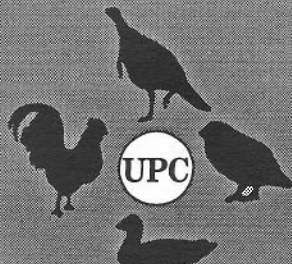


# Poultry Press

**Thanks To You,**  
**Our Wonderful Members,**  
 Edna and Ethel and the rest  
 of our heroic little group of hens are  
 looking gorgeous and doing great!

*Promoting the  
 compassionate and  
 respectful treatment  
 of domestic fowl.*

*Editor: Karen Davis*



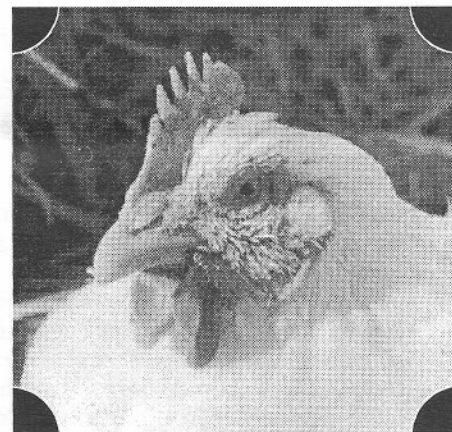
United Poultry Concerns  
 P.O. Box 59367, Potomac,  
 Maryland, 20859  
 (301) 948-2406

On August 24th, a speeding truck carrying thousands of "spent" hens to the slaughterhouse overturned on Interstate 95 in Springfield, Virginia. Joined by fellow UPC activists we saved sixteen birds from the wreckage despite police efforts to guard the "merchandise" from being "stolen." Our activism drew excellent coverage from **The Washington Post**, the **CBS Nightly News**, and **News Channel 8**, all of whom did sympathetic stories about the suffering of the chickens and the compassionate role of UPC.

At the time of their rescue, these former "broiler breeder" hens were nearly featherless from the harsh life they had led *before the accident*. They were wounded, shivering, terrified, and bewildered. And Now?

It is now December and *every rescued chicken is alive and well. When I walk outside, they run to greet me!* Edna and Ethel, Minna and Pauline and all their friends now spend long hours resting in the sun and roaming through the woods! I love to look outside and see their white shapes among the trees, eagerly foraging for hidden treasures in the earth.

On behalf of Edna and Ethel and all of us here at UPC, thank you for responding so generously to our cry for help. **Please remember us this holiday season.** Your holiday gift will help to ensure that our chicken sanctuary, our chicken rescue and veterinary care, our public education programs, and research



*Clyde Lassell*  
**Edna—Rescued from truck overturn on I-95 in Springfield, VA Aug. 24, 1995**

& investigation campaigns not only continue, but thrive in 1996. Thank You!

For The Birds,

Karen Davis  
 President

**Please** use my New Year's gift to support your campaign to save every chicken in America and throughout the world from a life of cruelty, pain, and fear.

\$20 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

# EXPANDING

By Karen Davis, PhD

**I**t is increasingly recognized that other animals have complex mental lives. They not only can suffer, but they are intelligent beings with a rich and varied social and emotional life. Based on the wealth of evidence, the great apes in particular—gorillas, chimpanzees, and orangutans—have been singled out as having capacities which make it clear that the moral boundary we draw between them and ourselves must be abolished. Hence, **The Great Ape Project** (1993), edited by Paola Cavalieri and Peter

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*In Barber's words, birds behave with "intelligence, purposiveness, and flexibility. ... Birds are sensitively aware and emotional; they have distinctly different personalities; and they know what they are doing"*

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Singer, demands "the extension of the community of equals to include all great apes" (p. 4).

While focusing specifically on the great apes, this book suggests that extending the moral community to include them could be the beginning of a larger break in the species barrier.

Yet many animal advocates fear that the great ape project, exciting as it is, reinforces the elitism that has caused so much havoc and cruelty in the world: humans are on top, the great apes are sort of beside and sort of below us, some other mammals follow. Birds, reptiles, insects, and fish aren't mentioned. In Peter Singer's 1994 book **Rethinking Life and Death**, those [nonhuman] beings who qualify as "persons" most conclusively are great apes, although "whales, dolphins, elephants, monkeys, dogs, pigs and other animals may eventually also be shown to be aware of their own existence over time and capable of reasoning. Then they too will have to be considered as persons" (p. 182). Meanwhile, however, they are not to be considered as "persons." The ability to suffer, though it should elicit "concern," does not of itself confer personhood or admit a nonhuman animal or animal species to the "community of equals."

Even to be a nonhuman "person" on the highest level, within this universe of thought, is to be a poor contender according to its standards of value: the vaunted chimpanzees rank with "intellectually disabled human beings" (p. 183). Where does this put the majority of the animal kingdom? What about birds?

To date, birds have received almost no attention from the animal advocacy movement. While it is assumed they can "suffer," little has been said about their cognitive abilities or their value. It is significant that discussions about factory farming assume that while "laying" hens in battery cages suffer, "veal" calves in crates suffer more. Fortunately, two recent books provide information that must change the moral status of birds in human thinking: **The Human Nature of Birds** by Dr. Theodore Xenophon Barber (1993), and **The Development of Brain and Behaviour in The Chicken** by Dr. Leslie J. Rogers (1995). Barber is a research psychologist; Rogers is an avian physiologist specializing in the chicken.

Both books offer extensive evidence showing that, in Barber's words, birds behave with "intelligence, purposiveness, and flexibility. ... Birds are sensitively aware and emotional; they have distinctly different personalities; and they know what they are doing" (p. 1). The ability of pigeons to handle complex geometrical, spacial, sequential, and photographic concepts and percepts, to solve problems, retain precise memories, and invent ways to communicate their understanding to humans is astonishing only if we had previously thought that about all a pigeon could do was "suffer." Indeed, a major point in all of these findings is that the suffering of which birds and other animals are capable is much more complex than what we technically call "pain."\*

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*As Marian Dawkins, a researcher into the lives of hens, has said, "Some species may suffer in states that no human has ever dreamed of."*

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Moreover, as Marian Dawkins, a researcher into the lives of hens, has said, "Some species may suffer in states that no human has ever dreamed of or experienced" (Peter Singer, ed. **In Defense of Animals** 1985, p. 29).

Pigeons and parrots are now being acclaimed for their hitherto undreamed of cognitive capacities. Meanwhile, research on various other kinds of birds, including chickens, has revealed similar findings that demand a revision of demeaning stereotypes. Much of this research is invasive and cruel. However, Rogers maintains that "the information obtained from this research is beginning to change our attitudes to avian species, including the chicken" (p. 213).

She says that "With increased knowledge of the behav-

*Continued on page 3*

# The Great Ape Project

*Continued from page 2*

ior and cognitive abilities of the chicken has come the realization that the chicken is not an inferior species to be treated merely as a food source" (p. 213).

Rogers presents detailed evidence showing the complex sensory, motor, and neurological development of the chick inside the egg, the relationship between the unborn chick(s) and the mother hen, and the subtle interactions that go on among the various modalities of awareness and experience in chickens throughout their lives. Following an extremely active incubation period, "The chick hatches with a well-developed brain, immediately able to make decisions and to form memories" (p. 118).

This book provides a strong sense of how vivid a chicken's mental life is, despite Rogers' often cumbersome language. Chickens "seem to have intent to communicate," as shown for example by the fact that a rooster will give alarm calls announcing danger when a hen is present, but not when he is alone. This and many other behaviors indicate that chickens make conscious assessments and logical decisions about their social context (p. 215).

What follows from all the data is a condemnation of the conditions that factory farm chickens, especially, are forced to live in. Regarding the battery cage for "laying" hens, Rogers states unequivocally that "In no way can these living conditions meet the demands of a complex nervous system designed to form a multitude of memories and to make complex decisions" (p. 218). Moreover, she says that while "New practices may be implemented to improve welfare and productivity in intensive poultry systems, . . . it should be realized that even vastly improved intensive systems are unlikely to meet the cognitive demands of the hitherto underestimated chicken brain" (p. 213).

One cannot read Barber or Rogers and believe, if one ever did believe, that a bird, a chicken, is an inferior creature. As Hugh Downs said on his ABC Radio Perspective on ABC News 20/20 on May 29, 1994, "Such close observations of apes and birds and dolphins remind us that humanity is part of a great animal kingdom. All species within this kingdom differ from one another in significant ways, to be sure, but the kingdom does not seem to be organized on the superior/inferior hierarchy. Species are merely different from one another; they are not better than, nor more or less advanced than, each other. The core experience of all animal life is strikingly similar."

With these thoughts, animal advocates cannot allow the idea to take hold that only the great apes have been shown to be fit to be "persons," on an equal or semi-equal basis with ourselves. If certain advocacy groups choose to work on changing the moral status of the great apes in human society, this is fine. However, it should not be done at the

expense of the other animals and their advocates. According to **The Great Ape Project**, it is unreasonable to ask that the members of other species should wait for their rights until all humans have achieved their rights first. The authors explain, "That suggestion itself assumes that beings belonging to other species are of lesser moral significance than human beings. Moreover, on present indications, the suggested delay might well be an extremely long one" (p. 6). Such logic applies just as thoroughly to the issue of the great apes and the *other-than-human animals* of other species.

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*Animal advocates cannot allow the idea to take hold that **only** the great apes have been shown to be fit to be "persons," on an equal or semi-equal basis with ourselves.*

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Other animals should not have to "prove" they are "persons" in order to be granted "basic rights" (Singer, **Rethinking Life and Death**, p. 182). Many animals, regardless of how intelligent they are, are probably never going to "prove" their cognitive capacities in ways that can satisfy our notion or perception of "personhood." Our own capacities for understanding and communication have limits. What, then?

In any case, there should be no quibbles regarding the personhood, hence the rights, of birds, for as Rogers says, "it is now clear that birds have cognitive capacities equivalent to those of mammals, even primates" (p. 217). This recognition has cost birds dearly in terms of the enormous amount of pain and suffering which they have endured in the process of our "proving" avian intelligence scientifically. It is now time to put the knowledge that has been acquired to use on their behalf.

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\* "The close similarity between birds and mammals in their physiological and behavioural responses to painful stimuli would argue for a comparable sensory and emotional experience, but is this inference valid? Pain is a subjective experience and the subjective experiences of a bird may be very different from humans. Birds do however, have the physiological, biochemical and anatomical mechanisms similar to those that in the human are known to be correlated with painful experiences. With regard to animal welfare and pain in birds, it is clearly essential that the ethical considerations normally afforded to mammals should also be afforded to birds." Michael Gentle, "Pain In Birds," **Animal Welfare** 1992, 1:235-247.



# A Vegetarian Feast Lets You Talk to Your Turkeys

by Margaretta Finn

*Following is a portion of the sensational article that appeared in the Mount Airy Gazette on November 22nd about United Poultry Concerns' 4th Annual Thanksgiving Celebration, held this year on Saturday, November 11th at the home of Lynn Halpern and Dave Welch in Frederick, MD.*

**C**an you have a warm, wonderful Thanksgiving without the turkey? Absolutely. Last Saturday Lynn Halpern's house in Frederick was a haven of good smells and relaxed, convivial guests. The dining room table groaned under the weight of dozens of pot-luck platters, and the hallway outside was packed with people waiting to get to the food ...

No animal products of any kind, which meant those luscious brownies had WonderSlim fat substitute instead of eggs and milk, and the melted marshmallows on top were made with agar, a seaweed product, rather than gelatin, a slaughterhouse by-product.

Turkeys did make an appearance though, but they got to mingle with the guests rather than be eaten by them. Abigail in particular seemed to enjoy walking right up to folks to be petted; she seemed to know she was among friends, and that people would still be petting her a week hence.

And how was the food? Well if you could make your way past the hundred or so people who were stuffed into Lynn's house, it was great.

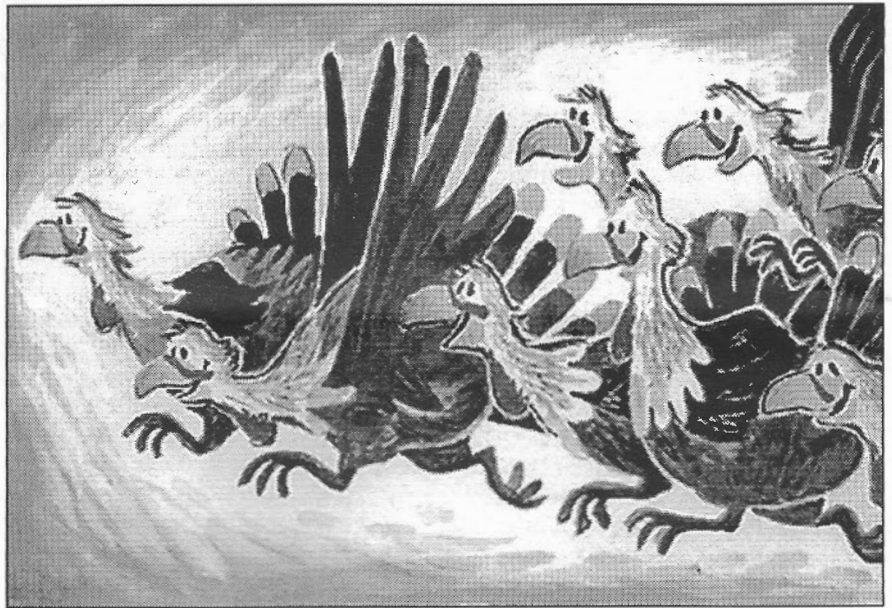
It was easy to get lost in all of it, but there was a black beans and rice casserole, all sorts of stuffings and vegetable side dishes, vegetarian chili, every permutation of pasta you can imagine, as well as pumpkin pie, dessert breads, including a wonderful saffron bread stuffed with raisins, and cookies.

And for those who wanted something a bit more traditional, Lynn made some dishes that were pretty satisfying.

One recipe from "Now and Zen" produced an incredibly realistic

"turkey." Lynn mixed wheat gluten flour with water and a savory spice mixture to produce a dough that she flattened, rolled, and wrapped in cheesecloth and simmered for a couple of hours. Then she fished it out, unrolled it, and stuffed the dough with a bread, apple, walnut and sage stuffing before wrapping it up again. Then she draped the dough with tofu skin, sometimes called yuba, that you can find in oriental food stores. It was this skin that produced an incredibly realistic-looking product and after being

boiling wheat gluten dough for four hours in a flavoring broth made from McCormick poultry seasoning, sage, Kitchen Bouquet, soy sauce, nutritional yeast, and water. The seitan marinated overnight in the fridge in the broth, and the next day was sliced and layered with a stuffing that featured bread, mushrooms, walnuts, raisins, imitation sausage, and more flavoring broth. She served the dish in a casserole covered with gravy, and I promise you, it was some of the best comfort food I've ever had ...



*From 'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving by Dav Pilkey*

baked and basted with a white wine mixture, it tasted as good as it looked ...

Lynn also made a stuffed tofu dish much like the one in the accompanying recipe [from UPC's cookbook **Instead of Chicken, Instead of Turkey**], but with a cornbread "soysage" stuffing using Green Giant brand sausage substitute.

But for a dish with incredible flavor, nothing beat Pat Rogers' recipe that was based on one from the 'Simply Heavenly' cookbook.

Pat, who came up from Funkstown for the party, made her own seitan,

The party Saturday was officially sponsored by United Poultry Concerns, founded by Karen Davis. Karen, who brought a carrot salad to the dinner, is working for the day when no one will have turkey for Thanksgiving, citing the horrific conditions endured by birds as a result of poultry mass production. She describes the society as promoting "the respectful and compassionate treatment of fowl," and all the chickens and turkeys finding sanctuary in the Halpern's yard were rescued in some fashion and brought to them through the society ...

Nov 15, 1995

# A Vegetarian Feast

Area organization promotes meatless Thanksgiving

By DIANE PRYOR  
Staff Writer

FREDERICK, Md. - Think of Thanksgiving dinner and you probably envision a heaping platter of steaming turkey meat accompanied by sausage stuffing and giblet gravy.

Members of United Poultry Concerns would like to shift the gastronomical focus of the nation's day of thanks away from meat and dairy products and on to plant-based foods.

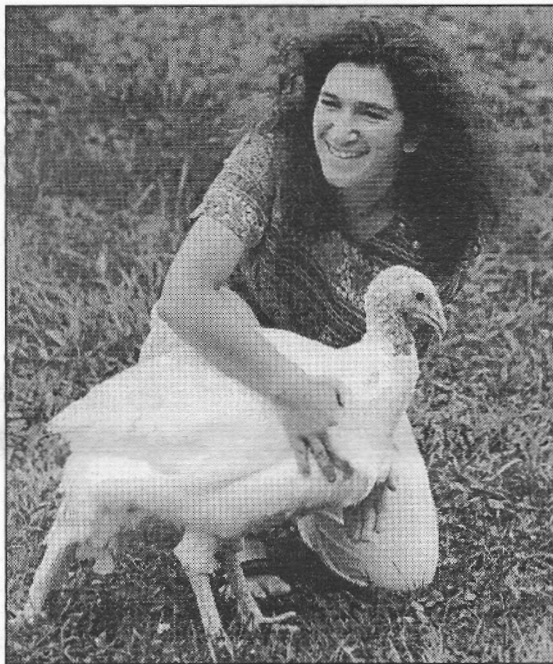
"We want people to think differently about their meals. There doesn't have to be a big dead animal in the center of the table," says Karen Davis,

a Seneca, Md., resident who is founder and president of United Poultry Concerns, a group with an international membership of about 5,000 dedicated to the compassionate and respectful treatment of domesticated fowl, including ducks, turkeys, chickens and geese.

To introduce the public to vegetarianism, United Poultry Concerns is sponsoring its annual "Fabulous All-Vegetarian Gourmet Potluck Feast" Saturday, Nov. 18 from 2 to 8 p.m. at the home of Lynn Halpern and Dave Welch, 5410 Beall Drive, Frederick.

Halpern, 35, says she's looking forward to hosting her second consecutive feast. Special guests will be her pet turkeys, Snowflake and Abigail, plus assorted chickens, goats and sheep.

"I like cooking and certainly the way to introduce people to alternative eating is to introduce them to all this good food," she says. "People bring food - a lot of good food."



Lynn Halpern of Frederick, Md., hugs one of her pet turkeys.

In addition to the feasting, Davis will be signing her cookbook, "Instead of Chicken, Instead of Turkey: A Poultry-less 'Poultry' Potpourri." There also will be a story time for the kids featuring "Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving."

A vegetarian for about three years and a member of United Poultry Concerns for a year or so, Halpern says the decision to stop eating animal products was not based solely on the desire for healthier eating habits.

"For a long time, my conscience bothered me," she says. "Becoming a full-

fledged vegetarian was not a big adjustment.

"I had often eaten meatless meals," she says.

In fact, Halpern says, instead of limiting her diet, vegetarianism has allowed her to experiment with a much wider variety of foods, spices and culinary techniques.

"It has opened a whole new world of food," she says.

Davis also says the variety of tastes and textures in vegetarian cooking is much greater than most people realize.

"I think people are surprised and interested to see how delicious and varied a plant-based diet is," Davis says. "They assume that it will be pallid and bland."

Cooking also provides a creative outlet for Halpern who is employed by NASA in Greenbelt, Md.

"I like working with my hands. I read and try things," says Halpern, who plans to spend Thanksgiving enjoying a vegetarian meal sponsored by Vegetarian Society of Washington, D.C.

## Come to the feast

United Poultry Concerns is sponsoring its annual "Fabulous All-Vegetarian Gourmet Potluck Feast" Saturday, Nov. 18 from 2 to 8 p.m. at the home of Lynn Halpern and Dave Welch, 5410 Beall Drive, Frederick.

For information, call Karen Davis at 1-301-948-2406 or Halpern at 1-301-698-4161.

## Recipes

### Nut Loaf in Puff Pastry

- 1 sheet puff pastry
- 4 tablespoons vegetable margarine or oil
- 2 large onions, chopped
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme or 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 cup ground hazelnuts
- 1 cup ground cashews
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 1/2 cups dried bread crumbs
- 3/4 cups soy milk, vegetable broth or water

Saute onions and thyme in oil. Add ground nuts, lemon juice, bread crumbs and soy milk, vegetable broth or water. (A food processor works best for grinding nuts and making bread crumbs.) Shape nut mixture into log. Roll out puff pastry so it is large enough to wrap the nut mixture.

Place nut log in center of pastry and fold ends so it is completely wrapped. Fold ends over and seal pastry. Place seam side down on an ungreased baking sheet. Bake at 400 degrees for 30 to 40 minutes or until golden brown.

### Mushroom Gravy

- 3 cups mushrooms, finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon fresh or 1 teaspoon dried herbs (rosemary, thyme and/or sage)
- 2 tablespoons vegetable margarine
- 2 to 3 tablespoons flour
- 2 cups vegetable broth
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1/2 cup wine
- salt and pepper, to taste

Saute mushrooms and herbs in margarine until mushrooms are

soft. Add flour. Slowly stir in vegetable broth until thickened. Add soy sauce, wine, salt and pepper. Simmer for a few more minutes.

### Stuffed Tofu

- 5 pounds firm tofu
- 6 tablespoons toasted sesame oil
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- Mash tofu. Line 12-inch colander with cheesecloth. Add tofu and pack tightly. Cover with small plate and place a 5-pound object on top of plate. Let sit for at least an hour. Remove weight and plate. Hollow out tofu to 1 inch on all sides. Pack in a stuffing. Cover with scooped out tofu and pat down. Carefully flip tofu onto an oiled baking dish. Mix sesame oil and soy sauce together. Baste tofu. Cover with foil. Bake at 400 degrees for an hour. Remove foil, cook for one hour more, basting frequently.

### Cornbread Stuffing

- 1 9-inch square pan of cornbread, baked
- 8-ounce package of vegetarian breakfast link, cooked according to package directions
- 2 to 4 tablespoons vegetable oil or margarine
- 2 cups red bell peppers, chopped
- 1 cup celery, chopped
- 3 cups green onions, chopped
- 1 cup corn
- Place broken cornbread on cookie sheet and bake in 400-degree oven for 20 minutes or until golden brown. Meanwhile, saute peppers, celery and onions in oil or margarine. Throw in crumbled veggie links and corn. Toss with baked cornbread crumbs. Bake in a baking dish (or in stuffed squash or stuffed tofu.)

## New Book!

### **Animals and Women: Feminist Theoretical Explorations**

United Poultry Concerns is pleased to announce the publication of **Animals and Women: Feminist Theoretical Explorations** ed. by Carol J. Adams & Josephine Donovan. 1995. Duke University Press: Durham, 374 pp. \$49.95 hardback; \$16.95 paperback. This exciting anthology includes an essay by Karen Davis, "Thinking Like A Chicken: Farm Animals and The Feminine Connection." Please order your paperback copy today! Send check or money order payable to UPC to United Poultry Concerns, P.O. Box 59367, Potomac, MD 20859. \$16.95 + \$3.00 shipping & handling.



photo by Clyde Lassell

**Karen Davis and Vicky Flowers**

## Book Signing at Borders a Big Success

UPC president Karen Davis discussed the turkey industry and vegetarianism at a successful cook-book-signing on Friday evening, November 10th, at **Borders Books & Music** in Rockville, MD. Seventy copies of **Instead of Chicken**, **Instead of Turkey** were sold in

less than an hour as people lined up to have their books signed and taste the exquisite food—barbecue chicken-less "chicken" nuggets, stuffed tofu, and Texas Raspberry Sheet Cake—beautifully prepared for the occasion by UPC members. A section on turkeys from the powerful video

**Hidden Suffering** gave the audience a look at the horrible way turkeys are treated in order for them to become "turkey." The contrast between that horror and our delicious food and recipes was obvious. We are thankful to **Borders Books & Music** for sponsoring this gala evening.

### **Tidings of Joy for Turkeys and Humans**

Over the years the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company of Columbus, Ohio has given frozen turkeys to their 350 employees for the December holidays. That inhumane tradition was finally put to a stop this year when Mr. Rick Kaplan, Vice President of marketing, convinced his partners to do away with the turkeys and give employees gift certificates to a local grocery chain instead. Hopefully, they'll use the certificates to buy cookies and pass up the turkeys.

— **Peggy Kaplan in a thankful letter to UPC**



#### **BE A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS!**

#### **MARCH FOR THE ANIMALS!**

There is strength in numbers! Join tens of thousands of animal rights activists and movement leaders for a historical week in Washington, D.C., as we expose the untold suffering and injustice endured by millions of animals every day. World Animal Awareness Week promises to be a turning point for our movement. Be a part of it!

To find out more about the March for the Animals, The World Congress for Animals, National Lobby Day for Animals and other World Animal Awareness Week events, contact:



**National Alliance for Animals**

P.O. Box 77196 • Washington, D.C. 20013-7196  
tel: 703/810-1085 • fax: 703/810-1089

Sponsored in part by:

The Fund for Animals, The Humane Society of the United States, The Humane Farming Association, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, The Houston Rockets, New England Anti-Vivisection Society, Animal Protection Institute, The Ark Trust, The Elephant Alliance, The Animals' Agenda, International Network for Religion and Animals, How On Earth! Youth Magazine, Farm Sanctuary, In Defense of Animals, Doris Day Animal League, The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, The American Anti-Vivisection Society, Farm Animal Reform Movement, Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Performing Animal Welfare Society, Friends of Animals, Animal Rights Foundation of Florida, United Poultry Concerns.



# Turkey Shoot Shot Down by Undercover Video Sting!

The previous issue of **PoultryPress** had an Action Alert by Steve Hindi, head of the Chicago Animal Rights Coalition (CHARC), about a live turkey shoot and protest that were scheduled to be held on October 15, at the Lone Pine Sportsmen's Club in Middleport, PA. Middleport is in Schuylkill County, where the Hegins Pigeon Shoot is held every year on Labor Day. Hours of covert videotape shot on June 11, 1995, showed the cruelty and cowardice of the live turkey shoot, which consisted of tying turkey hens' legs together, dumping each hen on a tire, and shooting at her with assault weapons.

A press conference featuring the videotape was scheduled to be held in Philadelphia on October 13th.

Amazingly, while Hindi's crew was taping another pigeon shoot in PA in October, the president of the gun club, Bill McDonald, followed him there. McDonald told Hindi he had driven 100 miles to say there would be no October 15 turkey shoot. He promised there would never be another live animal shoot at the club. Middleport did not want the bad publicity. He himself had begun to feel that the turkey shoot "wasn't right."

In return for stopping live animal shoots, McDonald requested that the protest be cancelled. Hindi said, "If there is no killing, there is no need to protest."

McDonald also asked that the videotape scheduled for release never see the light of day. But Hindi said No. "We refused, as there are other turkey shoots in Transylvania, and the public must see and judge these slaughters for

themselves." He told **The Morning Call** in Allentown, PA (Oct. 10, B3), "I wish we didn't have to go after somebody and take undercover videos. But if that's what we have to do, that's what we'll do. We go after animal abuse and this is very, very much animal abuse."

CHARC representatives went to the Lone Pine Sportsmen's club on October 15. The club was closed, its gates sealed with chains and padlocks.

Both the pigeon shoots and the turkey shoots received the national scorn they deserve. On Dec. 4th, the TV tabloid **Hard Copy** did an expose on the shoots based on documentation obtained by The Fund for Animals and CHARC.

**Hard Copy** urged viewers to register a call-in vote. Of the 30,000 calls received in less than 24 hours, 99% voted to ban live bird shoots.

## What Can I Do?

- Tell PA's Gov. Tom Ridge to ban live bird shoots in PA. Tell him the country despises Pennsylvania's moronic idea of fun and fund-raising. Contact him at the State Capitol, Harrisburg, PA 17120. Ph: 717/787-2500. Fax 717/783-1396.
- Contact the PA Tourism Bureau at 1-800-847-4872. Tell them you won't spend a penny in PA until live bird shoots are permanently banned.

## Thank You, Delaware Action For Animals

UPC president Karen Davis was honored by Delaware Action for Animals at a wonderful dinner on November 8, 1995, in Wilmington, DE. She was presented with a beautiful certificate that says, *Delaware Action for Animals wishes to thank Karen Davis for her perseverance and commitment to educating the public to animals' suffering.* UPC is delighted with this recognition and would like to thank DAA president, Leslie Porter, and everyone who joined Leslie in this gracious expression of support as we work together to bring peace to all creatures.

## In Memoriam

United Poultry Concerns sorrowfully announces the death, on October 12th, of **Glenn Grodin**, a 34 year-old animal rights activist. Glenn was the co-founder of Animal Passion, a Pittsburgh based animal rights organization. Glenn and I were assigned to the same field to rescue wounded pigeons at Hegins this past Labor Day. I will never forget how quickly Glenn raced through that horrible Hegins crowd to whisk up a wounded pigeon they were going to trample to death. He enfolded her under his shirt and rushed her through the crowded park to the medical van,

talking to her softly as he walked. By the time we reached the van, the beautiful white and black pigeon was dead. Now Glenn is dead.

In his letter to the editor of **The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette** (Sept. 28), Glenn wrote of his experience at the Hegins Pigeon Shoot, "When we allow the celebration of cruelty to animals, each of us is diminished."

Glenn's death is terrible not only because of the loss of a dear friend, but because a tremendous activist is gone, a tragedy in every way.

— Karen Davis

# Protesters Pan Chicken-Plucking Contest Winningly!

*"For the Veterans of Foreign Wars to make a silly game out of pulling feathers from the pathetic bodies of these birds should be an embarrassment to men who have seen, first hand, the killing and cruelty of war."*

Joan Jenrich,  
Letter to VFW,  
Oct. 8, 1995

*"We don't need people coming from out of town to protest. We want them coming in from out of town to enjoy the festivities."*

Tony Mosca Jr.,  
VFW post adjutant,  
Oct. 31, 1995



all photos by Louise Kahle

Spring Hill, FL—On Saturday, October 7, **The Animal Rights Foundation of Florida** demonstrated successfully outside the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10209 in protest of a chicken-plucking contest that was being defended as a "25-year tradition." The Spring Hill Chicken Plucking Festival that started as a promotional gimmick to market a housing community later became a VFW Post 10209 annual fundraiser. The point of the contest, which had dwindling audiences, was to see who could "strip the most feathers off a steaming bird in 20

seconds" for a trophy. One hundred live chickens, trucked in from a farm, sat in cages under a tent waiting for "experienced handlers" to "just grab them by the neck and swing them around and strangle them, just like a hunter does."

"Such a frivolous waste of life sends audience members a strong message that killing animals and making a mockery of their life is acceptable if it is found amusing," said the News Release published by The Animal Rights Foundation of Florida before

the festival. "I'm very angry about this," said Louise Kahle, in the St. Petersburg Times on Oct. 8th. "This event is violent and desensitizes murder. There are other ways to raise money," she told the newspaper.

The News Release criticized the irresponsible, uncreative, mindless, useless, and cruel lesson being taught to children and others. It declared that "the very desensitization which accompanies the chicken-plucking contest is one of the primary causes of today's excessive predisposition toward violent and aggressive behavior."

The protesters' pluck paid off. On October 31, the St. Petersburg Times announced "**Hernando VFW to scratch its chicken-plucking event.**" The article said that the "Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10209 has decided it no longer can justify plucking chicken feathers for entertainment. ... Members of the VFW post voted last week to put an end to the plucking. The post will continue to sponsor a festival of some sort, though it has not been decided what to call it. ... Also, there has been no decision on whether the festival will continue to feature the Ms. Drumstick competition, in which women and adolescent girls wear



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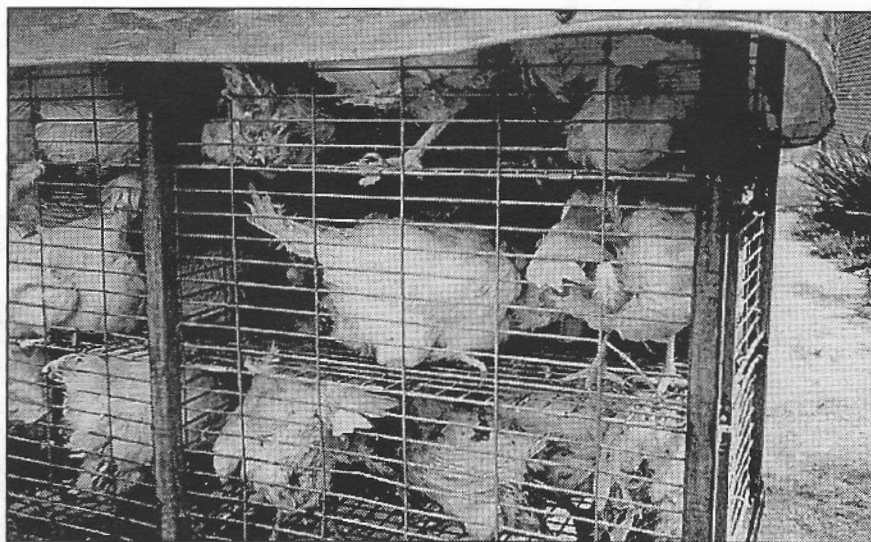
# Protesters Pan Plucking Contest

Continued from page 8

burlap bags and are judged on the shapeliness of their legs."

## What Can I Do?

- Please write a short letter to the VFW thanking them for their decision to end the chicken-plucking contest. Politely urge that the Ms. Drumstick competition should likewise be cancelled and replaced by creative activities that combine fun with respect for everyone. Contact: Mr. Gus Scumaci, Post Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10209, 15166 Spring Hill Drive, Spring Hill Florida 34609.



all photos by Louise Kahle

## Join The Crowd! Make the Vegan Pledge Now

Our last issue of **PoultryPress** listed 27 national and grassroots animal advocacy organizations that had so far adopted the **Vegan Meals Only Policy** for their functions including fundraisers. We are pleased to add 11 new groups to our list of signatories: ANIMAL WATCH (Sacramento CA), Big Apple Vegetarians (NYC), Delaware Action For Animals, Jewish Vegetarians of North America, Orange County People for Animals (CA), Students for Animal Liberation (University of Washington, Seattle), Veggie Social News, "For the Animals" TV show (San Jose, CA), Animal Rights Coalition (MN), Campus Animal Rights Expedition (Kent State University, OH), Animal Rights America (NJ).

If you are the head of an organization that is still serving animal products, or if you belong to one that is still serving animal products, please urge your group to adopt an ethically consistent meal plan, thereby showing the strong and

credible leadership which speeds public acceptance of progressive social attitudes and customs. Please let us know so that we can add your group to the growing list of organizations dedicated by word and deed to the ethical treatment of all animals. New signatory groups will be published in forthcoming issues of **PoultryPress**. Thank you for going vegan.

### Vegan Meals Only Policy

I am proud to add our group to the growing number of animal advocacy and vegetarian organizations and publications that have adopted an ethically consistent meal plan free of animal products.

Signed,

Organization

Title

Date

Mail to: United Poultry Concerns  
P.O. Box 59367  
Potomac, MD 20859

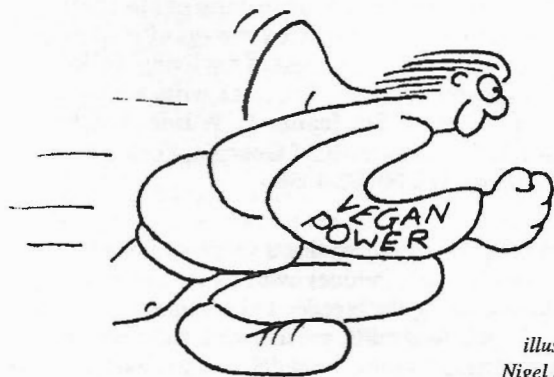


illustration by  
Nigel Burroughs

# UPC Attends First North American Poultry Welfare Symposium

August 12-13, 1995

University of Alberta Campus, Edmonton, Alberta Canada

*"Discussion will be focused specifically on the well-being of the most widely used agricultural animal, the domestic fowl. Poultry production represents both the largest and most intensified of the animal agriculture industries, with billions of chickens produced annually in North America, primarily in large, vertically integrated production systems."\**

—Brochure

This symposium, modelled on the European poultry welfare symposium, dealt with a range of standard industry practices and resulting pathologies in "laying" hens and "broiler" chickens and turkeys in the U.S. and Canada: debeaking, manipulative food deprivation, congestive heart & lung failure, skeletal diseases, cages, death wagons, slaughter, genetic manipulation of hens for passivity in cages, etc. In the keynote address, Linda Murphy, Dept. of Primary Industries, Queensland, Australia, said there've been "30 years of welfare research, but don't expect improvements in the United States in the next 30 years." In Europe, she said, the conflict continues, and Australians don't take poultry seriously. Government committees lack commitment. It's up to the public.

## **"New Mutilation" described at Symposium**

In "Welfare and Production Parameters," Joseph Mauldin, Extension Poultry Science Dept., University of Georgia, described a new experimental device to restrict "broiler breeder" males from eating the food intended for the hens in the breeder houses. It is a 2½ inch plastic stick called a "noz bonz." It is forced through the cere (nasal cartilage) of the young rooster when he is 5 months old. With the "noz bonz" permanently inserted, sticking out on either side of his face, the rooster cannot put his head through the food restriction grill. Until he is 7½ months old, a rooster's head is still growing and is thus small enough to poke through the hens' grill.

Jeanna Wilson, a poultry researcher at the University of Georgia, is reportedly developing the "noz bonz" for commercial use. In addition to the debeaking, detoeing, decombing (dubbing), food restriction, and barren environment already inflicted on "broiler breeder" male chickens, they



University of Georgia

**Roosters with a plastic object, the so-called "noz bonz," jammed through nasal cartilage.**

would now be subjected to the painful insertion and bearing of this plastic object. At the end of their miserable life 45 weeks later, they would be stuffed into transport crates with the "noz bonz" sticking out on both sides of their faces, jostling against one another on the way to the slaughterhouse.

## **What Can I Do?**

Write a polite but firm letter to Dr. Jeanna Wilson and tell her (in your own words) to stop this violent research project. Tell her not to promote the commercial use of this cruel device but to use her career to discover ways of establishing a civilized relationship with the rest of the living world, beginning with these chickens. Request a written reply to your concerns. **Contact: Dr. Jeanna L. Wilson, Poultry Science Dept., The University of Georgia, Four Towers Building, Athens, GA 30602-4356.**

\* "Vertical integration" means that a single company (e.g. Tyson, ConAgra, Perdue) owns all the means of production including the breeder and commercial flocks, eggs, hatcheries, feed mills, medications, slaughter and further processing facilities, and delivery to buyers.

# Rooster Pull Update: Pueblo of Acoma Replies

The previous issue of **PoultryPress** urged people to write to the pueblos that held rooster pulls last summer and tell them to stop this cruel dismemberment ritual. In reply, writers have been receiving a form letter signed by the First Lieutenant Governor of the Pueblo of Acoma, Steve Juanico, that tries to justify the rooster pull by arguing that Native Americans are conquered nations that historically have always been put down; the rooster pull is not "torture for fun," but "a regeneration of everything that embodies life in all forms here on this planet"; it represents "the regard we have for the regeneration of all life cycles without going into detail." Finally, the writer is asked "to consider how you would respond if someone asked you to free all animals from slavery or imprisonment." (Notwithstanding rhetoric about "Life" in the abstract this question concedes that the roosters at Acoma are in a state of slavery and imprisonment.)

This soggy letter provoked a follow-up letter from Emily Fano, who wrote in part:

"While I appreciate that Native Americans have historically been oppressed and your cultural traditions 'put down,' that does not give you license to kill other living beings. Indeed, it should elicit more compassion for other oppressed beings and cultures, as [other] animals have been oppressed by humans since the beginning of time.

"With respect to your cultural traditions being 'put down,' I would suggest there has been a renewed consciousness and hence appreciation of Native American history, culture and traditions of late. In fact, the history of Columbus's 'discovery' of America is being rewritten and taught differently in schools as a result. This is an ideal opportunity to demonstrate the many virtues of your culture. But killing animals in the name of tradition is not one of them.

"If, through the symbolic act of ripping a rooster's head off, or beating

him until he dies, you are regenerating life (or so you claim), why not use a fruit to accomplish the same goal? And if you *really* want to regenerate life, why not plant trees. Trees grow and stay alive for centuries, providing oxygen, shade and beauty for generations. They provide a haven for birds, and create entire ecosystems of life by their very presence. While this may not be culturally familiar, culture need not be static or stagnant.

"I am myself a member of a religious minority; my own people have been oppressed and scapegoated for thousands of years. But I firmly believe it is the oppressed peoples who must lead by compassionate example. We must not give in to violence by justifying it or performing it ourselves, or by oppressing the weak...."

## Further Thoughts ... "Humane Slaughter"

While it is fairly easy for an "outsider" to perceive the evil of the Rooster Pull, and rightly to demand a stop to it, it is often more difficult to apply the same standards of perception and judgment within our immediate culture. Yet how can we justify the effort to ban traditionalized abuses of nonhuman animals in other cultures, while seeking merely to regulate the banalities of evil in our own—like the systematic torture and killing of more than 30 million chickens and other animals every day merely to satisfy a conditioned appetite for their dead bodies and make money from it? Other cultures see this as hypocritical, morally inconsistent, and racist, and can invoke it as an excuse for complacency about their own societal cruelty to nonhuman animals. In the wake



photo by Clyde Lassell

## Clarence II

of such thoughts, United Poultry Concerns has come to feel that by promoting "humane slaughter" of poultry—hopelessly working to "regulate" the carnage and serve as experts (pseudo-experts) in the methodologies of murder—we are obscuring the vision of life that United Poultry Concerns is committed to achieving.

## Protest the Rooster Pull! Demand a Ban!

Write: Pueblo of Acoma, P.O. Box 309, Acoma, NM 87034; Pueblo of Zia, 135 Capital Square Drive, San Ysidro, NM 87053; Pueblo of Santo Domingo, P.O. Box 99, Santo Domingo, NM 87052; Pueblo of Santa Ana, 2 Dove Rd, Bernalillo, NM 87004; All Indian Pueblo Council, 3939 San Pedro Drive NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110 (phone: 505/881-1992; fax: 505/883-7682).



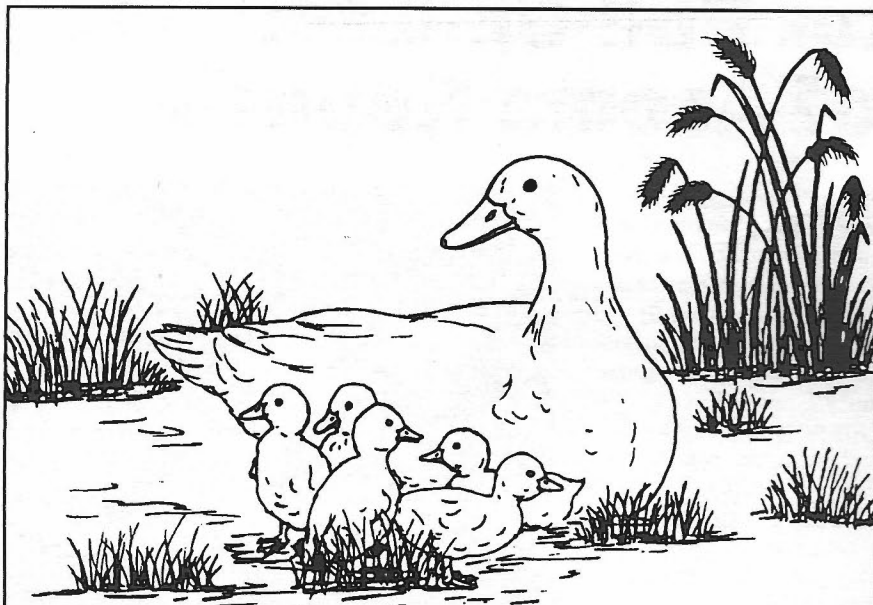


illustration by Millie Holderread

## Death Trap for Ducklings Update

*"The latest on the duckling situation is that nothing has been done....  
But progress has been made."*

Karen Benzel, Waterfowl Preservation Committee

The last issue of **PoultryPress** described a 3-foot deep lagoon at Marina Village, a housing community in Alameda, CA, in which baby ducks, unable to fly, drown. The edge of the lagoon is a straight 1-foot drop down to the water. The installation of simple ramps would solve the problem.

Concerned homeowners have presented a formal proposal to the Marina Village Homeowners Association (HOA) to add rock ramps and wood ramps to the five acres of lagoons. They are prepared to pay for, construct, and install the ramps. Polite letters emphasizing that the community can co-exist with wildlife would help. Your letters have already helped! Please write to the new president of the HOA, Mr. Gene Metz, Marina Village HOA, P.O. Box 1216, Alameda, CA 94501. Thank you.

*Action Alert Update from Karen Benzel (510/814-7227)*

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Taken from the videotape: a suffering, dying hen at Boulder Valley Poultry Farms

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*We welcome inquiries.*

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# UPC Blasts Ostrich-Emu Barn at CA State Fair

UPC leafleted thousands of fairgoers against the ostrich and emu trade at the California State Fair, August 18-Sept. 4, in Sacramento. Together with United Animal Nations, who successfully organized local volunteers, we passed out 10,000 UPC information brochures, "Nowhere to Hide." UPC president Karen Davis flew to CA for the opening days of the fair, proclaiming to fairgoers and the news media, "The ostrich slaughter process is cruel to the point of criminal imbecility. The living bird is shaved naked and slaughtered in a way that would shame us as a nation if this sick business were adopted. Americans are not going to swallow a vile dish of ostrich or emu when they know the bizarre horror of it."

UPC would like to thank all of our donors who responded quickly and generously to our urgent request for contributions to print the brochures and organize the event. A very special thank you to United Animal Nations and The Humane Farming Association for their significant financial support, to Teri Barnato of AVAR for her gracious hospitality, and to UPC member

Patricia Yelick, whose gift of a standby ticket made possible the trip to CA. UPC is deeply grateful for staff participation from the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights, The Fund for Animals, Action for Animals, In Defense of Animals, and United Animal Nations.

## A GIANT Victory for Emus

UPC joined Frank Branchini, Executive Director of the Anne Arundel County, MD SPCA, in a successful protest-letter campaign to stop Giant Food from selling emu at the gourmet Giant in McLean, VA. Writers received a written reply from Giant's Vice President of Consumer Affairs, Odonna Mathews, stating, "Please know that due to a lack of consumer interest, we no longer carry it." Thank you Giant.

## UPC Protesters Attack Crow-Magnon Crabfeast

UPC successfully picketed the annual Maryland Gamefowl Breeders Association Crabfeast on August 13,

in Baltimore. UPC protest leader Julie Beckham told **The Baltimore Sun** (Aug. 14, 1995, 1B-2B) that while cockfighting is illegal in MD, "There's no question they're breeding roosters to be used in cockfighting. According to **The Sun**, "She offered as her evidence a photocopy of a nationally distributed cockfighting publication known as **Grit and Steel**, in which yesterday's crab feast ... was announced near an advertisement for 'gaffs,' long sharp blades that are attached to roosters' spurs during cockfights."

Beckham told **The Sun**, "Cock-fighters would have you believe that [fighting] is the natural behavior of roosters. But studies of roosters in the wild ... say that they never show the type of aggression you see in cock-fighting rings."

**The Sun** article was reprinted in the November 1995 issue of **Grit and Steel**. The article concluded with Beckham's comment, "These groups and these newsletters tend to romanticize what happens. There's nothing romantic about it." Protesters from Protect Animal Life, Delaware Animal Rescue, Maryland Animal Advocates, and Maryland Forum for Animals joined UPC in telling the cocka-maniacs to go croak.

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illustration by Dana Baird



## *Instead of Chicken, Instead of Turkey: A Poultryless "Poultry" Potpourri*

By Karen Davis

This delightful vegan cookbook by United Poultry Concerns, Inc. features homestyle, ethnic, and exotic recipes that duplicate and convert a variety of poultry and egg dishes. Includes artwork, poems, and illuminating passages showing chickens and turkeys in an appreciative light. \$11.95

## *Nature's Chicken, The Story of Today's Chicken Farms*

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By Clare Druce

Introduction by Richard Adams

A powerful investigation of the chicken and egg industry by the founder of Chickens' Lib. \$10.00

## *A Boy, A Chicken and The Lion of Judah—How Ari Became a Vegetarian* By Roberta Kalechofsky

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### **\*UPC Ordering Information:**

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### **"Hidden Suffering"**

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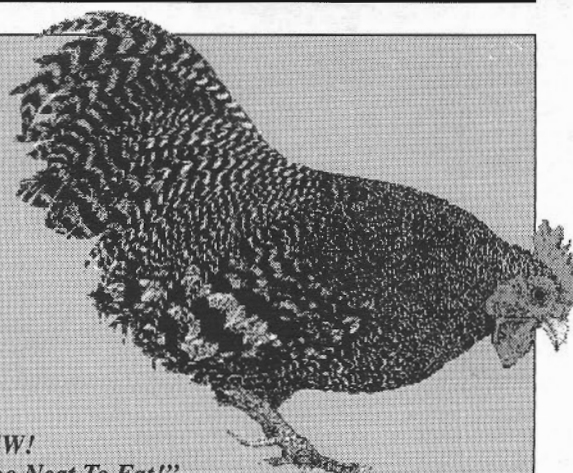
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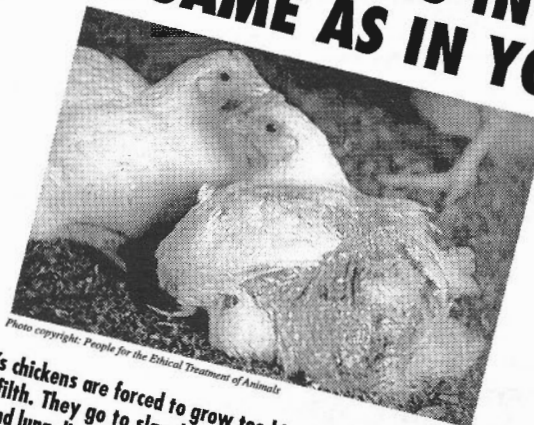


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Today's chickens are forced to grow too big too fast. They're forced  
to live in filth. They go to slaughter with yellow pus, harmful bacteria,  
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# "Don't Gobble Me!"

—Abigail the Turkey

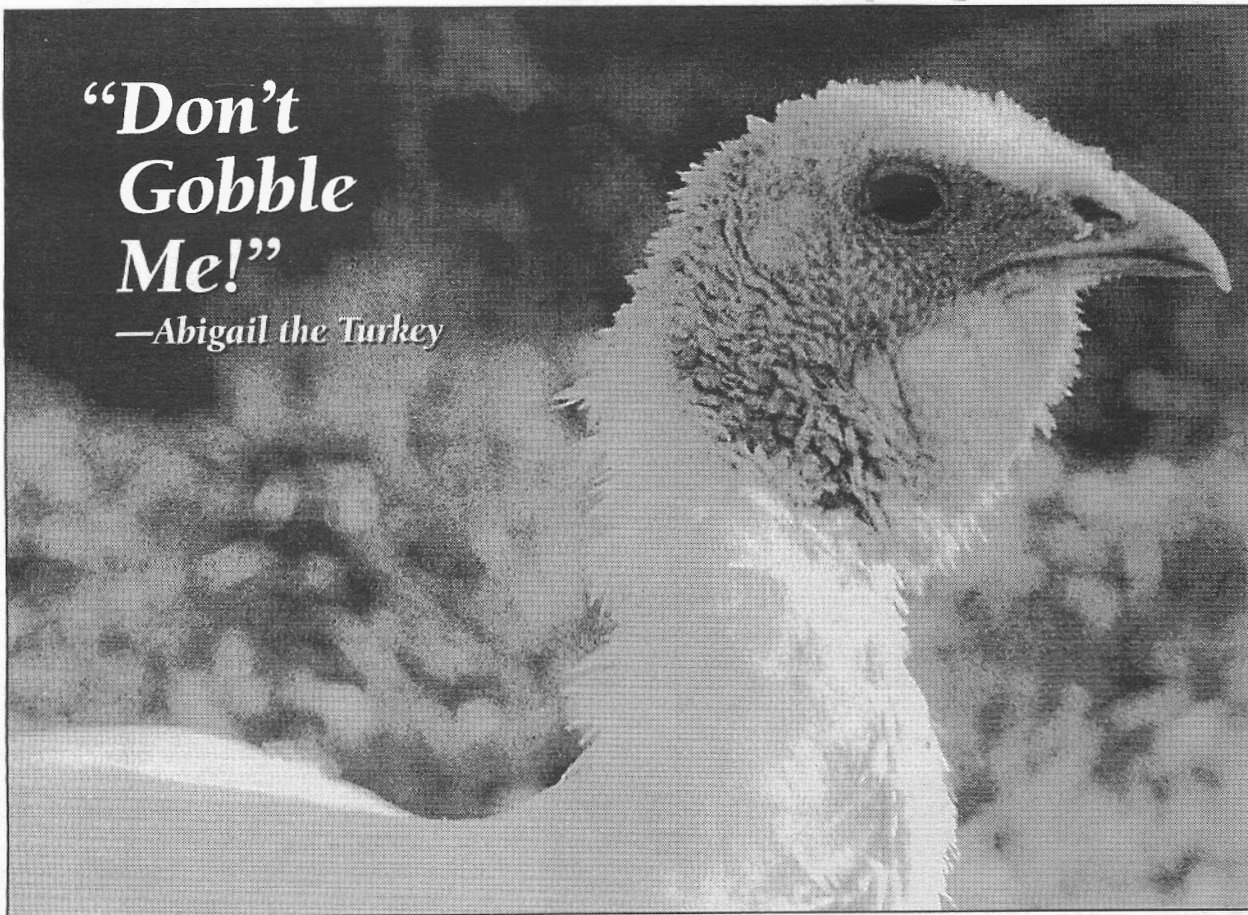
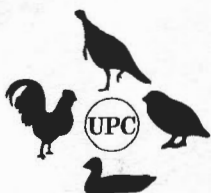


photo by Clyde Lassell

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Designer: Bill Burton  
Corporate Liaison: Julie Beckham

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