

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

## The Secret World Inside the Animal Rights Agenda — Part Two



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*Part I of this column appeared in the Fall issue of Fair Chase. It examined the historical development of the legitimate, benevolent, humanitarian animal welfare movement beginning in ancient*

*times well into the last century, followed by the establishment and growth of the radical animal rights and liberation movement, its philosophical and moral footings, and its utopian goal of legal standing and “personhood” for all non-human creatures rather than their current status as “property” of humans.*

*The development and activities of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), the world’s largest animal rights organization, was examined in detail, including its use of litigation at taxpayers’ expense to perpetrate the growth of feral horses, burros, and wolves in the United States; the impact the expanding wolf population is having on hunters and Idaho’s Department of Fish and Game; HSUS’ insidious youth-education programs, its global multinational corporate reach that includes a “sanctuary system” comprised of at least 1.8 million acres in 37 states and 12 foreign countries, and its cunning fundraising operations.*

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, or PETA, which was formed in 1980, is the second-largest animal rights organization globally, and it focuses on the following core issues: ending factory and fur farming; research utilizing animals; animals used in entertainment such as aquariums, circuses, zoos and rodeos; hunting, trapping, and fishing; human consumption of meat or dairy products, or the use of leather or fur in apparel; and confined backyard dogs, cock fighting, dog fighting, and bull fighting. PETA is even opposed to the use of seeing-eye dogs and police dogs. PETA President and founder Ingrid Newkirk has described her group’s overall goal as “total animal liberation.” This means the complete abolition of meat, milk, cheese, eggs, honey, zoos, aquariums, circuses, wool, leather, fur, silk, hunting, fishing, and pet ownership.

PETA is the most successful militant, radical, animal rights organization in America, having introduced a new level of tactical

and political sophistication to animal rights advocacy following examples set by the civil rights and other liberation movements. PETA’s unique niche, according to its President, is being “complete press sluts,” endlessly seeking media exposure using outrageous shock and awe stunts and advertisements as part of the group’s strategic campaign to promote its total animal liberation message. In PETA’s 2009 annual report, Newkirk proudly wrote, “We organized more than 1,037 colorful demonstrations in 2009 that garnered lots of attention from both the public and the media.” Not to be outdone by her counterpart, Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) CEO Wayne Pacelle’s political acumen, Newkirk opened a Washington, D.C., office in 2009 to “ensure that animal rights issues are front and center in our nation’s capital and that animal rights displays and events will be seen everywhere by Obama administration staffers and members of Congress.”

PETA has bought stock in restaurant and food companies that serve and sell meat, and then introduced shareholder resolutions at highly publicized annual meetings requiring animal rights-oriented practices in the way animals are handled and slaughtered. Campaigns have targeted McDonald’s, Burger King, Wendy’s, Pilgrim’s Pride, and KFC, the latter having its retail locations publicly protested over 12,000 times. Some of PETA’s current campaigns carry the following labels: Kentucky Fried Cruelty; Bloody Burberry; PetSmart Cruelty; McCruelty—I’m Hating It; Brookstone, A World of Deprivation; and Ringling Bros. Beats Animals. The March of Dimes, the Pediatric AIDS Foundation and the American Cancer Society have all been repeatedly attacked in flamboyant ways to attract media attention for conducting animal testing to find cures for birth defects and life-threatening diseases. Polo, Ralph Lauren, J. Crew, JC Penney, Calvin Klein, Tommy Hilfinger, Zappos, Ann Taylor, and Urban Outfitters all have agreed to stop selling fur products and Petco exotic pets and large birds. Avon, Estee Lauder, Dow Chemical, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Benetton, Gillette, Tonka Toy Company, and others all stopped testing products on animals after consumer boycotts were organized by PETA. Hundreds of fashion shows in the United States and Europe have been disrupted by PETA members throwing red paint on catwalks and models.

PETA’s provocative national ad campaign, “I’d Rather Go Naked Than Wear A Fur” enlisted a broad spectrum of Hollywood entertainers, celebrities, and supermodels posing nude, such as Patti Davis, Steve-O, Pink, Pamela Anderson, Kim Basinger, Alec Baldwin, Stella McCartney, Eva Mendes, and Christy Turlington. Similarly, PETA will shamelessly exploit a celebrity’s human suffering to further its agenda, as it did when New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani announced he had prostate cancer, ending his campaign for the U.S. Senate. PETA put up billboards picturing Giuliani with a milk mustache over the caption “Got Prostate Cancer.”

Not missing a PR opportunity to utilize global climate change as a hook to promote its meatless vegan society message, PETA even attributes the human diet as a contributor, quoting a University of Chicago study: “changing from a meat-based diet to a vegan diet saves the equivalent of 1.5 tons of carbon dioxide emissions every year! If all Americans cut back on meat consumption by just 20 percent, it would yield the same reduction in greenhouse gas emissions as if everyone in the country switched from driving a Camry to driving a Prius! And vegetables cost a lot less than a new car.”

PETA has organized and financed major infiltrations to create videos, and/or copy or steal documents, to stir controversy regarding research testing laboratories that utilize animals, slaughter houses, factory farms, and circuses. In 2007 alone, some 75 PETA infiltrations occurred. PETA’s association and collaboration with the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) and Animal Liberation Front (ALF), both FBI-listed eco-terrorists, is a matter of record according to the watchdog group, Center for Consumer Freedom (CCF). PETA’s own tax records confirm providing them funding and support, which PETA has publicly acknowledged according to a CCF web site.

### PETA Targets Children

One of PETA’s major targets has been influencing and educating children through its Youth Outreach Division and PETA2.com web site with some programs and material designed for children beginning at age 3. PETA’s 2009 annual review reports PETA2.com has “over 750,000 subscribers ... and receives more than 375,000 visits per month ... the largest youth membership of any social-justice organization. Its efforts

help ensure that tomorrow's scientists, executives, lawmakers, educators, and parents will be on the animals' side. ... For 245 days in 2009, PETA staffed information booths at 366 concerts, music festivals, and colleges reaching more than 1.1 million young people with literature and videos." Some 36,000 action packets in PETA's McCruelty campaign were sent to young people to pressure McDonald's to force animal welfare improvements at its meat supplier's level, and as a result, PETA's Youth Activist Network grew to over 175,000 subscribers. One PETA Vice President told Fox News Channel that, "Our campaigns are always geared towards children, and they always will be." Its child-themed web site, PETAKIDS.com, and children's magazine called, "GRRR!" recommended for ages 5-13, promote PETA's animal liberation agenda, eschews the use of any clothing that includes animal products, promotes a vegetarian diet, and discourages milk and meat consumption because it causes acne, obesity, heart disease, diabetes, cancer, and strokes. This same web site tells kids tropical rainforests are being destroyed to create grazing land for cattle, and that 55 square feet of rainforest are cut down to produce just one quarter-pound burger. *The Kids Guide to Helping Animals* booklet was created for kids ages 6-12 to further influence the minds of children with PETA's messages, as was its new TeachKind.org program and web site that provides educators and librarians free humane educational material, lesson plans, books, DVDs, classroom posters, kids' magazines, and step-by-step instructions on addressing animal rights issues in schools, as well as a guest speaker service. PETAKIDS.com even instructs children on how to organize an animal rights club and PETA fundraisers.

PETA has even created its own PETA's *Vegan College Cookbook* to promote a vegetarian lifestyle, and in 2009 over 422,000 copies of its "Vegetarian Starter Kit" were distributed. Many popular youth-culture celebrities were enlisted to carry PETA's message to children including pop stars Justin Bieber, reality TV star Steve-O, MTV host Layla Kayleigh, Miley Cyrus, and rock bands Dillinger, Escape Plan, Rise Against, and



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Silverstein. PETA's ad campaign "Your

Mommy Kills Animals," featuring the cartoon of a mother killing a rabbit with a knife was highly criticized for its message aimed at young people. PETA brags, however, that this message reached over 1.2 million minor children, including 30,000 kids between the ages of 6 and 12, all contacted by email without parental supervision.

## Targeting Our Hunting Heritage

Recreational hunting and fishing have long been a target of PETA. In 1992, its members boisterously picketed the annual meeting of the Boone and Crockett Club in Denver, Colorado. Releases from the PETA media center reveal a series of distorted messages they've disseminated on hunting:

To attract more hunters (and their money), federal and state agencies implement programs—often called "wildlife management" or "conservation" programs—that are designed to boost the numbers of "game" species. These programs help to ensure that there are plenty of animals for hunters to kill and, consequently, plenty of revenue from the sale of hunting licenses. ... In Alaska, the Department of Fish and Game is trying to increase the number of moose for hunters by "controlling" the wolf and bear populations. ... Wolves have been slaughtered in order to "let the moose population rebound and provide a higher harvest for local hunters." ... in Canada, hunting has caused bighorn sheep's horn size to fall by 25 percent in the last 40 years. ... [PETA] insists that non-hunters be equally represented on the staffs of wildlife agencies.

The PETAKIDS.com web site designed for ages 5-13 sends this message about sport hunting to our kids, under the bold headline "Leave Wildlife Alone."

Chasing defenseless animals around in the woods just so that you can shoot them and mount their heads on the wall is unbelievably cruel. ... Hunting, like factory farming, destroys [animal] families and causes pain, trauma, and grief to both the victims and the survivors. Why cause any suffering when we can avoid it? In this day and age, there

is simply no reason for anyone to hunt.

One commentator characterized PETA's speciesism position—that all species are equal—as follows: "animal trainers, hunters, fishermen, cattlemen, grocers, and indeed all non-vegetarians are the moral equivalent of cannibals, slave-owners, and death-camp guards." PETA President Ingrid Newkirk insists that the world would be a better place without people: "Humans have grown like a cancer. We're the biggest blight on the face of the earth."

## Empty Talk

The biggest hypocrisy of PETA comes from its euthanasia program. During 2009, PETA took in 2,366 dogs and cats for adoption, and killed 2,301 of these. Only one out of 300 animals found adoptive homes. Since 1998, PETA has killed 23,640 dogs and cats—all a matter of public record, which PETA filed with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. At PETA's Norfolk, Virginia, headquarters, there are no open adoption shelter hours. There is, however, a large walk-in freezer purchased in 2002 for \$9,370, and a contract with a crematory service to empty the freezer periodically of animal carcasses according to the Center for Consumer Freedom. In 2005, two PETA employees were charged with 31 felony counts of animal cruelty each, after authorities found them dumping the dead bodies of 18 animals they had just picked up from a North Carolina animal shelter into a dumpster. According to the Associated Press, 13 more dead animals were found in a van registered to PETA.

PETA's 2009 annual report and financial statement shows revenues totaling \$34.6 million, \$5.1 million or 15 percent of which was spent on fundraising. The 2009 statement lists net assets of \$17.7 million. Its 300 employees service a membership reportedly in excess of 2 million members. PETA is a major, multi-national business operation focused on its mission of total global animal liberation with rights equal to humans, utilizing outrageous radical tactics. In the opinion of one of the leading investigators and authorities on animal rightists, while HSUS backs away from PETA's vulgar use of nudity, scare tactics and outrageous media antics, HSUS sits in the shadows in complete agreement with that group's goals and lets PETA be the mouthpiece. HSUS lets PETA be the "bad cop" while HSUS assumes the role of "good cop" in an effort to burnish its legitimacy. HSUS plays on its "humane" name to gain public support for the same radical issues, but clearly HSUS and PETA are NOT animal welfare

agencies according to the research data collected by one of the leading authorities on global animal rightist activities.

## Veganarchism

HSUS and PETA, while the most recognizable animal rightists groups, are shadowed by far more militant organizations that emphasize animal liberation and tactically support what can be termed "veganarchism." These include the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) and Earth Liberation Front (ELF), both listed by the FBI as eco-terrorists here and abroad, with 150 ongoing, open investigations. These two groups are responsible for more than 600 crimes since 1996, causing more than \$43 million in damages estimated by the FBI. Their anarchism led to the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act being adopted by Congress in 1992. ALF is active in 38 countries globally. These two groups along with the British-based anti-hunting guerrilla group called the Band of Mercy are known for attacking hunters' vehicles by slashing tires, breaking windows, and harassing hunting parties by trailing them afield with noise makers and banging pots and pans, and putting down false scent trails to distract hunting dogs.

An incendiary firebomb at a Michigan State University (MSU) animal research testing lab was detonated, causing multimillion dollar damages in 1992 by ALF activist Rod Coronado, who was convicted of arson and sent to jail. Documents removed from MSU and a videotape of the perpetrator disguised in a ski mask were sent by Coronado to a PETA employee. According to the book *Eco-Terrorism*, PETA reportedly paid \$45,000 to Coronado for his legal expenses, and loaned his father another \$25,000. Similarly, according to two reports, PETA contributed \$27,000 to the legal defense fund of Robert Troen for burglary and arson at the University of Oregon in 1986. Three years later in 1989, PETA informed its members of the payment. PETA's 1988 IRS 990 tax form disclosed that PETA contributed \$7,500 to the legal defense of Fran Stephanie Trutt, prosecuted for the attempted murder of the president of a medical laboratory and convicted of possessing pipe bombs. Josh Harper was convicted of attacking Native Americans on a whale hunt using smoke bombs, flares, and chemical fire extinguishers, received \$5,000 from PETA. All of these payments were made from PETA's tax-exempt funds. PETA's President Newkirk is quoted by the Center for Consumer Freedom as saying "I will be the last person to condemn ALF;" and in another interview she said "I find it small wonder that the laboratories aren't all burning to the ground. If I had more guts, I'd light a match."

While this column was being written, a radical animal rights terrorist entered the lobby of the Discovery Channel headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland, and took hostages before he was killed by police. He presented the Discovery Channel a manifesto of demands centering on stopping the growth of the “filthy human population” at the expense of “wildlife and forest creatures,” strangely echoing PETA’s President Newkirk’s early remarks about population growth being “the biggest blight on the face of the earth.”

Animal rights militants and eco-terrorists operating under the name Animal Liberation Brigade targeted the animal testing laboratory Huntington Life Sciences and the California National Primate Research Center with firebombs and pipe bombs. Companies doing business with Huntington have also been targeted with bombings and incendiary devices, including Shaklee, Inc., Chiron Corporation and several UCLA animal research scientists. At sea, the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society claims credit for the sinking of 10 Icelandic whaling ships, boarding whaling vessels at sea, ramming fishing vessels, seizure and destruction of drift nets, disorienting whalers with laser devices, throwing bottles of foul-smelling butyric acid onto the decks of fishing vessels, and the interdiction of Canadian seal hunts. Greenpeace follows Sea Shepherd tactically to disrupt whaling and other fishing vessels, destroying drift nets, etc.

### Targeting Lawyers and Doctors

The legal profession has of course taken its place at the animal rights round-table. Harvard Law School began teaching an animal rights course in 2000, the first of its kind in the nation, while the Harvard Divinity School offered a course titled, “Religion and Animals.” Today 120 of the 196 American law schools

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At PETA’s Norfolk, Virginia, headquarters, there are no open adoption shelter hours. There is, however, a large walk-in freezer purchased in 2002 for \$9,370, and a contract with a **crematory service to empty the freezer periodically of animal carcasses according to the Center for Consumer Freedom.**

**In PETA's Ideal World, We Would Miss a Lot of Things**

**MISSING: SEEING eye Dogs**

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) is so radical opposes seeing eye dogs for the blind. Animal rights groups that shouldn't have the right to tell us what to wear, how to live, and

**PETA: Too extreme for our own good**

Don't be fooled. To learn more about the animal rights movement visit [www.AnimalScam.com](http://www.AnimalScam.com)

Paid for by the Center for Consumer Freedom

**The Virginian-Pilot**  
June 16, 2005

**Two on PETA staff charged with cruelty to animals**

**What are your donations funding?**

Official government records show that People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) has killed more than 12,000 animals since 1998. PETA employees now face felony animal-cruelty charges for killing puppies and kittens—and throwing many of them in a trash dumpster. This news photo shows police preparing to bury a puppy that PETA's "ethical" employees left to rot in the trash.

Find out what PETA doesn't want you to know:  
**PETAkillsAnimals.com**

PETA focuses on several core issues that include ending the use of animals in entertainment such as aquariums, circuses, zoos and rodeos; hunting, trapping, and fishing; human consumption of meat or dairy products; confined backyard dogs, cock fighting, dog fighting, and bull fighting; along with several other issues outlined in the article. PETA is even opposed to the use of seeing-eye dogs and police dogs. However, the biggest hypocrisy of PETA comes from its very own euthanasia program.

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FOUNDED IN 1887 BY THEODORE ROOSEVELT

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and eight Canadian law schools offer at least one animal rights course, and some an entire concentration. Animal rights law committees now exist in the American Bar Association and many state bar associations. HSUS and its Humane Society University provides training seminars for criminal prosecutors on investigating and prosecuting animal cruelty cases, as does the National Association of Prosecuting Attorneys. HSUS also provides a full staff of 30 well-trained attorneys in their Animal Protection Litigation Section to do legal research, writing and trial preparation, amicus assistance, expert witness advice and testimony, species-specific veterinarians, animal scientists and behaviorists, psychologists, and expert investigators.

Internationally, Austria’s Supreme Court has considered the rights of a 25-year-old chimpanzee to own property donated to it by benefactors, and their decision recognizing such rights is now on appeal to the European Court of Human Rights. The Spanish legislature, moreover, voted in 2008 to consider extending limited rights to non-human primates to be protected from use in medical experimentation or circuses. The Spanish Parliament’s Environment Committee is weighing the proposal. Switzerland recognized animals as “beings,” not “things,” in 1992, and in 2002, the protection of animals was added to the German Constitution. The state of Israel has banned animal dissections in elementary and secondary schools and performances by trained animals in circuses. A host of animal defense and litigation NGOs have been established, moreover placing additional support and ostensible legitimacy behind animal issues. These include the Animal Law Coalition, International Society for Animal Rights, Animal Legal Defense Fund, Defenders of Wildlife, Earth Justice Legal Defense Fund (formerly called Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund), Natural Resources Defense Council, Animal Advocates, In Defense of Animals, Society for Animal Protective Legislation, etc.

Recognized senior legal scholar Cass Sunstein, President Obama’s regulations czar, famed defense attorney Alan Dershowitz, and the President’s confidant and former Harvard Law Professor, Laurence Tribe, who Obama appointed Senior Counselor for Access to Justice in the Department of Justice, all support granting animals the legal right to sue. As legal scholar Michael Socarras told the Association of American Medical Colleges: “There is a very important shift under way in the manner in which many people in law schools and in the legal profession think about animals. This shift has not yet reached popular opinion. However, in

[the U.S.], social change has and can occur through the courts, which in many instances do not operate as a democratic institution. Therefore, the evolution in elite legal opinion is extremely significant...”

Doctors reportedly have also taken a seat at the animal rights roundtable in the form of Physician Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM, a PETA front group), but only 5 percent of its supposed membership are physicians. The mission of the organization, formed in 1985, is to remove meat, milk, eggs, and seafood from the American diet, and eliminate the use of animals in scientific research. The American Medical Association (AMA) censured them and called the group “a fringe organization” that uses “unethical tactics” and is “interested in perverting medical science.” In responding to PCMA’s attempt to start a milk panic scare campaign, the AMA said, “The AMA finds the recommendation of PCRM irresponsible and potentially dangerous to the health and welfare of Americans. [PCMA is] blatantly misleading Americans on a health matter and concealing its true purpose as an animal ‘rights’ organization.”

**The End Game**

As you might now appreciate, an animal’s right to “personhood” versus being owned “property,” and the legal right and standing to sue to protect their interests, is no longer a fringe issue in American society. It’s the end game of the animal rights movement. The brave new utopian world of the animal rightists and liberationists is a pet less, meatless society, one of vegetarianism, a lifestyle, and veganism, which is a political statement. High-end urban grocery stores already have dedicated vegan food products, aisles or sections. Clothing and accessories made of animal hides or products such as leather shoes, belts, handbags, coats, luggage, wool suits, silk scarves, ties, and dresses, etc., would be eliminated, as some items already have been by major retailers, as would products known to contain animal byproducts or goods containing ingredients that have been tested on animals. “Puppy mills” supplying dogs for pet stores would be outlawed, but so would legitimate purebred breeders because of deceptive language slipped into anti-dog legislation by animal rightists making it applicable to any kennels producing a defined but limited number of puppies per year. Fur farms would be outlawed, as would factory farming of cattle, pigs, chicken, and fish, and any form of biomedical research, aerospace or military exercises that utilize laboratory animals for toxicity testing, basic or applied research, teaching, education or training, or

exhibition. Zoos, circuses, aquariums and rodeos would also be eliminated. At the extreme of this utopian world, your pet would have the right to life, the protection of its individual liberty, personal safety, and the right to claim/own property, if companion and service animals were even permitted.

Hunting, trapping, and fishing would be illegal within the animal rightists' agenda. HSUS' President Wayne Pacelle is on record with the *Bozeman Daily Chronicle* (Montana) as saying, "Our goal is to get sport hunting in the same category as cock fighting and dog fighting." HSUS' own web site in 2003 stated, "Sport hunting—the killing of wild animals as recreation—is fundamentally at odds with the values of a humane, just, and caring society."

### The Sporting World's Watch Dogs

While most of the sporting world has been focused on the highly visible anti-hunting movement led by PETA and HSUS among others, one organization has identified the animal rightists and liberationists and the hidden threat they pose to the hunting and fishing world, whose pushback and vigilance has been phenomenal. That group is the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance (USSA) in Columbus, Ohio, its U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation, and its U.S. Sportsmen's Legal Defense Fund. Begun in 1977 as the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America, and joined by the Wildlife Conservation Fund of America, USSA has led the way in defeating ballot and other anti-hunting initiatives in state after state, Washington, D.C., and courtrooms across the country. U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance staff has connected the dots nationally and globally by analyzing animal rightists' tax forms, who they hire, the worldwide organizations that are affiliated, where they get their money and how they spend it, the legislation they support and the lawsuits they file, the information on their web sites, their pitch to be vegan, what they try to teach our children on their web sites, etc. If you don't do that analysis, you can't know HSUS or PETA. That is why U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance has become one of the sportsmen's prime watchdogs on the activities of HSUS and PETA. USSA's web site, [www.ussportsmen.org](http://www.ussportsmen.org), is a reliable and highly informative source of information on animal rightists' activities; its news archives provides a rich, historical year-by-year chronology of USSA's activities to protect the sportsmen's community of interests. U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance President Bud Pidgeon has said, "The HSUS is playing up a mainstream reputation in hopes of

becoming the primary mouthpiece for the animal rights movement."

Two other notable groups that provide valuable oversight and factual information on animal rightists are the National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA) [www.naiaonline.org](http://www.naiaonline.org), and the Center for Consumer Freedom (CCF), [www.consumerfreedom.com](http://www.consumerfreedom.com). NAIA is an affiliation of professionals who live and work with animals, which include pet owners and clubs, circus trainers, hunters, fisherman, wildlife biologists, rescue groups, breeders, trainers, veterinarians, research scientists, etc. NAIA's mission is to promote animal husbandry's best practices and responsible breeding, strengthening the human-animal bond, and protecting the rights of responsible animal owners. The latter group, CCF, is a controversial industry-supported (restaurant and food companies) research and lobby organization providing reliable research data on animal rightists. Several other web sites that really bring clarity to the hidden agenda cloaked in the clandestine, covert and murky worlds of HSUS, PETA, and their related groups are the following: [www.humanewatch.org](http://www.humanewatch.org); [www.huntersagainstpeta.com](http://www.huntersagainstpeta.com); [www.animalscam.com](http://www.animalscam.com); [www.petakillsanimals.com](http://www.petakillsanimals.com); [www.sfgate.com](http://www.sfgate.com); [www.activistcash.com](http://www.activistcash.com); [www.firstthings.com](http://www.firstthings.com); [www.pajamasmedia.com](http://www.pajamasmedia.com), and [www.geari.org](http://www.geari.org).

### Where Animals Rights Stands Now

Professor David Walls at Sonoma State University in 2008 succinctly characterized the current state of the animal rights movement as follows:

The animal rights movement is still in an early stage of development. Many of the groups begun since the 1950s are in their first generation of leadership and manifest "founder's syndrome" to one extent or another. Competition is still heavy for available issue niches on animal experimentation, farm animals, hunting, zoos and circuses, fur, and animal testing. Questions of "purity" divide animal activists, particularly over whether animal welfare and animal rights are complementary or contradictory. Must a true friend of animals be a vegetarian, or further, a vegan who eats no animal products? Can animal rights groups make alliances with mainstream conservation organizations who condone hunting (or at least do

not officially oppose it)? Tom Regan [one group's philosophical and puritanical high priests] upholds animal rights fundamentalism, a program of nothing less than a complete abolition of all exploitation of animals for human purposes. Others, including PETA's Ingrid Newkirk, argue that cooperation with all allies issue by issue is the only path to victories for animals. However impractical, utopian, or just plain wrongheaded many of their goals may appear to the general public—and to many participants in other movements—animal rights advocates have come a long way in the past decade, and are no longer out beyond the fringe.

All of the animal rightists groups, notwithstanding their separate niches, work together openly and covertly and play off each other's tactics and agendas. Central, however, to their individual agendas is the establishment of animal rights globally and the creation of a vegan society, which is a political initiative, with some far-left extremists bent on eco-terrorism and a "veganarchism jihad." This societal movement is no longer in the shadows. HSUS and PETA are now 56 and 30 years old respectively, with a combined membership and constituency of 13.5 million people, total revenues in 2009 of \$161.3 million, and net assets of \$209.6 million. This is big business. The animal rights movement is now over 50 years old, and its educational influences and indoctrination of children have gone on for five decades. Generations have been subject to this influence, and many children have grown up to become parents themselves with an animal rights education and orientation, and the referenced numbers reflect this. We sportsmen have witnessed the rhetoric and tactics of anti-hunters, but the animal rightists bring a whole new threat not just to our sport, but to the very way we live and function in society. To quote PETA's own web site: "Animal rights is not just a philosophy—it's a social movement that challenges society's traditional view that all nonhuman animals exist solely for human use." Twenty years ago, HSUS CEO Wayne Pacelle said, "We are going to use the ballot box and the democratic process to stop all hunting in the United States. We will take it species by species until all hunting is stopped in California. Then we will take it state by state." True to his word, Pacelle has done exactly this for the last 20 years.

# COLONEL ROOSEVELT

By Edmund Morris | Reviewed by Lowell E. Baier | *Random House* – 784 Pages, \$35

Theodore Roosevelt lived nine lives inside his 60 years (October 27, 1858-January 6, 1919), and it's taken his biographer Edmund Morris 30 years to complete the epic trilogy of Roosevelt's life, a herculean feat no other presidential historian has ever attempted. Morris separated his three books by the timeline of Roosevelt's life leading up to his ascension to the presidency in *The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt* (1858-1901), for which Morris won the Pulitzer Prize, Roosevelt's White House years in *Theodore Rex* (1901-1909), and lastly Roosevelt's action-packed final years (1909-1919) in *Colonel Roosevelt*, released for sale on November 23, 2010.

These three books present a hyperkinetic portrait of TR in carefully researched and documented facts that keep this deeply complex legend alive, human and believable in real time. Through Morris' mental retina of clarity in this megabiography spans some 2,442 pages over three volumes, we see TR's life of contradictions as a puny asthmatic and later a hardened cowboy, a big game hunter and yet a passionate conservationist, a disciple of the principal of multiple use of our renewable natural resources, and yet a zealot protector of America's scenic and cultural landscape treasures. Roosevelt was a dignified scholarly author and bombastic political orator, a New York Knickerbocker caste of silk-stocking privilege and wealth, yet one who despised the curse of elitism and the predatory, nouveau rich industrialist trust-builders. He was an imperialist with an iron fortress, a cultivated diplomatic international strategist whose work won him the Nobel Peace Prize, and a nostalgic sentimentalist and family man who lived with courageous and compulsive abandon in daring, world-class life-threatening adventures, one of which won him the Presidential Medal of Honor. Morris' writing style is not to interpret TR analytically or deteriorate into an exhaustive, encyclopedic thesis, but rather to maintain distance with facts reflective of TR's outlook. It's a writing style that allows TR to portray himself at the center stage of world history as he was consumed by himself in real life: Roosevelt-centered in both his public and private lives, which Morris has masterfully unified.

Roosevelt's last 10 years constitute the most interesting part of his life in personal and psychological reflection, statesmanship and political bravado, and in heroic exploration and adventure on four continents. Colonel Roosevelt shows that of all our great presidents, Theodore Roosevelt is the only one whose greatness increased outside his presidency. When he toured Europe in 1910 as plain "Colonel Roosevelt," he was hailed as the most famous man in the world. Crowned heads vied to put him up in their palaces. "If I see another king," he joked, "I think I shall bite him."

Had TR won his historic "Bull Moose" campaign in 1912 (when he outpolled the sitting president, William Howard Taft), we might have averted World War I, so great was his

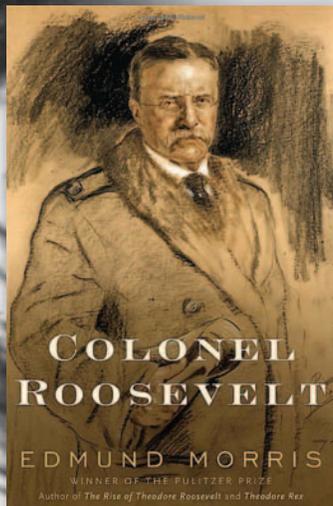
international influence. Had he not died in 1919 at the early age of 60, he unquestionably would have been reelected to a third term in the White House and completed the work he began in 1901 of establishing the United States as a model democracy, militarily strong and socially just. This biography by Morris is the completion of a trilogy sure to stand as purposeful and definitive, not merely encyclopedic. Packed with more adventure, variety, drama, humor, and tragedy than a big novel, yet documented down to the smallest fact, it recounts the last decade of perhaps the most amazing life in American history. What other president has written 40 books, hunted lions and all other American big game, founded a third political party, survived an assassin's bullet, and explored an unknown river in South America longer than the Rhine?

Colonel Roosevelt begins with a prologue recounting what TR called his "journey into the Pleistocene"—a year-long safari through east Africa, collecting specimens for the Smithsonian, which, for sportsmen colorfully describes the beginning of the golden era of the great African safari. Some readers may be repulsed by TR's bloodlust, which this book does not prettify, yet there can be no denying that the colonel passionately loved and understood every living thing that came his way as he carefully documented Africa's flora and fauna with minute scientific accuracy. The text is rich in quotations from TR's marvelous nature writing. Although TR intended to remain out of politics when he returned home in 1910, a fateful decision that spring which drew him back into public life. By the end of the summer, in his famous "New Nationalism" speech, he was the guiding spirit of the Progressive movement, which inspired much of the social agenda of the future New Deal. (TR's fifth cousin Franklin Delano Roosevelt acknowledged that debt, adding that the Colonel "was the greatest man I ever knew.")

Morris follows a detailed account of TR's reluctant, yet almost successful campaign for the White House in 1912, but does not hesitate, however, to show how pathologically TR turned upon those who inherited the power he craved—the hapless Taft, the adroit Woodrow Wilson. When Wilson declined to bring the United States into World War I in 1915 and 1916, the Colonel blasted him with some of the worst abuse ever uttered by a former chief executive. Yet even Wilson had to admit that behind the Rooseveltian will to rule lay a winning idealism and decency. "He is just like a big boy—there is a sweetness about him that you can't resist." That makes the story of TR's last year, when the "boy" in him died, all the sadder in the telling: the conclusion of a life of Aristotelian grandeur.

Unlike other biographers, Morris does not treat TR mainly as a politician. This volume gives as much consideration to TR's literary achievements and epic expedition to Brazil in 1913-1914 as to his fatherhood of six astonishingly different children, his spiritual and aesthetic beliefs, and his eager embrace of other cultures—from Arab and Magyar to German and American Indian. It is impossible to read Colonel Roosevelt and not be awed by the man's universality. The Colonel himself remarked, "I have enjoyed life as much as any nine men I know."

To celebrate the release of *Colonel Roosevelt*, the final volume of the trilogy on the life of the 26th President by Edmund Morris on November 23, 2010, the publisher, Random House hosted a party at the Park Avenue Armory in New York City. Club members Lowell Baier and Theodore Roosevelt IV attended this event and are pictured here with the author Edmund Morris, whose first volume on Roosevelt, *The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt*, won Morris the Pulitzer Prize.



## What Can We Do?

How does our sporting community address the daunting challenge the animal rights movement poses when we recognize that its two leading groups alone represent 13.5 million people, have combined annual revenues of \$161.3 million, net assets of \$209.6 million, and have been cunningly planning and executing their global attack on society for over 50 years? The strongest weapons sportsmen have to thwart animal rightists are the facts and truth. And vigilance in clearly communicating these is our first collective defense to stop the unsuspecting public's flow of money into behemoth animal rights organizations. We must let the politicians at the local and national level know the truth on animal issues so they are not guilelessly misled. Moreover, the second strongest weapon sportsmen have is diligently working together as a united force and community, setting our individual ideological agendas aside that persistently get in the way, stop fighting, competing, and criticizing each other, and support offensive groups like the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and educating the constituency of our national sporting groups on the threat the animal rightists' agendas present.

The American Wildlife Conservation Partners (AWCP) is now 11 years old and its combined constituency is 7 million sportsmen. We have a base to start with, and AWCP, now a confederation of 47 national organizations, must exercise leadership. Moreover, we must unite in this offense with our angler counterparts whose constituency is far greater than ours. We are both under attack by animal rightists.

Hunters and anglers face attacks based primarily on the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). The animal rightists use these federal statutes to abusively attack our sporting community. The key to a united sportsmen's approach is to design a plan to diffuse the animal rightist's agenda that's been 50 years in its consolidation, and be as insidious, calculating and stealthy as they've been. We've got to dilute their funding base of unsuspecting donors with facts and truth. As discussed in Part 1 of this column, animal rightists and environmental activists routinely sue the federal government and recover their litigation costs and attorneys' fees utilizing the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA, 1980), the Judgment Fund (1956), and Section 11(g)(4) of the Endangered Species Act (1973), all funded from the U.S. Treasury, i.e. by unsuspecting taxpayers. During the last decade alone, \$36 million has been paid out to just nine activist groups in more than 3,300 lawsuits. HSUS alone has been a

plaintiff in 88 federal district lawsuits since 1988, recovering at least \$2.6 million in attorneys' fees and costs.

Cutting off these litigation subsidies via amendments to the EAJA, the Judgment Fund and Section 11(g)(4) of the ESA, thus thwarting animal rightists' and environmental activists' repeated litigation at taxpayers' expense for their revolving, round-robin legal expenses must become the leading goal for the sportsmen's community. Rep. Cynthia Lummis (R-Wyoming) introduced legislation this past March (H.R. 4717), as did Senator John Ensign (R-Nevada) (S.3122), with 36 bipartisan members of Congress co-sponsoring the bills, to amend EAJA, for which we sportsmen must rally to secure Congressional enactment. However, both of these bills only require that the Department of Justice annually report what litigation costs have been paid out under EAJA, which has become a big secret since the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The pending legislation must be expanded to include two important amendments 1) require disclosure of litigation payments made under the Judgment Fund and ESA, which has been a closely guarded secret; and 2) restrict payments to nonprofit litigants that can afford to pay their own attorneys' fees and expenses like HSUS and PETA.

Litigation reimbursement expenses were intended by Congress to afford equal access to justice for indigents and nonprofit groups that couldn't afford high-priced lawyers and the burden of prolonged expensive litigation, not for organizations like HSUS and PETA that have combined net assets of \$209.6 million and cash balances in excess of \$44.5 million. Contrary and outrageous as it may seem, under EAJA, a "for profit" company with a net worth over \$7 million is ineligible to recover attorneys' fees and costs, yet any "nonprofit" is eligible to recover legal fees and costs regardless of its net worth. How blatant is that inequity! But it doesn't stop there. Guess who President Obama appointed as his "Senior Counselor for Access to Justice at the Department of Justice? As referenced earlier, one of his former Harvard law professors and confidant, Laurence Tribe, a recognized animal rights advocate.

Changing the laws to cut off reimbursement of litigation costs to "nonprofit" animal rightists and environmental activist organizations that can afford to pay their own attorney fees and costs will be challenging, and the organized pushback as you might appreciate will be huge. It will require the sporting community to organize a united focus

## To disable the animal rightists and environmental activist's abusive litigation vehicles, sportsmen must follow their money trail, and cut it off!

on this issue, and a major national campaign to secure Congressional approval. The campaign will take time, but sportsmen have got to start laying the pipe and building the foundation to achieve Congressional approval and avoid a White House veto. That national campaign can be the very vehicle sportsmen can use to educate the taxpayers of America on the best-kept, dirty little secret the rightists and enviros trade on to maintain their hidden, revolving legal expense fund, and to perennially generate donations from the unsuspecting, unknowing public supporting their litigation cause-based fundraising appeals.

The reason this issue hasn't seen daylight is because the massive reimbursements for litigation costs have not been publicly disclosed by the federal government, and they are individually approved by the judges in the federal district courts hearing the cases, hence spread across 50 states and buried in federal court records. Moreover, the three laws that authorize these reimbursements are very complex, somewhat arcane, and give the presiding federal judges virtually unlimited discretion without any oversight in awarding reimbursement for attorneys' fees and litigation costs. A national campaign to amend the law and end this abuse will showcase the secret weapon hidden by the rightists and enviros which they've run rampant with for over four decades. To disable the animal rightists and environmental activist's abusive litigation vehicles, sportsmen must follow their money trail, and cut it off! ■

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The inspiration for Parts 1 and 2 of this column came from the brilliant research and investigative work of retired Army Lt. Col. Dennis J. Foster, Executive Director of the Master of the Foxhounds Association of America. Col. Foster's investigative skills have connected the dots of the threat of the global animal rightists' movement, and exposed its players' deceptive, stealthy and Machiavellian tactics. My thanks to Col. Foster's guidance and counsel, and that of Bud Pigeon, President of the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance, Rob Sexton, USSA Director of Government Affairs, and Counselor William P. Horn, Esq., of the law firm Birch, Horton, Bittner & Cherot, for their review and critique of this column's evolution, and their national leadership against the threat presented to both sportsmen and society by the animal rights agenda.