A Message from the President...

The Calgary meeting is but a few short months away. I know that Jim Paterson and the army of colleagues and students who are assisting in the Local Arrangements are in the process of providing us with a great venue for the meeting. This ASP Bulletin is chock full of information regarding the meetings, including housing, transportation, program, etc., so I’ll keep this essay short.

As always, there is good news and bad news regarding primates and primatology. Reports have been emerging this spring from central Africa about growing concern over dwindling populations of great apes, particularly chimpanzees and lowland gorillas. A recent paper in *Nature* (2003, 422, 611-614) highlighted the seriousness of the problem in Gabon and other areas in western equatorial Africa. The decline in population numbers, which has been ongoing for decades, appears to be accelerating in a frightening fashion because of suspected and diagnosed cases of Ebola hemorrhagic fever. The transmission of Ebola to human primates via the consumption of virally-infected nonhuman primate meat compounds the horror and misery. Further, veterinarians at the Cincinnati Zoo have just reported a mysterious virus that is highly lethal to bonobos in sanctuaries in Congo. The American Society of Primatologists is both directly and indirectly involved in these issues. On the direct side, ASP is a major contributor to the Bush Meat Crisis Task Force, which is the primary organization on the ground dealing with the trade in primate hunting and primate meat. Indirectly, ASP has supported conservation research in central Africa through Small Grants and Conservation Awards. We will continue to support this issue directly and indirectly in many ways.

On the positive side, there is good news emerging regarding the long-term care and maintenance of captive chimpanzees. Chimp Haven is a nonprofit organization headed by ASP member Linda Brent and guided by a distinguished Board of Directors and Advisory Board. Chimp Haven is on the verge of breaking ground for a facility designed to provide lifelong care for chimpanzees that have been “retired” from biomedical research. Chimp Haven has acquired both Federal and private support for this facility, which will be situated in a rural area in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, just outside of Shreveport. Complex indoor/outdoor facilities, along with critical opportunities for social contact with conspecifics, should make this facility a model sanctuary for chimpanzees in captivity. We wish the best of luck to Chimp Haven and to the other facilities and organizations that are engaged in this important activity on behalf of the captive population of chimpanzees in biomedical institutions.

The details of the 2003 Annual Meeting of the Society are now available on the ASP web site ([http://www.asp.org/asp2003/index.htm](http://www.asp.org/asp2003/index.htm)) and it is certainly the case that Marilyn...
Arrangements are progressing well, and almost all aspects of the meeting are in place. Take note that over the past few weeks, in particular during the first two weeks of May, the exchange rate has changed substantially. The Canadian dollar has surged over the 72 cent mark for the first time in 5 years. This means that the US dollar is now only worth $1.40 rather than the $1.60 of a month ago. I must also report that the Calgary bus and Light Rail Transit fares have been increased from $1.75(Can) to $2.00(Can).

There is still substantial room on the two post conference tours to the Tyrell Museum and to Banff. We will be taking registrations for these trips right up until Saturday, but earlier registration will help us plan for the number of coaches needed. The Burgess Shale Hike is fully booked and has a waiting list.

Chuckwagon Breakfasts, outdoor barbecue lunches etc., are all laid on, and the banquet at Heritage Park will be an event to remember!

Cheers, and see you all at the end of July!

Jim Paterson
Local Host

ASP Pre-Conference Workshop: Managing Behavioral Health and Environmental Enrichment of Laboratory Primates

A pre-conference workshop entitled Managing Behavioral Health and Environmental Enrichment of Laboratory Primates will take place on Wednesday, July 30th, 2003, from 9 am to noon in Science Theatres 129 on the University of Calgary campus. This workshop will focus on the implementation of behavioral management programs in the biomedical setting. It is intended for individuals such as enrichment coordinators, enrichment technicians, and veterinarians, whose positions involve oversight and/or implementation of environmental enrichment programs in the laboratory. Through short talks and group discussions, we will address real-world challenges and mechanisms for promoting ongoing augmentation of enrichment programs. Topics will include: 1) an overview of staffing, roles, and responsibilities at large facilities, 2) mechanisms for increasing the use of social enrichment in the biomedical environment, 3) guidelines for ensuring the evolution of your program, 4) addressing well-being in the context of clinical care, infectious disease, and experimental protocols, and 5) positive reinforcement training as an element of a behavioral management program.

Attendees are urged to bring examples of challenges they are currently facing, for group discussion and problem solving. The workshop was organized by Jim Weed, Kate Baker, and Carolyn Crockett and is open to all conference attendees.

Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of The American Society of Primatologists

Hosted by the Department of Anthropology and the University of Calgary
Alberta, Canada – July 29th to August 2nd, 2003

Message from the Program Chair: Please see the highlights of the 26th annual ASP meeting below – 207 abstracts were accepted for an essentially even split between posters and oral presentations. This includes four featured talks, three workshops (two are pre-conference workshops), and four symposia. Please note that there are two pre-conference workshops taking place on Tuesday and/or Wednesday before the official opening of the meeting on Thursday morning.

The program committee wishes to thank Nancy Capitanio for her continuing assistance with the abstract submission and program. Approximately 90% of the abstracts were submitted on-line this year.

MEETING ROOMS

Contributions to the scientific program (papers and posters) as well as featured talks and receptions (except the closing reception) will be held in the Science Theatres building on the campus of the University of Calgary.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS AND MEALS

The Opening Reception will take place in the Alberta Room West of the Dining Centre on the campus of the University of Calgary. The Dining Centre is adjacent to the Student Residences and 300 meters west of Science Theatres.

Breakfasts will be served from a chuck wagon located in parking Lot 21 on the University of Calgary campus on Thursday and Friday and in the Science Theatres Foyer on Saturday. Lunches will be served on the South Lawn of the MacEwan Student Center on all three meeting days, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Breaks between sessions will take place in the Foyer of the Science Theatres building. The Education Committee has organized a softball game Bright at Night: Softball Extravaganza! on Friday night, August...
1st at 9:00 PM following the poster session. It will be a battle between Old and New World Primatology folks. Matt Novak, Matt Hoffman and Melanie Schwandt are organizing the game and Jim Paterson has reserved the field and is picking up the costs of renting all of the equipment (except ball gloves). The Closing Banquet will be held at Heritage Park, the Chataqua Tent, from 7 pm to midnight. Buses will leave at 6 pm (sharp!) on Saturday, August 2nd from Lot 21 (immediately adjacent to Science Theatres on the north side of the building).

SLIDE AND POWERPOINT USERS

Nifty-five percent of people giving oral presentations will be using Powerpoint this year. In order for the sessions to run smoothly, please be prepared to turn in a CD, Zip disk or floppy to the local arrangements committee the evening before your presentation. Each room where oral presentations are scheduled will have fixed computers and projection systems. Make sure that presentations are compatible with Powerpoint 2000 on PCs. Macintosh users must be sure to format their materials for Windows PC. All presenters will be required to use University equipment. Slides and Powerpoint presentations can be previewed at the Com Media (nearby Science Theatres) and the computer lab located in between Science Theatres rooms 140 and 148 will also be available for previewing presentations.

POSTER SET-UP AND PRESENTATIONS

Given that more than 50 posters will be set up each night (Thursday and Friday) we ask that posters be set up by noon on the day you are scheduled to present your poster. All posters will be set up in the Science Theatres Open Area (“the Pit”). While the posters will be available for viewing during the afternoon, authors should be at their poster and available for discussion of posters from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm on either Thursday or Friday evenings. Posters from faculty and students of the University of Calgary will be displayed on Thursday night.

For information about contributions to the silent auction or any questions about local arrangements, please contact Local Arrangements Chair, Jim Paterson (paterson@acs.ucalgary.ca).
**Call for Action!**

Conservation Auction — Arts and crafts!!

It's that time again. Time to start thinking about donating items to the ASP Conservation Silent Auction. The Auction has become a major event at the annual conference...both as a great way to raise money for the Conservation Fund and as a focal point for socializing.

Items with primate themes are the most popular auction choices, but all kinds of donations are accepted. You can bring them with you to the conference or mail them in advance to:

**ASP Conservation Auction**
c/o James D. Paterson, Ph.D.
Anthropology, University of Calgary
2500 University Drive NW
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N 1N4

Even if you’re not attending the meeting, your donated items will be welcomed and appreciated. The auction has become an anticipated event and an important fund-raising activity. Remember: your contribution to the auction is a contribution to primate conservation.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at: janette-wallis.edu.
— Janette Wallis, ASP Conservation Committee Chair.

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**Are your competitive juices flowing?**

Come one, come all to the greatest show on earth . . .

Or, at least a show to settle the age old much debated question: “Which is better, old word primates or new world primates?”

Yes, we know . . . its been on your mind a lot lately!

At this years ASP meeting, in the great Country of Canada, where the national sport is hockey, we are going to play . . . softball!!!!

(Whether you play to play or not, please consider bringing your own baseball glove. If you don’t use it, someone else may be without.)

New World monkey team versus Old World monkey team for bragging rights that may last through the end of the millennia, or at least the meeting.

Everyone is invited to join in the fun, whether you are a player or a player-hater; a fan or a cheerleader.

The education committee of the American Society of Primatology proudly invites you to join them for an informal opportunity to get together and just have fun playing softball.

**Friday night, August 1st at 9:00 PM (after posters). Sounds late? Not really!**

Jim assures us that it’s still bright in Calgary.
## ASP 2003 CALGARY MEETINGS

### Tuesday, July 29th, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM – 4:00 PM</td>
<td>Session 1: Pre-conference Workshop for K-12 Teachers • Calgary Zoo</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Wednesday, July 30th, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Pre-conference Workshop for K-12 Teachers (continued) • Calgary Zoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Session 2: Pre-conference Workshop on Behavioral Health and Environmental Enrichment for Primates • Science Theatres 129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 AM – 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration, Exhibit and Silent Auction Set-up • Science Theatres Foyer &amp; North Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM – 5:00 PM</td>
<td>Standing Committee Meetings • Science Theatres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM – 9:00 PM</td>
<td>Opening Reception • Alberta Room West</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Thursday, July 31st, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 AM – 8:00 AM</td>
<td>Past President’s Breakfast • Village Park Inn, Brentwood I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM – 8:30 AM</td>
<td>Chuckwagon breakfast • Lot 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Poster set-up • Science Theatres Open Area, “The Pit”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 8:30 AM</td>
<td>Opening Remarks • Science Theatres 148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM – 9:30 AM</td>
<td>Keynote Address: Linda Marie Fedigan “RESTORING MONKEYS TO TROPICAL HABITATS: LESSONS FROM A COSTA RICAN DRY FOREST” • Science Theatres 148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Session 3: Contributed Papers: Infant Development • Science Theatres 141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 AM – 11:45 AM</td>
<td>Session 4: Contributed Papers: Ecology • Science Theatres 143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM – 2:30 PM</td>
<td>Distinguished Primatologist Featured Speaker: Andrew Hendrickx “EARLY PREGNANCY: SUCCESSES AND FAILURES” • Science Theatres 148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 PM – 5:00 PM</td>
<td>Session 5: Contributed Papers: Learning and Cognition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 PM – 4:45 PM</td>
<td>Session 6: Graduate Student Symposium on Sexual Selection Science Theatres 141 • Science Theatres 143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting • Social Sciences Building “Tower” Room 549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM – 9:00 PM</td>
<td>Editorial Board Meeting (Lunch) • University Club, Jasper Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM – 8:30 AM</td>
<td>Chuckwagon breakfast • Lot 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Poster set-up • Science Theatres Open Area, “The Pit”</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 AM – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>Session 8: Symposium on African Monkeys (I) • Science Theatres 141</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Session 10: Contributed Papers: Colony Management • Science Theatres 143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM – 1:30 PM</td>
<td>Editorial Board Meeting (Lunch) • University Club, Jasper Room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## ASP 2003 CALGARY MEETINGS

### Friday, August 1st, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:15 AM – 10:45 AM</td>
<td>Session 14: Contributed Papers – Primate Biology and Social Behavior Science Theatres 141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Featured Speaker: Suzette Tardif “WHAT MARMOSES HAVE TAUGHT ME ABOUT LIFE” Science Theatres 148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Silent Auction Closing Science Theatres North Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 PM – 4:15 PM</td>
<td>Session 17: Workshop: Surviving Graduate School (Navigating the Gendered World) Science Theatres 141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM – 6:30 PM</td>
<td>Board of Directors Meeting • Social Sciences Building Tower, Room 549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 PM</td>
<td>Bright at Night Softball Extravaganza Ball fields are located on the campus of the University of Calgary. Bring your glove!</td>
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</table>

### Saturday, August 2nd, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM – 8:30 AM</td>
<td>Chuckwagon breakfast • Science Theatres Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 AM – 10:45 AM</td>
<td>Session 14: Contributed Papers – Primatologist and Social Behavior Science Theatres 141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Featured Speaker: Suzette Tardif “WHAT MARMOSES HAVE TAUGHT ME ABOUT LIFE” Science Theatres 148</td>
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<td>Silent Auction Closing Science Theatres North Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 PM – 4:15 PM</td>
<td>Session 17: Workshop: Surviving Graduate School (Navigating the Gendered World) Science Theatres 141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 PM – 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Business Meeting • Science Theatres 148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM to Midnight</td>
<td>Closing Banquet at Heritage Park</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Norconk and the Program Committee have put together a dynamic scientific program. The web site also contains links to important information regarding housing, weather, and pre- and post-conference activities. It’s shaping up to be a great meeting! I’ll remind ASP members who have skills in the softball diamond to bring their gloves, as I understand that the Education Committee is organizing an evening of softball. When Sue Howell first raised the idea, she suggested “Old Farts” vs. “New Blood” as the teams. A colleague of mine at the University of Nebraska is an active researcher in the chemical senses, and her society routinely sponsors a softball competition between “Taste” and “Smell”. In this spirit (and to avoid injuries from selectively devastating one of the teams!) I suggested to Sue that we have a competition between Old World and New World, and see how that shakes out. I hope everyone can get in the spirit and participate!

I look forward to seeing many of you in Calgary!

Jeff French
INFORMATION FROM THE INTERNATIONAL PRIMATE SOCIETY

1) IT PAYS TO BE A CURRENT MEMBER — Please make sure that your members know that IPS members get a cut on registration for the congress (- 100 Euros less for members than nonmembers). It costs less to join IPS and pay registration as a member than to register without membership, no matter when you register. Dues are $40.00 annually ($20.00 for students); membership is also available on a gratis basis for those in the developing world unable to pay. Membership may be purchased at the time of registration (and the new member will receive the lower membership rate on registration).

2) SEEKING NOMINEES FOR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ELECTION — I am seeking nominations of candidates to run for elected office on the Executive Council in the next election. Nominations will close Sept. 1, 2003. The Elections Committee has the responsibility to construct a slate of candidates with two names for each office; we hope to do this on the basis of names proposed by the membership. To nominate someone for an office, please send to me by Sept. 1 2003 three things: a) the person’s name, contact details, and the office for which the person is nominated, b) confirmation that the person is willing to serve if elected, and c) a brief narrative (a page or less) explaining the person’s qualifications for the office for which he or she is being nominated. Nominees must be current members of the Society.

3) SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD — At the Torino Congress, for the first time, IPS will present a Lifetime Achievement. The Lifetime Achievement Award is to be given to a member of IPS for outstanding career contributions to research, conservation, education, and/or captive care and breeding of nonhuman primates, with attention to efforts with enduring international scope (in keeping with the international scope of our society). The recipient will be selected next April by the Awards committee, chaired by the President of the Society, and with the Vice President for Communications and three other members of the society as members. The recipient will be notified by April 30, 2004 of his/her selection and invited to attend the next Congress to receive the Award. Any member (current or past) of IPS is eligible for consideration except current members of Council. Please send your nominations for this award to me by September 1, 2003. Include the person’s contact details, and a brief letter (not more than 600 words) documenting the person’s attributes and accomplishments that make him or her a strong candidate for the award. Ask a second person (who does not need to be a member of IPS) to write a letter in support as well. Honor someone who has worked to support something that you care about!

4) ENCOURAGE YOUR MEMBERS TO JOIN IPS. KEEP YOUR SOCIETY AFFILIATED, AND KEEP YOUR VOTING RIGHTS ON COUNCIL — Societies must have 10% of their membership belong to IPS to remain affiliated. Affiliated societies with at least 50 members belonging to the IPS have voting status on the Executive Council of IPS. For diverse reasons, the Society has for years maintained many lapsed members on the membership rolls, but this practice has been stopped. Unpaid members have now been taken off the membership rolls. The down side of this streamlining action is that affiliated societies may lose that status, and affiliated societies that have previously had voting rights on Council may lose voting rights. For determination of affiliate and voting status at the August 2004 Congress, we will use membership figures from June 1, 2004. We hope we do not have to inform you next June that your society no longer enjoys affiliate status or voting rights. Membership enrollment may be done online using a credit card, in a very simple procedure; encourage your members to join IPS!

RECORDING OUR HISTORY

Once again, I would like to remind past Committee Chairs to send me their most important records from their tenure as Chair. I realize that these usually get passed on to the new Chairs, but copies would be fine. Please enclose a signed letter stating, in brief, what you are sending. I would encourage you to send any workbooks, reports, or other documents that may be important to the history of the Society. Current Committee Chairs, please keep this in mind for this year’s meeting.

Gabriele R. Lubach, Ph.D.
ASP Historian
Harlow Primate Laboratory
University of Wisconsin
22 North Charter Street
Madison, WI 52715
Phone: 608-263-3533
FAX: 608-262-6020
E-mail: grlubach@facstaff.wisc.edu

ASPIRING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Please help us document history as it is being made. If there are any aspiring photographers out there who are planning to attend the meeting in Calgary, please contact me if you would like to become an official ASP photographer.

Gabriele R. Lubach, Ph.D.
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Madison, WI 52715
Phone: 608-263-3533
FAX: 608-262-6020
E-mail: grlubach@facstaff.wisc.edu

ASP’S CONSERVATION FUND

Purchases made through Amazon.com association via www.asp.org provide money for our conservation fund. Here are the figures:

2002 fourth quarter referral fees: $83.13
2003 first quarter (through 4/1/03) referral fees: $68.86

Don’t forget to connect to www.asp.org when ordering books!
Behavior and Population Assessment of the Sulawesi Black Macaque (*Macaca nigra*) at the Tangkoko Nature Reserve, North Sulawesi, Indonesia

Deborah Ignatoff, Department of Psychology, University of Washington, Box 351525, Seattle, WA 98195. Email: ignatoff@u.washington.edu

The Sulawesi black macaque (*Macaca nigra*) is a species endemic to North Sulawesi, Indonesia, where populations are limited to fragmented areas of protected forest. Facing severe habitat degradation and hunting pressure, the species is currently classified in the World Conservation Union (IUCN) Red List as an endangered species (Hilton-Taylor 2000). Its range falls within a region classified by Conservation International as a biodiversity hotspot, where high concentrations of endemic species are undergoing extreme loss of habitat (Myers et al. 2000). Without increased efforts to conserve the remaining populations, this species will likely disappear in the wild.

A number of parks and reserves have been created in North Sulawesi to help protect the region’s unique biodiversity. Perhaps the best known of these is the Tangkoko Nature Reserve, a 3,200-ha protected forest which contains one of the largest remaining populations of black macaques and supports an extensive tourism program. The Reserve and its staff play an important role in the conservation of the species and the protection of its habitat. This research is part of an ongoing program in collaboration with Sam Ratulangi University (UNSRAT), the Primate Research Center of Bogor Agricultural University (IPB), and the Tangkoko Conservation Foundation (TCF) to monitor population status, evaluate potential limiting factors, and promote community awareness and involvement in conservation efforts.

The research was conducted during July and August 2002 in the Tangkoko Nature Reserve, located on the northeastern tip of North Sulawesi (see Figure 1). Line transect sampling was conducted during the morning along one transect (3.6 km; strip width=100m) which was previously cleared for population surveys. A total of 12 samples were completed with a total of 15 group sightings. The average group density was 3.5 groups/km². With an average group size of 9.7 individuals, population density was estimated at 33.8 individuals/km². This estimate of group size was likely low, given the difficulty of seeing all group members during an encounter. Extended observations of two social groups indicated that group sizes within the Reserve can reach or exceed 45-50 individuals. Current estimates of group density are consistent with findings over the last four years of monitoring at this site (Kyes, et al. 2000).

In addition to the population survey, preliminary data were collected for an extensive study of the behavioral and physiological impacts of tourism on this population. It is hoped that this research will indicate areas of improvement for tourist education and management at this site and others.

Outreach education efforts were extended to include courses for local tourism guides in English and primate behavior and conservation. Established at the request of the guides, the goal was to provide them with information that would make their skills more valuable to tourists, while promoting the spread of accurate and important information concerning the behavior and conservation of black macaques.

**Acknowledgments**

This research was supported in part by a generous grant from the ASP Conservation Fund. I would like to thank Dr. Randall Kyes and our colleagues at UNSRAT, IPB, and the TCF for their support throughout this project. Umar Paputungan, Jane Onibala, and Junus Daniel provided invaluable assistance and advice during the population survey. Special thanks are also extended to the park rangers and local guides in Batuputih for all of their help and support.

**References**


The brown howler monkey, *Alouatta guaraiba clamitans*, in a fragmented landscape in south Brazil

Soraya Ribeiro, Faculdade de Biociencias; Pontificia Universidade Catolica do Rio Grande do Sul; Porto Alegre, RS; Brazil. 2002 ASP Conservation Grant Recipient with Júlio César Bicca-Marques (Pontificia Universidade Catolica do Rio Grande do Sul)

The howler monkeys, genus *Alouatta*, present the largest geographic distribution of all neotropical primates, occurring in different forest types from southeast Mexico to northern Argentina and south Brazil. The subspecies *A. g. clamitans* (brown howler monkey) occurs in the Atlantic Forest of Brazil from the State of Espirito Santo and southeast of Minas Gerais to the State of Rio Grande do Sul. The Atlantic Forest, one of the world’s biodiversity hotspots, is home to a high number of primate taxa, many of which are threatened with extinction primarily due to habitat fragmentation and destruction. Only 7.5% of its original cover remains. In the State of Rio Grande do Sul, the situation is similar. The Atlantic Forest and its associated ecosystems covered originally 11,202,705 ha or 39.7% of the state’s area. By 1995 this forest cover was reduced to about 749,667 ha or only 2.7% of the state’s area. In addition, the remaining area of native forest is currently highly fragmented due to a strong human pressure in regions of agricultural, cattle-ranching, or real estate interest. For this reason, the brown howler monkey is listed as vulnerable in the List of Threatened Animal Species of the State of Rio Grande do Sul.

The brown howler monkey is a charismatic primate that can play a flagship species role for the conservation of the entire Atlantic Forest ecosystem in the study region. This species is part of the folklore of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, where it is sung in prose and verse and where there is a musical rhythm named after it (“bugio”) associated with the state’s culture.

Howler monkeys exploit a diverse and flexible diet composed mainly of leaves and fruits, which allows them to cope well with habitat fragmentation and anthropogenic environments compared to other neotropical primates. Notwithstanding, this high adaptability to forest fragments does not guarantee the long-term survival of small isolated howler monkey populations. In forest fragments, howlers are more vulnerable to hunting, predation by domestic animals, diseases, parasites, and other factors associated to their closer proximity to human settlements. In addition, the viability of such populations is likely to be compromised due to inbreeding depression. Therefore, to guarantee the long-term survival of the brown howler monkey in this fragmented landscape at the State of Rio Grande do Sul we will probably need to manage their populations at a metapopulation level. To carry out this task, information is needed on the biotic, physical, socioeconomic, cultural, and historical characteristics that determine the presence in or absence of howler populations from fragments. In this context, we conducted a study on the relationship between the presence/absence of *A. g. clamitans* populations in forest fragments and landscape traits (such as size, shape, distance, vegetation structure, and floristic composition of fragments), as well as social-economic-cultural aspects of the study area.

This research was conducted in the basins of Arroyos Taquari-Mirim and Pinheiros (Taquari-Antas River Basin). The Taquari-Antas basin is located at the northwest portion of the State of Rio Grande do Sul (28o10'-29o50'S, 52o38'W) and occupies an area of 26,428 km2 or 9% of the state’s territory. This river basin integrates the area of the Atlantic Forest Biosphere Reserve (recognized by UNESCO in 1993), which contains 18% of the state’s forest remnants. The sub-basins of Arroyos Taquari-Mirim and Pinheiros are located about 100 km from the state’s capital (Porto Alegre). The main land uses in these sub-basins are intensive agriculture and cattle-ranching. Gallery forests and fragments of Seasonal Deciduous Forest represent the last forest remnants in the region. Currently, these habitats serve as refuges for species of the regional fauna that are no longer found in similar environments in other regions of the State of Rio Grande do Sul. According to the State’s
Environmental Protection Agency (FEPAM), this ecosystem is not protected by any conservation unit in the study region.

We surveyed 10 small fragments ranging in size from 1.4 to 19.9 hectares (mean = 5.6 ± 5.7 ha). The distance between each fragment and the closest village varied from 0.1 to >5 km (mean = 2.2 ± 1.9 km). Fragments were also distant, on average, 2.1 ± 1.8 km from the gallery forests of the Arroyos Taquari-Mirim and Pinheiros (range: 28 m to >5 km). The distance between each fragment and its closest fragment ranged from <0.1 to >1.8 km (mean = 0.7 ± 0.7 km). More than 80 arboreal plant species were identified in the fragments.

Resident groups of brown howlers were found in four fragments, whereas the monkeys were temporary visitors in the other two, and absent from the remaining four forest patches. The size of the fragment had a negligible influence on the presence/absence of howler monkeys. The distance to the closest fragment also appeared to have no effect on the occurrence of howlers. However, the distance of a fragment to the closest village and the closest gallery forest appear to play a major role on howler population dynamics at the study region. The closest the fragment to a gallery forest, the higher its probability of being used by howlers. Fragments with resident or visiting howler groups are, on average, 0.3 ± 0.3 km away from the nearest gallery forest, while those fragments without howlers are located, on average, 1.8 ± 0.4 km from the closest gallery forest. These findings support the idea that the gallery forests function as source habitats from which individual howler monkeys can disperse to nearby fragments. On the other hand, the proximity to a village has a negative effect on the occurrence of howlers. Fragments without howlers are much closer to a village (mean = 1.0 ± 1.6 km) than those with resident or visiting groups (mean = 3.0 ± 1.7 km). This pattern is compatible with preliminary results from the social-cultural evaluation of the local population which indicates a low level of environmental consciousness, and the practice of hunting and logging in the forest patches closer to the villages.

Although the analysis of the relationship between the occurrence of howlers and other characteristics of the fragments is under way, the results shown above allow us to conclude that an understanding of the landscape spatial configuration and the distribution of fragments within the mosaic is crucial for an evaluation of the long-term viability of small populations isolated in fragments.

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**Fragments 9 and 10 are distant only 74 meters (Photo by S. Ribeiro).**

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**JEANNE ALTMANN IS ELECTED INTO THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**

On April 29th The National Academy of Sciences announced the election of 72 members in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Election to membership in the Academy is considered one of the highest honors that can be accorded a U.S. scientist. Jeanne Altmann, Professor, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J. was among the newly elected members. Jeanne is recognized for her research on the ecology and evolution of family relationships and of behavioral development, primate demography and life histories; parent-offspring relationships; infancy and the ontogeny of behavior and social relationships, and conservation. An article from the New York Times credited Altmann with being “instrumental in making the field of primatology less subjective and happenstance and more rigorously quantitative.” ASP would certainly agree with this since most of us reference Jeanne’s papers for our observational methods!

She received her Ph.D. at the University of Chicago. Jeanne is author of many books, book chapters and scientific papers in primatology; most notable her book: *Baboon Mothers and Infants, 1980, 2001*. Congradulations Jeanne! We are very proud of you and want to thank you for all you have done for primatology!
Sexual Selection and Reproductive Competition in Primates: New Perspectives and Directions

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Joe Erwin, who incorporated ASP in 1976, announced his retirement as of his 62nd birthday in April, 2003. He assures us that he will continue to “stir the pot” by maintaining and facilitating primate research and conservation collaborations, writing, lecturing, public service, and consultation. He continues to serve as Executive Director of the Foundation for Comparative and Conservation Biology and as Adjunct Professor of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology, Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech. He has been self-employed as a consultant since June, 2002. He had been employed since 1988 by BIOQUAL, Inc., a publicly held biotechnology and health sciences research company in Rockville, Maryland, where he was Vice President and Director of the Division of Neurobiology, Behavior, and Genetics. He had previously been employed by the National Geographic Society and the Chicago Zoological Society. Joe completed his Ph.D. in psychology (psychobiology) in 1974 at UC Davis under the supervision of Gary Mitchell, Bill Mason, and Don Lindburg, and did three years of post-doctoral research under the guidance of Jim Sackett and Orv Smith. He is Founding Editor of the American Journal of Primatology, and currently is on the editorial boards of Tropical Biodiversity, and the International Journal of Wildlife Policy and Law. PrimatLit currently lists 287 entries for Joe Erwin, including 9 books, notably the series Comparative Primate Biology (1980s), and Aging in Nonhuman Primates (2002). His consulting activities emphasize the following: (1) development and review of environment enhancement programs; (2) animal welfare act compliance; (3) innovative primate facility design; (4) data and tissue sharing programs; (5) research resource planning; (6) comparative gerontology and aging primate retirement programs; and (7) population status assessment and conservation program reviews. Dr. Erwin’s ongoing collaborative and advisory activities include the following: (1) the Great Ape Aging Project; (2) an Integrative Bioinformatics Initiative & Aging Primate Tissue Bank; (3) the Obesity, Diabetes, and Aging Animal Resource; (4) the Panther Tracks Learning Center; (5) the Alamogordo Primate Facility; (6) the Primate Aging Database; (7) the Sulawesi Primate Project in Indonesia; and (8) the Kinabatangan Orangutan Conservation Project in Malaysia. Joe and Nancy Erwin celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in March, 2003. Nancy, who was Managing Editor for AJP while Joe was Editor, continues her career as an editor for the National Science Teachers Association in Arlington, Virginia, where she has worked for nearly 15 years. Joe and Nancy enjoy hearing from the ASP family and they look forward to visiting with old (and younger) friends during the ASP meeting in Calgary and the next IPS Congress in Torino.

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Primates as bushmeat is by no means restricted to Africa. These pig-tailed macaques (*Macaca nemestrina*) were found raiding a rice field in Sarawak, Malaysia. They were shot, cooked, and eaten. (Photo by Elizabeth Bennett.)

Roadside sale of bushmeat, including white-nosed monkeys (*Cercopithecus nictitans*), on the road to Sembe in northern Congo (right, Photo by David Wilkie) and in Cameroon (below, photo by Samuel Fopa).

An Efe boy holds the carcass of an olive baboon (*Papio anubis*) in the Ituri Forest of northeastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). (Photo by Bryan Curran.)

An Efe man, butchering a monkey in the Ituri forest of DRC. The Efe are pygmy hunter gatherers. (Photo by Bryan Curran.)

A village hunter displays the carcass of a mustached monkey (*Cercopithecus cephus*), at the Dja River, Eastern Cameroon. (Photo by Anthony Rose.)

The day’s catch, including black & white colobus (*Colobus guereza*) was photographed at the now closed SFAC logging concession in northern Congo. (Photo by David Wilkie.)

For more information about the Bushmeat Crisis Task Force, visit www.bushmeat.org

Also, the *Bushmeat Quarterly* is full of news about BCTF and the activities of its Supporting Members. You can find the latest issue at: www.bushmeat.org/BQ.html
ASP and the Bushmeat Crisis

The Bushmeat Crisis Task Force (BCTF), established in 1999 by the American Zoological Association, combats the growing crisis of bushmeat hunting throughout Africa. To fund the Task Force, various zoos, non-governmental organizations, and societies were asked to become Supporting Members by contributing an annual fee of $5000. These funds provide salary support for the BCTF Staff as well as funds for a variety of the BCTF projects. The current staff, Heather Eves (Director), Natalie Bailey (Project Coordinator), and Andrew Tobiason (Information Services Coordinator) are housed at the AZA headquarters in Silver Spring, MD. There are 32 Supporting Member and 3 Contributing Member institutions/organizations. The American Society of Primatologists (ASP) initially joined as a Contributing Member, but increased its annual donation to the level of Supporting Member in 2001. By becoming a Supporting Member, we qualified to place in nomination a person to represent ASP as a voting member of the BCTF Steering Committee. Steering Committee consists of 11 voting and 11 non-voting alternates representing several categories of Supporting Membership and At-Large Membership. I was very fortunate to be elected to fill the voting seat for the “Species Protection” category, representing ASP in this role.

The BCTF’s primary goal is to facilitate the work of its members in identifying effective and appropriate solutions to the commercial exploitation of endangered and threatened species. This means that the BCTF staff conducts a variety of projects developed within the Task Force, but they also spend a large portion of their time serving as a source of information: fact-finding, developing linkages, developing fact sheets and other literature, working with the media, and helping Supporting Members in their bushmeat-related activities. The BCTF website is full of information; it is by far the best source of information on the bushmeat topic. In addition, there is a BCTF listserv that anyone can join to receive updated information and discussion about bushmeat in the news. ASP has an unusual role within BCTF. Because we are a professional society, we are made up of members, officers, and committees that function purely on a volunteer basis. Thus, unlike the NGO members of BCTF, we do not have personnel employed to carry out projects on behalf of ASP (and, thus, no one who specifically carries out anti-bushmeat activities on behalf of ASP for BCTF). Still, we play an important role as a source of information. We have been able to facilitate BCTF Staff and fellow BCTF Supporting Members in many ways, such as helping with the development of educational material, making referrals for habitat country contacts, and editing scientific content of BCTF material. The activities of BCTF are varied and impressive. Too much has been accomplished to detail it all here. I would like to highlight some of the most impressive work of BCTF (see below) and refer you to the web site for more information. Much has been achieved to combat the bushmeat trade, yet there is still much work to do. As BCTF enters its final year of operation for this five-year phase, we are discussing whether there will be a second phase and, if so, how we should move forward from this point. We welcome input from ASP members and invite you to become involved in this very important aspect of conservation. – Janette Wallis, ASP’s representative to the BCTF (janettewallis@sbcglobal.net).

Highlight of Some of BCTF’s Activities:

- **Bushmeat Information Management and Analysis Project (MAP)** – This is an exciting state-of-the-art project, incorporating information from a bushmeat hotspots survey and the latest GIS technology. It will serve as an interactive online resource.
- **The Bushmeat Promise** - This is an innovative way to increase awareness in the western population as well as enlist the promise of African nationals to fight the bushmeat crisis. Visit the web for more details on how you can sign the promise.
- **African Wildlife Colleges Bushmeat Curriculum Development** - BCTF has worked with the three regional wildlife colleges in Africa to develop bushmeat-related course material for their students. This project will have a major impact on conservation across the continent.
- **Media Coverage & Advocacy** - Bushmeat receives an enormous amount of news coverage due to the work of BCTF. (See “Activities” on the web site.)

ASP/BCTF/FAQ

What is bushmeat?

“Bushmeat” is any wild meat derived from wildlife species, a number of which are threatened and endangered. Commercial hunting for the meat of wild animals has become the most immediate threat to the future of many wildlife species.

Is this just about primates?

No. Those of us who are primatologists tend to focus on how the bushmeat crisis affects nonhuman primates, but the fact is that many species are illegally and/or unsustainably hunted for food.

What about the people?

The focus on the bushmeat hunting’s impact on animals has led some question whether BCTF takes into consideration the needs of humans. Absolutely! The bushmeat crisis is a crisis for all species living in the affected areas, most especially our own. We often refer to the fact that, if we don’t act quickly, there will be “many empty forests and many hungry people.” The BCTF’s mission is to find ways to assist humans in finding alternative food sources and/or hunt in a more sustainable fashion.

Why the focus on Africa?

The BCTF was initially formed as a response to the overwhelming problem in Africa and the focus has remained heavily directed on that continent. However, bushmeat is a problem throughout much of the world, particularly in primate habitats of Asia and the New World. Current financial constraints prohibit a wider official focus, but it is hoped that the BCTF’s mission will broaden to include all source countries. Naturally, ASP is supportive of BCTF expanding its focus and the ASP’s Conservation Committee carries out conservation activity that includes all nonhuman primates.

What can I do to help?

You can donate additional funds to the ASP Conservation Fund, encourage the Conservation Committee and ASP Board to continue financial support of the BCTF, donate directly to the BCTF, sign the “Bushmeat Promise” (see box), or suggest new ideas for action by the Conservation Committee. In fact, during this year’s annual meeting of the ASP Conservation Committee, members will be asked to develop additional ways ASP can become more active in addressing the bushmeat crisis. If you have ideas, please feel free to suggest them!
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Calgary 2003

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