



Poultry Press

Promoting the compassionate and respectful treatment of domestic fowl

Sweet Sugar, Saved from the Chicken Industry

By Debra Milburn
Biologist/Educator

This May, a laborer for the local poultry farm brought a small, yellow chick into my husband's store. He said this was an example of the horrid deformities he sees every day at the poultry farm. He put the chick, whose head was backward and dangling down on its chest from a limp neck, on the floor. The tiny, yellow fluff ran backwards in circles. Part of the farm worker's job was to destroy such chicks. My husband told the man I was good with wild, orphaned birds, so let me try to help this one.

What a shock that evening when my husband comes through the front door with a cupcake box, and opens it to reveal a pretty (but sick) down-covered chick!

When I first examined the chick, I didn't hold much hope that she would live long. Due to all the additives in chicken feed, I figured this was a spinal deformity involving genetic mutations. Once the chick ate and drank, she perked up, but still with a backward and downward head. She ate and drank by moving her head to

one side of her body.

That evening, and for many days afterwards, I would hold Sugar, talk to her, stroke her (she loved having her breast stroked), play with her, let her climb up my arm to my shoulder, and otherwise treat her like one of our beloved pets and family members.

The next morning while holding Sugar in my cupped hand, I found that if I gently moved her head and neck upward with my finger, they could be placed in correct alignment without pain to my new friend. Whenever I held her, I would do this neck support exercise and also stroke her neck gently on all sides.

Then, I thought to make a permanent, adjustable neck brace out of one-half inch-wide tape, and cotton gauze for padding on the side of the neck that needed to be raised and supported.

I tied the cloth neck brace on Sugar and it worked great. Her little head was upright and forward facing. I left it on all day. All was well until 8 p.m., when I went into her room for her evening snack and play time. She had untied and loosened her ribbon brace with her beak! So



Photo by Karen Davis

Sugar & Friends

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off went the brace except for one to two hours the next day. I continued holding her head up with my hand and massaging her neck. With three or four days of this therapy, Sugar began holding her head up and forward on her own, just slightly tilted to the left.

After a couple of weeks of her occupying our guestroom, I commented that we had trained each other. Sweet Sugar knew my voice, and if I was in another part of the house and she heard me, she would give out a shrieking constant cry until I came to her. Just as I learned my daughter's different cries when she was a baby, I quickly recognized the chick's different sounds and what they meant. One of my fondest memories is of when she would nest in my hand or sit on my shoulder near my face and coo with contentment.

Living in a rental home on a small lot in a rural neighborhood with loose outdoor cats and dogs around, I didn't see how we could give Sugar a safe, permanent home, or find one for her. When Sugar was about six weeks old, I took her to the vet, concerned that she might have intestinal parasites, and to be sexed. She was healthy and was indeed a female. When I told the staff I was looking for a humane home, they told me

about Karen Davis, founder of United Poultry Concerns. By this time, Sugar was starting to grow her comb, and had many feathers fading into white.

It was difficult to give up Sugar, but I knew she would have a great home at United Poultry Concerns, with a loving, knowledgeable advocate/caregiver and social interactions with other chickens. Sugar has a special friendship with an older, blind broiler-hen-rescue Karen was rehabilitating. I've visited Sugar and found that she is a beautiful, healthy, happy hen at UPC.



Debby, Ashley, & Sugar

UPC Postscript: As of now, the end of August, Sugar is a handsome young hen with two companion hens, Gertrude and Anna Mae. Thanks to Debra's rehabilitation of her, you would never know that Sugar was originally deformed. She runs about, scratches the ground, dustbathes, and sunbathes. She's strong enough to leap up to a table in search of a perch. We built a new fenced yard especially for Sugar and her friends. We dearly love Sugar and are grateful to have her with us. 🐔

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UPC Submits Comments to the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Challenges "Humane" Standards

To view the NJDA standards:
<http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/ruleprop.htm>

To view UPC's comments:
<http://www.upc-online.org/industry/CommentsEdit1.pdf>

To view more comments:
http://www.njfarms.org/njhs_comments.htm

On June 27, UPC submitted a 50-page response to the NJDA's call for public comments, due by July 4, on the department's proposed "minimum standards" for the care and treatment of livestock and poultry. UPC addressed the following areas of concern:

- 🐔 Treatment of "day-old" chicks
- 🐔 Force-molting of hens
- 🐔 Housing of birds
- 🐔 Debeaking and detoeing
- 🐔 Catching birds for slaughter

While claiming to promote the "health and well-being" of New Jersey's chickens and other farmed animals, the "humane" standards exempt "routine" prac-

tices, such as starving hens for 14 days to manipulate the economics of egg production-the practice known as "forced molting." UPC cited this and many other practices that need to be brought within the regulatory framework of the proposed rules, such as forcing chickens to live in dark "tunnel houses" where they do nothing but sit in the dark, eat, and grow into "meat," and forcing hens to live in cages for a year under artificial lights mimicking the longest days of summer (16-17-hour days); then when the hens can no longer produce eggs, either force-molting them and using the survivors for another laying cycle, or suffocating them in dumpsters. 🐔

💡 What Can I Do?

Though the official comment period is past, you may write to:

Dr. Nancy Halpern, Director
 Division of Animal Health
 PO Box 330
 Trenton, NJ 08625-0330
 Email: humane.standards@ag.state.nj.us

A LEGACY OF COMPASSION FOR THE BIRDS

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A legal bequest may be worded as follows:

I give, devise and bequeath to United Poultry Concerns, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation incorporated in the state of Maryland and located in the state of Virginia, the sum of \$ _____ and/or (specifically designated property and/or stock contribution).

We welcome inquiries.

United Poultry Concerns, Inc.
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Photo by Tal Ronnen

Help HELP HELP!

UPC President Karen Davis joined activists at the annual July Convention of the American Veterinary Medical Association to protest the AVMA's continued support for the cruel poultry and egg industry practice of starving hens for profit known as forced molting. Wearing a 7-foot tall PETA chicken suit in front of the Adam's Mark Denver Hotel, UPC's president cried "Help, Help, Help! Stop Caging Me! Stop Debeaking Me! Stop Starving Me!" followed by all-day leafleting at the Convention Center.

To view UPC's 2003 Report to the AVMA, "The Animal Welfare and Food Safety Issues Associated with the Forced Molting of Laying Birds":

<http://www.upc-online.org/molting/52703.htm>



What Can I Do?

The AVMA is under increasing attack among its members for its continued support for the forced molting of hens by food deprivation, which is practiced by 75-80% of the US egg industry. This year Dr. Holly Cheever, a board member of the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights (AVAR), presented AVAR's alternative resolution for the fifth time. The resolution would have required all laying chickens to receive nutritionally adequate food and water every day. According to Dr. Cheever, "The AVMA's Executive Board had recommended that AVMA

House of Delegate members vote against the resolution. However, several members raised concerns in a half-hour long debate in which they challenged AVMA members to put animal welfare interests ahead of the interests of the poultry industry." Nebraska delegate Dr. Theodore Evans Jr. said, "We should decide whether the AVMA is for animal welfare or for dollars and cents."

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association has taken a stand against forced molting by food deprivation on animal welfare grounds. Please urge the AVMA to join the CVMA in opposing forced molting and urge your own veterinarian to urge the AVMA to take a stand against forced molting. 🐔

Bruce Little, DVM, Executive Vice President
American Veterinary Medical Association
1931 N. Meacham Road, Suite 100
Schaumburg, IL 60173-4360

Ph: 847-925-8070. Fax: 847-925-1329



Photo by Bob Chorush

UPC activists Karen Davis (left) & Lynn Halpern (right)

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Wesleyan Students Win Victory for Hens, Egg Producers Edgy

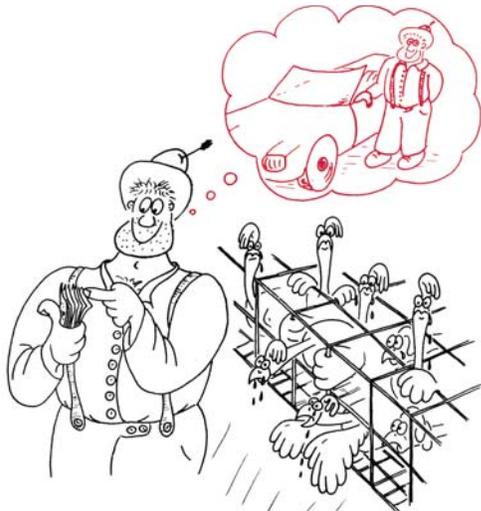


Illustration by Nigel Burroughs

"In fact, we used a great deal of information from your website and work."

- Wesleyan Environmental Organizers Network to United Poultry Concerns

On April 27 the Wesleyan Student Assembly of Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut passed a resolution to eliminate cruelly-produced eggs from the campus grocery store WEShop. The resolution makes Wesleyan the first American University to say No to the cruelties of factory egg production, in which hens are stuffed in wire cages in filthy buildings, debeaked, and starved for up to three weeks in the vicious practice known as forced molting.

"For students to be able to remove battery eggs from any campus, absolutely it's progress," UPC President Karen Davis told the *Hartford Courant* (5/4/03).



What Can I Do?

Become the next campus to get rid of battery eggs. For more information on the Wesleyan campaign, visit <http://www.wesleyan.edu/wsa/warn/eon>

Animal Cruelty Certified

The industry trade group United Egg Producers (UEP) is worried by the Wesleyan resolution, noting that the message about cruel factory farming "is everywhere in newspapers, television and websites." According to UEP's June 18 newsletter and *Feedstuffs* (7/7/03), "Animal activist groups such as PETA, United Poultry Concerns, Compassion Over Killing, Mercy for Animals, Humane Society of the U.S. and others are leading the campaign against the egg industry."

In June, Compassion Over Killing launched a website www.eggscam.com to discredit UEP's false "Animal Care Certified" program and battery-egg carton "Animal Care Certified" logo. COK changed the logo to "Animal Cruelty Certified" and filed petitions with the Federal Trade Commission, the Food and Drug Administration and the US Department of Agriculture alleging that the "Animal Care Certified" logo on egg cartons is false advertising and should be prohibited. 🐔



What Can I Do?

Eat vegan, write letters to the editor, *AND* urge the egg industry's trade group to set welfare standards eliminating cages, crowding, debeaking, and forced molting. *Request a written reply.*

Albert E. Pope, President
United Egg Producers
1720 Windward Concourse, Suite 320
Alpharetta, GA 30005
Ph: 770-360-9220
Fax: 770-360-7058
Email: info@unitedegg.org

DA Won't Prosecute Company for Throwing Hens into Wood Chipping Machinery

UPC Files Freedom of Information Act, California Public Records Act Requests

Responding to angry activists and other irate citizens, San Diego County (CA) District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis announced in April she would reconsider the wood-chipping case after announcing she would not prosecute Ward Egg Ranch owners Arie and Bill Wilgenburg for throwing 30,000 hens into wood-chipping machinery in February. Dumanis upheld her original decision (*San Diego Union Tribune*, 5/10/03), even though California's animal cruelty law prohibits subjecting any animal to needless suffering or unnecessary cruelty.

One issue concerns the role of Dr. Gregg Cutler, a private veterinarian affiliated with the National Veterinary Accreditation Program administered by the US Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and a member of the Animal Welfare Committee of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). Though Cutler denies recommending grinding up live hens, claiming he meant dead hens, UPC has information suggesting that Cutler told the owners to throw the live hens into a wood chipper that was especially cruel because it had a ram at the bottom of the bin that pushed the birds against a grate to shred them.

In letters to UPC (3/27/03; 5/8/03), the AVMA said it "has not endorsed the use of wood chippers as an acceptable means of euthanasia for poultry" although Cutler "is aware that the method is used by some."

Perhaps by more than some. The Canadian egg and fur farm industries (dead hens are fed to captive fur-bearing animals in North America) are funding researchers at Nova Scotia Agriculture College "to examine the macerator option" for disposing of unwanted hens. The hens are vacuumed down a tube to a grinder where they are killed by blades, according to the June 2003 issue of *Farm Animal Welfare Insights* published by Alberta Farm Animal Care (www.afac.ab.ca).

In May, United Poultry Concerns filed a Freedom of Information Act request with the US Department of Agriculture for records of the USDA's involvement in the wood-chipping episode, and a California Public Records Act request to the San Diego County District Attorney for the prosecutor's records. The latter request was denied in July. UPC is pursuing the matter, and we will update our members accordingly. 🐔

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"Dear UPC, Every day I look forward to your emails. Because of you mainly, I'm returning to vegetarianism and hope to be as vegan as possible." - Georgia Conroy"

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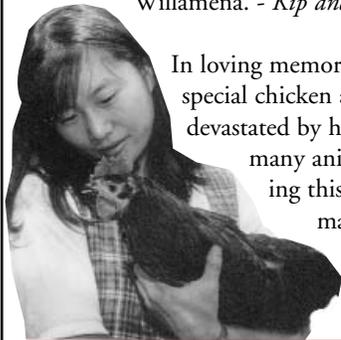
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Freddaflower Memorial Fund

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

We thank those people who have contributed to our work with recent donations *In Loving Memory and in Honor* of the following beloved family members and friends:

In loving memory of our little hen **Ramona**, born in Miami and given to some kids in Orlando for Easter. She was rescued by some friends and came to live with us a few days later. We got to enjoy her spunky personality for about a month before she passed away. We miss her very much, as does her sister Tootsie and cousin Willamena. - *Kip and Emily Bellairs*



In loving memory of my beloved **Chelsea**, a very special chicken and a wonderful companion. I am devastated by her death. Although I have had many animal companions over the years, losing this one is still always a terrible trauma. - *Jo-Ann Shelton*

In loving memory of my beloved

hen, **Penny**. - *Edna-Ann Senecal*

In loving memory of my dear, wonderful chicken, **Miss Hen**. - *Barbara J. Landers*

In loving memory and sadness for our loss of our **Camelia (Cami)**, our chicken, who was killed by a fox while on her afternoon walk. - *Kip and Emily Bellairs*



UPC Chickens and Ducks - Happy Together!

Would you like to sponsor a rescued UPC chicken or duck for \$6 a month, \$72 a year? If so, please send us your check or money order stating the number of birds you wish to sponsor. Pay by the month, bi-annually, or in one yearly installment. Upon receiving your sponsorship fee, we will send you a color photo of your happy bird(s), and his, her, or their name(s). Thank you for helping us save and care for our beloved feathered friends.

Book Review: Plucked and Burned

By Sylvia Tomlinson
 Redbud Publishing Company
www.redbudpublishing.com
 Softcover \$19.95 USA

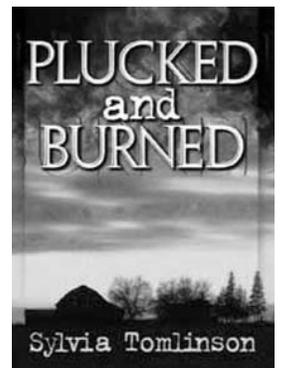
Reviewed by Karen Davis, PhD

“Growing chickens doesn’t have to be a nightmare. It can be a good life.” p. 171

This is the premise of the people who raise chickens for the poultry industry in rural America, the contract growers in Sylvia Tomlinson’s 2003 novel concerned about their plight. If instead of perfidy, greed, corruption, and lack of conscience, the industry would grant equitable contracts and profit sharing to the men and women who put up 50 percent of the capital investment in the form of land, chicken houses and equipment—only to reap one or two percent of the profits—the growers could get on with the business of “growing” chickens and enjoying the agrarian lifestyle that, in this book, consists chiefly of barbecues, church suppers, cold beers, lattes, and stop-offs at the local diner, along with cell phones, microwaves, beepers, and automated chicken houses liable to power outages and fires, with a loss of income to growers in the form of 27,000 dead and dying birds per house to be disposed of.

Plucked and Burned casts a misty backward glance at the years between 1959 and 1970, when the more or less

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equitable arrangement between the growers and the chicken companies of the 1930s, '40s, and '50s dissolved, and the consolidating poultry industry crushed growers' attempts to organize. Growers retaliated against the companies and each other by burning down one another's chicken houses and shooting out company truck tires, but to no avail.

The novel is narrated by college-graduate grower Doug Blackwelder, whose wife Dena quit teaching to raise chickens with her husband, both of them expecting, and initially enjoying, a pretty easy life. Set in contemporary rural Oklahoma, the story opens with the suspicious death by electrocution from an ungrounded fan of a 14-year-old Mexican chicken catcher "splayed out and fried, lying face down in chicken litter, in Jimmy and Stella Rawlins' broiler house." From here the reader is led through the grotesque events, told in plaintive accounts, that bedevil chicken catchers, growers, and "processors" (slaughterhouse workers) in their dealings with the industry, embodied by the Bible-hugging Randall Witherwax—a Bo Pilgrim, Frank Perdue, John Tyson, George W. Bush composite whose eyes exude "the cold fire of evil masquerading behind a cloak of religiosity."

Gazing at Witherwax's "Mansion on Mt. Pluckmore," Doug laments the decline from the golden age of poultry growing to the iron age of today, from the grower's point of view: "When we were in high school Randy's parents ran a mom and pop poultry company. They treated their growers as part of the family. They lived modestly and invested the profits back into the company, sharing with the growers."

While the overt conflict in this novel is between the growers (and peripherally the chicken catchers and slaughterhouse workers) and the industry, a deeper tension resides in the growers' ambivalent self-image. On one hand they long only to restore a world of paternal care bestowed on them by an earthly poultry-industry Heavenly Father; on the other hand, they see themselves as models of "rugged individualism" and "independence," though most of the growers Tomlinson interviewed were too fearful even to allow her to use their

names, like the one who complained that the companies "have the ability to give you crappy birds forever and literally bankrupt you," but who "would rather not have even a first name listed in my case."

Despite industry corruption on every front, the majority of growers are not anti-industry, any more than are their clerical advocates, like the real-life Rev. Jim Lewis of Delaware, who throws pieces of the dead bodies of chickens to his audiences, not to confront them with the suffering comprised in those bodies, but to gain sympathy for the suffering of the catchers impressed on those bodies. As one grower says in the book, "I'm not looking for trouble. I'm just asking for people to do the right thing and show a little respect." To achieve this goal, it is necessary, says former poultry grower, Mary Clouse, in her Foreword, to get "informed citizens, all eaters of chicken and all patriots to join in the struggle for fairness and the basic civil rights" for poultry farmers.

At the end of the story, a few characters decide to do something else for a living, as did Clouse and her husband finally, though not out of moral concern for the chickens. The birds, immured in dark "tunnel" houses, are glimpsed, as it were, in parentheses, as in: "They've got a million frickin' ways to pluck us. Pardon my language, ladies, but I just got delivered 22,000 sorry biddies for my houses that are supposed to hold 27,000. On top of that, besides being puny, I think most of them are blind [and] arrived half dead. If that's not retaliation for us trying to organize, then I don't know the meaning of the word."

It's rather the way Doug looks periodically in on the current flock, and checks the automated feeders and drinkers, just long enough to make sure everything's on schedule, and the cash will flow, or to report and clean up a disaster, between the things he actually cares about. With their microwaved hamburgers and frothy beer, Doug and Dena watch the moon rise over the chicken houses from their cozy outdoor deck, without any sense that there is something wrong with the landscape much bigger and uglier than their dream-world in ashes. 🐔

Human Health and Animal Welfare

Will the McDonald's policy cure cruelty to chickens?

By Karen Davis



Photo by Carol McCormick

to invite *Salmonella enteritidis* infection of their ovaries and their eggs.

Banning the growth-promoting use of antibiotics is further acknowledgement that the way chickens are raised—crowded and confined by the thousands in filthy, ammonia-filled houses and fed unwholesome products (everything from used restaurant grease and diseased carcasses to manure) laced with antibiotics—predisposes them to infections that can be passed on to humans, often with long-lasting and even fatal effects. This fact was underscored as early as 1964 at a conference

On June 19, 2003, the McDonald's Corp. announced a ban on the use of growth-promoting antibiotics in chickens raised for the company's 30,000 restaurants worldwide. The policy, to be fully implemented by the end of 2004, requires suppliers to eliminate feeding antibiotics used in human medicine to chickens to make them grow abnormally fast and large.

McDonald's is promoting the policy as part of its overall commitment to social responsibility and animal welfare. In 2000, McDonald's became the first U.S. food company to impose minimum welfare standards on its egg suppliers when it announced suppliers must stop withholding food from hens to manipulate egg production (a practice known as "forced molting"), increase the amount of cage space for each hen from 48 to 72 square inches, and phase out debeaking.

The move signaled acknowledgement that many farming practices are not only inhumane, but are also responsible for a growing number of health risks affecting both animals raised for food and consumers and handlers of animal products. For example, force-molting hens damages their immune systems so severely as

on salmonella, already identified as a health problem linked to the intensive confinement of chickens.

Since then, salmonella has evolved new, more virulent strains in response to antibiotic overuse, as has the intestinal bacterium *campylobacter*, which infests poultry houses and clings to the birds so effectively that between 42 and 95 percent of chickens sampled in supermarkets in 2002 were reported infected, according to studies conducted by Consumer Reports and the Sierra Club. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention conservatively estimates that each year in the United States, between 200 and 800 people die of *campylobacter* infections and 2 million to 8 million people are sickened by them.

The McDonald's decision comes in the wake of evidence that the antibiotic that has been most effective in treating salmonella and *campylobacter* infections in humans, and respiratory infections in birds, is losing its effectiveness. The antibiotic (named Cipro for humans and Baytril for animals) is in the class of anti-microbials known as fluoroquinolones. Since 1995, when the Food and Drug Administration licensed fluoroquinolones for

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use in chickens against the advice of the CDC, antibiotic-resistant campylobacter levels have soared, all the more disturbingly given that campylobacter is the presumed cause of the potentially fatal nerve-damage disease, Guillain-Barre syndrome, which sickens about 5,000 people a year in the United States and usually requires patients to stay on a respirator in the intensive care unit.

It is important to understand that McDonald's is banning only one antibiotic use-growth promotion. The ban does not include the medicinal use of antibiotics in chickens raised for the company. Partly for this reason, and because antibiotics used for growth-promotion are typically the same as or similar to those used for disease control in the poultry houses, it is unclear how effective the ban will be in reducing antibiotic-resistant bacteria or improving animal welfare.

Already, the poultry industry is developing products and techniques to ensure that, with or without antibiotics, chickens and turkeys will continue to grow to even more pathological weights in shorter time periods on less food.

One such product deactivates the protein, myostatin, which prevents birds' muscles from overdeveloping. Many genetic engineering projects are underway to make birds grow into mountains of "meat" without any concern for their suffering or for animal welfare.

The McDonald's ban is in lieu of U.S. government

oversight of antibiotic use in farmed animals. U.S. producers are not required to report how much or which antibiotics they use, and most of these antibiotics are available without a prescription. By contrast, McDonald's is requiring suppliers to keep accurate records for audits demonstrating compliance with the company's policy.

It remains to be seen what effect, if any, the McDonald's policy will have on the health of consumers and the welfare of chickens and other farmed animals. Most important, McDonald's should extend its commitment to animal welfare by requiring suppliers to eliminate the crowding, poor hygiene and forced rapid growth that necessitate the overuse of antibiotics to control the diseases that multiply under these conditions. If living conditions were less stressful and more humane, fewer medicinal antibiotics would be needed and the overall use of antibiotics, not only those used as growth promoters, should decline and be easier to monitor.

This commentary appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle* on July 14, 2003. 🐔

STOCK CONTRIBUTIONS

Dear Friends,

Several of our members have made financial contributions in the form of stock to United Poultry Concerns through our securities account. We are deeply grateful for these gifts, and anticipate more in the future. There are two obvious benefits in making stock contributions. Please consider these advantages in making your future gifts to United Poultry Concerns.

Donors may give as much stock as they want to a nonprofit organization without impinging upon their estate. By giving this way, they avoid paying a capital gains tax on their assets, because they are gifting their assets.

The benefits to the nonprofit are obvious. In giving a gift of stock, you enable the nonprofit of your choice to grow and do more. It's as simple and important as that. Everyone wins.

United Poultry Concerns has a securities account with **Paine-Webber**. For information on how you can donate to us this way, please call our financial advisor, **Claudia Puopolo**, at Paine-Webber at **757-490-5639** or **800-368-4070**.

From United Poultry Concerns and all our Feathered Friends, we thank you for helping to ensure our future!

Sincerely,
Karen Davis, Ph.D.
President



Photo by Tal Ronnen

Inside the Chicken Industry

In the Spring issue of *PoultryPress* (www.upc-online.org) we ran Virgil Butler's testimony describing his employment at a Tyson chicken slaughterhouse from 1997 to 2002. Mr. Butler wrote the following letter to the *San Francisco Chronicle* in response to Karen Davis's commentary on the McDonald's antibiotics policy.

Will the McDonald's policy cure cruelty to chickens?

I don't believe so. I worked at a Tyson chicken slaughter plant in Grannis, AR (a supplier for McDonald's, KFC, etc.) for a number of years and a few other plants as well. I caught chickens from the houses as a teenager before that. I am intimately familiar with the poultry business and the living conditions of the chickens.

I have seen the filth, death, and disease that breed from these conditions as well as the outright abuse the chickens endure from the workers. What I have seen is bad enough that my wife and I no longer eat chicken.

I have seen the chickens blinded by the ammonia fumes that build up in the houses. I have had the ammonia burns on my arms from handling the chickens that were coated with ammonia. My exposure lasted only for a night's work before I could wash it off. The chickens had to live that way.

I've seen chickens starve in the houses because their feet were stuck in the muck. I've seen the catchers stomp, kick, and slam chickens on the ground. I've seen them "cull the runts" by pulling their heads off. I've seen all the roosters of a breeder house be killed by having their heads bashed by a metal pipe, since they were too big for our plant to hang, unlike the spent hens. These spent breeder chickens don't go to McDonald's directly, but they are a by-product of the industry. These chickens are fed to other chickens as well as to your pet dog.

What about all the chickens that don't live long enough to make it to the slaughter plant because they have died of disease or been killed by cruelty? Technically McDonald's would be able to say that their chickens didn't suffer the cruelty that killed these chick-

ens. They are wrong. Their chickens suffered the same conditions and risks, but were unfortunate enough to survive long enough (a couple of months) to have to suffer the final cruelty of all, the slaughter.

At the slaughter plant I've seen birds scalded alive, pulled apart, and blown up with dry ice bombs for laughs. I've seen them run over by forklifts. These issues have nothing to do with antibiotics.

These points don't list anywhere near the routine cruelty I have seen through the years, but they would not be addressed by McDonald's in this new policy. This new policy might ban antibiotics used as growth-enhancers, but as long as farmers raise the birds in the conditions they do, they will have to give the birds antibiotics just to keep them alive. 🐔

Virgil Butler



What Can I Do?

Eat vegan, write letters to the editor, *AND* urge the chicken industry's trade group to set specific welfare standards eliminating the crowding, poor hygiene, forced rapid growth, and worker abuse of chickens.
Request a written reply.

George Watts, President
National Chicken Council
1015 15th Street, NW, Suite 930
Washington DC 20005-2605
Ph: 202-296-2622
Fax: 202-293-4005
Email: Gwatts@ChickenUSA.org
Rlobb@ChickenUSA.org

United Poultry Concerns Annual Report for 2002

Federal ID: 52-1705678

United Poultry Concerns holds that the treatment of chickens and other domestic fowl in food production, science, education, entertainment, and human companionship situations has a significant effect upon human, nonhuman, and environmental welfare. We seek to make the public aware of the ways in which poultry are treated and to advance the compassionate and respectful treatment of chickens and other domestic fowl. UPC conducts full-time educational programs and projects, including our quarterly newsletter *PoultryPress*, our website at www.UPC-online.org, and our sanctuary for chickens.

United Poultry Concerns works with individuals and groups around the world on issues pertaining to the treatment of domestic fowl. Our chicken sanctuary is accredited by the American Sanctuary Association. We are active coalition members of the Global Safe Food Alliance headed by Public Citizen, the Global Hunger Alliance initiated by Farm Animal Reform Movement, and The Summit for the Animals, an annual meeting of the heads of national animal protection organizations in the United States. United Poultry Concerns is a financial sponsor of *Farmed Animal Watch* (www.farmedanimal.net), a weekly email digest of documented information on farmed animal issues gleaned from industry, advocacy, academic, and mainstream sources.

United Poultry Concerns maintains a permanent full-time office, sanctuary, education center, and poultry adoption, sponsorship, and placement service at our headquarters at 12325 Seaside Road, Machipongo, Virginia 23405. We are grateful to all of our members and supporters for enabling us to fulfil our mission in 2002. From all of us at United Poultry Concerns, thank you for your strong and continuing support.

Highlights of Our Activities and Accomplishments in 2002

UPC Sanctuary - rescued, adopted, and placed

- 200 hens left to starve to death by the Cypress Foods company in Pasco County, Florida in March. UPC adopted 70 hens and found home for 130 hens.
- 16 chickens from the Eastern Shore poultry industry
- 4 ducks from a foie gras factory
- 10 hens from a Maryland egg operation
- 5 bantam chickens from Northern Virginia

UPC Actions & Campaigns

- Carl's Jr. Chicken "Nuggets" Ad
- Tractor Supply Sale of Chickens
- Featherless Chickens (USDA, Israel)
- Guinea Fowl Drop (TX)
- Throwing Tomatoes at Pinned Chickens for Money (Salt Lake City, UT)
- Serving Chickens to Raise Money for Spay & Neuter (NC)
- Teacher Killing Chicken Before 7th & 8th Grade Students (WI)

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- ASPCA and "Kapparot" Chickens In New York City
- Prosecution of Turkey Killers for Fun (Iowa)
- Cockfighting in Oklahoma
- Turkey Race in London, England
- Ostrich Race in Spain
- AVMA Policy Upholding Forced Molting of Hens
- United Egg Producers' Forced Molting Practice
- National Chicken Council's Refusal to Develop Minimum Welfare Standards

UPC Public Education Materials and Updated Website Documents

- Chicken Sanctuary Video: *The Dignity, Beauty & Abuse of Chickens*
- Posters: *Turkeys: Too Neat To Eat*, and *Battery Hens: Roosting in Branches After Rotting in Cages*
- Poultry Slaughter - *The Need for Legislation and Elimination of Electrical Immobilization* <http://www.upc-online.org/slaughter/report.html>
- *Chickens are Foragers, Not Fighters* <http://www.upc-online.org/cockfighting/foragers.html>
- *The Plight of Birds in the Poultry and Egg Industry* <http://www.upc-online.org/industry/plight.html>

UPC Participation in Teachers Conferences

- Sowing Seeds Conference, International Institute for Humane Education, San Diego, CA, March 16-17
- Meeting on Animal Advocacy and Public Policy College Course, Institute for Animals and Society, Baltimore, MD, Oct. 2
- Virginia Association of Science Teachers Conference, Richmond, VA, Nov. 7-9
- National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) Eastern Area Convention, Louisville, KY, Oct. 24-26
- NSTA Southwestern Area Convention, Albuquerque, NM Dec. 5-7

UPC Participation in Animal Agribusiness Conferences

- Animal Handling and Stunning Conference, American Meat Institute Foundation, Kansas City, MO, Feb. 21-22
- Poultry Breeders Roundtable, Poultry Breeders of America, St. Louis, MO, May 2-3
- Future Trends in Animal Agriculture, USDA, Washington, DC, Sept. 18 http://www.upc-online.org/industry/ftaa_eval.html
- Animal Cloning Food Safety Symposia, FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine & the Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology, Dallas, TX, Sept. 24-26

UPC Response to Government Request for Public Comments on Proposed Rules

- To EPA on Dry Lots for Ducks, Jan. 14
http://www.upc-online.org/environment/020114comments_dry_ducks.html
- To USDA Re: Standards for Organic Poultry, May 3
http://www.upc-online.org/020503comments_usda_organic.html

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UPC President Dr. Karen Davis - Keynote Speaking Engagements

- Yale University Conference on The Chicken: Its Biological, Social, Cultural, and Industrial History, May 17-19. Talk/Paper: "The Dignity, Beauty, and Abuse of Chickens: As Symbols and In Reality" <http://www.upc-online.org/thinking/dignity.html>
- Compassionfest 2002, Cincinnati, OH, Sept. 22
- World Food Summit Rally, Global Hunger Alliance, Washington DC, June 9
- Animal Rights 2003 Conference, Washington, DC, June 28-July 3
- Sierra Club, Old MacDonald vs Industrial Agriculture Conference, Frankfort, KY, Oct. 25-26. Talk: "Awash in Misery and Manure"
- Last Chance for Animals/San Diego EarthSave Thanksgiving Celebration, San Diego, CA, Nov. 23
- The Vegetarian Society of DC Thanksgiving Day Feast, Bethesda, MD, Nov. 28. Talk: "Living at Thanksgiving"

Additional UPC Community Outreach

- White House Easter Egg Roll Protest, April 1
- Hampton Roads Vegfest, Norfolk, VA, Sept. 14
- Charlottesville Vegetarian Festival (VA), Sept. 28
- Eastern Shore Birding Festival, Cape Charles, VA, Oct. 4-6
- Vigil for Chickens Against National Chicken Council, Washington DC, Oct. 16-17
- Candlelight Vigil for Turkeys, Washington DC, Nov. 22
- Thanksgiving Open House, UPC Headquarters, Nov. 30

UPC in the News

- Los Angeles Times * New York Times * Wall Street Journal * Harper's Magazine * Forbes * Columbus Dispatch * Hartford Courant * Boston Globe * Baltimore Sun * Daily Times (MD) * Dayton Daily News (OH) * Litchfield County Times (CT) * Weekly Independent (NC) * Door County Advocate (WI), * Washington Island Observer (WI) * Asheville Citizen-Times (NC) * United Press International (UPI) * WATT PoultryUSA * Egg Industry, Howard Stern Show, and more!

Financial Report

United Poultry Concerns Fiscal Year: January 1, 2002 To December 31, 2002

Revenues.....	\$96,789
Public Support.....	93,153
Expenses.....	\$118,741
Programs and Education.....	86,807
Organizational Management.....	17,742
Fundraising.....	14,192
Net Assets/Fund Balance at End of Year.....	\$188,002

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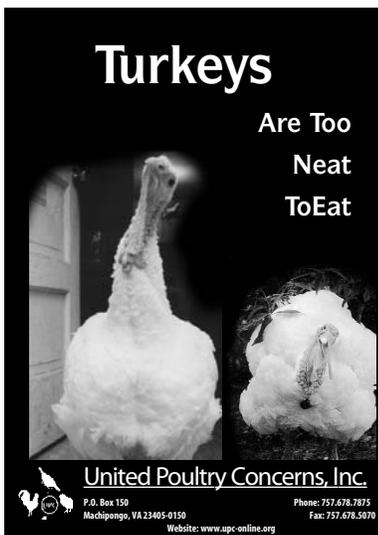
United Poultry Concerns takes this opportunity to thank the following foundations for assisting our programs in 2002:

- The Brach Foundation
- The Marino Foundation
- The Nalith Foundation
- The National Anti-Vivisection Society
- The New York Community Trust
- The Summerlee Foundation

In the hope that chickens will be better understood and respected by future generations



Illustration by Nigel Burroughs *Nature's Chicken*



New Poster Now Available!

The posters are in color, and come in two sizes; 11.5" x 16", and 18" x 27".
1 for \$4 2 fro \$5 3 for \$7

POSTERS

A Heart Beats in Us the Same as in You

Photo by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

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



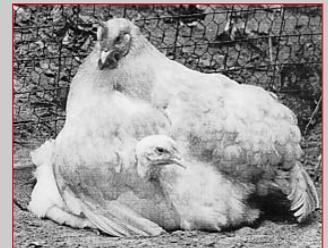
Friends, Not Food

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



What Wings are For: Chicks Need Their Mothers

Photos by Kay Evans & 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 "x 22" poster.



"Battery Hens"

Photo by Susan Rayfield
Roosting in Branches After Rotting in Cages
This beautiful color poster shows the rescued Cypress hens at UPC. Perfect for your office, your home, your school — Size 11.5 inches
\$1 for \$4 • \$2 for \$5 • \$3 for \$7 — Prepaid



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

The Dignity, Beauty & Abuse of Chickens

See the contrast . . .

The poultry & egg industry would like us to think chickens have lost their natural behavior and zest for life.

Our new video shows chickens at UPC's sanctuary doing things that chickens like to do!

16:07 min. — Color * Music * No Narration
3 parts: UPC Sanctuary * Poultry & Egg Industry

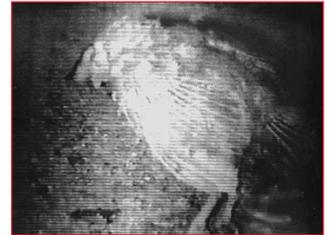
* Back to the Sanctuary.

Great holiday gift * wonderful educational video
To order send check or money order to UPC. \$10 prepaid.



Raw Footage, Raw Pain

This powerful 12-min. video takes you inside Boulder Valley Egg Farms in Colorado. Shows piles of dead chickens, chickens with open sores, chickens dying in a closed wing. Sensitive produced and narrated by Dave Crawford. \$10.00



Hidden Suffering

By Chickens' Lib

This vivid half hour video exposes the cruelty of the battery cage system and intensive broiler chicken, turkey and duck production. \$17.95

Humane Slaughter?

By Farm Sanctuary

HUMANE SLAUGHTER takes the viewer into poultry slaughterhouses to witness the horrendous suffering endured by chickens and turkeys. The video contains undercover footage obtained by Farm Sanctuary investigators of poultry slaughter operations, where terrified chickens and turkeys are slowly bled to death – sometimes on the slaughterhouse floor.

Scenes from HUMANE SLAUGHTER have prompted thousands of people to eliminate poultry from their diets. When you see this video you'll see why. 9 minutes, VHS. Documentary, narration, music, what you can do. \$17.95



Now Available from UPC.
Send Check or Money Order. \$10 Each. \$17.50 for both (shipping included)

Undercover Videos Show Living Conditions of U.S. Laying Hens

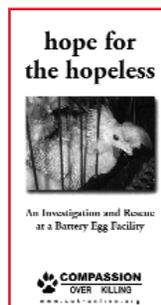
Hope for the Hopeless

An Investigation and Rescue at a Battery Egg Facility documents the living conditions of hens at ISE-America in Maryland. www.ISECruelty.com



Silent Suffering

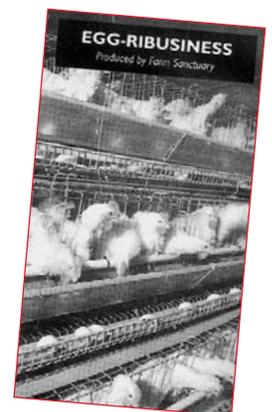
An Investigation and Rescue at Ohio's Largest Egg Farms documents the living conditions of hens at Daylay and Buckeye in Ohio. www.EggCruelty.com



Egg-ribusiness

By Farm Sanctuary

With powerful footage taken at locations across the United States between 1988 and 1999, this fully narrated video illuminates the intolerable conditions endured by egg laying hens and unwanted male chicks at the hands of the egg industry. 14 minutes, VHS. \$17.95



*New!
Revised*

Hatching Good Lessons
ALTERNATIVES TO SCHOOL HATCHING PROJECTS



Replacing School Hatching Projects: Alternative Resources & How To Order Them

By Karen Davis

Our stimulating booklet catalog has all the information you need to hatch great new lessons for young students – videos, books, models, and more. \$2.50

Bird Watching as an Alternative to Chick Hatching

By Karen Davis

More great classroom ideas and outdoor activities. \$2.50

A Home for Henny

By Karen Davis

This wonderful children's book tells the touching story of a little girl, a chicken, and a school hatching project. Beautifully illustrated by Patricia Vandenberg, it's the perfect gift for a child, parents, teachers, your local library. \$4.95

Animal Place: Where Magical Things Happen

By Kim Sturla

Enchant young children with this charming tale about a stubborn girl who is secretly touched by a cow while visiting a sanctuary for farm animals. \$11.00

Clara the Chicken

By Jackie Greene

This endearing children's book tells the story of a rescued hen named Clara and those who love her. \$4.95

Goosie's Story

By Louise Van Der Merwe

A wonderful illustrated children's book 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 Boy, A Chicken and The Lion of Judah – How Ari Became a Vegetarian

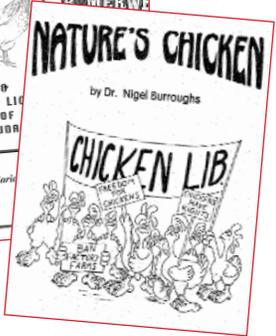
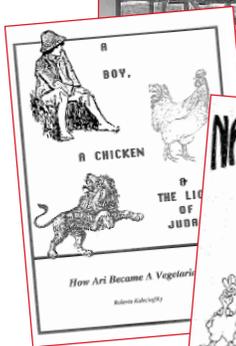
By Roberta Kalechofsky

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." \$10.00

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

By Nigel Burroughs

With wry humor, this unique children's story book traces the development of today's chicken and egg factory farming in a perfect blend of entertainment and instruction. Wonderful illustrations. Promotes compassion and respect for chickens. \$5.95



BOOKS

More Than a Meal

By Karen Davis

"More Than a Meal challenges all Americans to think about the values that they want their annual family ritual to embody."--Peter Singer, DeCamp Professor of Bioethics, Princeton University \$23.50

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

By Karen Davis

This book is a fully-documented source of up-to-the-minute information about chickens, including everything from how a chick develops inside an egg to the causes of salmonella, and much more. Provides a chilling account of the morally handicapped poultry & egg industry. \$14.95

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

By Karen Davis

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

Replacing Eggs

Sick of salmonella? Our exciting booklet invites you to cook and eat happily without eggs! 16 delicious recipes. \$3.50

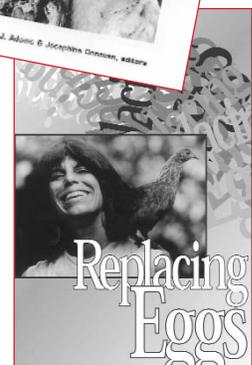
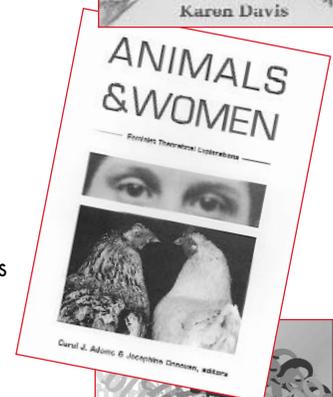
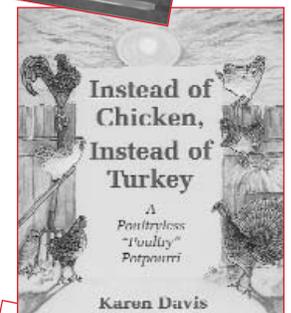
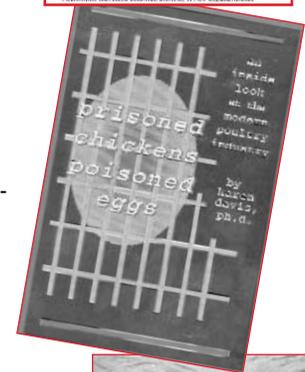
More Than a Meal

The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality



Karen Davis, Ph.D.

"Not only is More Than a Meal an excellent source of the history of turkey, turkey and turkey of the turkey, but it is a powerful reminder of the value of Thanksgiving to make the turkey more a symbol and something to be thankful for." --Linda Bender, Professor of Philosophy and Social Behavioral Sciences of New England Normal



POSTCARDS

**20 for \$4.00,
40 for \$7.50**



"Love is Best"

Two versions, your choice: postage required, 23¢ or 37¢

"Misery is Not a Health Food"

37¢ version



"Chickens - To Know Them is to Love Them"

37¢ version

"Peaceable Kingdom"

23¢ version



PLUS:

- Re-Searching the Heart
- Turkey & Child: Friends both 23¢ versions

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

FACT SHEETS

20 for \$3.00:

- "Debeaking"
- "Starving Poultry for Profit" (forced molting)
- "Starving Birds for Profit Has Got to Stop" (forced molting)
- "Poultry Slaughter: The Need for Legislation"
- "Why Be Concerned About Mr. Perdue?"
- "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"
- "School Hatching Projects: A Poor Lesson for Children"
- "Chicken Talk: The Language of Chickens"
- "Celebrate Easter Without Eggs"
- "Chicken for Dinner: It's Enough To

Make You Sick"

- "Say Hi To Health and Bye To Shells From Hell"
- "Don't Plants Have Feelings Too?"
- "Guide to Staffing Tables: Do's & Don'ts"

BROCHURES

20 for \$3.00:

- "Chickens"
- "The Battery Hen"
- "Turkeys"
- "Ostriches & Emus: Nowhere To Hide"
- "Japanese Quail"
- "Ducks: Free as a Bird"
- "The Use of Birds In Agricultural and Biomedical Research"
- "Free-Range' Poultry and Eggs: Not All They're Cracked Up to Be"
- "Live Poultry Markets" (in English, Hispanic, & Chinese)
- "Chicken-Flying Contests"

LEAFLETS (FLYERS)

20 FOR \$1.50

- "Chicken for Dinner?"
- "Food for Thought" (turkeys)
- "Where Do Eggs Come From?"

Bumper Stickers

Don't Just Switch from Beef to Chicken: Get the Slaughterhouse out of your kitchen. \$1 each

Don't Just Switch from Beef to Chicken: Go Vegan. \$1 each



Fabulous Turkey Button

Full Color! \$2.00 Each

Beautiful Chicken Button

Other Buttons \$1 each

Stick for your Chickens

Be Kind to Turkeys: Don't Gobble Me



T-Shirts IN 2 STYLES!

Too Neat to Eat

Beige or white T-Shirt in full dazzling color.

Specify "Rooster" or "Hen with Egg."

Sizes: S,M,L,XL - \$18.00





Photo by Karen Davis

Spaghetti Party at UPC!

UNITED POULTRY CONCERNS, INC.



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Machipongo, VA
23405-0150

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Sweet Sugar, a True Story
Forced Molting Protest
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Renew Your Membership for 2004!