

# Ethics & Animals (ISSN 0197-9094)

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## WELCOME

This is the first number of Ethics and Animals, the bulletin of the Society for the Study of Ethics and Animals (SSEA). The formal organization of the SSEA is still underway; and the format of Ethics and Animals (E&A) is almost certain to evolve significantly in the next few numbers. It has already become apparent that the length limits initially placed on reviews were too restrictive. The maximum length for reviews (of any sort) has been increased to 1000 words. This number is made up largely of the Review and Directory sections, which will probably also constitute most of the next number or two.

## HELP!

Ethics and Animals can flourish only with substantial support from the members of the SSEA. If a sufficient number of members submit reviews, recommend organizations and periodicals for listing in the Directory Section, report on meetings and other relevant events, and pass on their experiences in teaching and learning about ethics and animals, E&A will grow. If these things do not happen it will wither away. In addition to submitting material, members can help by recruiting new members and by ensuring that as many libraries as possible subscribe. Forms are on the inside back cover.

## ELECTION

The next step in the organization of the SSEA is the election of members of the Board of Directors. The new Board will have a number of decisions to make. Only members may vote, and only individuals may be members. Brief descriptions of the nominees and a ballot are enclosed with each member's copy of this number of E&A. Please vote and return your ballot as soon as possible. Note the deadline on the ballot.

## MEETINGS

The first annual meeting of the SSEA was held on December 28, 1979, in the Sheraton Center Hotel in New York City. In a very brief business session nominations for the Board of Directors were made and the Executive Secretary gave a sketch of organizational efforts. The primary object of the meeting was the discussion of the ethical relevance of ape language research. Professor H. Lyn Miles of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga gave a presentation entitled "Orang-utans and Language: The Ethics of Ugliness", illustrated with slides of Chantek, the young orang-utan who is the subject of her research. Then Professor Thomas Simon of the University of Florida compared the "Ethical Implications of Human, Machine and Animal Communication." Professors Miles and Simon joined in the general discussion that followed.

The second annual meeting of the SSEA will be held in Boston in late December, 1980 (probably on the 27th or 28th). As was the first meeting, this meeting will be in conjunction with the meeting of the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association (APA). The topic for this meeting will be the ethical significance (if any) of species as contrasted with individuals. Members who wish to participate in a panel on this subject should contact the Executive Secretary of the SSEA as soon as possible (our program must be ready by early June to be printed in the APA program). Be sure to include a brief prospectus or abstract.

## LATER

In the next number of E&A it is hoped to begin a calendar section listing upcoming events. As that number is due out in June, members are requested to notify E&A as soon as possible of any conferences, demonstrations, television programs, or any other events relevant to the interest of the SSEA forthcoming from June 1980 on. Also in the next issue we will begin to include summary reports on past such events. A report on the conference on "The Ethics of the Use of Animals in Research" held at Bates College will appear next time.

It is likely, probably in 1981 and perhaps earlier, that E&A will begin to consider articles for publication. The Board of Directors will establish a policy on this matter, and details will be reported in E&A.

## THANKS

The SSEA and E&A are indebted to several people and organizations. Thanks are due to all the members who have submitted materials, and especially to the reviewers who struggled to keep within the very narrow limits that were originally prescribed. The officers of the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association were very helpful in connection with our annual meeting.

Without the generous support of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and its Department of Philosophy and Religion almost nothing would have been accomplished. Special thanks are due to Guy B. Hammond, head of that Department, and to Betty Davis, senior secretary, for their help, tolerance and patience.

Harlan B. Miller