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Poultry Press

Promoting the compassionate and respectful treatment of domestic fowl

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United Poultry Concerns

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Everley was rescued from New Stockton Poultry Market in Stockton, CA and is now thriving at Wildwood Farm Sanctuary in Newburg, OR. Photo courtesy of Unparalleled Suffering Photography

Animal Rights versus “End Cruelty”

By Karen Davis, PhD,
President of United Poultry Concerns

Thoughts inspired by “Foul-Mouthed Veganism,” an essay by Roger Yates, published by All-Creatures.org in May.

“All I hear now are foul-mouthed vegans using the dread c-word. Cruelty this, cruelty that, cruelty the other. I’m heartily sick of the damn word! This welfarist language is now largely dominant in the vegan movement.” – Roger Yates

Roger Yates makes good points, as when he says: “The dominant view about eating other animals, for example, is that, while consuming them is not a moral issue, being cruel to them is.”

This statement sums up his argument and the dire situation very well.

I totally support the philosophy of Animal Rights, morally and legally. To me “rights” means that others have moral claims on us, based on their nature and evolution as sentient beings. As Matthew Scully writes in *Dominion: The Power of Man, the Suffering of Animals, and the Call to Mercy*, on p. 310, “the moral claims of other creatures are facts about those creatures, regardless of when or where or whether it pleases us to recognize them.” Yet a problem with the idea of “rights,” for those who question it, is a lack of foundation in the natural world. Western societies since the 18th-century Enlightenment have maintained that we as individuals



have “rights,” but on what foundation do these human “rights” stand?

Belief in human “rights” appears to rest on the bare fact that we are human. It is not about sentience, but about the fact that we are we, and suppose ourselves superior to all else. This is an arbitrary conceit since Nature does not regard humans as having “rights” any more than it regards lizards and chickens as having them. We simply define ourselves as beings with “rights,” although not all societies subscribe to the idea of individual “rights” for ordinary citizens.



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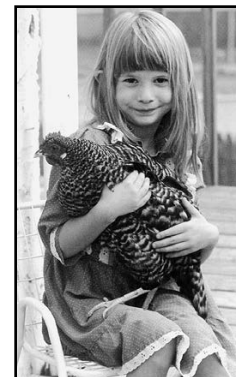
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Regarding nonhuman animals, I think it will be almost impossible to persuade most people that other species have a “right” not to be exploited by us. Some people point to Nature, where prey animals do not have the “right” to be spared being hunted and eaten by predators. I think it most likely that the only argument that could possibly resonate with most people is that once we have inexpensive, comparable, readily accessible substitutes for animal products and exploitation, we no longer have an excuse to use animals.

Matthew Scully in *Dominion* writes that “When we call something a ‘necessary evil,’ something requiring the suffering or death of a fellow creature, the evil is real and it had better be necessary” (p, 310). Once we no longer “need,” and understand that we do not need, to use animals for our benefit, but choose to harm them anyway, “necessary” evil becomes just Evil.

That said, I do not agree that the call for mercy and compassion and ending cruelty are wrong, whatsoever. It is when, as Yates indicates, “ending cruelty,” “showing mercy” and the like are preferred as a **substitute** for according respect to other animals in the form of enforceable legal rights, that the rhetoric of “cruelty” and “mercy” can sound hollow. This rhetoric, devoid of a commitment to animal rights, is very patronizing toward our animal victims. At the same time, legal rights for animals that do not include genuine empathy for them can be easily set aside.

Finally I want to say that mercy, as a feeling, an attitude, and a principle is in my view indispensable to an ethical human life. What is worse than a merciless person, a person with no mercy? If the quality of mercy were honestly valued and practiced, then we might not need to codify our Rights. But since this is not the case, the argument made by some, for example, that an Ethic of Care rather than Animal Rights should be the preferred philosophy toward nonhuman animals, is deficient. How many of us are ready to surrender our legal rights for reliance solely on human kindness and care? Although our legally guaranteed rights can be violated or turned into something destructive, we need legal rights to protect ourselves against the whims and prejudices of those from whom “care” cannot be depended upon.

I certainly do not want to be at the mercy of “care” without a backup of legal rights. The evidence for the need for legal backup is shown by how badly our species treats nonhuman animals, and how humans with power mistreat vulnerable people when they can get away with it. There is no reason for the issue to be Rights versus Care/Mercy/Compassion. All are needed and are compatible, not opposed to one another. But a legal mandate is more reliable than a person’s fluid emotions, and a legal mandate, if it cannot prevent prejudice (an attitude), can prevent discrimination (a behavior). In addition, once an ethical idea is encoded into law, it can alter both attitude and behavior. – *Karen Davis*

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Ideas to Celebrate Chickens and Inspire Compassion

By Yolanda Doyon Larivier

An Avian Activist's contribution to International Respect for Chickens Day/month of May

First, I'd like to say, you, Karen Davis, taught me, an avid animal lover, all about chickens! I had a cockatoo whom I loved as a child; and I loved birds my entire life, and even rescued pigeons as a child. But I never lived with a chicken; nor did I even have an opportunity to really know one socially or personally.

As an animal activist, I know how difficult it can be to get people to know – and love – and truly understand animals, especially birds and those who are used for food.

I believe the *only* way to get most people to change their views and eating habits is to have a personal, social relationship with them. They must live in your home, under your roof, and be treated as a family member.

Your piece that talked about how chickens purr when you hold and pet them, and a rooster who met his companion child at the school bus every day after school, these stories are so telling.

Even though I love all animals and know all the horrors, I still placed them in my mouth, on occasion.

I am happy to report my family and I are 100% vegan now, and I have never been happier and so proud of myself and them.

Change is never easy for humans; and when something tastes good, and people are told it's healthy,



Karen Davis hugs Alice, who was rescued from a Perdue facility in Maryland. UPC sanctuary photo by Karen Porreca

and required to maintain health, even though it's not true – it's almost impossible to get the message across, no matter how severely cruel eating animals is, especially with chickens. They are all treated like products, with no humanity at all. What I have witnessed firsthand would make you vomit.

So, please continue your good work, and consider programs in early childhood that will get children petting them, holding them, hearing them purr. These images will stay in their minds, and keep them from wanting to eat their friends. Encourage social relationships, and drive home the cruelty – the diseases from horrible handling – no sun, no fresh air, crowded living conditions – the sheer hell in which chickens and billions of farm animals live.

–Yolanda Doyon Larivier, May 4, 2022

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Karen & Mr. Frizzle ©2008 Davida G. Breier

The Use of Chickens in Agricultural Research: An Eye-Opening Look at Unspeakable Cruelty

By Karen Davis, PhD,
President of United Poultry Concerns

On May 21, 2022, I presented the topic of the use of chickens in agricultural research as part of the Third annual Chicken Webinar organized by www.Compassionate-Living.org in honor of International Respect for Chickens Day/ month of May. To view the Webinar, go to www.upc-online.org/videos and click on UPC Presentations. Here is the gist of my introduction:

Many people are unaware that behind the business of animal agriculture, an equally brutal business is conducted in the United States, through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Collectively, this business is conducted by private industry, the USDA's Agricultural Research Service, and tax-supported land-grant universities with animal science departments, such as the University of California, University of Maryland, and North Carolina State University, among others. Pharmaceutical companies like Merck and Pfizer have their own farm animal research divisions. Poultry "science" for the advancement of the poultry and egg industries is big business in the U.S. and around the world.

Because farmed animal "science" has no real legal prohibitions on what may be inflicted on the animals, the behavior of experimenters toward their victims is virtually unchecked in this industry subculture, which



This hen is being deliberately baked to death with other hens in a Ventilation Shutdown experiment by researchers at North Carolina State University funded by the U.S. poultry industry.

comprises the types of people who are comfortable with, who even enjoy, harming chickens and other creatures in the legitimizing guise of "science." This year, an experiment conducted on hens at North Carolina State University, in 2016, was exposed by the animal advocacy organization, Animal Outlook.

Animal Outlook explained in April, 2022:

Animal Outlook recently obtained public records from experiments conducted by North Carolina State University (NCSU) researchers in 2016. These researchers sought and received funding from the U.S. Poultry and Egg Association, an industry trade group, to study the effects of ventilation shutdown (VSD) on chickens.

The footage we obtained showed birds being subjected to VSD in various forms. The birds' suffering was captured in graphic detail with each video showing a single hen enclosed in a small box with a clear front panel for observation. Animal Outlook attorney Will Lowrey, who obtained and watched the 10 hours of footage, told *The Intercept* who published an article on these experiments on April 14, 2022, that "the suffering is extremely profound."

Watch the footage here: www.animaloutlook.org/investigations/newly-uncovered-footage-reveals-cruel-truth-about-ventilation-shutdown or here: www.upc-online.org/experimentation.

This footage exemplifies the link between the torture of chickens, turkeys and other birds/animals on industrial farms worldwide – in this case relating to the recurring avian influenza epidemics perpetrated by the poultry industry plus the Covid-19 killings of millions of factory-farmed birds in "depopulation" killings – and the systematic torture of chickens, turkeys, ducks, quails, and other farmed birds in university experiments funded by the poultry industry and by tax-supported government programs.

(cont.) The Use of Chickens in Agricultural Research**Should Animal Advocates Collaborate with Corporate Animal Abusers to Help Animals?**

Seeking a “more humane” way to exterminate millions of birds to control diseases, an animal advocate asked: “Which university might we engage to look at humane depopulation methods for disaster response?”

Answer: There is no humane way to exterminate thousands of animals – chickens, turkeys, pigs, etc. – in a single facility, which is usually one building in a complex comprising several buildings onsite, all of which will be depopulated at the same time. A typical chicken “grow-out” building contains an average of 50,000 chickens under 6-weeks old. Let us please not talk about which method is “more” humane than some other horrific method. Logically and ethically it is a question, at best, of which method is possibly the least inhumane, based, for example, on the length of time it takes the majority of animals exposed to the procedure to die.

Carbon Dioxide (CO2) produces slow, painful suffocation in birds and mammals. Often birds who appear to be dead wake up and are then beaten to death by the workers

with baseball bats, metal pipes, or whatever is handy.

Fire-fighting foam blankets and suffocates birds with toxic chemicals, which they ingest as they die enveloped in the foam.

Cervical dislocation – neck-breaking – is routinely practiced by the contract “growers” (the workers who raise birds for Perdue, Tyson, Foster Farms, Costco, Pilgrim’s Pride, etc.) inside the buildings, where, every day, birds are dying or are not growing fast enough or laying enough eggs, so the workers break their necks, slam them against the wall or the floor, and throw them in the trash cans and shopping carts scattered around inside the building where the birds are living.

Electrocution is unequivocal torture. It is not possible to kill even one human being “humanely” in the electric chair, which is why the electric chair as a form of capital punishment has been banned almost everywhere.

A mixture of gases comprising precise percentages of argon, nitrogen, oxygen, and CO2 has been proposed by some animal scientists as a replacement for pre-slaughter paralytic electric shock-water immersion in the slaughter plants. This could be the least intolerable

What is Ventilation Shutdown+? It cooks living creatures to death.

The following excerpt is from a June 3, 2022 *Sentient Media* article featuring a detailed report by the Animal Welfare Institute that explains how Ventilation Shutdown+ is used to exterminate millions of factory-farmed birds in taxpayer-supported “depopulation” killings to benefit the poultry and egg industries. The + (VSD-Plus) refers to the addition of extreme heat and carbon dioxide to the withdrawal of oxygen from the facility in which the birds (also pigs) are held.

VSD+ requires farmers to cut off airflow and heat their barns to 104 degrees Fahrenheit until the animals die from heatstroke. The method is **only intended** to be used if no other method can successfully kill the entire flock in 48 hours.

But USDA records show that eight of the 12 largest culls that used VSD+ between February and March [in 2022] took more than 48 hours to complete. The two largest culls took 7 and 16 days, respectively. While USDA endorses the use of VSD+ in some scenarios, the killing method is **opposed** by a growing contingent of veterinary professionals, who say it causes extreme suffering and should be avoided at all costs. . . .

Ventilation Shutdown+ has become the main method of exterminating large populations of factory-farmed birds and pigs in the name of disease control in the U.S. Other methods include blanketing the birds with firefighting foam, suffocating them to death with carbon dioxide poisoning, and in some instances electrocuting them and in some instances applying these methods in combination.

method of-killing. However, it requires a level of expertise that could never be duplicated in a commercial setting. The people brought to the complexes to destroy huge populations of captive animals are laborers with nothing but muscle, no scientific training or understanding whatsoever of mixing gases or of applying pre-mixed gases. In addition to the specialized training required to use a mixture of gases to kill animals, there is the financial cost, which industry will never consider. What might work in a laboratory would not work in a commercial environment.

Finally, the view of UPC is that it is inappropriate for animal advocates to engage animal science departments and laboratories to experimentally torture and kill chickens and other animals to find a “more humane” method of exterminating them on the farm. Not only have these types of experiments been done repeatedly for years and years already; but as Harriet Schleifer writes in “Images of Death and Life: Food Animal Production and the Vegetarian Option”: *“Killing, unless it is done as a merciful act, must involve withholding of sympathy for the victim. Done repeatedly, it results in a hardening of the emotions. . . . To begin with, sincere concern for living individuals leads [us] to become, ironically, experts on the techniques of mass death-dealing.”* It suggests *“that the taking of life is not a problem, only the way it is done.”*

United Poultry Concerns is an active coalition member of OurHonor.org, a nonprofit organization whose “goal is to create an organized network of professionals who are able to formally challenge



Screenshot: The Intercept / North Carolina State University footage that Animal Outlook obtained via FOIA [Freedom of Information Act Request].

How much taxpayer money has the USDA given to the U.S. poultry & egg industries as of June 2022 to brutally exterminate millions of factory-farmed birds?

USDA’s Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) since February 2022 “has been in a costly battle with avian flu. With an emergency \$793 million transfer from the Commodity Credit Corporation, APHIS has eradicated more than 40 million birds from 372 flocks in 38 states.” – *Food Safety News*, June 21, 2022

“Safeguarding U.S. poultry and egg producers from the effects avian influenza could have on agriculture and trade is a critical aspect of this response, and this funding will allow APHIS personnel to continue to deploy and support the emergency wherever they are needed,” said USDA Undersecretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Jenny Lester Moffitt. – *Meatingplace.com*, May 31, 2022

unethical institutionalized systems and amplify the voices of those who have been marginalized.” Our current engagement with Our Honor relates to Our Honor’s campaign to persuade the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) to formally oppose the use of Ventilation Shutdown (“depopulating” animals by baking them to death as was done by the NCSU experimenters) as a method of mass-murdering chickens, turkeys, ducks, and other farmed animals to control avian influenza and other transmittable diseases among these highly stressed, fragile and disease-susceptible birds and pigs on factory farms.

What Can I Do?

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) is holding its annual convention in Philadelphia July 29-August 2, 2022. Though the AVMA cannot force U.S. agribusinesses to use or not use a particular “depopulation” method, the AVMA can adopt a policy statement that recommends against a particular method of killing. Such a policy can influence industry from a public relations standpoint and provide

(cont.) The Use of Chickens in Agricultural Research

an institutional basis for public protest. As things stand now, chickens, turkeys, pigs and other farmed animals are legally and morally abandoned to the iniquities of an industry, including its farmed animal “science” affiliates, that is completely devoid of conscience and ethics. Notably, the NCSU scientists who conducted the Ventilation Shutdown experiments drank ice water and fanned themselves as they watched the hens they had wired up, each in her solitary death box, die piteously, and they shut out the hens’ cries from being heard.

Contact:

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UPC LETTER TO THE AVMA

March 29, 2022

Dr. Janet Donlin
Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer
American Veterinary Medical Association

Dr. Cia Johnson
Panel on Depopulation & Director of the AVMA
Animal Welfare Division
American Veterinary Medical Association

Dear Dr. Donlin and Dr. Johnson:

On behalf of United Poultry Concerns, I am writing to urge you to adopt a Not Recommended standard of opposition to the inhumane mass-killing of chickens, turkeys, ducks, pigs and other farmed animals by means of ventilation shutdown, carbon dioxide poisoning, and firefighting foam.

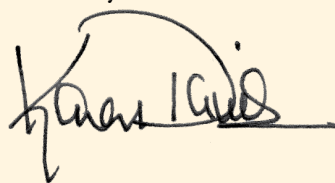
We understand that these inhumane methods of destroying large numbers of farmed animals, all at the same time and in the same location, are commonly used, particularly to kill large numbers of birds in cases of collapsed buildings caused by weather conditions, and disease outbreaks of various kinds including the corona virus, avian influenza, and other contagious diseases affecting captive flocks and sometimes also human handlers.

We believe that the AVMA has a moral responsibility toward these trapped and helpless animals and that this responsibility should transcend the AVMA’s approval or “acceptance” of cruel and torturous methods of killing in order to accommodate corporations and farmers.

Please advise what position the AVMA will take on the use of ventilation shutdown, carbon dioxide poisoning, and firefighting foam. We urge the AVMA to adopt a Not Recommended standard, even though the birds, pigs, and other farmed animals have a horrible, hopeless life and death regardless. That being so, the American Veterinary Medical Association still has a moral obligation to oppose these terrible methods of killing sentient individuals.

Thank you very much for your attention. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Karen Davis, PhD, President
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Phone: 757-678-7875

www.upc-online.org

Direct Action Everywhere (DxE) describes what their investigation of a typical U.S. caged-hen operation revealed about the Ventilation Shutdown method of “depopulating” millions of birds:

Today [April 13], we’ve released a new investigation into Rembrandt Enterprises, a factory egg farm in Iowa where 5 million birds were killed with VSD following an outbreak of avian flu. DxE investigators found birds who had survived the VSD process — being literally roasted alive — still in their cages, running loose in the facility’s industrial sheds, even buried alive.

After Hens have been brutally murdered, they are shipped off to be turned into “compost.”



New Podcast Series! Thinking Like A Chicken – News & Views!

“I want to influence people to perceive chickens and turkeys in their own right, apart from the categorical traps in which they are typically held captive.” – Karen Davis

Karen Davis, PhD, President of United Poultry Concerns, has launched an informative biweekly podcast series of 10-minute episodes featuring life from a chicken’s point of view. *If you were just “poultry” to most people, what would you want them to learn, say, think, and do about you?*

“Thinking Like a Chicken” features short, articulate talks about these birds and our advocacy on their behalf. Topics range from inside the poultry industry to life in a sanctuary, a cockfighting ring, a school hatching project, a backyard. Ideas and situations that highlight these birds are discussed. Karen describes her personal experiences with chickens, turkeys and other domesticated birds for more than three decades along with the challenges and ethics of plant-based and “clean-meat” advocacy.



Photo of Karen and Rainbow by Unparalleled Suffering Photography

“While I would not presume to speak for ‘voiceless’ birds — their voices speak for themselves! — I do seek to be their Voice in the public domain to help them be heard. Please join me for these biweekly podcast episodes.”
– Karen Davis, United Poultry Concerns

Each podcast episode is posted permanently on our website. To listen, click on Podcasts & Videos at www.upc-online.org/videos.

Violated Expectations in the Experience of Factory-Farmed Chickens

By Karen Davis, PhD

President of United Poultry Concerns

Do Chickens “Know” What They are Missing?

“Every time I photograph laying hens on factory farms, especially those in cage systems, I wonder, what is their level of acceptance of the environment that we created for them; how strong is their will to fight, their imposed tolerance for other randomly chosen members of a group, all of that while living in a tiny cage. This agreed on, monotonous and dull life is limited by eating and laying eggs. The series of photographs that are taken in those places are mostly metal bars, leaned out necks, which are very often featherless, and eggs, labeled as a product with number 3.”



Photo by Andrew Skowron

“This place was one of few that really took away my will to do anything for a while. The amount of suffering was too overwhelming for me to grab my camera and do my job. I wasn’t alone in these feelings: my partner reacted the same way. Maybe this place doesn’t exist? Maybe it was just a bad dream? We took a moment to collect ourselves. After a minute, the nightmare was still as real as before.” – Andrew Skowron. “A Story about Three Tough and Resilient Laying Hens”

Do chickens in factory-farming operations have any conscious or sensory awareness of what is missing in their lives on the factory-farm? If overcrowding, filth, imprisonment, and brutal handling are all that they have ever known, do they miss having personal space, cleanliness, fresh

air, sunshine, and other elements they would normally experience outside of their enforced captivity? Do they *know* they are suffering?

The type of suffering I am speaking of here is what has been called “unnatural suffering,” that is, suffering that has no basis or counterpart or equivalence in the natural evolution of the species in question.

I raise this question because agribusiness and its proponents like to portray chickens and other farmed animals as “happy” and “content” in the squalor, crowding, confinement, and darkness of their factory-farm environment. They insist that since these conditions are all that the chickens as individuals have ever known, they cannot “miss” what they personally never knew. So can chickens miss what they have never personally experienced? I believe the answer is an unqualified “Yes,” they most certainly can.

Here are three examples of experiences – positive experiences – of which chickens are deprived on factory farms: natural colors and sunlight, natural sounds, and hygiene – the ability to practice and maintain bodily cleanliness.

Natural colors and sunlight

As for natural colors and sunlight, let us recall that chickens evolved in the tropical forests of Southeast Asia. This is a world of vibrant colors and sounds to which they contribute. Chickens have much better eyesight than human beings have, including long distance and close-up vision. They have full-spectrum color vision from the infrared to the ultraviolet. Their ability to perceive infrared light is what enables them to see the sunrise each morning an hour before we do. That is why roosters start crowing when for us it is still dark outside.

So how do chickens, endowed as they are genetically with superb color vision, experience being deprived of all natural colors and forced to see only varying shades of brown in their captive environment? I see, every day at our sanctuary, how avidly chickens seek sunlight, how they love to sunbathe, how they *need* to sunbathe. Is it not utterly cruel to deprive such creatures of color and

the light of the sun? Do we assume that they do not miss these sources of inborn pleasure and inherited needs?

Natural Sounds

As for natural sounds, the tropical forest, in which chickens evolved, is alive, day and night, with the voices of the forest residents in their tree-filled habitats. During the day, chickens break up into smaller groups of, say, one rooster and several hens to forage together for food on the forest floor. Living in a dense forest means that the birds cannot always see each other among the trees. So they have to be able to hear one another over long distances. The roosters constantly notify their flock members vocally of where they are and what is happening. They keep in touch. Their voices provide comfort to the whole flock by communicating information through a natural symphony of sounds.

Compare this vibrant, meaningful ruckus of the forest with the dead silence, cries of distress, yelling of workers, and din of machinery to which chickens are subjected in the cages and sheds from which they cannot escape. Not a single note of joy or enthusiasm so natural to chickens living in a wild or sanctuary environment. Instead, every sound, every silence, is negative – threatening, traumatizing, distressful. Can we think for a moment that these chickens are not aware that what they were born to hear in the world of nature has been replaced by the sounds and silence of living in Hell?

Hygiene

Let us finally consider the issue of hygiene – the inborn need chickens have to keep themselves, their feathers and their skin, clean and refreshed. Chickens practice bodily hygiene in two main ways: by preening their feathers with the preen oil from their preen gland, and by taking frequent dustbaths. They create dustbowls in the earth, loosening the soil around themselves with their claws and beaks to distribute the particles of earth through their feathers and skin. This enables them to remove accumulated preen oil, dander, and skin irritants. As I have watched many times in our sanctuary, chickens who had never set foot on the ground before they arrived at our place – the first thing they do when removed from the carrier is to slowly and then vigorously start to dustbathe. Chickens

do not have to be taught to dustbathe. So powerful is their instinct to bathe themselves and be clean that they will pathetically perform what poultry scientists call “vacuum dustbathing,” even on the wire floor of a crowded battery cage.

Factory farming strips chickens and all animals thus confined of every natural source of comfort and joy. Instead, every natural endowment of theirs is degraded to a source of frustration, pain, misery and learned helplessness. The environment they are forced to live in is completely inimical to their wellbeing.

Who Knows and What Do They Know?

Do factory-farmed chickens KNOW that they are miserable? Do they have an inner awareness of their deprivation, and its opposite? Do the ancestral memories that reside within each bird remind them at some level of consciousness of what they are missing?

Years ago I wrote in the first edition of my book *Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry* that abused animals do in fact “know” that they are suffering because knowing is an organic process far deeper than words and concepts can express. Every bodily cell is a repository of experiences including memory and expectation as elements of a particular moment in the life of a particular cell. The look in a creature’s eyes tells us a whole lot about what he or she “knows.” I wrote this in response to the agribusiness and related claims that if animals have never known anything but their particular situation, be it happy or sad, they cannot know that they are miserable, or happy. But, for example, our lungs know whether they are breathing pollution or fresh air. Our bodies, which include our minds, know the difference.

Farmers and industry spokespersons will often counter opposition by proclaiming that farmers “know” their animals. However the animals they claim to “know” are typically known to them only within a context of enforced subjugation, manipulation, mutilation, and control. The owners of these animals think, or at least they say, that there is nothing else to know about the chickens and other creatures under their control, both physically and rhetorically. However, they are wrong, and those of us who know these animals differently have the evidence to prove it.

– Karen Davis

Freddaflower Memorial & Appreciation Fund

The pain of losing them is the price we pay for the privilege of knowing them and sharing their lives . . .

We thank those people who have contributed to our work with recent donations *In Loving Memory and in Honor and Appreciation* of the following beloved family members and friends, both those who have passed away and those who are with us.



Freddaflower

My gift is in honor of Muriel Garvey's Birthday.
– *Anne Boguslavsky*

I am so pleased to present the donations received in my Facebook birthday fundraiser for UPC. I want to thank everyone who helped me to help the birds. UPC is very close to my heart. – *Ronnie Steinau*

My best to you and the chickens! – *Anita A. Garcia and Zoe the cat*

Hi UPC. Thanks for all you do for the birds. Please use the \$ for them. In loving memory of Betty White.
– *Gail Wilson*

In mourning for the millions of chickens, turkeys, ducks and other birds who are being ruthlessly exterminated by the global poultry industry in the latest round of avian influenza killings. In sorrow for the billions of birds on earth our species is destroying.
– *Karen Davis*

In honor of Nero, Fredericka, Julie, Nathaniel, Leonard, and Bertha, remembered forever and sadly missed. – *Paul Deane*

My gift is in honor of All God's Creatures. – *Brien Comerford*

Free Ways to Help United Poultry Concerns Raise Much-Needed Funds

Please make free fundraising a part of your online routine

Every time you shop at any of 1600+ online stores in the iGive network, a portion of the money you spend benefits United Poultry Concerns. It's a free service, and you'll never pay more when you reach a store through iGive. In fact, smart shoppers will enjoy iGive's repository of coupons, free shipping deals, and sales. To get started, just create your free iGive account. And when you search the web, do it through iSearchiGive.com where each search means a penny (or more!) for our cause!

Start iGiving at: www.iGive.com/UPC and help UPC get every possible donation when you shop or search online!



Emu Oil Ad Does NOT Belong in Harper's Magazine

Protest Politely But Firmly: Please remove this offensive advertisement!

Harper's Magazine
666 Broadway, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10012
212-420-5720

Harper's Magazine welcomes reader response. Short letters are more likely to be published, and all letters are

subject to editing. If you're sending us a letter to the editor by post, please address it ATTN: Letters Editor. Volume precludes individual acknowledgment.

Email Harper's at letters@harpers.org



Jan Whalen and Bluie the Emu

June 2, 2022

John R. MacArthur, President and Publisher
Harper's Magazine
666 Broadway, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10012

Dear Mr. MacArthur:

I am a decades-long, devoted reader of *Harper's Magazine*.

I am writing to you now about an advertisement that *Harper's* has been running for a year or more, for a product called Airbrush. This product contains emu oil, which is obtained by raising and slaughtering emus. I respectfully ask you please to stop running this ad promoting slaughterhouse emu oil.

I understand that most people are not familiar with emus other than as a demeaning cartoon character, which has nothing to do with actual emus, who, with ostriches, belong to the oldest living family of birds on earth, the ratites, or nomadic flightless fowl.

I do not wish to overwhelm you and *Harper's* with material about emus, although I am prepared to do so if the Airbrush ad continues to appear in *Harper's Magazine*. With this in mind, I'm enclosing two copies of our brochures about ostriches and emus entitled *Nowhere To Hide*.

I also respectfully refer you to our webpage on ostriches and emus at www.upc-online.org/ostriches. I urge you to read about these birds, their natural dignity, their strong family life, their amazing fleetness, and the horror of the slaughter to which they are subjected for their body parts. The high standards of *Harper's Magazine* are incompatible with the brutality of the product, fittingly called "Airbrush," since anyone who does not understand the source and meaning of emu oil is undergoing an airbrush.

I would appreciate receiving a response from you to my letter, and I hope for good news.

That said, thank you very much for your attention. Please do not hesitate to contact me for more information. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Karen Davis, PhD, President United Poultry Concerns

Poems by Mary Elizabeth Rosa for International Respect for Chickens Day

May 3, 2022

In 2012, a British architecture student suggested excising chickens' cerebral cortex to desensitize them to horrific factory conditions. By leaving their brain stems intact, he said that the birds could continue to grow, while removing their feet would allow more chickens to be stacked in large vertical steel frames. Removing their eyes would render them even

more amenable. Pondering the implications of these "solutions" for humans as well as the helpless chickens inspired this poem.

I'm submitting the poem for the International Respect for Chickens Day campaign because I respect and support respect for chickens, all creatures, ourselves, and our planet.

– Mary Elizabeth Rosa

Caged Contemplation

How much do you need —
my tail, my beak, my wings?
How much do I need to give
before I take
a long awaited breath?

You know me only
in relation to your plate.
Your hunger.

And after you remove my brain, my eyes,
and I sit blind with a nameless ache
(you say I can't describe anyway),
who do you become?

Who do you think you are?

When you finish devouring me
with all my unnamed pain,
I will still be
with you,
filling you
with an emptiness
that bites again and again —
a mordant ache
you will never be able to name.

Mary Elizabeth Rosa
February 2022



Her Choice

Marooned in a hemlock that creaks like a door to somewhere I can't go,
the hen has settled herself in a late December storm.

Whatever cage she fled months before, she's huddled now,
feet cold and clutching an icy branch carefully chosen
two dark days ago
when the winds and rain began.

I am worrying below, gazing up with vain thoughts of a ladder.
As if... she would ever let me take her down...
For she has watched us all —
the SPCA man with his rubbery noose
light in his fingers, poised to take her.

She remembers the clever traps, the coy attempt to lure her
with a caged rooster, who cried, "Run, hide, fly!"

But the humans didn't know, they only heard themselves:

*Winter is coming,
she needs others of her kind,
stop feeding her.
She will surely die.*

And, oh, I, too, want to save her,
keep her
warm and dry, but
I don't know what she wants.

One foot and then the other tucks up into her feathers,
then finds the branch again.
Preparing for another night
she bows her head
into the freezing wind,
her buoyant, russet coat now flat like rusted blood —
my brave and free, extraordinary friend.
I will simply wait.
And wait again.

Marooned or liberated,
she is living her precious life.
She is saving herself.

*Mary Elizabeth Rosa
December 2020*



Her Choice was written for Fluffy (named for her plumage, not her character) and the kind folks who helped her transition to her next adventure. After almost 90 days in our yard, she now lives nearby, sharing a sprawling yard and excellent care with thirteen other hens who listen spellbound to her tales in their cozy barn every night.
— Mary Elizabeth Rosa

UPC Spring Activities Gallery



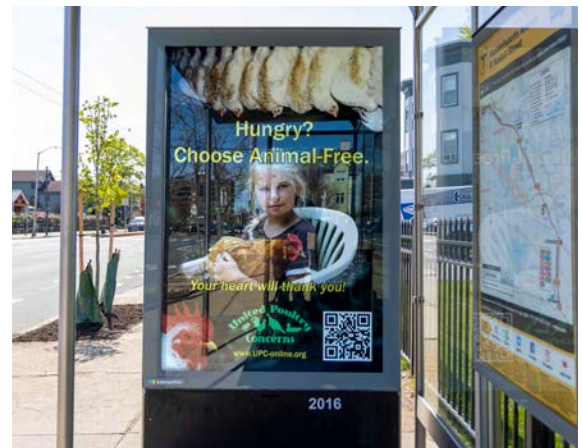
Greenbelt Green Man Festival, MD



Gelson's Market, Del Mar, CA



Bus Ad Portland, OR



Bus Shelter Ad Boston, MA



Pottstown Ecofest, PA



Lancaster Vegfest, PA

Beautiful! International Respect for Chickens Gallery of Ideas, Art & Hall of Honor



Life-sized huggable chicken sculpture by artist Melissa Swanson

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS to all who submitted their ideas and creations to honor the chickens during International Respect for Chickens Month of May.

United Poultry Concerns and Chicken Run Rescue invited an exchange of ideas about how to inspire compassion and action for chickens and were richly rewarded with poetry, art, music performances, letters to the editor, articles about the birds and heroes in the animal rights movement, culinary creations and even furniture for the birds.

This Gallery is and will remain a living testament to the cause of justice for chickens, other domestic fowl

and, by extension, all animals.

Thanks to all who participated, and remember, please, that *every day* is Respect for Chickens Day. Keep up the good work till the rest of the world gets it right.

All of the work submitted will remain in the Gallery permanently. This inspired project is the brainchild of Chicken Run Rescue, who conceived and organized it. We are so grateful to CRR on behalf of chickens across the world. To view this glorious Gallery of 43 images, individually and collectively, please visit our International Respect for Chickens Day webpage at www.upc-online.org/respect.



Aretha Chicken... She wants some R-E-S-P-E-C-T by Bobbi Chaney



Virgil Butler, 2007 by Mary Britton Clouse



The rescued chickens in this image were photographed at @wildwoodfarmsanctuary. - Beth Redwood

*Vegan Recipe Corner***Easy Vegan Summer Rolls***Recipe by HealthyGirlKitchen.com***Ingredients**

- 8-10 rice paper wrappers
- 1 cup tightly packed spinach
- 1 julienned cucumber
- 1/3 block of extra firm tofu pan-seared until golden brown
- 1/2 julienned bell pepper
- 1 thinly sliced avocado
- 1/3 cup julienned purple cabbage
- 1/2 cup fresh cilantro
- 1/2 cup shredded carrots
- toasted sesame seeds for garnish

Peanut Sauce

- 2 tbsp peanut butter
- 1 tbsp rice vinegar
- 1 tsp sriracha or chili sauce
- 3 tbsp coconut aminos
- 1 tsp toasted sesame oil (Omit if you're oil-free.)
- sprinkle of garlic and ginger

Instructions

1. First, slice and prep all of the veggies. Cut tofu into strips and pan sear in a non-stick pan until golden brown on each side.
2. You need three plates. Set up in an assembly line. Add warm or hot water to one of the plates. Immerse rice paper wrapper in water for 15 seconds then transfer to the next plate. Add fillings to the center of the wrapper. Fold each side over and roll like a burrito. Wrap tightly. Add the summer roll to the third plate as this is the serving plate.
3. Repeat process until you've used all of your fillings! Make the peanut sauce by mixing all of the ingredients together.
4. Garnish with sesame seeds and enjoy!

For more great recipes, go to
www.upc-online.org/recipes!



Photo by Liqin Gao

POSTCARDS

20 for \$4.00, 40 for \$7.50



"Love is Best"



"Peaceable Kingdom"



"Chickens - To Know Them is to Love Them"



"Misery is Not a Health Food"

FACT SHEETS

20 for \$3.00

- "Viva, the Chicken Hen / Chickens Raised for Meat"
- "Jane-one tiny chicken foot"
- "Starving Poultry for Profit" (forced molting)
- "Poultry Slaughter: The Need for Legislation"
- "The Rougher They Look, The Better They Lay" (free-range egg production)
- "Intensive Poultry Production: Fouling the Environment"
- "Philosophic Vegetarianism: Acting Affirmatively for Peace"
- "The Rhetoric of Apology in Animal Rights"
- "Providing a Good Home for Chickens"
- "Chicken Talk: The Language of Chickens"
- "Celebrate Easter Without Eggs"
- "Chicken for Dinner: It's Enough To Make You Sick"
- "Guide to Staffing Tables: Do's & Don'ts"
- "Henny's New Friends"
- "Avoiding Burnout"
- "The Life of One Battery Hen"
- "Bird Flu - What You Need to Know"
- "How I Learned the Truth About Eggs"

"Peeper the Turkey, a Story of Endless Love"

"Factory Farming vs. Alternative Farming: The Humane Hoax"

BROCHURES

20 for \$3.00

- "A Wing & A Prayer" (Kapparat ritual)
- "Don't Plants Have Feelings Too?"
- "Chickens"
- "The Battery Hen"
- "Turkeys"
- "Ostriches & Emus: Nowhere To Hide"
- "Japanese Quail"
- "The Use of Birds In Agricultural and Biomedical Research"
- "Free-Range' Poultry and Eggs: Not All They're Cracked Up to Be" - New & Revised!
- "Live Poultry Markets" (in English, Spanish, & Chinese)
- "Chicken-Flying Contests"

LEAFLETS (FLYERS)

10 for \$1.00, 25 for \$2.50

- "Chicken for Dinner?"
- "The 'Human' Nature of Pigeons"
- "The Truth about Feather Hair Extensions"
- "Birds Suffer Horribly for Pillows & Coats"

Bumper Stickers \$1 each

Don't Just Switch from Beef to Chicken: Get the Slaughterhouse out of your Kitchen.
Don't Just Switch from Beef to Chicken: Go Vegan.

Beautiful Chicken and Turkey Buttons

\$2 each. 3 for \$5. 10 for \$10. Any mixture.

Stick Up For Chickens • Chickens are Friends, Not Food
Turkeys are Friends, Not Food • End Chickens as Kaporos
Be Kind to Turkeys - Don't Gobble Me



Life Can Be Beautiful - Go Vegan! Brochure



24 full-color
5.5" x 8.5" pages.

\$1.00 each.
20 for \$5.00.
50 for \$10.00.
100 for \$15.00.
200 for \$25.00.

UPC Ordering Information:

All Prices Include Postage

To order indicated items send check or money order to:

United Poultry Concerns
P.O. Box 150
Machipongo, VA 23405-0150

Or order online at upc-online.org

T-shirts Too Neat to Eat (Hen & Egg or Rooster) •

Give a Cluck. Go Vegan! • What Wings Are For • Available in Unisex (S, M, L, XL) or Ladies (S, M, L, XL) \$25

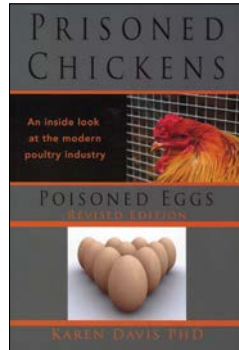


BOOKS

Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry

By Karen Davis

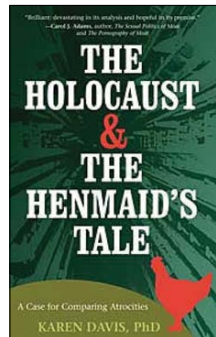
This newly revised edition of *Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs* looks at avian influenza, food poisoning, chicken suffering, genetic engineering, and the growth of chicken rights activism since the 1990s. Presents a compelling argument for a compassionate plant-based cuisine. "Riveting . . . Brilliant." – *Choice magazine, American Library Association* \$14.95. 40% off bulk orders of 5 (\$8.97 each) = \$44.85 for 5.



The Holocaust and the Henmaid's Tale: A Case for Comparing Atrocities

By Karen Davis

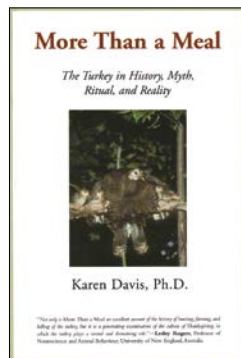
In this thoughtful and thought-provoking contribution to the study of animals and the Holocaust, Karen Davis makes the case that significant parallels can – and must – be drawn between the Holocaust and the institutionalized abuse of billions of animals on factory farms. "Compelling and convincing . . . this bold, brave book." – Charles Patterson, author of *Eternal Treblinka* \$14.95



More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality

By Karen Davis

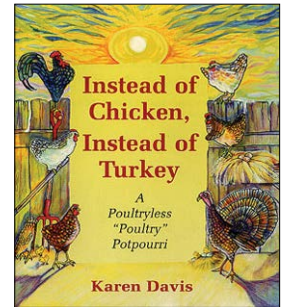
Karen Davis shows how turkeys in the wild have complex lives and family units, and how they were an integral part of Native American and continental cultures and landscape before the Europeans arrived, while drawing larger conclusions about our paradoxical relationship with turkeys, all birds and other animals including other human beings. "The turkey's historical disfigurement is starkly depicted by Karen Davis in 'More Than a Meal.'" – *The New Yorker* \$14.95



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

By Karen Davis

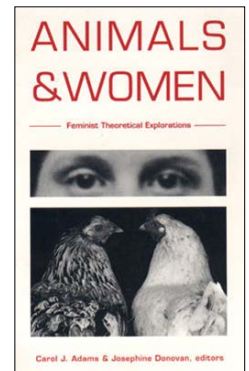
This delightful vegan cookbook by United Poultry Concerns features homestyle, ethnic, and exotic recipes that duplicate and convert a variety of poultry and egg dishes. Includes artwork, poems, and illuminating passages showing chickens and turkeys in an appreciative light. \$14.95



Animals and Women: Feminist Theoretical Explorations

Edited by Carol J. Adams & Josephine Donovan

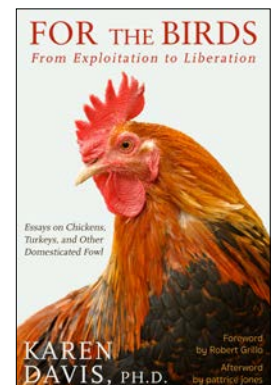
"Karen Davis's brilliant essay [Thinking Like a Chicken: Farm Animals and The Feminine Connection] brings together the book's central concepts, leading to conclusions that rightly should disturb feminists and animal advocates alike." – Review by Deborah Tanzer, Ph.D. in *The Animals' Agenda*. \$16.95



For the Birds: From Exploitation to Liberation

Essays by Karen Davis

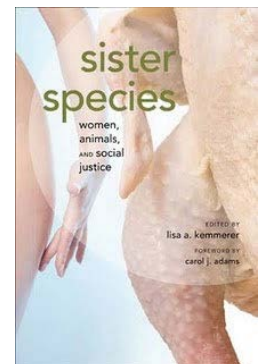
FOR THE BIRDS "Can Only Be Described with Superlatives" – *Animal Culture Magazine*. \$20



Sister Species: Women, Animals, and Social Justice

Edited by Lisa Kemmerer, Forward by Carol J. Adams

Sister Species presents the experiences of fourteen women activists who are working on behalf of non-human animals and a more just and compassionate world. \$14.95



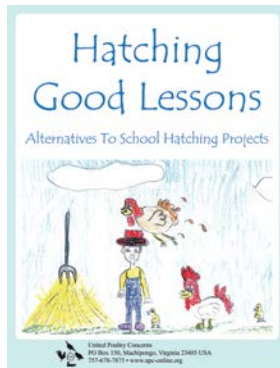
CHILDREN'S BOOKS & EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Hatching Good Lessons: Alternatives To School Hatching Projects

By United Poultry Concerns

A guide booklet for elementary school teachers and other educators including parents. 16 pages of information, storytelling, classroom activities & color photos. Grades K-6 (some activities are designed for K-12). \$2.50 per booklet. 5 for \$5. It can be viewed and printed out at

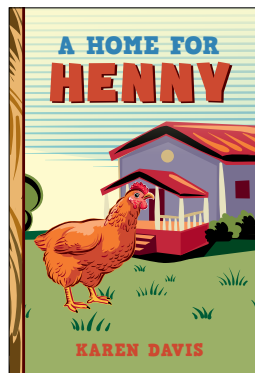
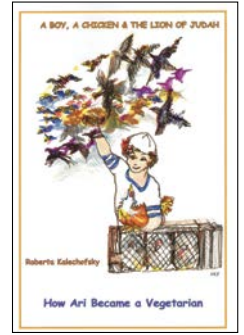
www.upc-online.org/hatching.



A Boy, A Chicken and The Lion of Judah – How Ari Became a Vegetarian

By Roberta Kalechofsky

This wonderfully gifted children's story, set in modern Israel, is about a young boy's quest for moral independence. An intelligent book for all ages. Winner of the Fund for Animals "Kind Writers Make Kind Readers Award." \$10



A Home for Henny

By Karen Davis

Melanie is a 3rd grader who is excited about a chick hatching project in her class at school. The project seemed like a good idea at first, but unexpected problems arise and the whole class learns a lesson in compassion. When the project is over, Melanie adopts one of the chicks she names Henny. *A Home for Henny* explores the challenges and concerns with school hatching projects

while evoking the lively personality of Henny and her loving relationship with Melanie. \$6.99



Dave Loves Chickens

By Carlos Patino

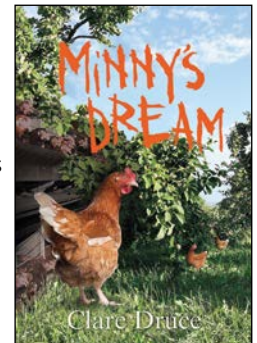
Dave is a quirky monster from another planet who loves chickens and all animals on Earth. He encourages people to share his love and not eat any

animals! Filled with fun and bold colors, this book is perfect for young children to learn compassion for chickens and all animals in a sweetly told, lovable story. \$10

Minnie's Dream

By Clare Druce

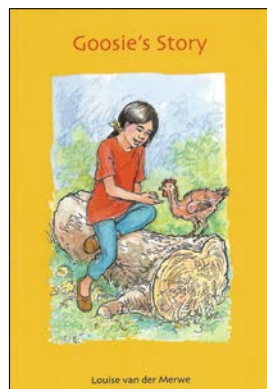
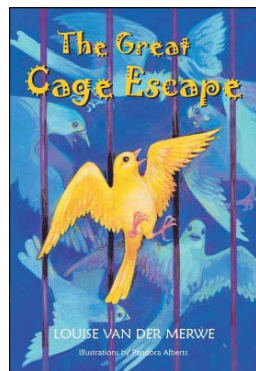
What happens when a young girl from the city discovers a battery-hen operation in the country? What happens when a "battery hen" named Minny speaks to her? What must she do when her friend Minny is going to be killed? This book is a must for the young person(s) in your life, age 8-14. \$10



The Great Cage Escape

Grades 4-7. By Louise Van Der Merwe

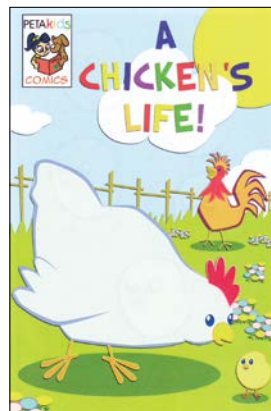
The birds in a pet shop think they are happy until a brown box punched full of air holes is left overnight on their front door step. The creature inside looks very weird at first. But as his feathers begin to grow, his true identity becomes apparent, and the stories he tells inspire the pet shop birds to pull off a Great Cage Escape. This is a story that encourages respect for all forms of life and helps learners realize that heaven can be right here on earth if we choose to make it so. \$4.95



Goosie's Story

By Louise Van Der Merwe

A touching story about a "battery" hen who is given a chance to lead a normal life – a happy life. This moving book will be warmly welcomed and shared by children, parents and teachers, highlighting as it does the concern and compassion we ought to feel for all our feathered friends on this earth. \$4.95



A Chicken's Life!

Grades 4-6. *PETAkids Comics*

This cute comic book illustrates a group of children visiting an animal sanctuary where they meet a flock of chickens and learn all about them including the differences between Nature's Way and The Factory Farm Way. "Are these chickens really your friends?" they ask. "I've never met a chicken before." *A Chicken's Life* includes a puzzle for elementary school students to unscramble

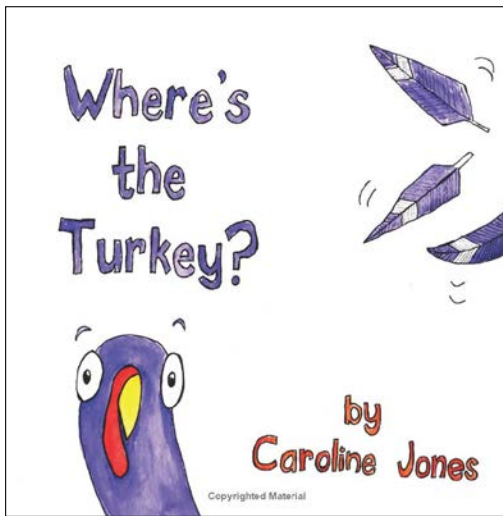
words including barn, beak, cluck, feathers, grass, hatch, peck, peep, wings, and lots more. \$1.50 each. 10 for \$10.

More Books, plus Videos available at upc-online.org/merchandise

(continued) CHILDREN’S BOOKS & EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Where’s the Turkey?, by Caroline Jones, is a charming and adorable book for young children. The child is engaged in a journey, with visual clues in the illustrations, toward discovering where the turkey is, which is not on the table. Young children love the “look-and-find” challenge page by page. I recommend this book most highly. It illustrates a Happy Thanksgiving with the whole family and a delicious Thanksgiving feast for which the turkeys themselves can give thanks for enjoying the day in their own happy “turkey” way. \$6.99

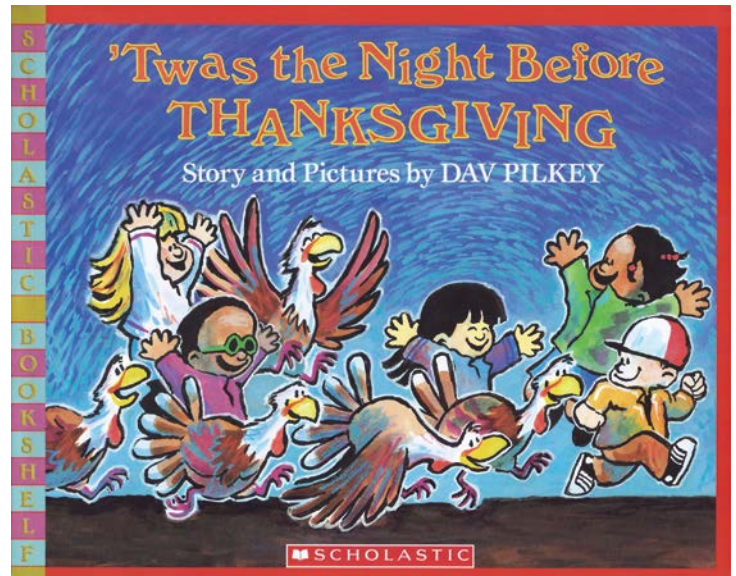
– Karen Davis, United Poultry Concerns



'Twas the Night Before THANKSGIVING

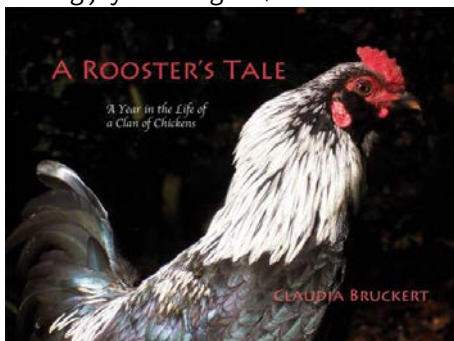
Story and Pictures by Dav Pilkey, Scholastic Book Shelf

Turkeys don't usually celebrate Thanksgiving. And they wish we wouldn't either! Here is a tale of eight children who meet eight turkeys who are in big trouble. Only the kids can keep the turkeys from meeting their Thanksgiving fate. But how will they save the turkeys? \$6.99



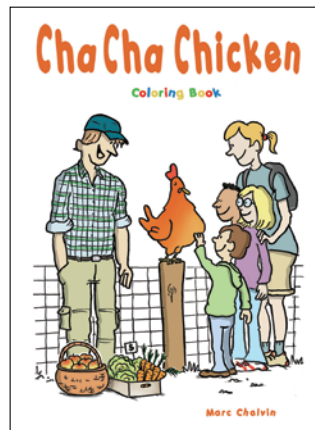
A Rooster’s Tale: A Year in the Life of a Clan of Chickens, by Claudia Bruckert,

transports readers to the fascinating world of Change, who tells the real life story of his chicken family during his first year of life. Enchanting experiences and intriguing facts, chronicled and photographed beautifully over the course of one year, convey deep insights into the daily life of chickens. Grades 3-12 and a reading joy for all ages. \$20



Cha Cha Chicken Coloring Book By Marc Chalvin

Narrated by Cha Cha the hen, this book invites children to visit Green Farm sanctuary and learn about the happy animals who live there. Written by Marian Hailey-Moss and illustrated by Marc Chalvin, Cha Cha shows children that chickens are people too and invites them to color their world beautiful! *Cha Cha Chicken Coloring Book* is a delightful gift for children K-3. \$10



Chickens at Play

By United Poultry Concerns

This vibrant video shows chickens at the United Poultry Concerns sanctuary accompanied by lively music, with brief explanations of what the chickens are doing throughout their daily activities into the evening as, one by one, they hop up to their perches for the night. Narrated by a young child. 10:04 minutes. DVD. \$5. \$12.50 for 5. Watch: <http://vimeo.com/13210456>



More books and videos available at upc-online.org/merchandise

Stickers Send a message with your mail! Order our eye-catching color stickers! 100 stickers for \$10.



With Heart and Voice - a Beautiful Greeting Card from UPC \$19.95 for 20 cards. \$38.95 for 40 cards, envelopes included. Single card & envelope \$1.00.



POSTERS



International Respect for Chickens Day

Celebrate 12.5" x 17" Wings 12" x 16"



A Heart Beats in Us the Same as in You

Photo by PeTA. Full-color poster vividly captures the truth about factory chickens for the public. Vegetarian message. 18"x22".



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, heart and lung disease, tumors, crippled legs, sick immune systems, and more. Millions of dollars are spent hiding these facts.

Friends, Not Food

Photo by Franklin Wade. Liqin Cao & FreddaFlower. Full color 19"x27" poster.



WHAT WINGS ARE FOR



CHICKS NEED THEIR MOTHERS

Photos by Jim Robertson & Karen Davis. Great educational tool. Full color 11-1/2"x16" poster.

Walking to Freedom After a Year in Cages

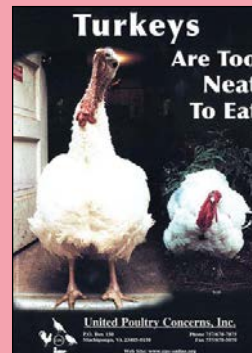
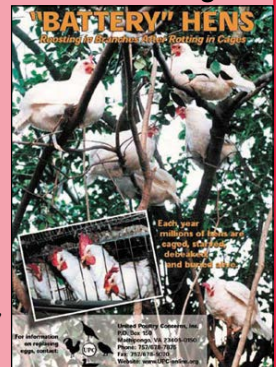
Photo by Dave Clegg. Full color, 18"x22" poster.



"Battery" Hens

Roosting in Branches After Rotting in Cages

Photo by Susan Rayfield. This beautiful color poster shows the rescued Cypress hens at UPC. Perfect for your office, your home, your school. 11.5"x16".



Great Turkeys Poster!

Photos by Barbara Davidson & Susan Rayfield. The posters are in color, and come in two sizes: 11.5" x 16", and 18" x 27".

UPC posters in any mix: One for \$4. Two for \$5. Three for \$7.

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INSIDE

Animal Rights versus “End Cruelty”

An Avian Activist’s Ideas

Chickens in Ag Research

Ventilation Shutdown

Violated Expectations

Drop Emu Oil

Two Poems

New Podcast Series

UPC Photo Gallery

CRR Photo Gallery

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Photo of New Stockton Poultry Market in Stockton, CA by Unparalleled Suffering Photography