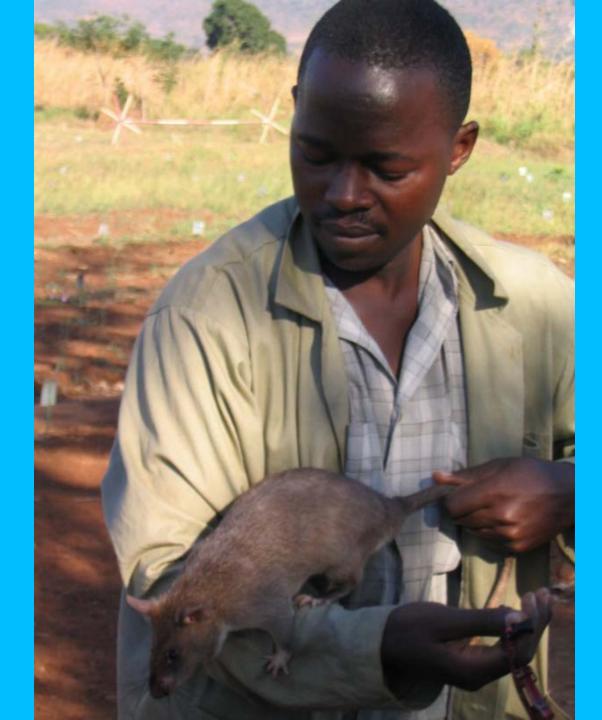
# Personal and Cultural Factors in Human-Animal Interactions in the Laboratory

Cynthia Pekow, DVM, DACLAM, CPIA Veterans Affairs Puget Sound Health Care System









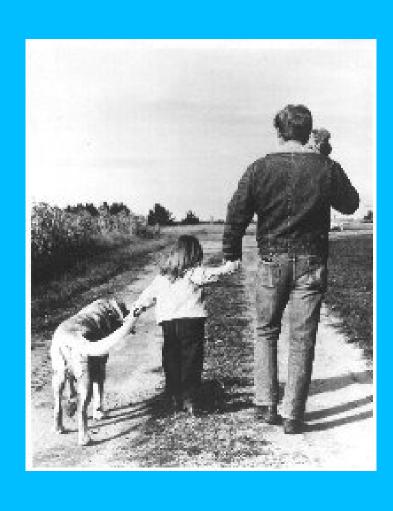


#### Animals provide:



- Companionship
- Protection
- Status
- Entertainment
- Sport
- Food & Fiber
- Assistance
- Labor
- Research subjects

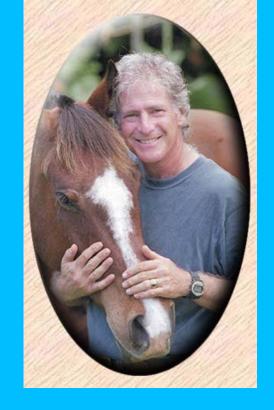
#### Human-animal relationships



- Views:
  - Cultural/religious
  - Upbringing
  - Experience































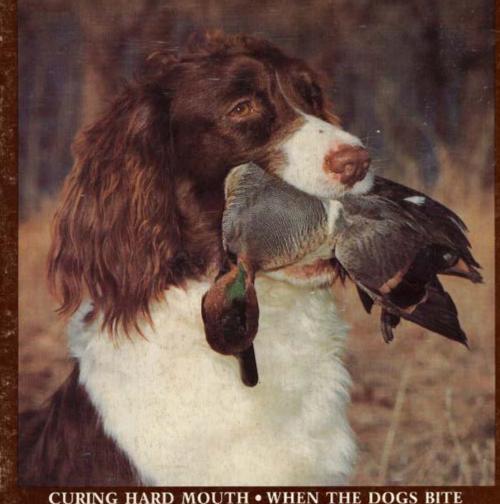


THE MAGAZINE OF UPLAND BIRD AND WATERFOWL DOGS

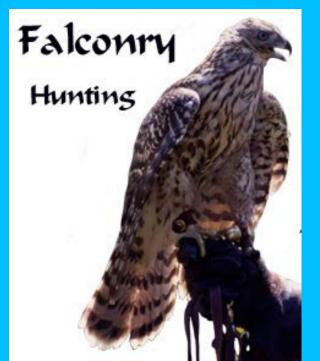
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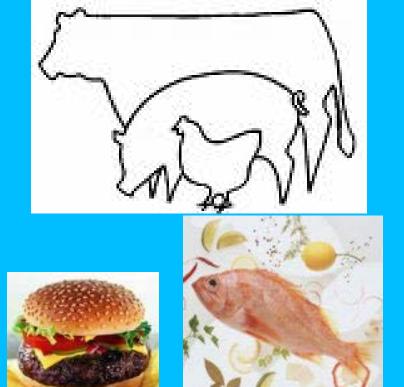
VOLUME 9, NUMBER 3, \$3.50





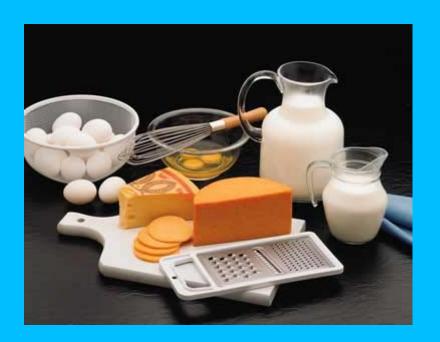
CURING HARD MOUTH • WHEN THE DOGS BITE THE RATTAILED RETRIEVERS • REINFORCING STEADINESS





















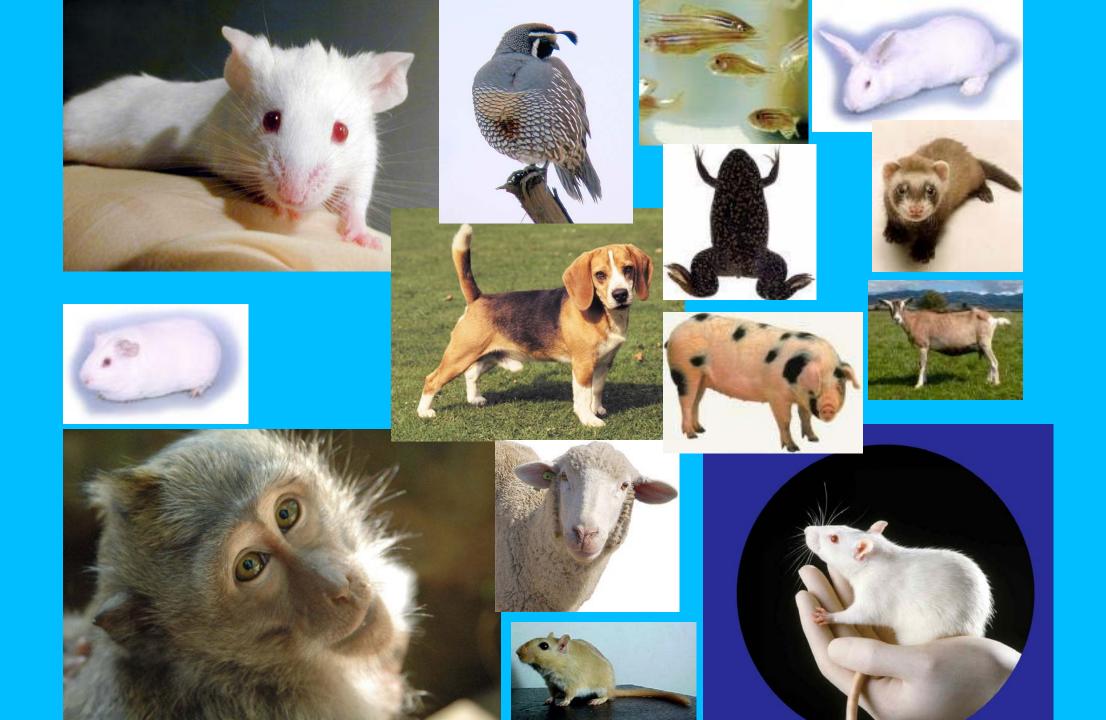








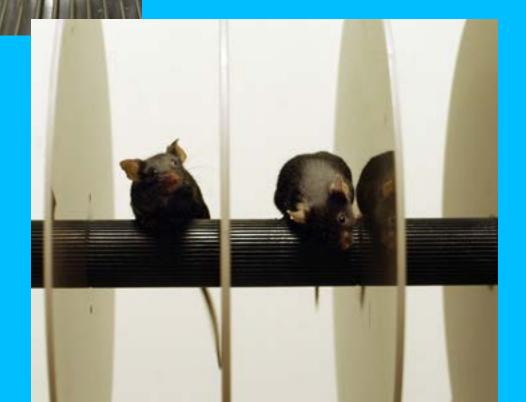












#### Who is working in the laboratory?



- Animal caregivers
- Veterinary staff members
- Supervisors/managers
- Researchers/technicians
- IACUC members
- Administrators
- Housekeepers
- Engineers
- Security personnel
- Supply staff

## Reasons for choosing to work in a lab animal facility

- Affinity for animals
- Steady job, benefits
- Knew others working at the site
- Training provided, entry level





## Human-Animal Relationships in the Laboratory

- Species
- Length of contact
- Types of interactions
- Culture of the facility or laboratory





## Individual Evolution of Human-Animal Relationships in the Laboratory

- Rural, agricultural background
- Family experience with animals









### Individual Evolution of Human-Animal Relationships in the Laboratory

- Health
- Parenthood
- Loss
- Pets
- Friendships
- Family
- Religious beliefs



#### **Culture of Care**

- Compassion\* and respect for animals
- and people
- Concern to prevent distress, suffering
- Staff enabled to improve care, well-being
- Understanding purpose and value
- Goes beyond what is legislated
  - \*Kindness, caring, willingness to help others

## In Sum: Human-Animal Relations in the Laboratory

- Are influenced by
  - Cultural/religious background
  - Life experience
  - Up-bringing
  - Species of animals
- Relations may change
  - Influence of family, friends
  - Changes in health, relationships
- A good Culture of Care is inclusive
  - Promotes human and animal well-being

