

# FIGHTING CHANCE

Volume 18, Issue 1

## Letter from LCA President Chris DeRose

As 2004 draws to a close, I can't help but reflect back on the challenges we faced and the victories we achieved for animals that so desperately needed our help. I am happy to report a great win for the animals – C.C. Baird, the biggest and most heinous Class B dealer, one of many B dealers we have been investigating for over 15 years in the Midwest and South, was charged with hundreds of violations of the Animal Welfare Act by the USDA; his hearing is scheduled for January 24, 2005. This is a giant step to putting Baird out of business for good, and making an example of him to other Class B Dealers. We want B Dealers to know we are watching them, and are going to put them out of business! We want every buncher and B Dealer out there to think twice before stealing a family pet, because of the ramifications that will follow. LCA is committed to ending massive commercial pet theft and to putting B Dealers out of business for good!

On that note, on April 26, 2004, Senator Akaka of Hawaii reintroduced The Pet Safety and Protection Act. We collected countless petitions requesting the Agriculture, Forestry, and Nutrition Committee to hold hearings on the Act. Our work will continue with the new Congress in 2005 to get this Act passed as it is crucial to making every pet in America safe from bunchers and B Dealers.

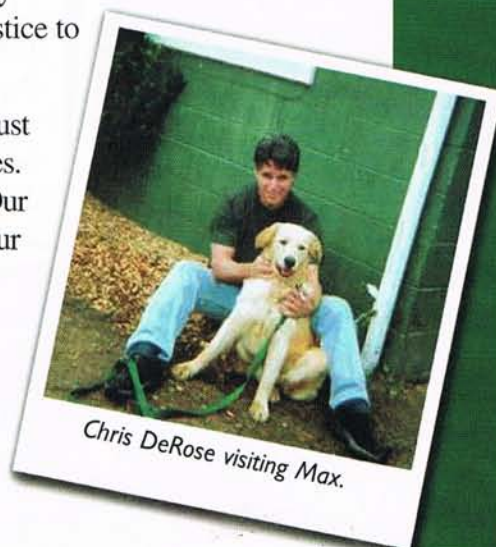
In April, I first heard of the plight of Max the dog (see inside for story). After receiving a great deal of communication from concerned people, I traveled to Connecticut to see how LCA could help. After meeting with authorities and the media, Max was released to his home and the law regarding restraint hearings in Connecticut was changed. We are elated we could help Max, and get the law changed to help other animals in the future. This is truly LCA's mission – changing or creating laws to end injustice to animals. Make sure you read Max's story inside!

As busy as we have been this past year, 2005 is just ahead, filled with many more challenges and opportunities. We have accomplished a lot, but have a lot more to do. Our motto is "to make real changes for the animals." With your continued help and support, next year will bring many great victories for the animals. We thank you!

For the Animals,



Chris DeRose  
Founder and President



Chris DeRose visiting Max.

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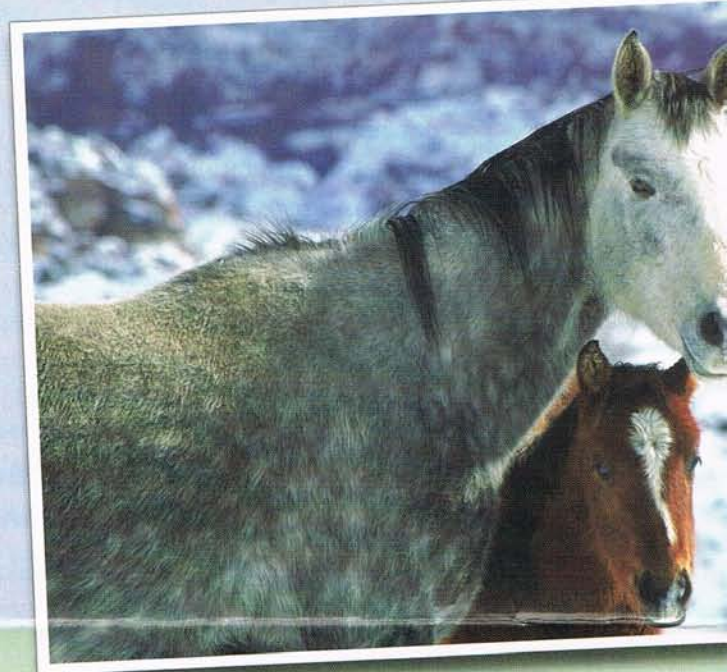
## The Fight Against Premarin Production Continues

We are continuing the fight to end Premarin production. Right now, thousands of pregnant mares are on pee production lines in Canada and North Dakota. They stand in narrow metal stalls on concrete floors for six to seven months of their eleven month pregnancies, hooked to filthy tubing designed to collect their urine. The urine is collected to extract estrogen, used in Wyeth Ayerst's family of Premarin products.

LCA is committed to ending this outdated, barbaric practice. We have contacted Robert Essner, President and CEO of Wyeth Ayerst, in the hope of working together to end the manufacture of Premarin. Wyeth's Corporate Communications response denied any wrong-doing on their part. In response to this rebuff, we sent another letter to Mr. Essner and mailed petitions to all our members, asking for help to let Wyeth know we mean business. We will deliver the petitions to Mr. Essner and let him know we are backed by thousands of other "voices." (View correspondence between Wyeth and LCA at [www.lcanimal.org/cmpgn/index.htm](http://www.lcanimal.org/cmpgn/index.htm).)

### What You Can Do:

Please write a letter to Wyeth Ayerst (view a sample at [www.lcanimal.org/cmpgn/index.htm](http://www.lcanimal.org/cmpgn/index.htm)) and send a copy to LCA. We need as many letters and petitions as possible to make the biggest impact. With your help, we *will* end Premarin production!



### Class B Dealer C.C. Baird Update – 2005 Civil & Criminal Charges

LCA has fought long and hard to put Class B Dealer C.C. Baird, owner of Martin Creek Kennels, out of business. In 2004, with the support of members and at LCA's urging, the USDA requested an expedited hearing on Baird's civil case, which is scheduled for January 24, 2005. However, our work is not done as criminal charges are STILL pending against Baird. We will continue to put pressure on the proper authorities until Baird answers to both civil and

criminal charges. LCA will not stop fighting until Baird and all other Class B Dealers that supply random source animals are put out of business for good! (Read about the Pet Safety and Protection Act in our goals for 2005.)

### Call To Action

**Help shut down C.C. Baird for good!**

Write a letter to Chief Administrative Law Judge Marc R. Hillson and send the letter to LCA. Urge the Judge to permanently revoke C.C. Baird's USDA issued Class B license at the January 24, 2005 hearing. We'll make sure Judge Hillson receives the letters.





## Saved! Max the Dog

Max, a beautiful golden retriever, is happy to be back home in Connecticut with his family, the Pyons, after enduring a seven-month-long ordeal in which he was almost euthanized unnecessarily.

### *The Ordeal Begins*

Max's ordeal began when he nipped 12 year old Cory Pyon on the cheek, after Cory, rushing to leave for school and dressed in a hood and parka, swooped down on Max to give him a hug goodbye. Max, startled out of sleep, did not recognize Cory in the hood and parka, and reacted out of fear.

Sook Pyon, Cory's mother, called 911, which in turn requested animal control to respond to the scene since a dog was involved. Max was taken away for a two week holding period. During this time, Sook was questioned by Animal Control Officer Patricia Fitzgerald if Max had ever bitten someone before. Sook responded "yes," since "biting" in her native language meant "nipping" or "grabbing" but not necessarily drawing blood. She had no idea what ramifications her answers would create - Fitzgerald decided Max would have to be destroyed.

The Pyons were shocked. Max had never attacked anyone, nor shown any aggressive tendencies. As a puppy, Max had playfully nipped, as all puppies do, but never with viciousness. They were absolutely positive Max nipped Cory out of fear. They explained all this to Officer Fitzgerald, but their pleas fell on deaf ears. Max had been labeled a "biter" by one person,

Fitzgerald, and she was not backing down. Immediately, they appealed the decision regarding Max's fate with the State Department of Agriculture. In the meantime, Max was quarantined in a concrete cell, where the Pyons drove one hour, each way, three days a week to visit him.

### *LCA Gets Involved*

LCA became involved after learning of the facts and injustice of this case. At this point, Max had been imprisoned for five months. It was unbelievable this case had languished so long and a decision had still not been made.

Chris traveled to Connecticut where Max was being held. He played and wrestled with Max, played ball with him, and even kissed him, and found absolutely no signs of aggressive behavior. Chris made the decision to fight for Max's life and any other "Max's" out there that might undergo the same fate. One individual should not have the all-encompassing power to make a decision of life or death over a beloved family member.

### *Max Goes Home*

A short time after Chris' visit, which included media attention and visits with local politicians, Max was released to his family. And as a result of the public attention and outcry over Max's case, the Connecticut state law was amended ("Max's Law") effective May 21, 2004. This law states disposal/restraint hearings, as well as final determinations regarding an animal's fate, must be held within 60 days rather than an indeterminate amount of time, as was the case with Max.



LCA is proud of what was accomplished for Max - we will always be on the front lines fighting for animals' rights...even if that fight is for just one animal. We know getting laws changed for one animal will affect many animals in the long run, and "Max's Law" will do just that.



## Peddling of Live Animals Banned

Working to make a difference close to home, LCA President Chris DeRose, along with an assemblage of LCA employees, volunteers, and concerned citizens, attended the West Hollywood City Council Meeting in California in September 2004 to raise awareness of the need for a unanimous “yes” vote on a new ordinance prohibiting the illegal street peddling of live animals.

LCA stood vigil at the meeting, holding a banner decrying the abhorrent and illegal practice of street peddling of animals, and patiently waited for a turn to speak. After 6 1/2 hours, LCA’s turn finally came. Chris DeRose delivered an impassioned plea against “puppy peddlers” and addressed the complacency of the law and need for enforcement to complement the ordinance if it were to be in any way effective. Other speakers echoed these concerns.

Members of the council not only agreed to pass the ordinance making peddling live animals a MISDEMEANOR CRIME; they expedited its passage within two weeks. It was a long night, yet one more victory in the fight to create laws that will make a difference in the lives of hundreds of innocent animals.

## LCA’s Most Wanted – Captured

One of LCA’s MOST WANTED, Thomas E. Spencer, was CAPTURED this summer! In January, 2001, Spencer beat a 4-month-old German Shepard puppy for hours. After hearing the puppy cry and squeal all morning, his girlfriend finally called the police. When police arrived, they found Spencer had the puppy trapped between his legs and was repeatedly punching him in the face. The puppy was in and out of consciousness and later died.

Spencer was captured in June 2004 after being on the run from felony animal cruelty charges, as well as for numerous other charges, for



several years. His arraignment took place on November 4, 2004, at Fulton County Superior Court in Atlanta, Georgia. However, the case is STILL open as the defense attorney and Judge are discussing plea bargaining options, but nothing has been agreed on. The next hearing date should be scheduled for early January 2005. If the hearing date is not scheduled by this time LCA will determine calls to action to make sure animal abusers pay for their crimes.

## Fur-Free Friday 2004



This year’s marked LCA’s 17th annual Fur Free Friday, an annual event that aims to educate people about the horrors of the fur trade. Organized originally by grassroots activists in 1986 to end the fur trade, Fur-Free Friday has grown to be one of

the most widely attended annual protests of the animal rights movement.

Fur-Free Friday involves dozens of grassroots animal activist groups in more than 30 states in non-violent civil disobedience protests against fur. Through protests, education, and the promotion of cruelty-free fashion, a voice is given to the millions of animals who suffer and die each year.

Fur-Free Friday 2004 proved to be a huge success! On November 26th, the day after thanksgiving, hundreds of animal activists and supporters turned out in Beverly Hills. Guided by police escort, the crowd respectfully marched down Rodeo Drive to Neiman-Marcus where information was distributed to passers-by about the horrors of the fur trade and alternatives to fur. LCA’s animal news van followed the procession and played video footage showing the cruelties of the fur industry. To view photos of this year’s event or to request more information regarding Fur-Free Friday, go to [www.FurFreeFriday.com](http://www.FurFreeFriday.com).



# IT'S

# LCA

## Ruby the Elephant Comes Back to Los Angeles

In November, 2004, Ruby the elephant was removed from the Knoxville Zoo and returned to the Los Angeles Zoo in **SECRECY** . . . the same way she left the L.A. Zoo in May of 2003 when she was ordered by L.A. Mayor James Hahn to be sent to Knoxville for a breeding program. Ruby arrived in L.A. to an uncertain future. The L.A. Zoo has stated they do not intend to keep her, but do not know where they will be sending her. LCA, along with supporters, agree the most viable solution for Ruby is to be relocated to an elephant sanctuary and did not want her returned to the L.A. Zoo.

Chris DeRose and Ruby supporters were at the L.A. Zoo the day of Ruby's return, holding posters to let the press, zoo officials, and the public know that elephants belong in sanctuaries where they can roam free and not locked up in zoos. **LCA AGREES** with Los Angeles Mayor Hahn who stated he wants to do what is best for Ruby!



## Fighting for the Greyhounds

LCA joined forces with Grey2KUSA, a national organization dedicated to ending greyhound racing, to urge FLORIDA voters to **VOTE NO ON 4!** On November 2nd, 2004, Amendment 4, deceptively labeled a "pro-education measure," was placed in front of Florida voters and called for the legalization of thousands of slot machines at south Florida dog-racing tracks. This was another attempt by wealthy racetrack owners to save their cruel dying industry. LCA sent out a call to action to Florida voters, urging them to educate themselves and others on the horrible practice of greyhound racing and urged them to **VOTE NO ON 4!**

Unfortunately, Amendment 4 passed by a narrow margin, and as a result, slot machines are now at racetracks in Miami-Dade and Broward counties. The results were so close! We need your help so this won't happen again! Please help support the fight against greyhound racing and educate everyone you know when you see legislation regarding greyhounds. LCA and Grey2KUSA will keep working together until there is no more greyhound racing. To learn more, visit [www.LCAanimal.org/cmpgn/index.htm](http://www.LCAanimal.org/cmpgn/index.htm).



## What You Can Do:

Please ask Los Angeles Mayor James Hahn to relocate Ruby, Gita, Tara, and Billy, all four elephants currently at the LA Zoo, to elephant sanctuaries.

The Honorable James Hahn  
Mayor of Los Angeles  
200 N. Spring St., Rm. 303  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
213-978-0600 (ph) • 213-978-0656 (fax)  
mayorhahn@mayor.lacity.org



# 2004 LCA HIGHLIGHTS

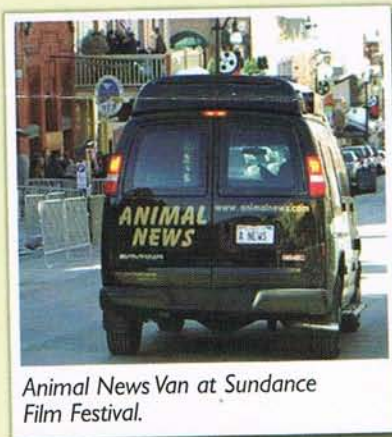
## California Animal Association

In 2004, LCA joined the California Animal Association (CAA), a coalition of more than 20 national animal welfare and animal rights organizations. CAA is a cohesive political front in Sacramento working for the animals and will collectively support at least one animal friendly bill each legislative session. Together we will fight to improve the welfare and the status of animals in California! The goal of the coalition is to become successful and powerful on California issues and to proceed on to national issues.

## Animal News Van

LCA's custom-made donated Animal News Van (ANV) completed its first full year effectively educating the public on animal rights issues.

The ANV appeared at schools, universities, festivals, events, conferences and protests. The ANV, partnered with LCA's website [www.AnimalNews.com](http://www.AnimalNews.com), is a powerful, dynamic, educational and news-reporting tool.



Animal News Van at Sundance Film Festival.

**“Pet theft is organized crime sanctioned by the USDA.”**

– Chris DeRose

## LCA Celebrates Pet Theft Awareness Day

Every year on February 14th, Valentine's Day, LCA networks with various animal organizations through the United States to educate the public and raise awareness of a threatening epidemic – pet theft. Nearly two million companion animals are stolen each year and end up in puppy mills or are sold to research

laboratories for profit. In 2004, over 250 animal protection organizations and individuals joined LCA and participated by hosting information tables, writing letters in support of the Pet Safety & Protection Act, and organizing special events to mark the day. The nationwide network of organizations participating in this important crusade to educate citizens on how best to protect their companion animals continues to grow every year.

Many cities have proclaimed a Pet Theft Awareness Day, including Los Angeles, West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, San Francisco, Santa Monica, Sacramento, CA; New York; Las Vegas, NV; Baltimore, MD; and Scottsdale, AZ. For more information on pet theft and Pet theft Awareness Day, visit [www.StolenPets.com](http://www.StolenPets.com).

## 1st Annual Puppy Mill Awareness Day 2004

LCA President Chris DeRose and Ms. Claudine Wilkins, Esq. of Georgia Legal Professionals for Animals were keynote speakers at the first annual Puppy Mill Awareness Day in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on September 17th, 2004. This was the first of a yearly endeavor to educate people to obtain their companion animals through rescue organizations and shelters and to bring an end to the proliferation of puppy mills.

**February 14th** National Pet Theft Awareness Day

**KEEP YOUR PET SAFE**

- Keep your pet indoors, especially when you are not at home.
- Frequently identify your pet with a collar and tag, as well as a microchip, and a tattoo.
- Train and exercise your pet. Most animals are less likely to stray from home.
- Know where your pet is at all times.
- Keep your pet on a leash whenever they go outside.
- Do not let your pet up inside a car to wait for you.
- Never leave an animal unattended in a car.
- Pick up your pet.
- Whenever an unidentifiable item is found, call.
- Keep recent photos and a written description of your companion animal on hand at all times.

She stole your heart ... now pet thieves are trying to steal her.

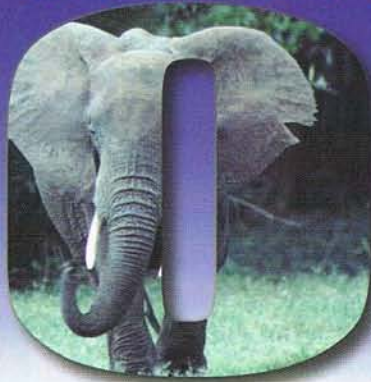
As many as two million pets are stolen each year. Only 10% are ever recovered. Many are sold to research laboratories while others are used in dog fighting, puppy mills, dissection, and sadistic acts, among other things.

Join Last Chance for Animals in observing National Pet Theft Awareness Day on February 14th. Call (800) 848-6644 or visit [www.stolenpets.com](http://www.stolenpets.com) to find out how you can help protect America's cats and dogs this Valentine's Day.

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# WHAT'S AHEAD IN



## **The Pet Safety and Protection Act (PSPA)**

With a new congress in session, LCA will be spearheading a massive campaign that will include working with other national animal rights organizations, lobbying firms and constituents, and are determined to make 2005 the year the PSPA is finally passed into law. The PSPA will eliminate Class B dealers such as C.C. Baird, from supplying "random source" animals to research facilities, dog-fighting rings and puppy mills, where they are abused and often killed. Most animals are obtained through "Pet Theft", a threatening epidemic that affects 2 million companion animals a year in the United States (see [www.stolenpets.com](http://www.stolenpets.com)).

## **"End Premarin Production" Campaign**

We will keep applying pressure on Wyeth by intensifying our letter-writing campaigns and petitions. We intend to stop Premarin production completely and end the abuse of pregnant mares and their foals.

## **"Elephant Sanctuaries – Not Captivity!" Campaign**

LCA is not only committed to relocating Ruby, and the other three elephants (Gita, Tara, and Billy) from the Los Angeles Zoo to elephant sanctuaries, but is committed to getting ALL elephants currently in zoos and circuses relocated to sanctuaries. In 2005, we will embark on our "Elephant Sanctuaries – Not Captivity!" campaign and show overwhelming proof and statistics of what happens to these majestic animals when they live in captivity to the proper federal and state authorities.

## **Class B Dealer C.C. Baird Civil and Criminal Charges**

LCA was pivotal in getting Baird charged with hundreds of violations of the Animal Welfare Act by the USDA. We will keep fighting until C.C. Baird's Class B dealer license is permanently revoked and he answers to first civil charges and then criminal charges.

## **2nd Annual Puppy Mill Awareness Day 2005**

LCA will strive to get more animal rights organizations involved in the 2nd annual Puppy Mill Awareness Day in September. To find out what you can do, please email [campaigns@LCAAnimal.org](mailto:campaigns@LCAAnimal.org).

## **17th Annual Pet Theft Awareness Day Valentine's Day 2005**

LCA invites you to join us for Pet Theft Awareness Day 2005. For campaign materials and information on becoming a participant in Pet Theft Awareness Day, please send an email to [campaigns@LCAAnimal.org](mailto:campaigns@LCAAnimal.org).

## **Animal News Van's Cross Country Campaign**

In 2005, the Animal News Van will embark on a cross-country educational journey ending up in the heart of puppy mill country, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for Puppy Mill Awareness Day 2005. This journey will include numerous appearances in U.S. cities to raise awareness of the animal rights' issues LCA is fighting, including Class B dealers, puppy mills, Premarin, and many more.

**...And many more activities, protests, and events planned! Visit our website at [www.LCAAnimal.org](http://www.LCAAnimal.org) for the latest updates!**



# LAST CHANCE for ANIMALS, known as the "FBI of Animal Rights"

## Great Gift Ideas

### Give the Gift of Compassion

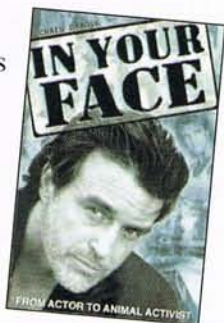
Give a gift membership to LCA and spread the compassion. For a minimum donation of \$25, LCA will send a personalized gift card to your chosen loved one, friend, or business colleague, saying you have made a generous contribution in their name. By visiting [www.LCAAnimal.org/donate.htm](http://www.LCAAnimal.org/donate.htm) or calling LCA at (310) 271-6096 ext. 25, you can use your credit card to make an immediate donation and ensure timely holiday delivery.

### Shop for Gifts and Help the Animals!

LCA has partnered with some popular shopping websites to give animals a fighting chance. Visit the websites listed below and LCA will receive a percentage of your purchase – Just sign up and select LCA as your cause.

- [www.GreaterGood.com](http://www.GreaterGood.com) – has over 100 major retailers
- shop at Amazon.com by clicking on their link located at [www.LCAAnimal.org/donate.htm](http://www.LCAAnimal.org/donate.htm)
- [www.IGive.com](http://www.IGive.com) – has over 1,000 merchants
- [www.FoeFur.com](http://www.FoeFur.com) – cruelty-free handbags
- [www.shoeswithsouls.com](http://www.shoeswithsouls.com) – fashionable vegan footwear

LCA President & Founder Chris DeRose's Autobiography **In Your Face** is available for \$24.00 (includes shipping). Chris' amazing story is a compelling, passionate narration and inspires people to become advocates for animals.



## More Ways You Can Help

### Automatic Monthly/Quarterly Giving

You can donate regularly to LCA via automatic debits to your checking account or credit card. Establishing recurrent steady donations provides you with convenience and helps to minimize our fundraising expenses. To sign up, go to [www.lcanimal.org/donate/auto.htm](http://www.lcanimal.org/donate/auto.htm).

### Create a Living Legacy for the Animals!

When you name LCA as a beneficiary in your will, you make an important gift that saves animals' lives. You can designate LCA to receive a percentage or fixed amount of cash from your **estate, real or personal property, or stock portfolio**. A **Charitable Gift Annuity** will allow you to create the same legacy while also providing you with a guaranteed income for the rest of your life. See your tax advisor for details on how you can create these types of lasting support for LCA.



### Autos for Animals: Turning Cars into Care

You can help save animals' lives when you donate your used car, boat, RV, SUV, or van to LCA. It's quick . . . it's easy . . . it's tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Simply visit [www.Autos4Animals.org](http://www.Autos4Animals.org) and fill out the vehicle donation form, or call (310) 271-6096 ext. 25.

### Help Raise Awareness by Using LCA Checks

Order LCA checks, address labels, and checkbook covers from **Message!Products!** Each check is imprinted with LCA's logo and the message, "This is *not* a research tool!" Royalties of every order go directly to LCA. To order visit [www.MessageProducts.com](http://www.MessageProducts.com) or call (800) 243-2565.



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1 (888) 88-ANIMAL

[www.LCAAnimal.org](http://www.LCAAnimal.org)

*Yes, I want to support LCA's mission to end animal suffering!*

Enclosed is my donation of:  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1,000  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  MasterCard  AMEX  Discover

Credit card# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

LCA is a 501(c)(3) California non-profit organization, Federal Tax ID #95-4013155. Gifts to LCA qualify for maximum charitable deduction under Federal Income Tax Laws.

For my convenience,

Please sign me up for LCA's automatic giving. I would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Monthly** or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Quarterly**. (Please enclose a voided check or fill out your credit card information above.)

Please check here to receive LCA's Planned Giving catalog.

Please check here if you **do not** wish to receive a receipt for your donation.