

THE C.A.S.H. COURIER

THE COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH SPORT HUNTING

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Fall 2011

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 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.

Wildlife Watch Inc.

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C.A.S.H. COURIER

PO Box 562 New Paltz, NY 12561
845-256-1400 - Phone
Fax - 845-501-3175
e-mail: wildwatch@verizon.net

Anne Muller - Editor

E.M. Fay, Assoc. Editor

Robert Greenough - Desktop Publishing
www.wildwatch.org
www.all-creatures.org/cash

HUMAN HUNTING DESTROYS OUR ENVIRONMENT

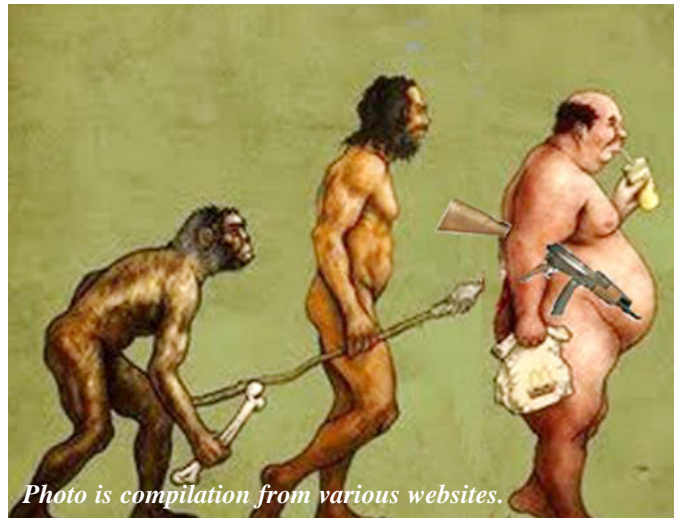
BY PETER MULLER

Isn't hunting part of nature? Don't animals living in a natural environment hunt for food? Isn't it natural for humans also to hunt to obtain food?

In nature, predation is a healthy and normal relationship among species. Species that are in a predator-prey relationship have evolved

together in the same ecosystem; both species benefit from that relationship. Over time, evolving in the same ecosystem, the predator species and the prey species have developed structural and behavioral adaptations that allow them to be healthy predators and healthy prey animals.

Just a few examples: Prey species usually are very fecund; they tend to have large litters and short gestation periods. Rodents – rats, mice, cavies are typical prey species and are among the most rapidly reproducing species among mammals. For example, lemmings can have litters of about six offspring every three weeks. This is nature's way of assuring that the species will survive even though many may succumb to predation. Mammals that have no natural predat-



tors reproduce much slower by having small litters (often one only birth per pregnancy) and long gestation periods. Elephants, who have no natural predators, typically give birth to one calf after a 22-month gestation period.

The structure of the eye among prey species tends to be well-suited for peripheral vision; their eyes are on the side of the head and can be rotated to be alert to a predator approaching from any direction. Among predators the eyes are in the front of the head; the eyes can focus stereoscopically to allow the predator to assess the right distance to overtake its prey. If we look at birds for example, we see these different eye structures between the raptors such as owls, hawks, and eagles as contrasted with the passer-

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Joe's Journal
11/8/11



You know hunting season is upon us when hunter harassment raises its ugly head. The kind of hunter harassment I'm talking about is not the kind where citizens are ticketed for using a bull-horn to frighten deer away from a hunter, but the kind that is a serious affront to the rights of all citizens. Each year private property owners are targeted by hunters and the state game agencies that represent them when they are hit with false charges of harassment or interfering with wildlife. In an effort to allow hunters to trespass upon private property and kill wildlife that has become comfortable living in close proximity to people, hunting agencies send conservation officers to follow up on the bogus claims of frustrated hunters. Have you shouted at a hunter who has fired in the direction of your property and possibly within the buffer zone? Don't be surprised if you're confronted by one of the DNR's goons with a summons in hand.

One C.A.S.H. supporter was recently cited for "unlawful feeding of wildlife" for having a bird feeder on her property. The complaint was made by her neighbor, a hunter, who ironically feeds his pigs and has a corn spreader only a few hundred feet away. Not surprisingly, the state conservation officer didn't see that feed-

ing pigs outdoors and using a corn spreader was illegally feeding wildlife, but that a common hardware-store-bought bird feeder was. This is harassment, and hunters and game agencies are often guilty of it.

Citizens are encouraged to fight for their rights in cases like this, but there comes a time when their funds may run out. The ability for the state to pursue legal action is unlimited, and all too often the private property owner whose rights have been trampled is forced into paying a fine rather than engage in years of costly legal action to get their name cleared. Other times, they are forced to pay extensive legal fees only to meet with failure in the corrupt good ol' boys' courts.

The best ways to guard against being harassed by hunters is to post your property well and to document everything that happens, on video if possible. Carefully document names, locations and occurrences and let those harassing you know that you will bring the matter to the attention of their superiors or if necessary, the attorney general's office. Many times a big, manly hunter will back down like a little child when confronted with a video camera. Preventing a harassment charge from being brought against you by a hunter is always preferable to finding yourself engaged in a protracted legal case where you're forced into defending your rights.

In other news, it seems that people

are becoming more aware and disturbed by the hunting that is taking place around them. As they encroach more on private property and shoot closer to homes, regular citizens are beginning to see what they are doing! The now aware public wants information about how to stop it, even how to sabotage a hunt. **They are writing and calling, telling us that the hunters in the woods behind their homes are shooting the deer they have loved for years;** they are begging for help. "Please help." We cannot offer advice on how to sabotage, but if you turn to the Internet you may find what you are looking for.


Stay well and stay safe this hunting season by wearing blaze orange. Keep your companion animals safe also with a blaze orange scarf or coat. Hunters will shoot at anything that moves. Protect yourself and your loved ones.

Thank you for being there for the hunted wildlife.

As always, thank you for your generous support of C.A.S.H. With your help, C.A.S.H. will be able to do so much more. Your end-of-the year-contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.



WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

- ✓ Answered the never ending flow of C.A.S.H. mail. Thank you! We love our members and supporters and everyone who agrees with our mission.
- ✓ Updated and maintained the popular C.A.S.H. website and  our busy Facebook page.
- ✓ Contacted Congressman Steven Pearce's office (R-NM 2nd dist) and urged him to vote for the Campbell-DeFazio, Wildlife Services amendment to cut funding from the Wildlife Services program. It is nothing more than a huge mis-managed good ol' boys club to promote hunting.
- ✓ Tabled at Southern NM Pride and distributed information about C.A.S.H. and on the U.S.D.A.'s Wildlife Services program.
- ✓ Submitted comments on the amendments to the 2011-2012 NJ Game Code.
- ✓ Supported the anti-canned hunting HR2308 and reached out to each member of the House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- ✓ Contributed to popular message boards for newspapers around the coun-

try so readers can learn about hunting and the abuses of game agencies.

- ✓ Attended and spoke at AR2011 in late July in Los Angeles, met with CASH supporters, and introduced hundreds of others to our work.
- ✓ Contacted the Rockville, MD Mayor and Council and asked them to reconsider the proposed deer hunt.
- ✓ Contacted Chevrolet about the ad campaign and their "Win a dream hunting trip" promotion. Posted an Action Alert on our Facebook page and encouraged the public to weigh in.
- ✓ Requested that the Nevada Wildlife Commission allow officials from TrailSafe to be represented on the committee to regulate the use of Conibear traps.
- ✓ Assisted activists in New Mexico in their efforts to ban trapping on public land.
- ✓ Gave a series of talks on how Trap/Neuter/Return for feral cats can lessen their impact on domestic wildlife.

As Hunting Gets Closer to Home, Wildlife Friends are Killed

On September 24th, C.A.S.H. received the following letter from Elissa Myers of VA:

My husband found your remarkable piece, "Human Hunting Destroys Our Environment," and I sent it on to the Washington Post. A reporter contacted me. I think they may do a story. [C.A.S.H. has not heard from them. We are reprinting the article on the cover of this issue.]

"Deer management" season began today in Virginia, and my little black lab Indi and I found one of our deer buddies lying dead five yards from a trail heavily used by kids and bikers and dog walkers – I'm heart broken and outraged, and on a rampage... I've written to my Congressman and other local representatives, to the Post – to everyone I can think of. ... I know this deer – we've been watching her grow and mature, and she was really lovely. What sport is there in shooting a graceful sentient being that is not afraid of humans? How safe can it be to have recreational hunters shooting in the woods where our children play and where we hike and bike?

As Elissa works to get "deer management" stopped, she will not forget this little doe. She is learning more about the deviousness of the agencies and their many friends and protectors in government and media.

On Sept. 25th, Elissa wrote: *I've attached four pictures:*

The first photo was taken around August 24 — on a path that Indi and I walk down almost every day.



The second photo was taken on August 28 — just after Hurricane Irene flooded the fields.

The third photo was taken yesterday. The park ranger I spoke with today said, "Look around at how the deer have overgrazed this area." But the deer didn't do it! The rain washed the vegetation away! You can see the leaves collecting around tree stumps that were washed up by the flooding.



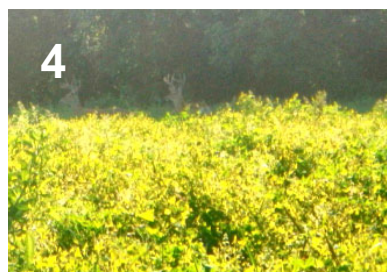
I've included a fourth photo of an area where we occasionally see a deer — both taken this week. Does this land look overgrazed to you?



[Elissa has since found another deer who had been beheaded and partially eaten. The game agencies are blaming the coyotes, but coyotes are scavengers, the deer was no doubt shot first. A coyote may now have lead in his system, may have swallowed an arrow, or injured his mouth.]



Photo by Elissa Myers



Human Hunting

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ines, examples of which are sparrows, starlings, and orioles. As an aside, even though predators tend to have well developed stereoscopic vision, a well-developed stereoscopic vision is not necessarily an indication that a species is a predator. For example, many primates have excellent stereoscopic vision, which they need for brachiating (swinging from branch to branch in a rain forest).

The ability to move and survive on their own shortly after birth (precocial) is again markedly more developed among the prey species than among species that have no predators. The various species have evolved these adaptations so they can all live and thrive in their ecosystem.

A natural predator will take some of the prey species but not so many as to endanger eradicating its entire prey base.

Among species that have co-evolved it is estimated that no predator species takes more than about 10 percent of the population of its prey base. The success rate for a predator attempting to take a prey animal is also relatively low; typically it is between 10 and 20 percent.

Predation, in nature, benefits both the predator and the prey species. The predator species, and incidentally scavenging species, as well, benefit by having their food needs met by predation. The prey species, however, also benefits. Since predators are typically only able to capture the bottom 10 or 20% of the prey animals in terms of general fitness, they get the slowest, least alert, of that species. Predation removes infected and diseased individuals, thereby reducing risk of further contagion and spread of parasites. Predation also removes congenitally weak animals, preventing them from breeding. This improves the gene pools of the prey species. The prey species is healthier

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PROPERTY THEFT BY SLOW TORTURE MOSTLY WOMEN WHO LIVE ALONE ARE ABUSED BY HUNTERS/GOVERNMENT AGENCIES/COURTS POLITICIANS ARE AFRAID TO HELP

The good ol' boys have stolen lands, and wrecked lives and finances. Their abuse has to stop!

BY ANNE MULLER



THESE REPORTS WILL INFURIATE YOU AND WILL CAUSE YOU TO QUESTION OUR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT. IF IT CAN HAPPEN TO THEM – attorneys, teachers, administrators, business-women – IT CAN HAPPEN TO YOU! THE HORROR OF HUNTING GOES BEYOND KILLING ANI-

MALS, though for C.A.S.H. that is reason enough to see it abolished. It invades the lives of those who live in the country and suburbs. It's not surprising that the hunter-cowards' easiest human victims are women who live alone.

Constant harassment and killing are literally driving people from their homes. Courts are impoverishing them as they pay fines, fees, and attorneys to defend themselves against what should not need defense: keeping trespassers off of their property, and enjoying their land and wildlife in a peaceful, non-consumptive way.

FROM A DISABLED WOMAN AND HER DAUGHTER IN NORTH CAROLINA:

I am in a desperate situation as I have been informed today that I have only 14 days from last Friday when my appeal was turned down (so by Nov. 18th) to file my motion for reconsideration on my appeal before the 4th Circuit Appeals court. I have been forced from the first to represent myself pro se, despite notifying and providing evidence to the court of my physical disabilities, an inoperable brain tumor, and proven cognitive deficits. Now, after the court ordered me to file an "informal" brief to determine assigning me a court appointed attorney (after they granted me pauper status), they have come

back and not only denied me an attorney but have ruled against me on the case, based only upon my best pro se efforts in the "informal" brief.

*If anyone knows of an attorney who could help me write the informal brief please have them contact me at 828 724 4221 or at pace@mcdowell.main.nc.us. I have two commitments for help with legal research and assistance. The Forest Service deliberately moved my property line in order to falsely show that the FS officer was on my property when he issued me the ticket for interfering with a FS road. **I have an 1897 land grant deed for 150 acres and the***

FS has cut this to 89 acres and taken my easement as their own, and is now charging me \$347 per year to use a short road segment that I must maintain. I was later charged about \$2,500 in restitution for this FS-directed fraudulent survey that took my land.

I firmly believe that I have a First Amendment right to stand on any public or private road and verbally express my belief that the hunter had no right to use the road.

Thanks for everyone's support and empathy.

Elizabeth and Daisy O'Nan

FROM A BUSINESS WOMAN IN OHIO

For four days straight I found men with guns on my property and around the property line. I called the game warden several times and they refused to respond. They said it was impossible for them to respond to every trespassing call they get. My husband placed a radio in our window in hopes of scaring the deer away so we would not have deer on the property, attracting the men with guns. The police showed up and told us we had to turn the radio down because we were dis-

turbing the peace, because the radio could be heard across property lines; apparently gunfire being heard across property lines is not disturbing the peace.

Several months later, the game warden showed up at our house, unannounced and uninvited, saying that he was investigating complaints about hunters in the area. I said FINALLY!!! I reiterated all the events and times over the last several years I had called for help to no avail. He said, "So what

have you done to stop them?" I said we had put the radio in the window to try to scare the deer. He then handed me a ticket that he had already written up in my name (not my husband's) for "detering the natural path of deer while the deer are being hunted on neighboring lands". Of course, I hired a well-known local attorney to fight it.

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Property Theft

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In the course of things, we found out that the game warden had joined the hunters (one of whom was a police officer) that had acted illegally toward my property for days, taping our every move. They found nothing illegal about anything that took place on our property, but they complained about boys being too loud there. They complained that I played with my dog on the property. They described a heavy set man making too much noise (no heavy set man lives here). They told a lot of lies to justify their illegal actions. I contacted both an attorney and my state representative but finally I had to give up and I'm literally a prisoner in my own home during hunting season, with no one protecting my civil rights, my right to privacy, my right to peace.

We live in a very corrupt time.

From a teacher in Michigan

I read the story about Jan and the hunters. I, too, have a similar problem. I have 10 acres in S.W. Michigan, Barry County. A hunter who has property bordering mine put a tree stand on a high tension power line that also touches my property. His aim would be right at my property. When I caught him and two buddies shooting and gutting a buck on my property, I gave them a trespass warning (my property is posted). His response was to move his tree stand to face my property so the only way he could shoot a deer was right on my property. I contacted DNR, Consumers Power Company, took pictures, etc. to show his illegal hunting and how unsafe my life would be on my own private property. The result: he can have his tree stand facing any way he wants if it is on his private property, and he can file hunter harassment against me if I walk on my private property in front of his tree stand. I was told by the conservation officer that I could not talk, walk, or do any kind of work on my pri-

vate property during hunting season which is from October 1st to Dec 31st here in Michigan.

I use wood to heat my house so I have been picking up wood, walking my property lines, and doing whatever I want because it is my civil right. I do not talk as that can be construed as obstruction. My case is still under investigation, I have been denied a complaint number, Freedom of Information Act requests for the report, signed statements of witnesses who have lied and said I was on his private property, etc. All this because I told the hunter that he no longer had a right to be on my property for any reason, to gather a dead deer, walk to the road or anything because I could not trust him to abide by the law, and that he actually shot and gutted a buck on my property in my presence.

There should be a landowner harassment law.

Sincerely,

Terri MacKenzie, Michigan

From a Brooklyn, NY, retiree, now living Upstate New York

I am the target of the DEC's selective enforcement. I have to appear in court for a second time, as I'm being accused of feeding black bear. The DEC officer came onto my property without any warrant or permission.

A week later the officer came back and ticketed me again, this time claiming that he found corn on the property line adjoining with a neighbor who keeps her pet pig in the yard behind her house. I hadn't even put any corn there. I had seen that neighbor standing in MY yard in the area that he claims to have found the corn, and the neighbor was carrying a shotgun. This occurred 1 1/2 days prior to the DEC officer's arrival. Last year

the court gave me permission to feed birds from bird feeders only. I was told, however, that I couldn't put any seed on the ground.

The DEC is taking sides against me with the neighbor and fails to realize that keeping a prey animal (a pig) penned up outside, and feeding a pig outside, and keeping pig food around the area is what attracts the bear to the neighbor's home. I have even heard shots fired from the neighbor's property. I presume that the neighbor is shooting at the bear. They're also shooting within a narrow radius of the surrounding homes. The neighbor claims that the bear charged at her. This is unbelievable, as I just have to

say BOO and the bears run away. I don't own any firearms.

Additionally, the neighbors come onto my land with shotguns, and it is highly likely that they placed the corn that the DEC is trying to prosecute me for. When I asked the DEC officer why he thought that it was me and not them that put corn down, he responded, "Oh, come on."

My home is zoned for keeping livestock, just as the neighbor's is, although I don't own any. It seems, however, that I can keep livestock, but can't feed them. No one has prohib-

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WE URGE ALL OUR READERS TO HELP RESCIND THE UNCONSTITUTIONAL HUNTER HARASSMENT LAWS AND TO END THIS ABUSE. IF YOU CAN HELP LEGALLY, LEGISLATIVELY OR VIA THE MEDIA! Contact@wildwatch.org



The "Homeland Protection" listserv was formed by C.A.S.H. Its members are property-owners who've been victimized by hunters, game agencies, courts and/or neighbors who hunt. Several members of the group have appeared twice on **Vegan World Radio** thanks to **Jerrilyn Halbert**. Please visit the website to hear the two programs and the many others offered by this online radio station: www.veganworldradio.org . http://archive.kpft.org/mp3/kpft_111109_220008vwr.mp3

Human Hunting

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and genetically improved by having predators.

The entire ecosystem benefits from this kind of continuing interspecies interaction. This is natural predation and it promotes biodiversity – it encourages the evolution of variations of species and subspecies through adaptations of both the predator and the prey species.

Hunting by humans operates per-versely. The kill ratio at around a hundred feet with a semi-automatic weapon and scope is much greater than 10% to 20%. The animal, no matter how well adapted to escape natural predation (healthy, alert, smart, quick, etc.) has virtually no way to escape death once it is in the cross hairs of a scope mounted on a rifle.

Nature's adaptive structures and behaviors that have evolved during millions of years simply count for naught when man is the hunter.

Most deer, for example, would not perceive a rifle hunter as a predator or a source of danger from the distance at which deer can be shot with a big game rifle (about 200 feet to 400 yards depending on the terrain). A wolf at that distance, even though detected, would be totally ignored. Even the much smaller range of bow-hunter (about 50-75 feet) is barely of concern to deer. Deer may start to keep an eye on a hunter at that distance, but the evasion instinct doesn't kick in until it's too late.

Hunters go after healthy big animals for trophies and meat. This leaves the diseased and congenitally weak animals to breed –thereby degrading the gene pool and spreading disease. The hunted species becomes a degenerate and runty imitation of the real species that evolved in the habitat before human hunting.

Hunting by humans has never been akin to natural predation. Using modern technology makes matters worse, but even hunting by indigenous people, before the blessings of Western civilization were bestowed on them, was just as destructive, only at a slower rate. The North American mammoth, the Patagonian giant sloth, the pygmy hip-

popotamus, the elephant bird of Madagascar are just some examples of animals that were hunted into extinction by indigenous hunters.

To see exactly how hunting is destructive to an ecosystem, let's look at a specific game animal. Probably the most widely hunted animal in North America is one of the common species of deer, the white-tailed deer.

Let's consider that a naturally segmented area has sufficient browse to feed a deer herd of 400 animals. Wildlife biologists would describe this by saying that the biological carrying capacity of the area for deer is 400. Nature has adaptations in place to ensure that the carrying capacity that is appropriate for that species is not exceeded.

What would happen if the deer population increased to substantially over 400 in one year?

Let's say that with all normal control adaptations in place (including natural predators) the herd size reaches 500 healthy individuals. At the start of the next winter season, several adaptations would kick in to ensure a smaller amount of fawns the following year. If deer are hungry (not starving, but not well fed either), the sex drive of the bucks declines and the frequency of ovulation of the does decreases; the does become receptive less frequently than they would if plenty of browse is available. Since the browse is now insufficient to feed all 500 animals, a portion of the deer population would not reproduce during that season. With the normal die-off during the winter and the smaller than normal birth during the spring, the total population would be reduced to less than 500.

Within a few seasons the populations would again stabilize around the capacity of the territory. If the herd size dropped substantially below the carrying capacity (say to 300), other natural adaptations would kick in (for example, does who have lots of browse during the rut are more likely to have twins or triplets) to bring the population back up to the normal carrying capacity of 400. Many other adaptations, some simple

and some fairly involved and not yet completely understood, are used by nature to maintain the population at the carrying capacity.

These adaptations with which the species have evolved are based on conditions that have been true for millions of years. Human hunting totally destroys some of these assumed conditions.

Normally, left to their own devices, the sex ratio of male to female animals is about 50-50. Deer are born about evenly male and female. Most "sport" or "trophy" hunters prefer to take bucks rather than does. Almost all state game agencies mandate that during the regular hunting season only bucks (antlered deer) and no does are shot. Under certain extreme conditions, where a deer population has been totally mismanaged for years, "doe permits" are issued in addition to the regular deer tags in a desperate attempt to mitigate the mess that the agencies have created over the years. This policy of shooting out bucks distorts the gender ratio of the population.

Let see what happens when that ratio changes from 50-50 ratio to 80-20 –leaving four times as many does as bucks. This is not at all uncommon. In Texas and the Southwest, in general, years of mismanagement have pushed the doe to buck ratio as high as 10:1 in some areas.

Let's look at two herds – one un hunted with the gender ratio intact at 50/50 and one hunted with the gender ratio skewed to 80/20. Otherwise everything is the same; both herds live in an area where there is sufficient browse for 400 animals. Nature's adaptations that adjust the population to the browse will now miscalculate and cause an over-population for the hunted herd but leave the un hunted herd stable at 400 animals.

Based on 50-50 ratio, a herd of 400 will consist of 200 bucks and 200 does. Normal browse conditions signal to each doe to give birth to a single fawn. Assuming a winter die-off of 100 deer, the surviving herd would consist of 150 bucks and 150 does. Each of the 150

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does would give birth to 150 fawns. The herd size, including the new 150 fawns is now 450. Fawns have about a 2/3 chance of surviving until the next fall because they are subject to more predation than adult deer; for example, coyotes will predate on fawns but rarely on fully grown deer. Other mortality rates are also higher for fawns than adult deer. At the next rut the herd is back to 400.

Based on an 80/20 gender ratio, a 100 animal winter die-off, and normal browse conditions, there will 240 does and 60 bucks in the surviving herd. The 240 does will give birth to 240 fawns of which 160 will survive. At the next rut the herd size is now 460 instead of 400. That's a 15% increase over the normal herd size. **If we factor in additionally that in the hunted herd the multiple birth rate is much higher (34% as opposed to 18%) and that yearling does will go into estrus — the rate of increase is even higher as is shown in the table to the right. A few successive seasons like that and the herd size approaches conditions where massive, catastrophic starvation and die-offs are inevitable.**

Hunting is not the cure but the cause of overpopulation and starvation. **Luke Dommer**, the founder of the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting, has proposed several times to various state wildlife agencies that if they are serious about using hunting as a population control tool in areas where the sex ratio is already badly distorted, they should institute a doe-only season. (Taking no bucks but only does until the ratio is again stabilized at 50:50). All agencies have rejected that proposal – thereby giving up any pretense of ecologically motivated sound wildlife management. They quite consciously and openly state that they are in business to provide the maximum number of live targets to hunters each year.

The state wildlife agencies encourage the destruction of the naturally evolved ecosystem by encouraging human hunting that balloons the population of the game species at the expense of the non-game species. Management techniques,

in addition to sex-ratio distortion, include removal of natural predators (e.g. wolves, coyotes, panthers, bears) altering the natural habitat to provide additional browse for game species and destroying the habitat of nongame species (e.g. clear-cutting and/or burning areas and sowing them with oats for deer at the expense of rabbits, voles, various reptiles and amphibians – and many other non-game species).

The activity of human hunting is not and never has been a sustainable, mutually beneficial, predator-prey relationship.

Human hunting techniques, even the most primitive ones, are far too efficient to meet the conditions required of a natural predator-prey relationship. In modern times, with new technology, the efficiency becomes totally lopsided so as to cause instant habitat degeneration. Add to this the conscious mismanagement of habitat to further degrade and obviate all natural corrective measures.

Using techniques such as sex-ratio distortion, habitat manipulation, the removal of natural predators and the introduction of exotic game species destroys biodiversity. The goal is to maximize the number of targets for human hunting, thereby destroying the naturally evolved ecosystems and putting them at the brink of total collapse.

The number of animals of game species (native and exotic) is maximized at the expense of all others. The naturally evolved adaptations that insure biodiversity are short-circuited.

The way that these ecosystems can recover is to prohibit human hunting and other forms of destruction of these animals. We should allow for the unfettered reintroduction and re-immigration of predators (which is occurring naturally) and stop the feeble attempts at “managing” the environment. When it comes to managing the environment, our knowledge is inadequate to do an even passable job. Even given an ethically sound motivation, which the state agencies now lack, we simply don't know enough to do a better job than nature.

Rather than playing God, we're acting more like the Three Stooges, when it comes to managing ecosystems. For the sake of life on earth, we must not allow the hunting and gun-manufacturing lobbies to continue to dictate wildlife management policies.

Population growth of deer herds Unhunted herd with 1:1 gender ratio vs. hunted herd with 4:1 gender ratio

	Unhunted Herd	Hunted Herd
Year 1 before hunt		
Bucks	200	80
Does	200	320
Total	400	400
Year 1 after hunt		
Bucks	200	25% 0
Does	200	320
Total	400	380
Year 2 before hunt		
Winter die off rate	25%	25%
Bucks die off	50	15
Does die off	50	80
Multiple birth rate	18%	34%
Bucks after die off	150	45
Mature Does after die off	120	192
Yearling Does after die off	20%	3020% 48
Fawns born	142	322
Total herd size	442	607
Fawn die-off rate	30%	30%
Fawn die-off	42	96
Total herd size before hunt	399	510
Rate of Increase	-0.22%	27.53%

**Peter Muller Vice President,
C.A.S.H. - Committee to Abolish
Sport Hunting**

Contact: peter@wildwatch.org

Please read **Dr. Priscilla N. Cohn's** article, **KILLING AND ETHICS**. The link appears in the “Commentary” section of the website of the **Ferrater Mora Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics** www.oxfordanimaletics.com. The Centre's **Journal of Animal Ethics (JAE)** is published in cooperation with the University of Illinois Press (the Fall 2011 edition has just appeared) and their book series is published in cooperation with the Palgrave MacMillan Press.

DEER-CAR COLLISIONS: THE TRUTH

BY DAVID KVERAGAS

As sure as the leaves turning colors, every autumn now brings us a slew of articles in newspapers and other media outlets concerning the increased danger of deer-vehicle collisions.

The problem with virtually every single one of these well-meaning articles is that they fail to point the blame at the source of most of these collisions. This would be the nationwide practice of game management by both state and federal wildlife agencies, as well as a myriad of private, non-profit hunting industry front groups.

Many such articles blame everything from it being breeding season to drivers speeding, which are factors, but not the primary cause of such accidents. If there weren't an over abundance of deer, often well beyond the natural carrying capacity, as well as imbalances in the sexes, these collisions would drop dramatically.

The aforementioned agencies and groups often claim to use wildlife management but they are actually practicing "game" management. The differences are a light year apart, despite attempts by hunters to meld the two terms.

Wildlife management seeks to work in conjunction with nature to maintain a healthy balance for all flora and fauna. Game management is the exact opposite as it seeks to maintain a handful of select species in unnatural numbers despite the effects they may have on the environment. In fact the detrimental aspects are actually used as reasons for maintaining the practices. The hunters will argue that if they don't kill, excuse me, "harvest" the deer (to utilize their vernacular), they will overpopulate and destroy the environment.

The Olean (NY) Times-Herald in its September 30, 1978 edition quoted NYS regional Wildlife Manager Terry Moore as stating the following;

"We will attempt to increase the number of deer until we experience high incidences of deer car collisions, depredation of agricultural crops becomes intolerable and/or deer habitat begin to result in deterioration."

Both state and federal "wildlife" agencies practice game management, even though in many states (including Pennsylvania where I live) it violates their legal purpose.

Game management practices for deer include specifically scheduling hunting seasons after the breeding season. They then mandate that bucks be targeted primarily so that the already pregnant doe (which are carrying twins on average and possibly triplets) will be able to replenish the herd so as to guarantee targets in perpetuity.

This practice also extends the breeding season by weeks and even months. A doe will only be fertile a few days per month. If she is not impregnated in that short window she will continue to come into heat until she is bred. That means more chases by bucks (and more collisions), especially when there are fewer bucks to handle all the does.

Other tactics include spending millions of dollars (tax dollars in most states) to build and maintain food plots, which cover tens of thousands of acres. Of course they will deny that such are intended for deer, but rather other wildlife. Yet the plots happen to be heavy on grasses and grains that deer readily partake. Essentially the agencies are treating deer as cash crops, while at the same time claiming they are keeping the herds in check so as to alleviate various property damages.

A century ago deer were on the brink of total extinction, due primarily to market hunting. Nationwide there were a few tens of thousands of deer. Today, due to the actions of hunters and the game agencies they control, there are tens of millions. In Pennsylvania alone there are estimated to be well over a million and as many as 1.5 million. This, despite "harvests" of anywhere from 400,000 to 500,000 annually.

The fact that hunter's numbers continue to decline while traditional practices are still prevalent does not help either.

Every attempt to change let alone reverse these practices is met with masses of hunters carrying pitchforks and torches.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration approximates the annual number of deer-vehicle collisions at 1,000,000 with 200 human deaths and over a billion dollars in damages. The estimate on damages is actually a low-ball figure as the average amount of damages is well over \$1,000 as per other studies, including

those by auto insurance agencies.

So it seems that the definition of "high incidences of deer car collisions" by wildlife managers is different from that of the average person, even 33 years later, as the practices haven't changed.

Hunters often cite statistics showing that their activity is safe due to the low number of deaths involved based on the number of participants. Somehow they manage to ignore the ties between their activity, game management and vehicle collisions, and deaths and injuries. For them to be so actively ignorant is understandable, but that they have been able to bamboozle the public, for generations no less, is another matter altogether.

There appears to be only one option for changing the status quo regarding deer populations and hence reducing collision (as well as other property damages).

Basically, the politicians who have the ultimate control over game agencies and public lands need to be aware that supporting hunters is not an option. We need to stop national and statewide organizations such as the NRA, US Sportsman's Association, amongst others, from having the elected officials' ears while lining their campaign coffers.

Contact campaigns and specifically ask where the candidate stands on hunting. Watch if the NRA and others endorse them. If that's the case, contact the campaign and tell them you will not support the candidate and exactly why. Don't assume that the NRA will endorse only conservatives. They have a standing policy, which I have talked to their leadership about personally, of endorsing incumbents, regardless of their stance on hunting or guns.

In any event something has to give, and soon. In the meantime the best we can do is spread the truth via letters to local papers, talk radio shows and any other means possible.

David Kveragas protects hundreds of acres of land in Pennsylvania. He is a former hunter and prolific letter-writer to PA newspapers and online chats. It's hard to argue with someone who has been there. He knows hunting from the inside and exposes it for all to see the ugly truth.

HUNTERS AND GAME MANAGERS - LOOK OUT: EXPOSING THE BIG GAME IS SOON TO BE RELEASED

REVIEWED BY PETER MULLER

Jim Robertson is best known for his breathtaking wildlife photography as well as his clear and thought-provoking articles about wildlife and the cruel, repulsive and altogether perverse nature of hunting. Many of these articles have appeared in the C.A.S.H. Courier over the years.

Now Jim is putting it all together: his spectacular photography, the indisputable facts and clear reasoning in a soon-to-be published book titled, "Exposing the Big Game." The book takes the form of a series of accounts about how different species of wildlife are part of the great web of life that unites the brotherhood of mortals on Earth. Yet this harmony is disturbed by a few psychopaths from our species who interrupt this unity by the perverted compulsion to kill for pleasure.

Jim does not mince words in describing and judging the senselessness and depravity of hunting and its practitioners.

Only an inkling of the depth of the book can be gleaned from these few excerpts from Chapter 8, "Prairie Dog Nation: Critical Cornerstone of a Crumbling Castle":

...All across the globe, humans have enslaved those animals they deemed worthwhile and set out to eliminate the rest. As John Muir noted, "The world, we are told, is made especially for man—a presumption not supported by the facts. A



Photo by Jim Robertson

numerous class of men are painfully astonished whenever they find anything...which they cannot eat or render in some way useful to themselves." To the vast majority of people living in their realm, prairie dogs fall into the category of 'not useful' and so have suffered the wrath of the gods.

Yet, as Dr. Jane Goodall observes, "Nine different wildlife species depend on the prairie dog and their habitat for their survival. The prairie dog is a critical component to healthy North American grasslands." And Terry Tempest Williams adds, "If the prairie dog goes, so goes an entire ecosystem. Prairie dogs create diversity. Destroy them and you destroy a varied world."

.....People in "cattle country" entertain themselves by using the few remaining prairie dogs for target practice.

One such thrill-killer describes his sport this way: "Prairie dog hunting is a blast...on both private and public lands. I like to start by clearing everything within

0-50 yards with an AR-15, then switch to my .223 Remington for anything out to about 150 and finally trade up to the bull barrel .22-250 for the longer shots."

Longtime candidates for ESA protection, black-tailed prairie dogs were removed from the waiting list in 2004, their fate left up to the states which manage them for "recreational shooting opportunities." This glib game department jargon, loosely translated, means states like Wyoming have an open season on prairie dogs, allowing for unregulated, year-round shooting without limit or regard for their future.

Adding insult to injury, the latest threat to prairie dogs comes from the pet trade. To satisfy captive animal collectors' appetites for the latest fad, prairie dogs are vacuumed out of their burrows, separated from their relatives and shipped to markets as far off as Japan.

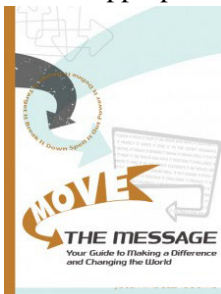
If we ever completely decode prairie dog language, we're likely to find that the word for human is, at best, unflattering.

Jim Robertson is an ethical photographer, which means that he photographs animals in the wild both respectfully and unobtrusively, and uses no lures to attract them.

Visit: www.animalsinthewild.org
Jim@animalsinthewild.org

MOVE THE MESSAGE

By **Josephine Bellacomo** provides you with a strategic approach to targeting your message to the appropriate power holders. You will construct and pitch captivating sound bites to the media, deflect personal attacks, and take the message to the streets to get winning results. It's an essential guide for activists.



Please contact Jo at jo@movethemesage.com. The book is \$20, shipping is free for C.A.S.H. members, and Jo will include a 30-minute consultation with the purchase of two books.

Chevy's Dream is a Nightmare for Deer

Chevrolet, one of the brands of General Motors, is running a promotion to win a "dream hunting trip."; Joe Miele has let them know how C.A.S.H.'s members feel about it. You should also: You can visit this grotesque site at:

<https://www.chevyoutdoors.com/>
313-556-5000 will get you to the headquarters.

Hunters don't want to give up their lead ammunition.

Please see "Bad Shot" in the Audubon Magazine
May-June 2011.

<http://archive.audubonmagazine.org/incite/incite1105.html>

God's Dog

We were happy to learn from Hope Ryden that her amazing book, **God's Dog** is back in print. We encourage you to read it and give it to others to read. Ask libraries to order it, and give it to friends for holidays and birthdays. It will be a gift that will last a lifetime, for it will change the reader's perspective of coyotes forever.



God's Dog : A Celebration of the North American Coyote
by Hope Ryden

"Full of charm and tenacious inquisitiveness in the appealing animal she pleads as allowed to live."—The Washington Post.
\$24.95 or \$20.95 members.

WHY JACK HANNA SUPPORTED THE ZANESVILLE ANIMAL MASSACRE

MICHAEL MOUNTAIN GAVE PERMISSION TO REPRINT HIS EXCELLENT ARTICLE



Photo by Fred Polks, Jr. and shown on ABC news website: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/zanesville-animal-massacre-included-18-rare-bengal-tigers/story?id=14767017>

It was reported that this lion was trying to hide when he was gunned down!

Whenever there's a potential danger to the animal captivity industry, you can bank on Jack Hanna showing up on TV in a funny hat, looking like he's just back from saving animals in the jungles of Africa.

Hanna, the "director emeritus" of Ohio's Columbus Zoo, is chief shill for the industry, which includes zoos, marine circuses, exotic animal importers and breeders, and the many other promoters of animals for entertainment.

When killer whale trainer Dawn Brancheau was killed by orca Tilikum last year, Hanna was on TV within minutes. But he wasn't there to put SeaWorld on the hot seat; rather to mount an urgent defense of the multi-billion-dollar corporation that would soon after be cited by the federal government's Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) for "willful neglect."

This week, instead of jumping in to protect the animals who'd been set loose to fend for themselves by the criminal Terry Thompson in Zanesville, instead of saying that it would be wrong for law enforcement officers to launch into a massacre of the lions, tigers, bears and others,

instead of standing firmly for saving the lives of these innocent animals, what does Hanna do? He steps forward to advocate the mass shooting.

Why? Because for people like Hanna, it's never about protecting the animals; it's always about protecting the industry.

Hanna's immediate calculation was based on how to minimize damage to the captivity and entertainment business. The last thing he wants is a long-drawn-out series of news reports focusing on danger to his potential customers. The last thing he wants is the possibility of stories of lions chasing people through the woods or down the streets. Get the whole thing over with that same night, swallow the bad news, and be back on Leno and Letterman as quickly as possible with cute baby sloths and exotic kitties to woo people back to the zoo.

The exotic animal business is bad news for animals in every way - from roadside zoos through reptile stores to circuses and marine "parks" to high-end zoos. Sure, some of them may be better than others, but they're all basically in the business of entertaining people - with some occasional good works thrown in to protect their reputation. The regulation of these outfits is left primarily to the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), which is not a watchdog but a trade association that's bought and paid for by the zoos themselves.

When it comes to exotic animals, the state of Ohio, where Hanna's zoo is located, has some of the loosest regulations in the country. Ironically, it can be harder to have a pit bull in Ohio

than to have a tiger, bear or poisonous snake.

What could have been done?

If Hanna had cared about the animals, what could he have done instead of urging the sheriff's department to kill them?

First, put out an emergency curfew to keep humans and their pets indoors, and have police patrols out to enforce the rule. Round up wildlife experts and trappers from across the country, and get them on the job fast. Have the AZA and its zoos offer to pay for the operation. Most important, take the killing option off the table except in the unlikely case (the animals had all been fed) that someone is actually being eaten by a tiger. And finally, when the animals have been rescued, put all the resources of the AZA on the side of getting them out to sanctuaries, or at least to the best zoos in the country, so they can have the best life possible for the rest of their days after the miserable existence they've been living at the appalling encampment of the criminal Terry Thompson.

But no, that would all have drawn too much attention for too long a time to the dark side of the captivity industry.

Plus, it would have raised questions, once again, about the whole practice of locking nonhuman animals up for the sole purpose of entertaining their captors and audiences.

Take a lesson from the no-kill movement

The Hanna/zoo response to a situation like Zanesville is similar in essence to how the humane movement used to respond to the so-called "pet overpopulation problem."

Twenty years ago, when 17 million

Please see Jack Hanna Story, Page 11

Jack Hanna

Continued from page 10

dogs and cats were being killed in so-called "shelters" every year, the explanation by the people who ran these operations was very simply: "We have no choice but to kill them . It's very sad, but it's a necessary evil . There are no alternatives."

As long as killing remains an option, be it for pets or wildlife, it will always be the first option - the easy way out.

But the simple fact was that none of the people who talked like this were ever really looking for alternatives to killing. It was only when the infant no-kill movement stood up and said it was morally bankrupt for "shelters" and "humane" organizations to be killing the perfectly healthy, adoptable animals in their

care that things began to change. Only when, one by one, communities around the country agreed to take killing off the table did the wealth of other possibilities come to the surface - spay/neuter and adoption programs, volunteers and foster homes, and then state laws that helped curb the mass killing of homeless pets.

As long as killing remains an option, be it for pets or wildlife, it will always be the first option - the easy way out.

People like Jack Hanna, who present themselves as guardians of wildlife, need to stand up for life, not death.

Michael Mountain is the founder of **Zoe**.

Zoe is the new venture of Michael Mountain, past president and co-founder of Best Friends Animal Society. In the early 1990s, Best

Friends — the nation's largest sanctuary for abused and abandoned animals — became the flagship of the new no-kill movement. At that time, more than 15 million dogs and cats were being killed in shelters every year, and the prevailing wisdom was that this was simply a "necessary evil" for which there was no solution. As founding editor of Best Friends magazine and then www.bestfriends.org, Michael pioneered the campaign to save homeless pets, driving a grassroots no-kill movement that would transform the humane establishment. By the end of the 1990s, the number of pets being killed in shelters had dropped to below 5 million annually. Today, Best Friends and other humane societies across the country continue their work to bring that number to zero.

Please visit:
<http://www.zoenature.org/>

Property Theft

Continued from page 5

ited the neighbor from feeding their pig. I'm clearly being victimized by the DEC. Selective enforcement of absurdity? Can someone help? Can you give me some sound advice? I have no one to turn to.

Aster

Aster wrote again on 11/10/11

The officer wrote on the deposition that I had been ticketed by his predecessor in 2010 for feeding wildlife. Just so that no one would forget that I already had 2 tickets dismissed last

time. And since I have the same judge as I did last year, I'm afraid that I'm not going to get these dismissed so readily. My father says that it looks very bad to be found guilty because if I ever go to court again, no one will ever believe me. I'm sure that no one is going to believe me this time anyway. Why should they believe me if an officer swears that I'm the liar, not him?

A NY man was charged with hunter harassment for using his cell phone within earshot of state land where someone was hunting. The man was found guilty of interfering with the lawful tak-

ing of wildlife. The appeal is pending.

Kathy Andrews wrote 11/12/11

Due to constant harassment by hunters, I moved and rented my house. Now my renters have left because the hunters continued to harass them in hopes of getting to me. They succeeded in pushing them out. This abuse has no end it seems.

This type of abuse is going on daily with people who won't speak out like you. Thank God for this listserv and the people on it. There needs to be federal legislation passed against hunter harassment like this.

CATCH 22

A bill, H.B. 735, now in the PA Senate, would eliminate the requirement in PA for hunters to display their hunting license on their back while hunting! How are landowners and citizens supposed to know who is on the prowl with a loaded gun when posted grounds and

roads are being invaded? It is slated to pass as it has unanimously passed the House! YOU WILL HAVE TO CONFRONT HOSTILE HUNTERS TO GET THEIR INFORMATION AND THAT WILL BE CONSIDERED HUNTER HARASSMENT!!!!

IN MEMORIAM

Farewell, Dearest Sugar



Usually, when we think of companion animals, dogs and cats come to mind, or a few other types of “pets.” However, if we but knew it, there are many animal species who have found a friend in man. There are likewise certain humans with an affinity for other animals, and who are fortunate enough to find a close companion among them.

Such was the case with Thomas Lee Boles, a semi-retired EEG tech-

nician living in Minnesota, and his loving companion, Sugar, a white-tailed deer. He wrote about this connection in *Deer Companions: A True Wildlife Story*.

Deer Companions describes years of observations at a deer preserve. Boles introduces us to many white-tailed deer and their human caretakers. Possessed of genuine empathy for these gentle, intelligent individuals, Boles was, in a sense, adopted into the deer family. One doe, named Sugar, became a particular friend, and their visits were always mutually rewarding.

Boles’ book includes an appendix describing habitat and herd manipulations by so-called “conservation” agencies that merely serve to “enhance sporting opportunities,” i.e., increase deer populations for hunters’ “sport.” This belies the absurd claim that hunting is about

population control.

Sadly, Sugar passed away recently. We reviewed *Deer Companions* in the Fall 2009 Courier, so Thomas wrote to us about the loss of his dear friend:

“My sweetheart Sugar, who reinvented the art of kissing and starred in *Deer Companions*, died last Tuesday following a brief illness. Heat stroke is suspected. She leaves a son, Ulysses, and a daughter, Penny, who is as sweet as her mother. Sugar was 11 years old.”

Wildlife Watch extends deepest condolences to Thomas, and hopes that Sugar’s legacy of love and interspecies understanding will live on.

Deer Companions is available directly from Xlibris, amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Kindle eBook. Review at:

<http://www.all-creatures.org/cash/cc2009-fa-15.html>

WHAT WE’VE BEEN UP TO

For the third year, Anne and Peter Muller of C.A.S.H. were guest lecturers at **Green Mountain College** in Poultney, VT. They presented an anti-hunting perspective in a class that encourages hunting as part of good environmental stewardship.



Anne Muller spoke for **C.A.S.H.** at the **Anti-Fur Society Conference** in Alexandria, VA on June 25th. The presentation was titled, **HUNTING’S CONNECTION TO TRAPPING**. It focused on the trapping of fur-bearing predators of waterfowl eggs, youngsters, and adults to keep the populations of ducks, geese, and swans high for hunters.



Joe Miele working the C.A.S.H. table at AR2011

C.A.S.H. PRESENTED AND TABLED AT AR2011

Between **Joe Miele, C.A.S.H.’S President** and **Peter Muller, C.A.S.H.’s VP**, C.A.S.H. gave a whopping ten presentations that educated people about the evils of hunting and trapping at **AR2011** in Los Angeles, CA –



ASK UNCLE JOE



BY JOE MIELE

GOT A QUESTION FOR UNCLE JOE? YOU CAN E-MAIL IT TO AskUncleJoe@hotmail.com. WOULD YOU RATHER SNAIL MAIL YOUR QUESTION? SEND IT TO:

**ASK UNCLE JOE,
P.O. Box 13815, LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO 88013**

UNCLE JOE GETS A LOT OF MAIL SO DON'T BE OFFENDED IF HE CANNOT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION IN THE COURIER. HECK, HE'S GOTTA WORK A DAY JOB, TOO.

LETTERS ARE PRINTED AS RECEIVED. THEY ARE UNEDITED.

Dear Uncle Joe:

Are you freaking serious????? What a stupid website you have. You post an article about a kid who was shot while his father was put the gun in a truck and you say it's a hunting accident??? this has nothing to do with hunting!!!! The gun shouldn't have been loaded when putting it away in the vehicle. rifles don't just "go off" It is called being incredibly irresponsible on the Father's part. Ok, so by your logic children shouldn't play baseball or be in cars or cribs or pretty much do anything. Because guess what you can have an accident and DIE doing anything. Hear about that boy that got hit in the face with a baseball and died? What about the one who was playing football? You made such a stupid and uneducated statement. Maybe you should rethink your occupation you genius!

*Martin
Yakima, WA*

Dear Martin:

Hunting accidents are just one of the reasons why we oppose hunting, though if you read the mail we field you'd think it is the only thing we address. Yes, accidents occur when children play baseball, walk down the street, take showers, etc., but this one occurred while a child and his father were wrapping up a hunting trip and involved weapons used during that hunting trip. That, Einstein, is what makes it a hunting accident. Martin, it is thinking like yours that helps perpetuate the myth that hunting is a safe sport. If someone is not directly shot by an arrow or a firearm, people with limited intellectual skills do not think other injuries or deaths that occur during hunting trips are actual hunting accidents. Someone falling down a cliff while scouting for a hunting trip, or someone who falls and breaks his leg while dragging a dead animal are two more examples of hunting accidents that hunters like yourself try to deny. When you take into consideration all the accidents that occur while hunting that are not the result of someone shooting at an animal you get a much clearer picture of how dangerous the sport really is.

Sincerely,
Uncle Joe

Dear Uncle Joe:

My daughter's school has forced them to watch a sport hunting video and it was very graphic! How do I stop this? Is it just me or this wrong? My child is scarred!

*Mary,
Marianna, FL*

Dear Mary:

The best thing to do is to approach the principal of the school not only to complain, but to insist that they allow equal time to get the message across that hunting is unnecessary violence and always inappropriate for school-age children. We can help you put together a presentation for the class if you'd like to do it yourself, or we could try to arrange for one of the C.A.S.H. staff to come to the class and give a talk. The best thing to do is to educate yourself about the topic of sport hunting and to back up your statements with verifiable facts. Luckily, hunting agencies themselves can provide you with much anti-hunting information and data if you're able to interpret it properly. Please use the C.A.S.H. website as a resource and contact us for more info.

Sincerely,
Uncle Joe

Dear Uncle Joe:

i don't understand why you want to stop hunting. men are natural predators and we have tipped the balance of wildlife so out of wack that we need to step in and manage them so they don't get out of control. i don't like the idea of killing either but with out some sort of control we would not have farms (the animals would eat them) and without farms we would have no food. i know there are vegetarians and u r probably one of them but not everyone wants to be one! without hunting deer and raccoons wed have no farms and no food. how would you protect the farms if farmers could not hunt? thank you for your answer. i have read your column before and hope you don't give me a wisecrack answer since I am only a kid ha ha.

*Michael
Lincoln, NE*

Dear Michael:

No worries – I will not give you wisecrack

answers to your questions because I can tell from our e-mails that you actually want to learn something. Thanks for keeping an open mind! Read over the letter you sent me – you said that humans are natural predators and then also said that you know some people are vegetarians. If we were really natural predators, we would not be able to be vegetarians since our bodies would not function without meat. Next, think of the animals we know to be predators – do any of them need to use weapons to catch their prey? The fact that we had to invent spears and later traps, arrows and guns in order to hunt makes it clear that we're not natural hunters.

Farm damage is a real concern and all farmers know that a certain amount of crop damage is unavoidable. A raccoon finding a corn field is like one of us finding a free all-you-can-eat buffet, but farmers can make raccoons feel unwelcome by planting rows of beans or squash between the corn rows. When the area seems cluttered and raccoons are unable to move with ease, they are less likely to stick around. Scarecrows actually work to chase off other animals, but they should be the kind that move in the breeze and they should be moved around the farm periodically. There are also many non-lethal products that are being sold. For example, there's a motion-activated solar animal-repeller for only \$29.99. Check out all the non-lethal products at www.shopPicketFence.com We know how hard farmers work and we want them all to be successful, but their success is not dependent upon intentionally killing wildlife.

Sincerely,
Uncle Joe

Kathy Andrews is asking that our members write to the Florence Morning News concerning their outdoor photos featuring "Kills of the Week." -The animals are often killed by children.

**Please email
outdoors@florencenews.com
and
Jtorok@florencenews.com**

BUDDY WAS DESERVING OF A CHANCE TO LIVE

“C.A.S.H. has received several comments regarding an article in a past issue of the Courier, “**My Buddy**,” that documented the effects of bow hunting.

<http://www.all-creatures.org/cash/cc2010-su-1.html>

Laurie Crawford Stone, the author, wrote to C.A.S.H. for her own closure:

When Buddy showed up three weeks after being shot, I assumed he came here to recover. I thought all he needed was time and a safe place to heal. Unfortunately, no vet will come out to treat wounded deer. I had seen Buddy heal before. He had healed earlier that year from an injured hock and he had lived for years with a swollen, broken knee. He was a survivor. I thought he would beat the odds again.

The December morning I saw him lying by the feeder, I wondered if I should ask someone to euthanize him. The only way to euthanize a mobile deer is to shoot him. I knew if someone Buddy didn't know came into the yard, he would run and then I would not be able to help him.

I struggled with the feeling I would betray this beloved buck if I asked someone to euthanize him. Had he come here for help only for me to have him shot? I asked Buddy to tell me what he needed. As long as he was eating and mobile, I felt he had a chance.

December 21st was the morning Buddy was trying to get up and couldn't. I started calling for help. I called the hunt manager, the DNR, police and highway patrol. I called one vet who referred me to another vet from another city. That vet was not in. I continued to call. Finally he said he and a

tech would come but not for 3-4 hours. They had to wait until after work. It would then be dark. He told me euthanizing by injection is not always humane and can cause excruciating pain if the needle misses its mark and the serum is released into tissue. If he missed, we'd have to have Buddy shot because the vet would not have a second chance. He was concerned that causing Buddy pain might result in injury to him or his tech. He and the highway patrol subsequently talked and felt having Buddy shot would be the better solution. I talked to the highway patrol again. The officer who would be dispatched could be there soon, was a hunter (not a bow hunter) and often euthanized car-hit deer. I was assured death would be instantaneous. I hated the idea of having Buddy shot. However, the alternative meant 3-4 more hours of suffering and Buddy experiencing fear as two humans approached him and laid hands on him in his now helpless condition. There was no assurance the injection would be painless or even successful. Buddy was lying, facing away from the house, so the officer could approach without being seen. The officer could euthanize from a distance. He would not have to touch Buddy. For all these reasons, we all felt shooting was the most humane way to euthanize Buddy. My friend came over to be there with the officer and her stethoscope, to ensure Buddy was gone. She watched the entire process which took only seconds. She said Buddy never moved. Buddy did not know the officer was there nor did Buddy move when shot in

the back of his neck.

I had Buddy's body cremated. I have his ashes. I loved Buddy as much as I love my cats. I went outside and greeted him every day for five or more years. “Hi Buddy, I love you”. I am still devastated by his death and suffering. That someone would say that I would tolerate or cause suffering of an animal shows they know nothing about me. It is a feeling of complete helplessness to watch injured wildlife—especially an animal with whom you have bonded. You can't get close enough to assess injuries and you can't as closely monitor intake and output, behavioral changes, etc. You can't take them to the vet. You do the best you can and hope you are being a good steward. Sometimes you make mistakes and all is not lost if you learn from your mistakes. I will not let another deer suffer like Buddy did now that I know the inevitable outcome from this type of wound.

I take photos because they are my only proof of the horrors of bow hunting. Telling someone about the face shot doe or a deer with an arrow in her side is not the same as showing a photo. I continue to hope that the minds of those in favor of the city bow hunt will be changed if they are educated about and exposed, through photos, to the suffering of our beloved deer.

I am doing the best I can to help animals. I won't always be right but I will always try and I do learn from my mistakes. Although I have not yet forgiven myself, I know Buddy has forgiven me. He lives on in my heart and in the owl who visits nearly every day.

DNR Pimps

Merle Wilson of IA wrote the following letter to C.A.S.H.:
Eighty percent of Iowa's population did not want to pass a recent bill to kill doves. Legislators, whom I call “DNR pimps,” attached a Dove Bill to another bill so it would not come up for debate, and got it passed.

WWW.NOCULL.ORG

So many areas are culling deer. If you want to fight it, please visit: www.nocull.org. It is packed with information to help your public campaign.



The website was created by **Peter Muller**, VP of C.A.S.H.

PETER'S HUMOR? C.A.S.H. apologizes if you are not amused

An old deer hunter named Bill, dressed head to foot in camo, went into a bar and ordered a drink. As he sat there sipping his whiskey, a young lady sat down next to him. After she ordered her drink she turned to the deer hunter and asked him, "Are you a real deer hunter?" To which he replied, "Well, I've spent my whole life in the woods, tracking deer, stalking deer and shooting deer, so yes, I guess I am a real deer hunter." After a short while he asked her what she was. She replied, "I am a lesbian. I spend my whole day thinking about women. I get up in the morning thinking of women, when I eat, watch TV everything makes me think about women." A short while later she left and the deer hunter ordered another drink. A couple sat down next to him and asked, "Are you a real deer hunter?" The deer hunter replied, "Well I always thought I was a deer hunter, but I just found out that I'm a lesbian."

☺☺☺

An old hunter was taking his wife on her first hunting trip. As he gets

BY PETER MULLER, V.P. C.A.S.H. closer to his favorite hunting spot the road gets rougher. He just keeps on going over steep hills and around sharp turns. After about 10 minutes a police car pulls him over. The officer comes over to him and says "Sir, do you realize your wife fell out of the car several miles back?" He looks confused but then breathes a big sigh of relief, smiles and replies, "Thank God, I thought I had gone deaf."

☺☺☺

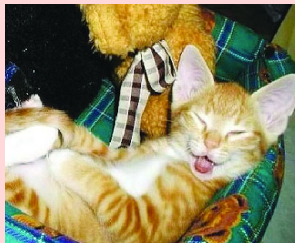
A hunter gets lost along a deep and wide river. He looks up and down the river for a way across but is unsuccessful in finding one. Yet, when looking to the other side again, he happened to see another hunter on the opposite river bank. He calls to him, "How do I get to the other side of the river?"

The other hunter looks puzzled and shouts back "Why? You are already on the other side of the river!"

☺☺☺

Q: How do you make a hunter laugh on Saturday?

A: Tell him a joke on Wednesday.



Fans of Pete's Humor

www.ebaumsworld.com/pictures/view/557305/#

As always, we are grateful to
The Mary T. and Frank L. Hoffman Family Foundation
for hosting the C.A.S.H. website!

**YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS WILL
HELP US TO DO MUCH MORE.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

www.all-creatures.org/cash/join.html

C.A.S.H. CATALOG

A Voice in the Wilderness

Videotape approximately 20 minutes.
\$12.00 and \$8 for members.

This video is an expose of wildlife management by **Luke Dommer, founder of C.A.S.H.** It was produced by **Focus on Animals, CT.** **Esther Mechler** of Focus has generously

given C.A.S.H. the right to sell this videotape. Copies have been generously donated by **Nancy Gordon of HAVE**, an audio-visual company in Hudson, NY.



Luke Dommer

CASH HAT

Neon Orange, one size fits all. **\$7.50**



C.A.S.H. T-SHIRT,

X-LARGE,
BRIGHT ORANGE—\$12.00



Back of shirt, left. Front of shirt, right.

HOW YOU CAN HELP US DO MORE:

- √ Become a member
- √ Include WILDLIFE WATCH, INC. in your will (you may earmark bequests for C.A.S.H.). If you have general questions about leaving a bequest in your Will to Wildlife Watch, or making Wildlife Watch the beneficiary of life insurance or other assets, you can contact Frances Carlisle, Esq. at 212-213-0172. Frances Carlisle is a trusts and estates attorney with expertise in advising clients about bequests and other types of disposition to charitable organizations.

- √ Donate shares of stock, avoid capital gains and get a tax deduction! Notify your broker or the company whose stock you hold. Ask them to transfer stock to Wildlife Watch, Inc. Federal Tax Identification Number: 13-3076705

A copy of our latest annual report may be obtained from Wildlife Watch, Inc., or from the Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.



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C.A.S.H. Committee To Abolish Sport Hunting
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