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Poultry Press

Promoting the compassionate and respectful treatment of domestic fowl

Celebrating 21 years of dedicated activism for domestic fowl

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



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Photo: Susan Rayfield

This edition of Poultry Press is dedicated to our beloved turkey Boris. For Boris's poem of thanksgiving, please go to page 5.

Roosters are Painfully Gassed to Death for Fashion and Fishing

“They aren’t good for anything else.” Whiting Farms president Thomas Whiting

Rooster feather hair extensions have become a fashion trend. The business of raising roosters for feathers used by fly fishermen (to lure fish to their death by mimicking insects that sit on the water) has expanded to include a fashion market for this “fun little attraction for people to look at.”

The biggest U.S. supplier of these feathers to retailers is Whiting Farms in Colorado. Until recently Whiting Farms’ market was fly fishing, but when *American Idol* host and famed Aerosmith musician, Steven Tyler, started braiding his hair with rooster feathers, “feather hair extensions” became fashionable. According to Whiting Farms, “Each rooster has only a small number of tail feathers that can be used for sales – sometimes none, sometimes 5 or 6.” Up to 1,500 roosters are killed by this company each week for the fashion industry. The dead roosters are trashed.

In July, UPC contacted Whiting Farms president Thomas Whiting to clarify his claim that his company “painlessly euthanizes the chickens so there is no distress nor blood.” He replied: “We use carbon dioxide gas to euthanize all our birds.” By “all our birds” he means the company’s breeding flocks as well as the roosters born from these flocks for their feathers.

Whiting Farms does not euthanize its birds. “Euthanasia” is a Greek word meaning a “good death.” Death by carbon dioxide is NOT euthanasia. It’s a terrible, cruel death, and as animal scientist Mohan Raj explains, *“Birds and other animals completely avoid, hesitate to enter, or rapidly evacuate from an atmosphere containing high concentrations of carbon dioxide.”*

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) activates brain regions in birds and mammals that are involved with the perception of pain. CO₂ causes panic in response to the sensation of suffocation and breathlessness, or dyspnea, that occurs when the amount of atmospheric CO₂ exceeds 30 percent. Inhalation of carbon dioxide is both painful and distressing because birds, like humans, have chemical receptors (intrapulmonary chemoreceptors) that are acutely sensitive to carbon dioxide. This sensitivity produces an effort to expel the gas by breathing more rapidly and deeply, but breathing

more rapidly and deeply only increases the intake of CO₂, leading to slow suffocation. This is the experience that Whiting Farms is putting its roosters and parent flocks through in order to extract feathers for fashion and fishing.



What Can I Do? – 4 Big Things!

- 1) **Please write to Steven Tyler at his New York and Los Angeles addresses and send him an email if you’re on the Internet.** Ask him to PLEASE stop wearing rooster feather hair extensions and to publicize his decision. A statement by Steven Tyler would help eliminate this cruel fashion. There are many beautiful animal-free fabrics to wear instead of ornaments extracted by violence from mistreated birds.

Steven Tyler
Tenth Street Entertainment
568 Broadway, Suite 608
Eric Sherman, Josh Klemme, Liz Stahl
New York NY 10012
Email: stemail@10thst.com

Steven Tyler
700 San Vicente Blvd, Suite G410
West Hollywood, CA 90069

Sample Letter

Dear Steven Tyler,

PLEASE stop wearing rooster feather hair extensions, and publicize the fact that you are dropping this cruel fashion. You are an admired celebrity around the world. A public statement announcing your decision to stop wearing feather hair extensions, after learning how they are obtained, would help eliminate this unfortunate fashion. There are many beautiful animal-free fabrics you can wear, encourage, and publicize instead. We urge you please to do this.

Hair extension feathers are obtained from roosters who are warehoused and cruelly gassed to death merely to extract a few feathers from each dead bird's body which is then trashed. These proud male birds belong outdoors with a flock of adoring hens instead of being imprisoned in filth and squalor for their feathers. Surely you agree!

Please show compassion to these birds and stop wearing their feathers. Tell the world you are switching to feather-free hair ornaments. Start a new fashion trend!

Thank you for promoting compassionate fashion. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely, _____

2) Sign our Change.org Petition! United Poultry Concerns has created a Change.org petition on our Website addressed to Steven Tyler urging him to wear and promote compassionate fashion fabrics and to Bond with Beautiful Male Birds in a Spirit of Life instead of Death. Please sign our petition by clicking on www.upc-online.org/entertainment. At this writing we have over 1800 signatures! Add yours!

3) Contact the AVEDA company. One of our members in New York City was shocked to see feather hair extensions being prominently displayed for sale at the Scott J. Aveda Salon on W 72nd St. & Columbus Avenue in Manhattan. The feathers came from Whiting Farms. Aveda, a large beauty care chain which represents all of its products as plant-based "pure flower and plant essences"

(www.aveda.com), assured UPC that feather hair extensions "don't meet our mission" and "we don't support the selling of these products." Yet they went on to say that Aveda has no control over its retail outlets. This is not acceptable. Rooster feather hair extensions are showing up in Aveda stores everywhere. Compassionate consumers patronize Aveda believing it to be an ethical, animal-friendly company. By trafficking in rooster feathers, Aveda is betraying its mission and profiting from animal abuse. Request a written response to your protest.

Dominique Conseil, President

AVEDA

4000 Pheasant Ridge Drive

Blaine, MN 55449

Customer Service: 1-800-328-0849

Fax: 1-800-236-4301

Email: Aveda@aveda.com

- 4) Spread the word.** Anyone you see wearing feathers braided into their hair or buying or selling "feather hair extensions," politely inform them that roosters are being raised by the thousands in filthy battery-cage warehouses, cruelly gassed to death, and thrown away like garbage merely for a few feathers from each bird's body. Educate fashion and teen magazine editors, Aveda retailers and others about the suffering and death these poor birds are enduring merely for a fashion item that can easily be made from cloth fabric. (Needless to say, this is one more reason to reject the ugly violence of fishing.)

Photo: Davida G. Breier



Beautiful roosters like Oliver are gassed to death for a few of their tail feathers, then trashed.

For turkeys, chickens and other animals raised for food – a glimpse of the “good old days” from *More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality*

In his book *Animal Revolution*, Richard Ryder (who coined the term “speciesism”) offers a glimpse of how animals were prepared for meals in the typical 18th-century English household during the Age of Enlightenment. Alexander Pope, the great English poet of the time, described “kitchens covered with blood and filled with the cries of creatures expiring in tortures.”

The whipping to death of pigs, in the mistaken belief that this improved the meat, was to continue in England until the following century. Turkeys were very slowly bled to death suspended upside down from the kitchen ceiling. Salmon were crimped (cut into collops while still alive), living eels skinned, and the orifices of chickens were sewn up, supposedly to fatten them. Geese repeatedly were plucked of their feathers while alive in order to provide writing quills, and many were nailed to boards for their entire lives, some with their eyes put out, while they were subjected to forced-feeding.

Meat was cheap in England at this time and its consumption continued to be gargantuan.



“Delicate” lady with dying turkey, by Sue Coe

Receipts for large houses indicate that it was ordered by the stone [a unit of weight equal to 14 pounds] rather than the pound, and include details of the typical contemporary menu – lambs’ tails for the first course for example, tongues and udders for the second, followed by ox palates with cheesecake for the third. (Ryder, 67)

In *The Rural Life of England*, William Howitt describes how a 19th-century lady of his acquaintance dealt with the turkeys hanging upside down in her kitchen:

On passing the kitchen door at ten in the morning, I saw a turkey suspended by its heels, and bleeding from its bill, drop by drop. Supposing it was just in its last struggles from a recent death-wound, I passed on, and found the lady lying on her sofa overwhelmed in tears over a most touching story. I was charmed by her sensibility; and the very delightful conversation which I held with her, only heightened my opinion of the goodness of her heart. On accidentally passing by the same kitchen door in the afternoon, six hours afterwards, I beheld, to my astonishment, the same turkey suspended from the same nail, still bleeding, drop by drop, and still giving an occasional flutter with its wings! Hastening to the kitchen, I inquired of the cook, if she knew that the turkey was not dead. “O yes, sir,” she replied, “it won’t be dead, may-happen, these two hours. We always kill turkeys that way, it so improves their colour; they have a vein opened under the tongue, and only bleed a drop at a time!” “And does your mistress know of your mode of killing turkeys?” “O yes, bless you sir, it’s our regular way; missis often sees ‘em as she goes to the garden – and she says sometimes, ‘poor things! I don’t like to see ‘em, Betty; I wish you would hang them where I should not see ‘em!’ ” (Howitt, 45-46)

Cited in Karen Davis, PhD, “Our Token of Festival Joy,” *More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality*, pp. 57-59. Available from United Poultry Concerns \$14.95

Remembering Boris

This year we pay special tribute to our dear turkey Boris, who lived happily and beloved in our sanctuary at United Poultry Concerns, until his death from a turkey industry illness that could not be cured. His rescuers, Terry Kleeman and Marie Gleason, wrote this poem on his behalf at the time of his death. As we remember Boris this year with love and gratitude, we also remember, with deep

sadness, the many millions of turkeys who never knew any happiness, who never had, and never will have, their chance to be, in Boris's words, "the real turkey inside of me" – a being filled with exuberance and the joy of life.

BORIS

*You never really got to see
The real turkey inside of me.
The one with a body my frame could have supported
The one with feet where my toes weren't aborted.
The one who could eat his food with a beak
Like a real bird and not a geek.
The one who wanted to have a mate
But was too large to propagate.
My life had one saving grace
And it was Karen Davis's sanctuary place.
Yes, a human too was she
But one who took care of me.
I only knew fear and pain,
Now happiness did remain.
Thank you Karen for giving me the chance
To spread my feathers and do a turkey prance.
In my last year, I almost got to be
The real turkey inside of me.*

–Love, Boris



A LEGACY OF COMPASSION FOR THE BIRDS

Please remember United Poultry Concerns through a provision in your will.
Please consider an enduring gift of behalf of the birds.

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.
P.O. Box 150 • Machipongo, Virginia 23405-0150
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Karen & Mr. Frizzle ©2008 Davida G. Breier

Putting Traumatic Knowledge to Work for the Animal People of the Planet

Sister Species: Women, Animals, and Social Justice

Edited by Lisa Kemmerer

University of Illinois Press, 2011

Review by Karen Davis, PhD, President of United Poultry Concerns

“When you put down this book, ask yourself, ‘in relationship to the other animals, what is my own story of awareness and engagement?’ ‘What does this awareness ask of me?’” – Carol J. Adams, Forward

“The theology chair was on the phone when I arrived, so I had to stand awkwardly in the hallway. I felt like a naughty schoolchild outside the principal’s office. I waited for quite some time. Obviously, I was not a high priority, just a nuisance. But I was an eighty-year old woman, a pioneer woman theologian of almost fifty years. I had to remind myself that I was on a new and unique mission – who I was or how I was treated did not matter – I was here to bring change for nonhuman animals.” – Elizabeth Jane Farians, “Theology and Animals,” *Sister Species*

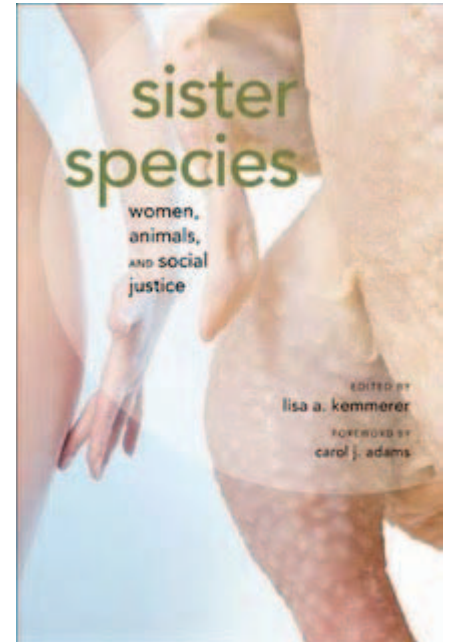
Sister Species presents the experiences of fourteen women activists who are working on behalf of nonhuman animals and a more just and compassionate world. Representing a diversity of backgrounds, ethnicities and social identities, they tell their gripping stories. The key ideas in this collection, of empathy, silence, trauma, and voice, arise from each author’s personal struggle to become conscious, strong, expressive and morally effective in a world dominated by “normal” violence, ethical blindness (both unwitting and willful) and abounding cruelties. The contributors are people who have put their traumatic knowledge to work for the animal people of the planet, our sister species.

For one contributor, guilty knowledge of what her university job entailed facilitated a genetic predisposition to the cancer that killed her grandmother, aunt, and mother. Canadian-based farmed animal cruelty investigator, Twyla Francois, writes: “During this brush with death, I examined my life and pondered where I’d

taken a wrong turn. I realized that after fighting through my teen years, I had ultimately succumbed to society’s demands. I turned to books like *Reviving Ophelia*, which examines how prepubescent women, before they have been manipulated, are their true selves.”

Much in *Sister Species* is enraging and crushingly sad. In “Freeing Feathered Spirits,” professional artist and animal activist, Linda Fisher, describes how seeing a parakeet suffering and dying in a department store as a child led her to dedicate much of her life to educating people about the plight of captive parrots. Her activism began when she summoned the courage to tell the store clerk that this little bird was sick and needed help. The clerk ignored her and she started to cry, still pleading, when two security guards grabbed her and forced her out of the store and told her to “Stay out!” “I thought I’d broken the law, that I had committed some terrible crime,” she writes. Fisher, who is part Ojibway and Cherokee, describes her conflicted emotions at Native American functions, where “leather goods, feathers, and trinkets made of nonhuman animals’ bodies” surround her. Her story of Lily, an Eclectus parrot caged in a feed store with other exotic birds, is excruciating, but instead of giving up, Fisher paints a large canvas, which she calls “A Blessing for Lily.”

My own outlook on animal activism and the realities that animals and their advocates face (expressed in my story “From Hunting Grounds to Chicken Rights” in *Sister Species*) has much in common with the views set forth by contributors Allison Lance and Tara Sophia Bahna-James. Lance, whose essay “A Magical Talisman”



evokes her gut-wrenching work with Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, sums up her opinions forged by the unspeakable atrocities she's witnessed toward nonhuman animals on both sea and land by disparate cultures: "People often ask, 'Do you think there is hope?' I find this a very strange question, very anthropomorphic – hope for whom?" The words that follow are like a torrent of waves during shipwreck.

In "The Art of Truth-Telling," Bahna-James explains that animal advocates need to "step into that uncomfortable place where we acknowledge that the scope of the problem is unfathomable, but the individual act still has meaning. Animals need us to be courageous and curious and to accept the possibility of failure. And they need us to not let things we cannot do stop us from doing what

we can."

If you desire to be a stronger, more confident advocate and to feel less alone, despairing, and frustrated in pursuit of justice for animals, if you care about what animals are going through and about animals themselves, including dragonflies and hornets and the community of life on earth: *Sister Species* is for you.

Contributors are Carol J. Adams, Tara Sophia Bahna-James, Karen Davis, Elizabeth Jane Farians, Hope Ferdowsian, Linda Fisher, Twyla Francois, Christine Garcia, A. Breeze Harper, Sangamithra Iyer, Patrice Jones, Lisa Kemmerer, Allison Lance, Ingrid Newkirk, Lauren Ornelas, and Miyun Park.

Freddaflower Memorial & Appreciation Fund

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

In memory of my beloved red tabby, Felix, who died July 13, 2011. I adopted him when he was a 9-week old kitten from the New York Humane Society. He was my companion for 14 years. Felix is always in my thoughts and he is dearly missed daily. I will always love him. – *Ana A. Garcia*

In memory of Grace, a gentle brown hen who reminded me that God's creation is beautiful and eternal. Grace reminded me that there is a priceless gift that comes with being privileged with the power to care for those who cannot speak for themselves. I am so grateful to Karen and UPC for giving her a wonderful life in her last few months. – *Stacey Remick-Simkins*

In memory of all the hens and roosters who are cruelly consumed by uncaring people. These birds are the most mistreated animals on earth. Thank you for helping them. – *Hilde Wilson*

My donation is in memory of Gwen (1997-2005) whose sweet spirit lives on in the beauty of her feathers. – *Jazelle Lieske*



Artist Jazelle Lieske with Gwen

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

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

Florida Public Schools: Classroom Cruelty Update

Prompted by the highly publicized chicken slaughter episode at Hawthorne High School in Alachua County, Florida on April 15, 2009, United Poultry Concerns and Humane Educators Reaching Out filed a formal 79-page *Petition for Agency Action* with the Florida Department of Education in March this year, urging the department to develop and enforce specific rules implementing Florida's humane education laws to prevent further episodes of sadistic cruelty to animals in Florida's public schools. On April 14, 2011 the department denied our *Petition*, claiming that Florida's anti-cruelty laws sufficed to prosecute animal cruelty in Florida. For the background to this story, see *Poultry Press* Summer 2011, also available online at www.upc-online.org/pp/summer2011.

In May, UPC filed a Florida Public Records Act request with the Alachua County Superintendent of Public Schools requesting all records relating to classroom courses in which chickens were set to be harmed or killed in Florida classrooms in 2011, 2012 or later.

In June, UPC received the following response from the Superintendent: "No animals or poultry have been processed [slaughtered] during a class since 2009. There are no plans to process animals or poultry in the future during an agriculture class. However, many of our students elect to raise, show and compete with animals at fairs and other sponsored activities. After many of the competitions the animals are auctioned to a purchaser who then decides the disposition of the animals. The FAA [Future Farmers of America] organization is an integral part of the instructional program so the animals or poultry are both an FAA project and a class project. . . ."

What Can I Do?

If you hear about any poultry slaughter projects at any schools anywhere in the U.S., please let us know. For more information about our campaigns against Classroom Cruelty, please visit our Website page at www.upc-online.org/classroom.



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From Hunting Grounds to Chicken Rights: My Story in An Eggshell

Excerpt from UPC President Karen Davis's essay in *Sister Species*, "From Hunting Grounds to Chicken Rights: My Story in An Eggshell."

Growing Up in Altoona, Pennsylvania

I grew up in a family and community where sport hunting was normal and expected. When I was in grade school, schools closed on the first day of deer season, and probably still do. My father hunted rabbits and ring-necked pheasants (pen-raised pheasants turned out on the first day of hunting season), then "cleaned" them in the basement. He said he didn't hunt deer because he didn't want to have to lug them through the woods. His defense of rabbit hunting was "everything hunts the rabbit." My father and his friends hunted grouse, squirrels, and small birds, but I don't recall anything about turkeys. Maybe they were "too big" to lug through the woods. We ate some of his killings, and the rest simply disappeared. There was talk such as: "Hell, I don't want them; give them away . . . or *throw* them away." One of my uncles loved to tell the story about how he threw away twenty pheasant pies his wife had baked.

Not until my brother Tim was a teenager, and wanted to spend Saturday with his girlfriend, do I recall a family conflict over hunting. My father flew into a rage when Tim announced that he didn't want to "go huntin'" with his dad. He was accused of being "a girl" because he preferred to be with a girl that day.

My middle brother, Amos, had his eye knocked out with a slingshot when he was five, yet he grew up to be an avid small-game hunter with a penchant for killing pheasants and quails. He could admit that some nonhuman animals had feelings. His own family had a golden retriever named Coffee, who was kidnapped from their yard in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Weeks later, when they somehow got her back, "Coffee's fur had turned white from fright," Amos said.

My father always kept a succession of hunting dogs at the far end of the yard. These beagles had a wooden doghouse filled with straw and lived at the end of a long chain tied to an iron stake. Whenever I visited "Nellie," or "Gus," or whoever was there at the time, the dog would cower inside the doghouse or approach me crouching, with his or her tail curled under trembling



back legs. My father trained his dogs by hitting them with a work-gloved hand. I'd hear them whimpering from inside the house. I heard stories about hunting dogs who had heart attacks running in the fields because they had been tied up, without exercise, for months between hunting seasons. My father took the beagles out for runs during the year to keep this from happening. In the fall, the men stood in the kitchen in the early morning talking about the great day of killing that lay ahead, then load Dad's dog into the trunk with the other dogs, all yelping, and off they'd go.

I was an avid meateater. I loved broiled fat, which I would eat off other people's plates: "Give it to me, I'll eat it!" Nonetheless, around the age of thirteen, I started arguing with my father about hunting. We'd be at the dinner table when the fight would commence. I'd be yelling at my father about hunting, and he'd be yelling back – over prime rib or baked ham or broiled lamb chops. Needless to say, my father never changed. He stopped hunting in his eighties only because he could no longer see well enough to shoot, but he hunted for years with poor eyesight before quitting.

I never thought then that I was eating sentient

beings. I remember my mother proudly announcing: “I buy fresh chicken from Imler’s” (a poultry slaughter market which is still in business). Chickens weren’t real to me the way pheasants were. Growing up, I saw ring-necked pheasants dead and alive. Occasionally one flew into our windshield on a country road. As a child, I begged my Uncle George, a cabinetmaker, to carve me a big wooden pheasant. I colored in the pheasant’s eyes and neck and carried it protectively under my arm. Now I know that chickens *are* pheasants.

One of my most vivid childhood experiences was when the white duck who lived up the street with the Mallory family was run over by a car. I cried inconsolably on the couch. I loved that duck, and for some reason it was more painful to me for a duck to be hit by a car than a dog, which I saw often enough, and which was traumatic enough.

As a very young child I spent feverish nights suffering over baby robins that fell out of nests in the trees in our yard. They would be naked and their mouths would be open, crying, and my mother would help me “take care of them.” But the next morning they were always gone.

I loved parakeets, too. My parakeet, Wiffenpoof (a budgerigar, actually), loved to push a rubber jacks ball across the rug with his beak. He sat on my father’s head whistling loudly while Dad yelled at my brother, on behalf of our neighbor, Mr. Feathers: “I told you to stay out of Mr. Flower’s Feathers!” One day I came home from school and Wiffenpoof was gone. My mother said they gave him away. They bought me a wind-up canary in a plastic cage to take his place. It still hurts to wonder where they took Wiffenpoof. In those days, no one recognized such parental decisions as both an act of animal abuse and an act of child abuse.

In truth, my mother couldn’t stand to see an animal hurt and suffering. I still picture her crying in our driveway over a mouse with an injured foot, which she tried to coax (with cheese) into a bucket. At the same time, my brothers and I picked many butterflies off the flower bushes in our yard and put them in jars and cigar boxes, with a handful of grass, until their wings were tattered and transparent, and they died, or we “put them back.” We also caught grasshoppers, grass snakes, and worms. Why were we allowed to hurt these creatures? How could *I* do that?

Only years later did I recall seeing my best

friend’s father pull a brown hen out of a dark shed next to their house one day, lay her on a wooden block, and chop her head off with a hatchet. Her head lay clucking on the grass at my feet while her body ran around the yard. It was definitely a hen. I see her as clearly as if the episode happened yesterday.

When I was eight or nine, my father decided to get rid of the rats under the house by killing them with the whisk of a broom. This project was carried out in the same gleeful spirit as when he and his brother, my uncle Clyde, killed bats in the attic with rolled-up newspapers and tennis rackets. Meanwhile, my mother went through the house shrieking, “God didn’t make rats, the devil made rats.” That was how she dealt with the cruelty she couldn’t bear to watch, much less take part in, but didn’t have the courage to speak out against in our household. I can still see a rat deep in a hole in our yard with two bright eyes looking out, and my father bent over the hole with a broom.

Racial Prejudice and Civil Rights

A story in the teenage magazine, *Ingenue*, titled “Them!” drew my attention to racial prejudice in the mid-1950s. “Them” referred to the black students being escorted by police into the all-white high school in Little Rock, Arkansas, in a hate-charged atmosphere vividly evoked by the writer. I remember asking my father about the cause of this hatred, which I couldn’t grasp through the writer’s depiction of these students. (Perhaps that was the point of the story.) I don’t recall his answer, but later, when I was at Westminster College, shortly before my obsession with the concentration camps, I became involved in the racial conflicts that were just then surfacing on campus. I dated a few black students, which was taboo, though it was accepted for a white girl to “fast dance” with a black male student in the student union. At the time – 1962 – campus fraternities and sororities excluded black students, though a special status, “associate member,” was created in one of the fraternities for black football players.

One weekend I was home talking with my father about racial issues at school, and he said that if I ever brought a colored person to the house, male or female, he would not let them in. He said that growing up in Altoona, he and his family used to tip their hat to the single colored family in the neighborhood, but

never invited them into the house, and he insisted that the family didn't want to come in anyway. When I questioned my father's point of view, my mother said I should respect other people's opinions. I replied that I was only obliged to respect other people's right to hold an opinion, not the opinion itself.

The opinion at Westminster College (I was sent to this Presbyterian school to satisfy my mother's concern for my "safety," not because my parents were religious – they weren't) was that there were certain lines you must not cross, certain things that were immutable. For example, the school choir's prize soprano, June

Singleton, was black, so she had to stay in separate hotels when the choir toured the South. Despite all the talk about Christian love and courage, the administration defended this policy. One day two girlfriends and I went to the college chaplain and urged him to take a stand against racial discrimination on campus; he argued that separate-but-equal was God's will.

Such moments marked the beginning of my intellectual awakening of opposition to much of conventional society's way of thinking. My sensibility began to take shape in the form of ideas and values that were frequently at odds with the norm. . . .



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 UBS Investment Center.

For information on how you can donate to us this way, please call 877-827-7870, and a member of the UBS Advisory Team will help you. You may ask to speak directly with Rachel Tomblin or Earl Singletary.

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

Sincerely,
Karen Davis, Ph.D., President

PLEASE, JOIN US TODAY!

We NEED Your Strong and Continuing Financial Support

New Membership **\$35** 2012 Membership Renewal **\$30**

Membership includes our quarterly *Poultry Press* Magazine to keep you informed on current issues, and how you can get involved in many other ways. If you would like to support us by credit card, please go to our website at www.upc-online.org and click on DONATE to make your donation. It's that easy!

Additional Tax-deductible Contribution:

\$20 \$35 \$50 \$100 \$500 Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make your check payable to United Poultry Concerns. THANK YOU!

Are you moving? Please send us your new address.

Do you want to be removed from our mailing list? Please tell us now. The U.S. Postal Service charges UPC for every returned mailing. Remailing the magazine costs UPC an additional sum. Due to the enormous cost of remailing, we can no longer provide this service. Thank you for your consideration. Please keep up your membership. We need your continuing financial support.



United Poultry Concerns
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Thanksgiving in America

The Pilgrims did not launch Thanksgiving in America. For more than three centuries, Thanksgiving was a sporadic affair proclaimed off and on by various governors and churches for a variety of special occasions ranging from general prosperity to victories over the Indians and the British. In the early 19th century there was still little mention of an American Christmas and only casual notice of Thanksgiving. Not until 1863 did President Abraham Lincoln, embroiled in the Civil War and anxious to promote national unity, proclaim Thanksgiving a national holiday. Before that, George Washington issued the first presidential Thanksgiving proclamation on October 3, 1789, and James Madison proclaimed January 12, 1815 as a day of prayer that the War of 1812 might end soon and peace be restored.

A decade earlier, Alexander Hamilton, the first secretary of the Treasury, declared that “No citizen of the United States should refrain from turkey on Thanksgiving Day.” Yet the turkey did not become a Thanksgiving dish outside New England until after 1800, and Thanksgiving itself often passed unobserved in many parts of the country as late as 1900.

Even in New England the turkey was not singled out immediately as the official holiday bird. A diary account of a Thanksgiving dinner in New England in 1779 mentions in the following order “a fine red Deer,” “huge Chines of Roast Pork,” “a big Roast Turkey,” “a Goose & two big Pigeon Pasties.” President Andrew Jackson’s November 29, 1835 Thanksgiving proclamation thanked God for “the bountiful supply of wildlife with which Thou has blessed our land; for the turkeys that gobble in our forests.” But Jackson did not specifically link turkeys with Thanksgiving.

However, by 1857, the turkey had become a traditional part of the Thanksgiving holiday in New England. In that year, the English author of *Life and Liberty in America*, Charles Mackay, proclaimed the turkey “the great event of the day. As roast beef and plum pudding are upon Christmas-day in Old England, so is the turkey upon Thanksgiving-day among the descendants of the Puritans in New England.”

From Karen Davis, PhD, *More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality*, pp. 52-54. Available from United Poultry Concerns \$14.95.

Poultry Slaughter: The Need for Legislation, Revised Booklet, 2011

Our 8-page, full-color booklet, first published in 2003, has been updated to reflect current information about the poultry slaughter process. Fully documented, it provides the clearest, most succinct explanation of poultry slaughter available.

\$1.00 per booklet.
20 for \$5. 50 for \$10.
100 for \$15. 200 for \$25.

Posted online at

http://www.upc-online.org/slaughter/poultry_slaughter.pdf

Order print copies by check or money order, or by credit card

at <http://www.upc-online.org/merchandise/handout.html>



Score One for the Roosters! San Diego County Passes Ordinance to Curb Rampant Cockfighting Activity

On September 13, 2011 the San Diego County Board of Supervisors in California voted 4-1 to approve an ordinance aimed at deterring cockfighting and ensuring that chickens are kept in humane conditions by their owners. For example, under the new law it's illegal to tie roosters by the leg to a stake, a common cockfighters practice.

UPC staff member, Ronnie Steinau, worked diligently in cooperation with the San Diego County Department of Animal Services to propel the ordinance to limit the number of roosters that may be kept by San Diego County residents. Her letter to the editor "Cockfighting: A Concern to Crow About" was published in the *San Diego County Tribune* and the *North County Times*. In it she noted that "tethered roosters suffer from abnormal stress and increased susceptibility to diseases" and pointed out that "because



Los Angeles Times, August 4, 2011

cockfighting in California is merely a misdemeanor and not a felony, outsiders flock to our communities to stage these illegal activities." Clearly a felony law against cockfighting is needed in California. For more information, go to www.upc-online.org/cockfighting on our Website.

Richmond, CA City Council Bans Live Chicken Sales!

"Councilmember Jeff Ritterman did a celebratory chair-spin and fist-pump!"

For two years, the San Francisco activist group LGBT Compassion led a vigorous campaign to ban live poultry sales in the city's Civic Center Farmers Market. On May 27, 2011, they won! The group next turned its attention to the Richmond, CA farmers market, the last known Bay Area farmers market to continue selling live birds. Joined by In Defense of Animals, the activists have been holding weekly protest demonstrations and documenting the horrific cruelty to which chickens are subjected by the vendors, who stuff them crying into grocery bags for customers to purchase, take away, torture and kill as they please.

Blitzed with complaints, the Richmond City Council held a meeting on Sept. 27 to decide the future of chicken sales in Richmond. **There IS NO FUTURE! The City Council voted to ban live chicken sales effective November 1, 2011.** The city attorney agreed with LGBT Compassion's position that a new California law, effective January 1, 2012, prohibiting live animal sales in public places, does not exclude poultry. This

will allow California activists to attack live poultry markets elsewhere in the state.

The city council meeting was a great success, said Andrew Zollman of LGBT Compassion and Hope Bohanec of IDA. 19 activists attended the meeting and made public statements supporting the ban on live poultry sales in Richmond.

United Poultry Concerns has actively supported LGBT Compassion's campaign from the beginning, reporting regularly on it in *Poultry Press* and over the Internet. UPC Vice President, Liqin Cao, translated the campaign's handout brochure "What's wrong with live chickens at farmers markets?" into Chinese. For more information, go to www.upc-online.org/livemarkets on our Website.

Photo: www.lgbtcompassion.org



Vegan Recipe Corner

Delicious Chicken-Free Rice Soup

From *Instead of Chicken, Instead of Turkey: A Poultryless "Poultry" Potpourri*, by Karen Davis. Order from UPC \$14.95

4 to 6 Servings

4 cups boiling water
 2 cups cooked rice (or noodles)
 3/4 cup peas
 1/2 cup finely diced carrots
 1/2 cup diced onions
 1 tablespoon corn or canola oil
 2 tablespoons flour
 2 tablespoons nutritional yeast flakes
 1 tablespoon "Chicken" Style Seasoning or poultry seasoning
 1 tablespoon parsley flakes
 1 1/2 teaspoons salt

Combine all the ingredients in a medium saucepan, and cook over low heat at a simmer for 10 minutes.

"Chicken" Style Seasoning

2 tablespoons nutritional yeast
 2 tablespoons parsley flakes
 2 teaspoons onion powder

1 teaspoon garlic powder
 1 teaspoon thyme
 1 teaspoon sage
 1 teaspoon celery seed
 1/2 teaspoon marjoram
 1/2 teaspoon salt

Measure the ingredients into a tightly lidded jar, and shake.



Photo: Liqin Cao

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

Please make free fundraising a part of your online routine

Every time you shop at any of 700+ online stores in the iGive network, a portion of the money you spend benefits United Poultry Concerns. It's a free service, and you'll never pay more when you reach a store through iGive. In fact, smart shoppers will enjoy iGive's repository of coupons, free shipping deals, and sales. To get started, just create your free iGive account. And when you search the web, do it through iSearchiGive.com where each search means a penny (or more!) for our cause!

Start iGiving at: www.iGive.com/UPC & www.iSearchiGive.com/UPC.

You can also install the iGive Toolbar 3.0 now at www.iSearchiGive.com/UPC and help UPC get every possible donation when you shop or search online!



POSTCARDS

20 for \$4.00, 40 for \$7.50



"Love is Best"



"Peaceable Kingdom"



"Chickens - To Know Them is to Love Them"



"Misery is Not a Health Food"

FACT SHEETS

20 for \$3.00:

- "Viva, the Chicken Hen / Chickens Raised for Meat"
- "Jane-one tiny chicken foot"
- "Starving Poultry for Profit" (forced molting)
- "Poultry Slaughter: The Need for Legislation"
- "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"
- "Chicken Talk: The Language of Chickens"
- "Celebrate Easter Without Eggs"
- "Chicken for Dinner: It's Enough To Make You Sick"
- "Guide to Staffing Tables: Do's & Don'ts"
- "Assume No Animal Products are Safe"

- "Henny's New Friends"
- "Avoiding Burnout"
- "The Life of One Battery Hen"
- "Bird Flu - What You Need to Know"

BROCHURES

20 for \$3.00:

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

LEAFLETS (FLYERS)

20 FOR \$1.50

- "Chicken for Dinner?"
- "The 'Human' Nature of Pigeons"

Bumper Stickers

Don't 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

Beautiful Chicken and Turkey Buttons

\$2.00 each. 3 for \$5.00. 10 for \$10.00. Any mixture.

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



Life Can Be Beautiful - Go Vegan! Brochure



24 full-color 5.5" x 8.5" pages.

\$1.00 each.
20 for \$5.00.
50 for \$10.00.
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Or order online at upc-online.org



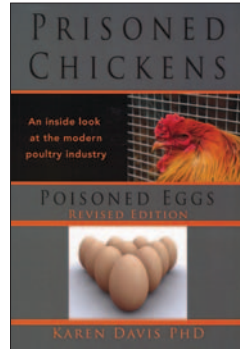
BOOKS & BOOKLETS

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

By Karen Davis

This newly revised edition of *Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs* looks at avian influenza, food poisoning, chicken suffering, genetic engineering, and the growth of chicken rights activism since the 1990s. Presents a compelling argument for a compassionate plant-based cuisine. "Riveting . . . Brilliant."

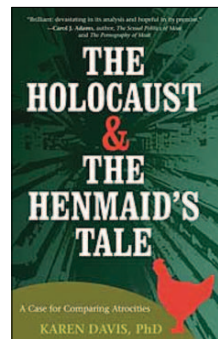
– *Choice magazine, American Library Association* \$14.95. 40% off bulk orders of 5 (\$8.97 each) = \$44.85 for 5.



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

By Karen Davis

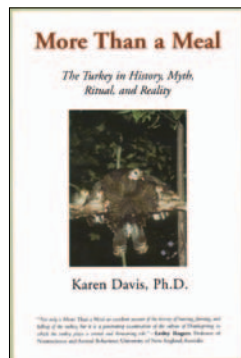
In this thoughtful and thought-provoking contribution to the study of animals and the Holocaust, Karen Davis makes the case that significant parallels can – and must – be drawn between the Holocaust and the institutionalized abuse of billions of animals on factory farms. "Compelling and convincing .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



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

By Karen Davis

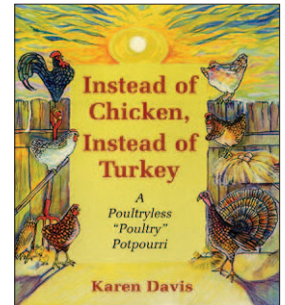
Karen Davis shows how turkeys in the wild have complex lives and family units, and how they were an integral part of Native American and continental cultures and landscape before the Europeans arrived, while drawing larger conclusions about our paradoxical relationship with turkeys, all birds and other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



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

By Karen Davis

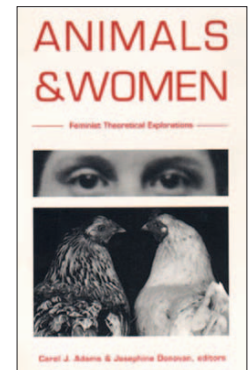
This delightful vegan cookbook by United Poultry Concerns features homestyle, ethnic, and exotic recipes that duplicate and convert a variety of poultry and egg dishes. Includes artwork, poems, and illuminating passages showing chickens and turkeys in an appreciative light. \$14.95



**Animals and Women: Feminist
Theoretical Explorations**

Edited by Carol J. Adams & Josephine Donovan

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



**Ninety-Five : Meeting America's
Farmed Animals
in Stories and
Photographs**

An anthology of photos and stories by No Voice Unheard Editors: Marilee Geyer, Diane Leigh and Windi Wojdak. \$20



Replacing Eggs

By United Poultry Concerns

Sick of salmonella? Our exciting booklet invites you to cook and eat happily without eggs! 21 delicious recipes. \$1.50



CHILDREN'S BOOKS & EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Hatching Good Lessons: Alternatives To School Hatching Projects

By *United Poultry Concerns*

A guide booklet for elementary school teachers and other educators including parents. Revised & Updated by United Poultry Concerns, 2010. 16 pages of information, storytelling, classroom activities & color photos. Grades K-6 (some activities are designed for K-12). \$2.50 per booklet. \$1.00 per booklet for orders of 5 or more. It can be viewed and printed out directly at www.upc-online.org/hatching/.



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

By *Roberta Kalechofsky*

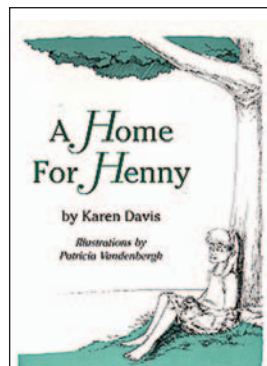
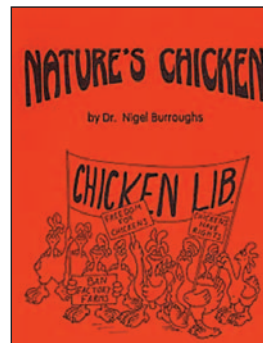
This wonderfully gifted children's story, set in modern Israel, is about a young boy's quest for moral independence. An intelligent book for all ages. Winner of the Fund for Animals "Kind Writers Make Kind Readers Award." \$10



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

By *Nigel Burroughs*

With wry humor, this unique children's storybook 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. \$4.95



A Home for Henny

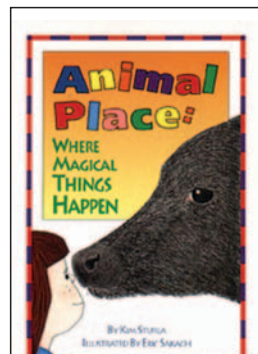
By *Karen Davis*

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. \$10



Minnie's Dream

By *Clare Druce*

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



When the Chickens Went on Strike

By *Erica Silverman* and illustrated by *Matthew Trueman*.



One day during Rosh Hashanah – the beginning of the Jewish New Year – a boy overhears the chickens in his village plan a strike. They are sick of being used for Kapores, the custom practiced in his Russian village where live chickens are waved over everyone's heads to erase their bad deeds. "An end to Kapores!" the chickens chant as they flee the town.

This enchanting book is adapted from a story by Sholom Aleichem, the great Yiddish author best known for his tales which are the basis of the internationally acclaimed play *Fiddler on the Roof*. \$10



Goosie's Story

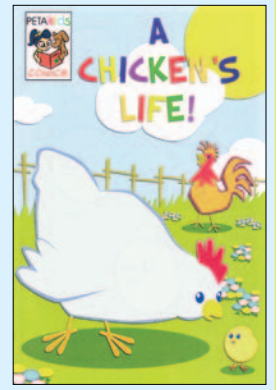
By *Louise Van Der Merwe*

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

A Chicken's Life! Grades 4-6

PETAkids Comics

This cute comic book illustrates a group of children visiting an animal sanctuary where they meet a flock of chickens and learn all about them including the differences between Nature's Way and The Factory Farm Way. "Are these chickens really your friends?" they ask. "I've never met a chicken before." *A Chicken's Life* includes a puzzle for elementary school students to unscramble words including barn, beak, cluck, feathers, grass, hatch, peck, peep, wings, and lots more. \$1.50 each. 10 for \$10.



VIDEOS

The Emotional World of Farm Animals

By Animal Place

This is a wonderful documentary produced by Animal Place and led by best-selling author Jeffrey Masson. This delightful film – for viewers of all ages – is all about the thinking and feeling side of farmed animals. **A PBS Primetime Favorite! Get your local station to air it.** VHS and DVD \$20



45 Days: The Life and Death of a Broiler Chicken

By Compassion Over Killing

This 12-minute video shows the pathetic industry treatment of the more than 9 billion baby "broiler" chickens slaughtered each year in the US. VHS and DVD. \$10



The Dignity, Beauty & Abuse of Chickens

By United Poultry Concerns

Our video shows chickens at UPC's sanctuary doing things that chickens like to do! 16:07 min. — Color * Music * No Narration. VHS and DVD. \$10



Hidden Suffering

By Chickens' Lib/ Farm Animal Welfare Network

This vivid half hour video exposes the cruelty of the battery cage system and intensive broiler chicken, turkey and duck production. VHS. \$10

Ducks Out of Water

By Viva! International Voice for Animals

This powerful 5-minute video takes you inside today's factory-farmed duck sheds in the US. VHS. \$10



Inside a Live Poultry Market

By United Poultry Concerns

This horrific 11-minute video takes you inside a typical live bird market in New York City. An alternative to "factory farming"? Watch and decide. VHS and DVD. \$10

Behavior of Rescued Factory-Farmed Chickens in a Sanctuary Setting

By United Poultry Concerns

See what a chicken can be when almost free! This 12-minute video shows chickens, turkeys, and ducks at UPC's sanctuary racing out of their house to enjoy their day. VHS and DVD. \$10

Inside Tyson's Hell: Why I Got Out of the Chicken Slaughtering Business

By Virgil Butler

Produced by United Poultry Concerns and the Compassionate Living Project, Virgil's eyewitness account of what goes on inside chicken slaughter plants is an indispensable contribution to animal advocates working to promote a compassionate lifestyle. DVD. 58:35 min. \$15



Delicacy of Despair

By GourmetCruelty.com

This investigation and rescue takes you behind the closed doors of the foie gras industry and shows what ducks and geese endure to produce "fatty liver." 16:30 minutes. DVD. \$10



Chickens at Play

By United Poultry Concerns

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



Stickers

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



With Heart and Voice - a Beautiful Greeting Card from UPC

\$19.95 for 20 cards. \$38.95 for 40 cards. envelopes included. Single card & envelope \$1.00.



POSTERS



International Respect for Chickens Day

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



A Heart Beats in Us the Same as in You

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



Today's chickens are forced to grow too big too fast. They're forced to live in filth. They go to slaughter with yellow pus, harmful bacteria, heart and lung disease, tumors, crippled legs, sick immune systems, and more. Millions of dollars are spent hiding these facts.

Friends, Not Food

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



WHAT WINGS ARE FOR



CHICKS NEED THEIR MOTHERS

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

Walking to Freedom After a Year in Cages

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



"Battery" Hens

Roosting in Branches After Rotting in Cages

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



Great Turkeys Poster!

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

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

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Remembering Boris
Rooster Feather Hair Extensions
From Hunting Grounds to Chicken Rights
Sister Species (Book Review)
“Delicate” Lady by Sue Coe
Good News for Chickens in CA
Recipe Corner & More

*Wishing You a Happy Holiday Season
Please renew your membership for 2012*



Photo: Sue Coe

“I live in the woods, and there are owls and bears and turkeys and deer, and all kinds of free born creatures. I thought you would like this photo, out of my window, my bird feeder in winter.” – Artist & author Sue Coe, New York 2011