give the impression that wildlife management agencies are democratic is their "comment" system on proposed hunting regulations. Few people are on their list to receive notice and little time is given to comment. The general public is in the dark about what regulations are pending approval, and unwelcome comments are ignored. Their boards are "good ol' boys clubs," rubber stamping proposals as they come up for vote. Rarely is a regulation challenged unless the hunting impact could affect someone else's consumptive use of the "resource."

Until wildlife management agencies cease to be controlled by the 7% minority (sport hunting and trapping interests) substantial progress cannot be made. I maintain that the democracy issue is the weakest point of the enemy. Efforts should be made to expose the despotic rule of wildlife management to the public and local governments so that, to begin with, authority is given to local governments to afford wildlife and human residents protection from hunters and trappers.

THE CHALLENGE:

To encourage local governments to seek authority from the state for protective jurisdiction over wildlife.

To inform and infuriate the public and local politicians that local ordinances, designed to protect wildlife (which concomitantly protect the public), can be preempted by the state and ignored by hunters and trappers.

To encourage citizens in towns that have no existing bans on the discharge of weapons (and the setting of traps) to demand that bans be legislated.

If your town does not have a general ban on the discharge of weapons (for the safety of human citizens), and your property is not properly posted with 11 x 11 signs stating your name and address, then hunters can be 500 feet from your dwelling (while still on your property) and blast animals away during the "season." **In the case of shooting waterfowl, at least in New York State, hunters can shoot over a body of water regardless of its proximity to a person or dwelling.** Therefore, if there is a "body of water" next to your house (a puddle? pool?), and your children are playing near or in it, hunters can still legally enter your property and "harvest" (maim, harry, shoot, kill) waterfowl "so long as a person, livestock or dwelling is not in the direct line of fire."

RATIONALE:

The democracy issue cuts across the board. This focus engages the larger public. People become incensed when they discover that they cannot protect wild animals or a particular wild animal if they so choose. They become even more incensed when they discover that conservation law prevents them from protecting their own property or their families from hunters and trappers without going to great effort and expense.

ASSUMPTIONS:

a) The general public is unaware that conservation law infringes on the rights of the 94% non-hunting public. The public is unaware that democracy doesn't operate in the decision-making process regarding wildlife; that conservation law, written by and for hunters, shackles the larger public, preventing self-protection or protection of wildlife.

- b) Most local politicians are unaware of the pro-hunting bias of state and federal wildlife management agencies and are unaware that local anti-hunting/trapping ordinances can be preempted by the state and indeed ignored. Local governments have no legal authority to protect wildlife by regulating hunting and will lose in a court of law if challenged.
- c) Some local politicians are in the pockets of or are intimidated by local hunt groups.
- d) The general public does not think highly of hunters, in spite of the glossy "conservationist" image painted by game agencies, and does not want to be subjected to them.

NEEDS:

- Pro bono legal help
- Folks to get on the bandwagon in other areas -keep us informed
- Documented examples of how towns or individuals have been denied their right to protect themselves or wildlife during hunting seasons
- Statistics on hunting accidents involving non-hunters, pets, property
- Progress reports: how, when, where, who

Note:

Several people have come to our meetings or called for help because they were disturbed by hunter activity near their homes. Some have been effective at getting neighbors to sign petitions for the town to "do something." They were shocked to learn that they couldn't protect themselves from hunter intrusion, and were simply told to post. They were told that even if they could get an ordinance passed it could be preempted by the state. They become even more infuriated when they learn that they have to spend money, time and effort to be able to bring charges against an individual who may not be easy to identify or apprehend. Further, even if violations could be proven, maximum penalties are meager and rarely meted out by judges. They then realize that conservation law violates their rights.

In spite of that, they're reluctant to give testimony. They don't want their names used, they're afraid of retaliation, of being in the limelight, of the time it will take.

SUGGESTIONS:

Giving priority to getting complaints from citizens: mothers, teachers, etc. about hunters in their area. Follow up has to be regular, persistent and encouraging.

Offering posting help as interim relief. Doing the leg work for them if necessary.

Being pro-active by alerting communities about the hazards of hunting in the area and offering posting help. That allows you to inform people about conservation law. You're more likely to have their

support at town or county meetings for weapons' discharge bans.

Getting veterinarians, med stops, hospitals, police departments to supply information about hunting related accidents.

Informing legislators of issues that would influence voting decisions related to locally banning the discharge of weapons and seeking authority for local jurisdiction over the protection of wildlife.

Educating reporters, editors, etc. Educating the public through letters to the editor. Attempting to get a regular column in a newspaper, or a program on local radio. Doing public and/or government access programs on a regular basis.

Sensationalizing what is being taken for granted. Putting the horror back into an activity taken for granted through demonstrations. Tabling at

supermarkets or fairs while demonstrating and petitioning at the same time.

Seizing the opportunity whenever a person, pet or property is injured by a hunter or trapper by taking actions to call as much attention to it as possible for as long a time as possible.

Making "deals": e.g. "Support the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting Through Your Favorite Pizza Shop." Putting this message on pizza boxes and distributing boxes free to pizza places. □

ANNE MULLER IS PRESIDENT OF THE COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH SPORT HUNTING, C.A.S.H. SHE WAS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE COALITION TO PREVENT THE DESTRUCTION OF CANADA GEESE. PLEASE DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE AUTHOR AT: POB 44, TOMKINS COVE, NY 10986; FAX OR MAIL WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL. FAX: 914-429-1545

A THANK YOU NOTE TO MEMBERS FROM ANNE MULLER REGARDING THE LAWSUIT:

I would like to thank all of our members for their patience and support during the 1 1/2 years C.A.S.H. could not carry on its work. On the positive side, it resulted in the formation of The Coalition to Prevent the Destruction of Canada Geese, which is now happily a full-fledged organization.

I never doubted for a second that Luke and I could be stopped from fulfilling his wishes for the Committee or from what I knew our destiny to be. Though unfortunate, it was only a short hiccup in the Committee's long and successful history. We now will move forward with even greater steam to hopefully see an end to the nightmare of legal hunting in our lifetime.

TRAPPED BY FISH AND WILDLIFE LAW - 11-0111

BY MARLIESE VARGA

There is an undeveloped, untouched tract of land on the east side of Theills Mount Ivy Road belonging to the Town of Haverstraw in Rockland County New York. Winding its way through these woods, and accenting their beauty, is a wide shallow stretch of the Minisceongo Creek on its way to the Hudson River.

It is another world, a totally wild place about 60 acres beginning from my perspective, downhill from a well-traveled road and a parking lot. A place where all kinds of small animals are drawn to gather and drink, as nature would have it at a woodland stream unmolested by human activity, or so I thought. It was by accident that the day I came here to release two young squirrels I'd raised was the same day that a tall, gangly gentleman wearing hip boots and carrying a sack and club was walking uphill from the creek to his pickup truck in the parking lot. When he left, I walked down the hill and followed the creek for a half mile before I found, along the edge of the water first one, then two, three and four large open black plastic buckets laying on their sides. At the closed end had been placed an open can of corn and something directly in front of that called a conibear trap, which is an offshoot of the leghold trap. Theoretically, the conibear trap is supposed to kill instantly, snapping around and crushing the "fur bearer's" body before he gets to taste the first kernel of corn. Realistically, if the

furred creature is not the precise size, or doesn't enter the bucket in a precise manner, the trap may simply snap off the front half of its face.

I couldn't help thinking, how could a nice town like Haverstraw provide for the sport of golf on the Phil Rotella course while directly across the road, within a stone's throw, allow the sport of crushing bones and bashing heads. This was worth verifying. So I called the town police who **startlingly told me there wasn't any trapping allowed in the Town of Haverstraw.** Aha! Armed with this information, I confiscated the four traps along with a skinned animal's body that had been used in place of the corn as bait in one of the larger buckets. (Recycling takes many forms.) Next I called the local conservation officer. That's "conservation" as in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). The officer came to my home immediately and:

- 1) Identified the owner of the traps by a tiny 1/8 inch metal name plate that I had overlooked.
- 2) Identified the skinned body as that of a Gray fox.
- 3) **Informed me that I had acted illegally and the owner of the traps may decide to press charges against me since no township or county legislative body has the power to ban the state sanctioned activity of trapping according to DEC Fish and Wildlife Law 11-0111.**

What seems apparent is that the DEC, through introduced bills and subsequent laws, has so systematically wrested control of our wildlife that it has rendered the majority of citizens and local community governments powerless in this area.

In Rockland County, pet owners far outweigh individuals in hip boots setting wildlife torture traps, so that someone's cat is just as likely as a Gray fox to meet its maker in the bottom of a black bucket.

For that reason, in 1987 Suffolk County New York took the initiative to ban leghold trapping in its community. The ban was overturned in a challenge from the DEC a year later. This is the very same agency that will be soliciting you again this year for donations under the catchy phrase, "Return a Gift to Wildlife," the very same agency whose primary agenda and source of revenue is based on the exploitation and killing of wildlife.

MARLIESE VARGA CAN BE REACHED THROUGH C.A.S.H., POB 44, TOMKINS COVE, NY 10986.

Editor's Note: Return a Gift to Wildlife (RAGTW) money is used in part to "educate" school children about the pleasures of hunting and trapping. Until that changes, we recommend against this check-off on your state income tax forms.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT FOR *REAL* BIODIVERSITY

BY PAUL N. GRAY, PH.D.

Dr. Paul Gray is a wildlife biologist in the Waterfowl Management Program of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. The editor of this magazine met him at the Atlantic Flyway Council meeting in Tallahassee in February, where she went to document the waterfowl management process. She was impressed by Dr. Gray's candor regarding wildlife management agencies. He bravely shares some of his views with us:

I write to comment on some of the things we discussed, and offer ideas for what I think could be fruitful avenues for you to pursue to meet some of your goals. We agree on the importance of maintaining biodiversity--the earth and our civilization need it. However, state conservation organizations often work only sparingly on projects specifically devoted to biodiversity. As you have pointed out, correctly I think, **state (and federal) conservation agencies work predominantly on game species and game issues.** Contributing factors to the present overemphasis on game species include: funding sources (the old sports-sponsored-conservation-through-license-fees argument); interests of agency biologists (many hunt and fish); and the fact that the sports [hunting interests] have been interactive participants in agency programs. The latter point was evident as you were about the only person at the Flyway meeting who wanted anything other than hunting.

No matter what the extenuating circumstances are, **most government conservation agencies have a mandate to maintain all plants and animals. When agencies work primarily on game management, I think they are violating their mission statements. Game species constitute less than 1% of all species (including invertebrates). If you want to seriously curtail game management, point this discrepancy of time allocation out to legislators, agency personnel, and the public, loud and long. Ultimately, biologists are public servants, and it is our job to fulfill the public's mandates.**

When pressed about how good game management really is for biodiversity, you no doubt have heard agencies fudge when answering. **The common argument is that management areas are good for all species. That usually is an overstatement.** A good example of this is St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge (in Tallahassee) where managers put freshwater impoundments in almost pristine salt marshes, effectively replacing the salt marsh habitat with freshwater habitat.

Strangely, that increases biodiversity in the sense that the manager can say that there are more ducks and wading birds present than were possible before, but that is a bastardization of what conserving biodiversity really is about... Things like salt marsh snakes and seaside sparrows, and saltwater crabs and such, that depended on the salt marsh, were driven extinct in the actual area of the impoundments. I, for one, do not think that is sound conservation practice. I do not think that destroying one kind of wildlife to have another is appropriate.

Some National Wildlife Refuges plow prairie grasses under to grow corn and wheat fields, that geese love, but the row crops really damage resident species; I cannot justify this in my mind. When managing habitats, government agencies should manage for the maximum good of everything possible, which means managing for natural ecosystems.

Another aspect of game management that usually does little good for larger conservation issues is harvest management. Agencies conduct extensive surveys to try to estimate the

populations of game animals and the effects of harvest (to protect them from overharvest). It is prudent and imperative to protect hunted species from overharvest, but while conducting surveys and working on harvest monitoring, we are not actually doing anything for the animals (i.e., there is no more habitat protected or restored when you are done counting). Enforcing game laws is another pursuit that takes a lot of agency time and money, and does little to protect or enhance habitat (although rampant poaching will deplete a population and should be prevented).

When our agencies spend time on hunting regulations, it leaves less time for habitat conservation.

I must caution you to not confuse game management with other appropriate forms of management. For example, preservationists often think that by excluding people from an area, and doing no management, they can save the plants and animals. This is intuitively an attractive idea, but it is surprisingly misguided. Humans have impacted every single corner of this world, and it is stunning to learn of the myriad impacts that off-site conditions can have. For example, if a dam upstream of our management area gives us water in an unnatural pattern, our wetland species suffer. It often is a difficult task to get people to understand the pejorative effects of a hands-off management strategy.

Dr. Batt, Director of the Institute for Wetland and Waterfowl Research of Ducks Unlimited*, gave a good example of that at the Flyway meeting. He detailed how a management area in the Dakotas only had about a 10% nest success rate for ducks (in spite of intensive efforts by managers to provide good nesting cover, protection from predators and so on--more game management). When the 11,000,000 acres of conservation reserve grassland were planted across the U.S. (as part of the 1990 Farm Bill), farmers replaced row crops around the management area with grasslands, and duck nesting success rose to about 25% on the management area, and in the surrounding grasslands (25% success sounds bad, but actually is good for ducks). If ducks are an indicator of ecosystem health, we can get several messages from this lesson on habitat conservation: 1) Even though the management area was "saved" from agriculture, things OUTSIDE the border of the management area heavily impacted events (nest success) INSIDE the area (telling us that we cannot just preserve an area and expect everything to be okay) 2) Government policy has far more impact on our ecosystems than actions of managers on specific areas (credit especially Dr. Lawrence Jahn of the Wildlife Management Institute with recognizing this fact and negotiating the conservation provisions in the Farm Bill and achieving, in one fell swoop, what hundreds of managers could not), and 3) If we give animals suitable habitat, they can take care of themselves.

We do not have to manage for each animal specifically. Probably the most important thing managers can do is try to insure the availability of the most natural system possible -- and let the animals do the rest. Luckily for us, nature is phenomenally variable and species have adapted to this variability, giving us the knowledge that most species can make it if we can create close to natural conditions.

We must work on ecosystem conservation/restoration. If animals (and plants) do not have healthy ecosystems to rely on, they will go extinct. As humans continue to develop more and more areas, extinctions are becoming rampant. And if we planned it, we could

develop in a sensible manner and conserve virtually every species. In a nutshell: we need fairly large natural "core" areas where all species should persist fairly well (usually government-owned areas), and we need corridors between the core areas where species can move and exist. Corridors are needed because parts of populations apparently go extinct on a regular basis due to myriad factors and, in theory, many animals can move along corridors and repopulate the core areas (and maintain gene flow to maintain genetic diversity). Corridor areas could not all be public lands, which would require some sort of "zoning" (or conservation easements, or other regulation) for our entire nation. Zoning rural areas would be a bitter battle with land owners, but it would pay off for society in the end because with a plan we can save our species and our commerce (areas outside of the corridors can be heavily used) and without a plan, we soon will have endangered species everywhere, land use will get restricted anyway (and things will go extinct, too). Zoning is accepted in urban areas, even though it could be considered a "taking," we need to get people thinking this way for rural areas.

The above plan is overly simplified and I highly recommend a book called *The Fragmented Forest* by Larry Harris that talks about corridors, core zones, and landscape ecology in general.

However, you'll rarely hear about this type of plan from a state agency. The instigator would be shot (maybe). But, if the public demanded a real plan to conserve biodiversity, that took human activity into account, then some progress could be made. There are many biologists, such as myself, in these agencies who want to start making these plans and doing this kind of conservation work. Unfortunately, we get no support from the administration or the

public. **We need you to tell the legislatures and our administrators that the public wants our agency to emphasize all species in the state, not a select few.**

To summarize, I offer the following opinions: 1) Biodiversity should be the most important goal of our agencies 2) Extinctions and endangerments could be avoided if we planned development 3) Game management appears to be a poor emphasis during the present crisis of development 4) State conservation agencies will need more money and support before they are able to meet the challenge at hand 5) The act of hunting is a non-issue in the biodiversity debate** 6) Citizens need to learn as much as possible to help guide agency activities.

Item number 6 is important. Recommendations I have gotten from the public are often misguided. When it comes down to it, we must let technical people do the projects. The public can and should participate in decisions about what the goals of our projects should be, but technical people must be free to implement plans. [For example, debating biology with technically competent biologists may not end successfully for you. I suggest you would have better luck debating the goals of the programs than the way the programs are conducted.]

Your disagreements with the agencies are healthy and make the decision-making process better in the end.

DR. GRAY CAN BE REACHED AT THE FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION, 3991 S.E. 27TH COURT, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974.

EDITOR'S NOTE

*Ducks Unlimited is dedicated to growing waterfowl for hunters' guns. The more waterfowl habitat, the more living targets. Habitat needs protection, so do the inhabitants, consistent with the biodiversity mandate. Sport hunting demands artificially increase populations of "target" animals and plants at the expense of non-target species.

**Dr. Gray clarified his summary statement 5 above by saying that he believed the act of hunting had little impact on species and is merely a moral issue. He readily admits that management for hunting is detrimental to biodiversity in that time taken for game management is not better spent saving habitat. C.A.S.H. takes issue with point 5 and contends that hunting and management for hunting grossly impact ecosystems, citizens' rights, and the hunted individuals, thus affecting the species to which they belong. We further oppose the growing of animals to be used as targets for fun and profit on moral grounds. We look forward to readers' responses.

C.A.S.H. is grateful to Dr. Gray for writing the above article. It allows us a glimpse of wildlife management agencies from an insider's perspective. It offers hope that the agencies are not as stagnant and adamant as they appear from the outside. Individuals comprise the agencies, and within there are forces pushing for change. Granted, it is not ideal from our perspective, but it is encouraging.

Opinions expressed by authors or organizations in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions of C.A.S.H. Conversely, opinions of C.A.S.H. are not necessarily the opinions of authors or organizations appearing in the newsletter. The C.A.S.H. publication is in part an experimental networking design offering a forum for discussing and brain-storming planned, organized actions among groups and individuals who oppose hunting. In a more targeted sense, it is for those actively involved, or about to become actively involved, in opposing the government's management of everyone's wildlife for less than 7% of the public and less than 1% of the species.

National networking is the key to success. Although this issue is weighted with articles from NYS, we are seeking announcements and articles from all over the country. We ask that you meddle in the hunting affairs of other states.

PLEASE ACT UP ON THE FOLLOWING:

BEARS: The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is charged with deciding season lengths of dogs and "trainers" chasing bears. Seasons may last up to three months. Suggest one day. There are 200 trainers now, but this activity impacts people who live or visit the country. Chasing bears with dogs through the woods will disrupt residents, people who are relaxing picnicking hiking, birdwatching, vacationing or driving resulting in human injury and death. Bears and dogs overheat, ask that chase be only on cool days contained to 1/2 hour and that dogs be kept on leashes.

MOOSE: Help stop the DEC from initiating a bill permitting them to authorize a moose hunting season. What's the rush? There are only 17 known moose in NYS. Write to Executive Deputy Commissioner Langdon Marsh, NYS DEC 50 Wolf Rd., Albany, NY 12233-1010. The above announcements were submitted by MARION STARK OF THE FUND FOR ANIMALS, POB 9029, ALBANY, NY 12209.

WHO REALLY RUNS THE DEC?

BY RONDA ENGMAN

This article is an attempt to explain how New York State's fish and wildlife programs are funded. This is an enormously complex and messy affair that discriminates against the nonconsumptive "user" and, in the process, discriminates against "nongame" animals. If you read this and still scratch your head saying that the funding doesn't make sense, don't worry. It's not meant to. It's only meant to serve the consumptive public and that's all that counts. Here goes.

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is broken up into numerous divisions, including the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Among its many duties, the DEC is mandated by law to "Promote and coordinate management of water, land, fish, wildlife, and air resources to assure their protection, enhancement, provision, allocation, and balanced utilization consistent with the environmental policy of the state..." (If our "air resources" should ever be in short supply, I have no idea how the DEC will "allocate" them, but let's not worry about that now.)

The Division of Fish and Wildlife has received funding from the following sources: The Conservation Fund, federal aid, the General Fund, environmental enforcement, and marine resources. During the 1991-92 fiscal year, the last year for which there are statistics, the total from these sources was \$57.6 million. Environmental enforcement and marine resources combined totalled only \$3.6 million and play only a negligible part in the whole. The other three sources are the most important and will be discussed in detail there.

FEDERAL AID:

All state wildlife agencies are recipients of federal money through the Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson acts. Pittman-Robertson money must be used for wildlife restoration and hunter education. Dingell-Johnson money must be used for sports fish restoration. Where does this money come from?

Pittman-Robertson money is an eleven-percent excise tax on long guns and ammunition, and a ten-percent excise tax on pistols and revolvers and an eleven-percent excise tax on certain archery equipment paid by the manufacturer or importer to the federal government.

The money paid by the federal government to each state is based on the number of hunting licenses sold in that state.

In the case of Dingell-Johnson money, this is a ten-percent excise tax on fishing equipment and a three-percent excise tax on electric trolling motors and sonar fish finders. This year, the Wallop-Breaux Law will require that a portion of the federal motorboat fuels tax and import duties on fishing tackle and pleasure boats also be dedicated to sports fish restoration. **The return to each state is based on the number of fishing licenses sold in that state.**

Obviously, there are many buyers of guns or boats who don't hunt or fish, but the taxes on their equipment go to the consumptive user.

During the 1991-92 fiscal year federal money going to NYS was \$7.2 million.

THE CONSERVATION FUND:

The Conservation Fund is a dedicated fund used solely for fish and wildlife programs. The money in the Conservation Fund comes from the sale of resident and nonresident hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses; fines (when a hunter is fined, the money is returned to the Conservation Fund, even if the hunter is fined for trespassing on your posted property or committing some other nonwildlife-related EnCon violation); fees; the sale of books, migratory bird stamps, and other materials; Return a Gift to Wildlife monies (RAGTW); interest on investments, particularly from RAGTW; and other minor sources. **This totalled \$34.7 million during fiscal year 1991-92.**

THE GENERAL FUND:

The General Fund is the state's general account, comprised mostly of your tax dollars. It pays for toilet paper, secretarial services, construction, some vehicles, land acquisition from environmental bonds, etc.--the things we might call "essential services." **During 1991-92 the portion going to Fish and Wildlife programs amounted to about \$12 million.**

Although the DEC is constantly telling people hunters pay for the majority of fish

and wildlife programs, as you can see they paid for only 60.2% of the programs. In previous years when the Environmental Bond Act brought much more money in for land acquisition, their contribution was less than half.

THE CONSERVATION FUND ADVISORY COUNCIL:

The CFAC is mandated by law which states, among other things, that members must possess a valid hunting, fishing, or trapping license. The purpose of the CFAC is to advise the DEC on how to use the money in the Conservation Fund.

The CFAC meets with DEC officials once a month, the meetings sometimes lasting many hours. (The November 1993 meeting lasted more than five hours.) To make a long and complicated story short, if you were to read the minutes of CFAC meetings, you would see that CFAC has basically taken control of all funding sources, including the monies from the General Fund, and tries to control the running of the Division of Fish and Wildlife. In fact, at one recent meeting, the president of the CFAC made the Division's three Bureau chiefs show him their hunting licenses, and they did. (I'm not making this up, it's in the minutes.)

THE NEW YORK STATE CONSERVATION COUNCIL:

Despite its name, the NYSCC is a dedicated hunting club, claiming to have about 300,000 members. By law one of the members of the NYSCC must be represented on the CFAC. This allows NYSCC to have direct control over the funding of wildlife programs and over the Division. NYSCC and the CFAC rarely disagree on issues. They were both in favor of Sunday hunting, allowing 12-year-olds to hunt, the venison bill, the legalization of the crossbow, and on and on.

GOOD OL' BOY NETWORK:

If you met with DEC officials as I do, you'd notice one very odd thing. The meetings are always male DEC officials meeting with female animal rights activists. Let me assure you that the gender gap is alive and well in the DEC.

There are no female deputy commissioners. There are only three female assistant commissioners--Solid Waste, Public Affairs, and Human Resources. In the Division of Fish and Wildlife, there are almost no female biologists. We will never get anywhere unless we insist that the DEC start hiring more women--particularly for upper level positions within the DEC and for nonclerical positions within the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

YOU:

Where do you fit in? Well, that depends. Ken Wich, the director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, claims nonconsumptive "users" have access to the Division through letters and meetings that they can request. When I asked him if he would be amenable to changing the composition of the CFAC to include citizens who didn't hunt, fish, or trap, he said, "No."

If you look at the statistics, the number of consumptive users is declining, despite DEC's various attempts to increase those numbers. For example, the hunting age was lowered to 12 a couple of years ago. The CFAC then authorized an increase in the cost of most licenses in an attempt to make up for the decline in licenses sold. But that didn't work. So, come August 1993, the Division ran out of money and was unable to pay its employees--until a special allocation from the General Fund brought the Division out of the red.

Governor Cuomo is now proposing that more money come out of the General Fund on a regular basis and that a special five-cent, nonrefundable bottle tax be charged, the revenue from which would go to the Conservation Fund.

The CFAC wants to initiate user fees so that hikers and other nonconsumptive users would put money into the Conservation Fund. This really irritated me because I thought it impertinent of the CFAC to tell the DEC how nonconsumptive users should pay for wildlife programs without consulting us. So, I wrote to the DEC Deputy Commissioner Bob Bendick and asked him to hold joint meetings and workshops attended by all interested parties so that everyone could decide how the state's fish and wildlife programs will be funded. No response from Bendick as of yet.

HERE'S WHAT I PROPOSE:

By law, all New Yorkers are stewards of the wildlife in this state. We should all be responsible for the well-being of New York's wildlife on an equal basis with equal access to the DEC and equal input on how wildlife programs are run. I propose that a dollar amount be deducted from the General Fund based on the number of people in the state. In other words, let's say there are 17 million people in the state, and we agree to deduct annually \$4 per person from the General Fund. That's \$68 million. The DEC would also sell licenses as it has always done, but this money would be controlled

by all interested citizens not by hunters. After all, is there a group of licensed drivers which meets and determines how car license money is spent? Of course not.

Every DEC employee I've proposed this to has liked the idea. The questions are: Will the hunters go for it and will the legislature allow it? Only time will tell.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

- 1) Send for a copy of the CFAC's fiscal report which comes out every April 1. (Is there some coincidence that this is April Fool's Day?) The report is free and available from the CFAC at the DEC's address, 50 Wolf Rd., Albany, NY 12233. (No coincidence there.) Keep current with the CFAC and the DEC and what they're doing with your money and your wildlife.
- 2) Write to Governor Cuomo and tell him that New York's wildlife programs should be paid for by everyone equally and that everyone should have equal representation concerning how the money for these programs is spent. Cuomo's address is Executive Chambers, State Capitol, Albany, NY 12224.
- 3) Write to the DEC's new commissioner, Langdon Marsh, and insist that the DEC hire more women for upper level DEC positions and for nonclerical positions within the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Thanks for your help!

RONDA ENOMAN IS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK STATE COALITION FOR ANIMALS (NYSCA). SHE CAN BE CONTACTED AT 571 SOUTH DANBY ROAD, SPENCER, NY 14883; 607-589-4031

WAR ON WILDLIFE WAGED IN PARK IN UPSTATE NEW YORK

Under cover of darkness, bullets rip into the dreams of children, the peace of homeowners, and the bodies of fawns and pregnant does due to deliver.

A "bait and shoot" of deer program is now going on in Durand Eastman Park's 965 acres, surrounded on three sides by homes and on the north by Lake Ontario. There are five established bait sites (three in the park) which deer have been lured to for months in preparation for their slaughter by "sharpshooters." Seventeen deer are reported killed during two nights of shooting under this program. Residents report wounded or maimed deer limping into their yards the day after a shoot.

The scientifically unfounded "bait and shoot" program was approved by the Town of Irondequoit, a suburb of Rochester, in the County of Monroe as a multi-year plan, with plans to kill 80 deer this year and possible increasing numbers each year in and near the Irondequoit park.

Local bans on firearms discharge were lifted to allow the "bait and shoot." This program is being called a "model" for the entire county park system. Opponents view it as inappropriate, a dangerous precedent and a violation of rights.

The State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), New York's recreational hunting agency, issued a

"nuisance permit" to allow the plan. A stacked task force, set up by Cornell Cooperative Extension at the invitation of the DEC, rubber-stamped a "controlled hunt."

Public safety is one rationale behind this program. However, after years of urging, the town and county have done nothing to implement proven public safety measures. Killing deer does not address public safety. Public safety is a separate issue.

There are no data on the deer population. A census in March, 1992 was discredited. It showed 178 total deer in Irondequoit (130 in the park). The permit was based on deer-car accident figures (many include

duplication or are unsubstantiated), and damage to park and home owner vegetation. There are no transect studies on park vegetative damage.

Deer have become scapegoats for any alleged damage. Information has been mishandled by some factions, including a small group of "outraged gardeners."

The Tug of War -- A Historical Overview

Since about 1978, bowhunting, the DEC's hunting preference, has been proposed and defeated (the threat of bowhunting in the public county park system still exists). In 1990 the Irondequoit Deer Action Committee (IDAC) formed to explore herd reduction methods. Its founders included a county legislator who is now president of the legislature, and other proponents of hunting.

The back page of a Town Hall Report was used for a Damage Survey (responded to by less than 3% of the residents) two years ago. Questions were weighted and respondents thought they would be able to collect for damages. This report was used for a plan to trap and transfer these "publicly-owned" deer to a private venison farm. **The DEC, although stating publicly they would not allow deer to be used in a private business, wrote they would allow it in exchange for a hunt program in another county park.**

The Monroe County Alliance for Wildlife Protection (MCAWP) formed in Spring, 1991 and began an immediate push for the implementation of public safety measures to reduce the risk of deer-car accidents (Swareflex reflectors, reduced and enforced speed limits, better and more deer-crossing signs, trimming underbrush, motorist education). MCAWP has a three-year overlay map pinpointing locations of accidents. Deer are creatures of habit and cross for generations at the same locations (figures and map available). **The town and county have still not addressed public safety.**

Dr. Jay Kirkpatrick, the acknowledged leader in the field of wildlife fertility control (immunocontraception), came to Rochester in June, 1992. He offered his vaccine in the Fall of 1992 to be used as part of a site-appropriate data-gathering/contraception program. This proposal fell on deaf ears. Other professional proposals, such as Dr. Porter's census-taking offer, using cutting-edge technology, also went nowhere

MCAWP designed a six-point plan to resolve the deer situation, cited as a "national model" by the Humane Society of the U.S. This is a "kinder, gentler" method, designed for urban/suburban settings where hunting is not legal, wise or safe.

A Shot in the Dark

In spite of alternatives and public will, "bait and shoot" began on March 31, 1993. Four deer were killed. Thirteen more were killed on April 7th.

Residents report the nearly-tame deer are wounded and skittish. Officials have been cautioned by the DEC that the deer would be "spooked." **Deer-car accidents increased during the first week of the bait and shoot.**

Development has been unchecked, as in the case of the 35-acre Winding Woods project adjacent to the park. Woodland was flattened without an environmental study, in spite of a written warning by the Environmental Conservation Board that this area acted as a major north-south runway for deer in and out of the park. Following this devastation, accidents increased on the stretch of road nearby.

Due to well-documented biological studies on "compensatory rebound" (the phenomenon of more births following a decline in population), wildlife advocates view this plan as ineffective, a "quick fix that won't fix anything." Data must first be gathered on population size, birth rates, migratory patterns, buck-doe ratios. A realistic population control program must be fact-based. **There are still no valid criteria to measure the effectiveness of any plan.**-----April 14, 1993

Aftermath

Eighty deer were reported killed during the 1993 "bait and shoot" at a cost of \$470/animal (hidden costs not reported). **Deer-car accidents increased during and after the program.** While many accidents occurred at the same "hot spots" they had in previous years, there were some new areas across a road that cuts through the park where there had previously been a low incidence of accidents. **Public safety measures have still not been implemented.**

Round Two

1994 saw the "bait and shoot" begin in January. **Of the 160 deer targeted, 160 were reported killed.** Although

proposed, an accurate infrared aerial count of the deer has still not been taken. This year, on-duty sheriff's officers did the shooting (hidden costs not included in budgeting). **No humane officers nor media were allowed to witness the massacre. Silencers were used on guns in hopes of silencing the protests of residents.** Residents reported terrified deer running wildly back and forth across the road following a night's shoot. Now officials say they will lower the speed limit on Lakeshore Blvd. and use reflectors.

DEC officials have said both that the deer "appear healthier" and they "are in poor condition." (Nature also had a say by giving this area another "hard" winter.) At this point, it is reported that deer are getting harder to find because the deer are becoming wary of spotlights and there are fewer of them. (Again, how many were there? How many are left?) Female deer had more embryos in them this year (compensatory rebound due to last year's ineffective program). **More and more new people are raising their voices against this violent action.**

An Uneasy Peace

In a 1991 letter to the Parks Department, the DEC proclaimed that the County park system easily lends itself to bowhunting. If 50-80 deer remain, it is believed that bowhunting will be again proposed. This "magic" number ensures a trophy herd, bucks develop larger racks due to greater nutrition from an abundance of vegetation, they can claim that bow hunting would be effective at reducing the population of such a small herd. Also, the compensatory rebound mechanism would kick in, thereby maximizing the reproductive rate for future kills.

Monroe County bowhunting proponent and legislature president, and allies, see an immediate future of annual bait-and-shoot followed by long years of seasonal bow hunts in the city, as well as at other county parks "if the need arises."

Will another precedent be set as the parks fall to yearly bowhunting? Will people be denied access to their parks during hunting season every year? Will these deer continue to fight for their lives. Will people fight a losing battle for retaining peaceful coexistence with nature close to home? Will peaceful alternatives (contraception, adaptation, education) be given a chance?-----February 24, 1994

Continued on page 12

NATIONAL WILDLIFE ECOLOGY DAY

Luke Dommer, founder of The Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting, wrote and presented the following on the grounds of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, New Paltz, September 28, 1991.

National Wildlife Ecology Day celebrates the diversity of species on earth and the ecosystems supporting their existence.

Today, September 28, 1991 marks the birth of this day which will, from now on, fall annually on the fourth Saturday of September to oppose National Hunting and Fishing Day.

On that day, demonstrations against state and federal wildlife agencies will be organized nationally to publicly challenge ecologically unsound management policies supporting recreational hunting.

National Wildlife Ecology Day is dedicated to: (A) The preservation of biological diversity, genetic integrity, and the ecology of wildlife. (B) The establishment of democratic representation on councils of wildlife management for the protection our wildlife heritage. (C) Public safety relating to sport hunting activities.

THE TEN DEMANDS

Article I. *Whereas, scientists predict a catastrophe for mankind because of an escalating loss of plant and animal species, we demand that all public lands, national and state refuges, forests and parks be managed as ecological reserves with no sport hunting or management of species or habitat for that purpose allowed. This is to preserve the broadest degree of biological diversity (maximum number of species possible).*

Article II. *Whereas, the Supreme Court of the U.S. declared "Wildlife is a national treasure held in trust for all citizens," we demand that hunter-control of wildlife agencies be replaced by democratic representation for the 93% non-hunting public on councils for wildlife management.*

Article III. *Whereas, national wildlife refuges were established as inviolate sanctuaries, where wildlife could exist in a natural state and where no sport hunting was to be allowed, we demand that all hunting and trapping, and other exploitation of these refuges be abolished.*

Article IV. *Whereas, the fact that deer are currently managed on a "maximum sustained yield principle" to produce "optimum populations" of deer for hunters is ecologically unsound; and this "optimum" yield increases crop damage, deer-car collisions, lyme disease, and starvation of deer, we demand that the normal at birth sex-ratio of 1 to 1 be restored. This will reduce the deer birth-rate so they may stabilize at lower populations compatible with their habitat and other wildlife species.*

Article V. *Whereas, property owners are required to post their land against hunting at their own expense, and this effort is often nullified by hunters removing posters, we demand that posting laws be changed so that only land posted as hunting zones by wildlife agencies can be hunted. This would shift the burden of posting on to the hunters-where it belongs.*

Article VI. *Whereas, hunting is currently allowed at five hundred feet from a dwelling, and those "safety" zones are inadequate protection for home owners, we demand that safety zones be increased to 1000 feet from property lines.*

Article VII. *Whereas, wildlife agencies put millions of hunters into the field, while acknowledging a shortage of game wardens to adequately police them, we demand that hunters be required to carry at least one million dollars in liability insurance in order to guarantee that hunting victims and their families may seek just compensation in the courts for property damage, injury or death resulting from sport hunting activities.*

Article VIII. *Whereas, millions of hunters who are visually impaired go into the fields with lethal weapons, contributing to an annual toll of 2,400 people injured and 400 killed in hunting accidents (as estimated by the National Safety Council), we demand that hunters pass mandatory eye examinations annually before being granted a license to hunt.*

Article IX. *Whereas, private property rights are universally violated by sport hunters, thus endangering home owners, their children and their pets, we demand that "no trespassing laws" be strictly enforced, and that fines be triple their present rates. Mandatory loss of a license should occur on a second offense. Penalties for killing pets and livestock should also be prohibitive.*

Article X. *Whereas, wildlife is managed primarily for recreational hunting, and we believe that no animal should be terrorized crippled or killed for recreation, we demand the abolition of recreational killing and the ecologically destructive management of wildlife for that purpose.*



THE ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

From the Eleventh Annual Report of the Council of Environmental Quality, entitled "Biological Diversity":

Managing for the enhancement of yields or the survival of one species invariably affects others; benefiting some, harming some. In contrast, the ecosystem approach intentionally preserves diversity rather than doing so incidental to maximizing one or a few kinds of organisms...The underlying idea is that an undisturbed ecosystem will permit a wide variety of organisms to exist in a quasinnatural balance with minimal human subsidies...Because human ecological knowledge is incomplete, there is great virtue in letting nature take its course rather than intervening -- action which may be well-intended but sometimes misguided or even heavy handed...Most species in well-designed ecological reserves will maintain abundant levels and escape extinction indefinitely without species-oriented help, so long as they are not deprived of feeding, hiding and breeding places and are not polluted, hunted or harassed severely. [Hunting is severe harassment.]

The report concludes:

Providing sufficient tracts of undisturbed land and fresh water obviates the need for heroic intervention to prevent extinction. A further advantage to the ecosystem approach is, once land is purchased, administering ecological reserves is much less costly than managing species one by one. [Game management.]

Conservation means "the deliberate, planned guarding and protecting of something precious." The deliberate mismanagement of wildlife for hunter recreation and exploitation has nothing to do with protecting something precious such as wildlife and our environment. In fact, hunters' license fees are used to manipulate a comparatively few game species into overpopulation at the expense of a much larger number of non-game species which includes the extermination of natural predators. This contributes to the loss of biological diversity, genetic integrity and the ecological balance of wildlife. Hunters' licenses pay for environmental degradation, not conservation as is claimed.

Luke A. Dommer, Founder, Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting (CASH), PO Box 44, Tomkins Cove, NY 10986
CASH is a nature preservation group.

©1991 Except for quoted material

Please help this newsletter to find its way to people who are still unknown to us and vice versa, so we can share experience, ideas and strength.

The truth is out.
The real agenda is on the table.
The battle lines have been drawn.
The real war is just beginning.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS TAKEN FROM VARIOUS MEDIA REPORTS. THE MONROE COUNTY ALLIANCE FOR WILDLIFE PROTECTION (MCAWP) SUPPORTS ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS TO HUNTING IN URBAN/SUBURBAN AREAS THAT ARE LONG TERM, EFFECTIVE AND HUMANE. MCAWP DOES NOT TAKE A POSITION ON RURAL HUNTING. MCAWP IS A PUBLIC EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION AND PROVIDES INFORMATION ON GARDENING, PUBLIC SAFETY AND CONTRACEPTION TO PREVENT OR ALLEVIATE HUMAN-DEER CONFLICT SITUATIONS. MCAWP CAN BE CONTACTED AT POB 90854, ROCHESTER, NY 14609

Editor's Note: Studies have shown that hunters prefer to hunt near home. The drop in the sale of hunting licenses has been attributed in large part to the fact that convenient hunting areas are becoming rare due to development. We will increasingly witness urban and suburban parks being pried open, in spite of public opposition, by a concerted effort of hunting interests, wildlife managers, and local officials for hunters to plunder.

Animal Protection and Technology

BY PETER MULLER

Effective animal protection work involves techniques that most of us have learned over the years: demonstrating, tabling, writing letters to the editor, speaking to local groups, writing to local and federal officials, staying in touch with other animal protection activists. For many of those activities, there is an important tool that can amplify our energy just like the bulldozer amplified the energy put behind a shovel. That tool is the computer.

The first question that's usually asked is: What can I do with a computer that I can't do without one?

The second question is: What kind of computer should I get and how much does it cost?

I propose to take on those two questions today. In later articles, aided by your comments and questions, we will delve deeper into some aspects of doing animal protection work with a computer.

What can I do with a computer? The most common computer applications that have relevance to animal protection work are:

Word Processing:

Conceptually, word processing allows us to write documents quickly and accurately.

Typical applications are:

Writing letters, memos, press releases, etc. The main advantage of a word processor over a typewriter is that it makes corrections much easier to perform. It allows us to look-up words in a thesaurus, it allows us to check spelling, to check grammar, to choose from a variety of typefaces and point sizes, to **bold**, underline and *italicize* for emphasis.

Mail-merging letters. That means writing a batch of letters having similar but customized content. Suppose we want to

write a letter to each member of the state legislature. Within the letter we may wish to refer to the legislator, e.g. "Dear Senator Bunky," or "We urge you, Senator Bunky, to oppose this bill," or "Our organization has many members from Tush County who speak highly of you." Letters and envelopes can be generated in a few hours with all the variable content just right.

Documents can be stored, saved and recalled electronically instead of in space-consuming folders and file cabinets.

Desk-Top-Publishing:

Desk-top-publishing is aesthetically one step up from word processing. It allows us to add graphic effects, such as pictures with captions, frames with rounded corners around text, etc. We can approach a more typeset, polished look.

Typical applications are:

Posters
Newsletters
Professional looking handouts

Modem Communication:

A modem is a device that connects a computer to a telephone line. A Fax/Modem works as a modem and a fax.

Typical applications are:

Sending faxes -- All documents created on the computer such as press-releases, letters, memos can be sent directly by computer to any fax machine in the world. If we have a demonstration, and our local press list has 25 contacts with fax numbers, we can fax our press release to the entire list with individual names inserted in about one hour. No paper scanning required!

Receiving faxes -- Anyone in the world can fax directly into our computer if we activate the electronic receiving fax. We can view the fax on the monitor, read it, chuck it without printing it, print it, or

save it electronically for later reference and possible printing.

Accessing bulletin boards -- Bulletin boards are electronic meeting places. We will devote a whole article in a future issue to just this topic. For now let's just remember that there are dozens of bulletin boards dedicated to animal protection and environmental activism. C.A.S.H. will explore joining an existing one, or starting its own for member communication. If you have some experience or suggestions in this area, please let us know.

Electronic mail -- Messages can be sent and received through a common bulletin board.

Database management:

A database management system is an electronic filing system. Whatever information is now kept in folders can be kept, updated, and retrieved electronically.

Typical applications include:

Keeping track of membership lists: members' names, addresses, daytime and evening phone numbers, phone tree assignments, dues paid, assignments, special interests.

Keeping names and addresses of elected officials and department heads of agencies with telephone numbers, fax numbers, etc. They can be kept up-to-date for mailings, faxes and phone calls.

Keeping media lists consisting of media contacts' names, telephone numbers, fax numbers, departments and titles, etc. They can be kept updated and ready for phone calls and faxing prior to demonstrations.

Contacting others with whom we want to exchange newsletters and information.

Now, let's address the second question: What kind of computer should we get and how much will it cost?

There are basically two types of computers that we would consider: Apple Macintosh or IBM (or IBM compatible). My recommendation would be IBM or IBM compatible. Apple Macs are fine computers, but there are advantages to using IBM that, in my view, far outweigh the Macs:

Widespread use: The fact that the IBMs are much more widely used is in itself a good reason for using it. Chances are better that our office or our fellow-activists and other individuals or organizations with whom we interact will have IBMs. This makes interchanging data and programs with them much easier.

Profusion of application programs: Because there are many more IBM users than Apple users, most of the major software manufacturers naturally cater to the larger market and write primarily for IBM. Our choices of good application programs are much better on the IBM side than the Apple side.

Availability and pricing of third party service: Third party service consists of services that we may need occasionally, but would not necessarily get from the manufacturer or the dealer that sold us the machine. Those services include repair, training, consulting, etc. In all of those areas there are more qualified service providers in the IBM camp because there are more IBM customers.

Price: IBM and IBM compatibles simply give us more processing per dollar than Apples.

The major components that determine the price and function of a computer system are:

The main processing chip: It determines the processing speed of the computer. The main processing chips that we should consider are the Intel 80386 (called the "386" for short) or the Intel 80486 (called a "486" for short). The lower end chips the 8086, the 8088 and the 80286 are a little too slow for many of our needs; and the high end, the Intel Pentium is probably overkill and overpriced. The 386 and 486 main processing chips have sub-variations (called SX, or DX or DL etc) that all work a little faster or slower but basically any 386 or 486 is in our league.

The RAM memory of the computer: It is the work-space that our computer has in which to contain its programs and to manipulate the data it is working on. It's similar to the size of an assembly line in a factory. The more assembly line we have, the more material we can be working on concurrently. RAM memory is measured in units called bytes. Each byte can hold one character of data (such as a letter of the alphabet or a digit). A K-byte means approximately one thousand bytes. A Meg or Mega-byte means approximately one million bytes. For the kind of processing we are doing we'll need a minimum of 4 Meg RAM (8 Meg RAM is better, but 4 Meg RAM will do).

The Hard Disk capacity: It is the warehouse storage where our data and programs are stored while they not being worked with. The more capacity we have, the more information we can store in our computer and recall. Normal capacity

should around 250 Meg. Someplace between 150 Meg and 400 Meg should be about right for us.

Printers:

The printer: Our printer is used to print our documents on paper. There are basically three types to be considered: a) Dot-matrix b) Ink-jet c) Laser. Dot-matrix printers make a terrible racket, they are slow, and the printout is low quality; they are, however, cheap (\$100 and up). Laser printers are whisper quiet, super fast (8 pages per minute) and have a wide variety of typefaces and print sizes available on demand; they are somewhat expensive (\$550 and up). Ink-jet output is similar in quality to a laser but it is a lot slower (2 pages per minute). They need a better grade of printer paper (due to the moisture of the ink), and other consumable supplies (ink cartridges) are more expensive per printout than laser consumables; they are priced from about \$250 and up.

Next time I'll give a run down on Application and Systems Software by brand-name. If you have comments, questions or articles I would like to hear from you.

PETER MULLER HAS BEEN IN THE COMPUTER FIELD FOR OVER 25 YEARS. HE TEACHES PART TIME IN THE DEPT. OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY. HE IS SECRETARY OF C.A.S.H. AND CAN BE CONTACTED AT P.O. BOX 44, TOMKINS CREEK, NY 10986.

Some typical configurations to consider are:

O.K.: A 386SX processor
4 MEG RAM
150 MEG Hard Disk
3½" Diskette Drive
VGA Monitor
Mouse
Internal Fax/Modem
101 Key Key-board
Ink Jet Printer

Price New: \$1,200
Price Used: \$ 850

Better: A 486DX processor
8 MEG RAM
240 MEG Hard Disk
3½" Diskette Drive
VGA Monitor
Mouse
Internal Fax/Modem
101 Key Key-board
Ink Jet Printer

Price New: \$1,600
Price Used: \$ 1,250

Best: A 486DX2 processor
16 MEG RAM
400 MEG Hard Disk
3½" Diskette Drive
VGA Monitor
Mouse
Internal Fax/Modem
101 Key Key-board
Laser Jet Printer

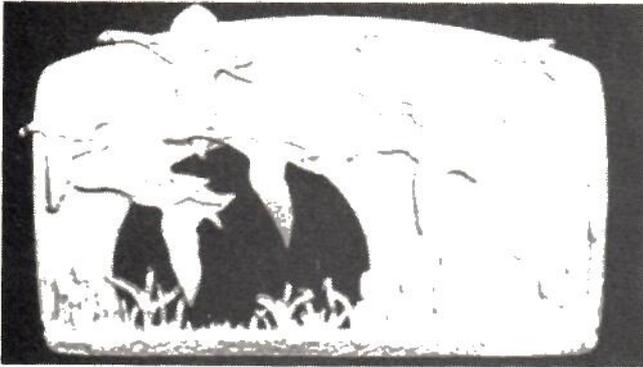
Price New: \$2,500
Price Used: N/A

KEEP HOPE ALIVE!

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE GENEROUSLY

C.A.S.H. CATALOG - ALL PURCHASES SUPPORT C.A.S.H.

Items P0024-P0031 @\$10.95 or 2/\$19.95



Canada Geese in Wetland, #P0024, 3" x 2" - Goldtone



Leopard, #P0025, 3" x 1½" - Silvertone



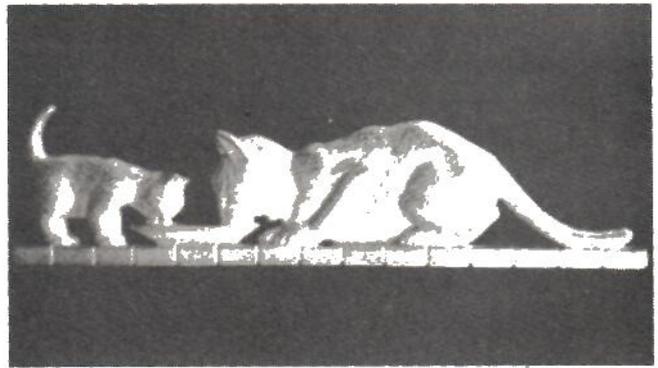
Penguins, Item #P0026, 2" x 1½" - Silvertone or Goldtone



Leopard Couple, #P0027, 2½ x 2 - Silvertone



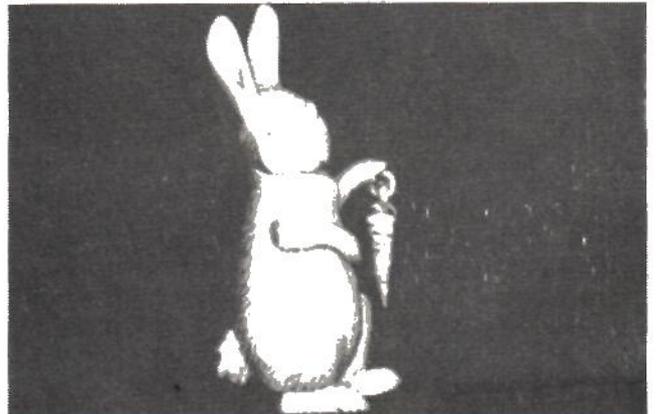
Tibetan Gazelle, #P0028, 3" x 2" Silvertone



Cat & Kitten, #P0029, 3½" x 1" Goldtone



Raccoon Family, #P0030 1½" x 2½" - Silvertone

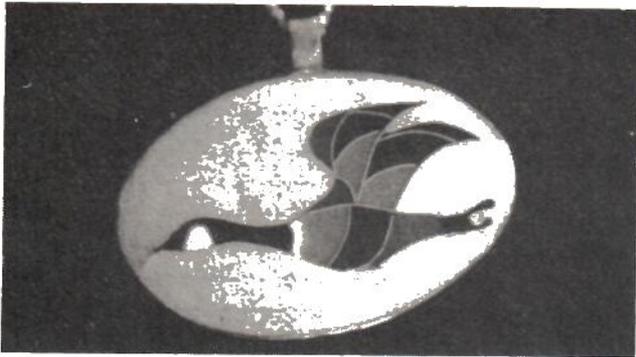


Rabbit, #P0031, 2½" x 1½" - Goldtone or Silvertone

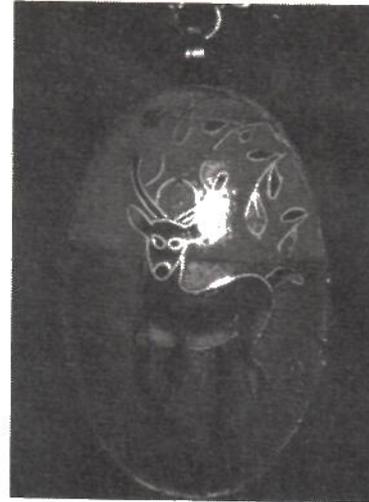
BEAUTIFUL HAND-CRAFTED ITEMS

Magnificent cloisonné set in sterling silver with chain, \$155

Designed and meticulously handcrafted by Daniella, an active C.A.S.H. member.



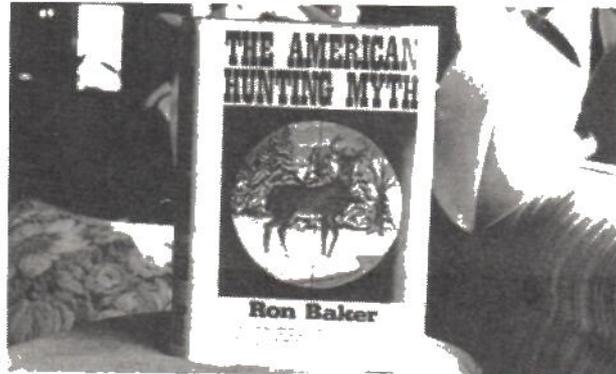
Canada Goose, #D0001, 2" x 1½" - Cloisonné in Sterling



Deer, #D0002, 2" x 3" - Cloisonné in Sterling



Owls Pillow Cover or Wall Hanging, Item #M0001, 15" x 15" - Forest green cotton back with deer pattern - Designer Fabric - Handmade by Diana. @\$29 or 2/\$49



THE AMERICAN HUNTING MYTH, by Ron Baker, B0001, Ron is the VP of C.A.S.H., all copies will be autographed. An excellent overview and seathing attack (through exposure) of the government's mismanagement of wildlife. \$14.95 (List \$15.95.)



Jamaican Rum Royal Tea - #F0001, Full-bodied, fragrant after dinner tea. Delicious! \$4.95 4 oz.



CANADA GOOSE SONG, #C0002, audio-cassette
Written and sung by Jay Mankita, \$10



Hunting Sucks Pin, #C0005, 4" x 3". Handmade by Ann Ilkiw, Red with Gold Sequins - VERY CLASSY!- \$7.95 (Also, FUR SUCKS, #C0007)



C.A.S.H. Hat, #C0001, International Orange & Black, size adjusts, \$6.95- Pin #C0003, \$1.50

