



The Wildlife Watch Binocular

PO Box 562, New Paltz, NY 12561

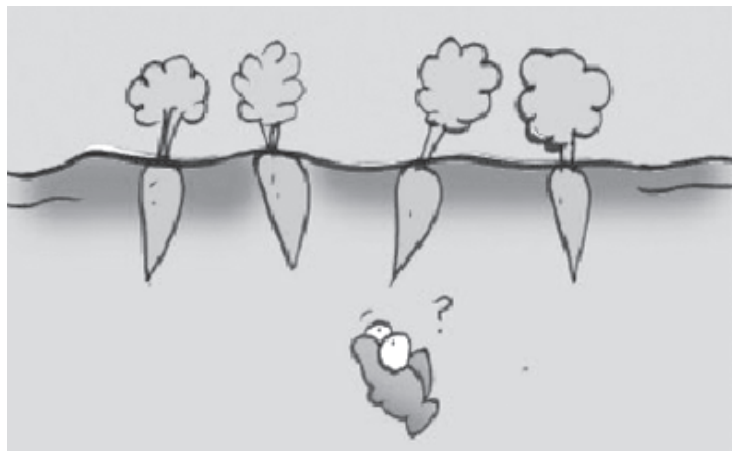
Spring 2007

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LAND-WISE WATER FARMING

By E.M. FAY

Most things except agriculture can wait.
Jawaharlal Nehru

Photo <http://www.auri.org/news/ainapr03/images/elsefish.jpg>

One of the most pressing problems confronting mankind right now and even more in the future is the production of sufficient quantities of food to nourish a rapidly expanding population. Part and parcel of this dilemma is calculating the most efficient utilization of available lands for maximum crop yield, without destroying the fertility of the soil and still preserving wild lands. Fortunately, there are innovative farming techniques, already in limited use, that may be the salvation of both the human race and the countless animal species who are dependent upon the dwindling natural lands currently imperiled by traditional farming methods.

In the days of pre-scientific agriculture, a good harvest year allowed 6 people to produce enough food for 10, including themselves. The rudiments of farming, knowledge of soil types, irrigation, and planting schedules, were basically passed from farmer to farmer by word of mouth. Such contingencies as drought, crop disease, and insect infestations were generally thought to be erratic and unstoppable. Thanks to the advances of technology in recent centuries, now one typical American farmer can produce enough food for 100 people. Some of nature's depredations can be ameliorated, if not completely controlled.

Most of the world's farming operations, however, still rely on the availability of open land, be it terraced rice paddies, hillsides, or vast, sprawling plains. Nutrients in the soil used for planting are also essential, as are sufficient quantities of water and sunlight. These vital components for farming are not only extremely variable from region to region, but are critically affected by the farming operation itself. Continual re-use of the same land, no matter how rich it was to begin with, depletes the stored nitrogen, potassium, and assorted other

minerals necessary for healthy crops. Crop rotation, fertilizers, and letting fields lie fallow periodically in order to replenish themselves aid considerably in keeping agricultural land productive, but the need to conserve soil moisture and nutrients is an ongoing problem as long as soil farming is our principal means of food production.

ENTER HYDROPONICS AND AEROPONICS

Whereas the prevailing planting method is to put seeds in the ground, allowing the developing roots to take in water and nutrition from the soil itself, hydroponic and aeroponic farming do not require any soil for growing. Hydroponic farming (from the Greek for water + labor) is the cultivation of plants in nutrient-enriched water. As it is difficult to hold the plants upright in water without mechanical support, an inert medium such as sand or gravel is often used for an anchorage. The supportive material also helps to aerate the water, as plants need oxygen, too.

Fertilizing solution is pumped into the water periodically. Fertilizer may contain nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, mag-

Photo: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/graphics/photos/nov98/k8157-171.jpg>

nesium, sulfur, and calcium, the exact mix depends upon the specific needs of each plant type.

Aeroponic farming is a close cousin to hydroponics, except with this method, roots are misted with nutrient solution, not unlike what happens

in nature with orchids, which grow on trees in damp climates without their roots in soil. An aerated mist can deliver nutrients to the plants just as water does in hydroponics. This method provides more oxygen to the plants than aqua-culture does.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES?

The vessels containing the plants and water may be set up in a greenhouse or other structure. It does not have to be on virgin land by any means. An already developed, i.e., paved-over, piece of land is usable. Because the necessary fertilizing elements are taken in in a prescribed manner, via the water/fertilizer solution, the plants do not have to send their roots out as far as they would in soil, and so will have a more compact, efficient root system. Therefore, the farmer can place the plants more closely than he would in the earth, saving space and growing more product in a given area.

There are no competing weeds in the hydroponic system, nor soil-borne insects, nor toxic residues from contaminated soil. Water conservation is another advantage, as the hydroponic system recycles the water to a certain extent; the US EPA says that only one-tenth of the water used in irrigated agriculture is used with hydroponic farming. Also, conditions of fertilization can be changed quickly when needed, merely by adjusting the feeding solution.

Hydroponics is a labor-saving method. Where many hands are needed to till the soil and spread fertilizer, and an extensive irrigation system has to be laid out, just one person can easily monitor and regulate the automatic pumping system in a hydroponic greenhouse.

Hydroponic farming is less likely to be affected by drought, flooding, or cold weather than soil farming. Birds and some bugs will not have easy access to the farmer's plants if they are indoors. The environment can also be controlled for humidity, according to what plant is being grown. Perhaps best of all, pesticides are less necessary with indoor farming. And bees may still be utilized, as some farmers ship bees in to pollinate their hydroponic plants.

At present, most hydroponically farmed food in the U. S. comes from Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico. (Ironically, we import more from Holland, Mexico, and Canada than we grow.) Some crops that do well

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Endangered In NYS, Short-Eared Owls Bring Joy

By BONNIE FOLNSBEE



Photo by Bonnie Folnsbee

What is man without the Beasts? If all the beasts were gone, men would die from a great loneliness of spirit. For whatever happens to the beasts, soon happens to man. All things are connected.

Written by Chief Seattle,
Suquamish Indian Tribe

I have been privileged to witness many owl sightings over the years. When I hear of a sighting my husband and I pack up and hit the road. We have been to Amherst Island in Canada for our first glimpse of Boreal Owls and nesting Long-eared Owls. We have traveled to Ottawa to see Great Gray Owls and to various other places in search of a glimpse of the birds that I hold so dear to my heart. It was no different when I headed to Fort Edward in Washington County, or so I thought. I was not prepared for the awesome sights in those fields. Our first sightings were of three Rough-legged Hawks hunting and hovering in the fields, they are an Arctic hawk which will head south during the winter in search of better hunting grounds. And we began spotting the Northern Harriers, which often co-exist with Short-eared Owls, they were everywhere we looked, I stopped counting after twenty.

Finally it happened, immediately after turning left onto Blackhouse Rd, in Ft. Edwards, NY (Washington County) I spotted the unmistakable silhouette of a Short-eared Owl in a tree — and that was just the beginning. As the day began moving towards evening, the owls were becoming more active and they were everywhere. Everywhere you looked you saw the moth-like flutter of Short-eared Owls.

Tiny pines would seem to explode as up to six owls would

suddenly take flight at the same time. They perched on posts and trees, utility poles, hay bales and in peoples yards on their trellis's and swing sets. I couldn't help but wonder if the people in their homes realized the privilege they had been given. What I wouldn't give to be able to stand by my home and witness this spectacle every day! These owls seem to be able to gather together and find prime hunting ground in the winter, the prairie-like grassland fields full of the prey necessary for their survival.

Short-eared Owls are on the New York State Endangered Species list. They are ground nesters, and will nest in fields shared by Northern Harriers who are also ground nesters. Northern Harriers are on the New York State Threatened Species list. The odds are already stacked against these ground nesters as predators often find it very easy to raid the nest of eggs or babies. The unknowing farmer who mows his field can wipe out a nest. Unfortunately, it's an unavoidable tragedy. But the major blow to the population of these birds is loss of habitat, the vital farmlands and grasslands which they need to hunt and nest are all too quickly disappearing, usually due to development.

I consider myself fortunate in that I have gotten to see this rare gathering of so many birds of prey. I have been back to Ft. Edwards two more times, and the Short-eared Owls have not disappointed me. I watched as four of them sat on hay bales alongside the road. They were soaking up the sun, squinty eyed, and they almost seemed bored with our presence. I can't help but wonder what it would be like to sit next to one of these beau-

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LAND-WISE

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with hydroponics are tomatoes, strawberries, lettuce and other leafy vegetables, cucumbers, herbs, peppers, eggplants, and flowers.

CHALLENGES

Whether installing an enclosed greenhouse operation in a cold climate, or only an overhead covered area in a mild climate, start-up costs for hydroponic farming are substantial. Heating and humidity systems are costly, and one has to test the growing solution frequently. Then, too, greenhouses are not immune to all of nature's vicissitudes: they can be damaged by high winds or hail. However, in the long term, the financial outlay is well offset by savings. In *Seeing Green Under Glass*, 1996, T. Rosselle said, "Production on one greenhouse acre is equivalent to that on 8-10 acres with long-term production costs being much lower."

A considerable amount of technical knowledge is necessary to running a successful hydroponics or aeroponics enterprise. If any of the electrical systems - water pump, heating - fail, the plants can die more quickly than they might in soil. And fertilizing agents must be continually monitored. Greenhouses cannot keep all pests out, of course. Whiteflies can attack tomatoes indoors as well as out. The USDA has had some success in dealing with foliage pests by introducing beneficial predatory mites.

FUTURE PROSPECTS
Hydroponics is not new. Historians believe that the famed Hanging Gardens of Babylon had plants growing in a steady stream of water. U.S. troops stationed in barren areas of the Pacific during WW II grew fruits and vegetables hydroponically. Today, the USDA is growing strawberries at a research center in West Virginia, trying to stay ahead of a coming ban on methyl bromide. Methyl Bromide (MeBr) is an odorless, colorless gas widely used in agriculture to control soil-borne pests. By using alternative cropping methods, such as hydroponics and soil-less culture...growers in the Netherlands have successfully eliminated the risk of infestation by soil-borne pests, while increasing crop yield and quality." Calif. Dept. of Food and Ag. Bromide Task Force, 1995). They completely phased out the use of methyl bromide as a pesticide over a period of 12 years.

Hydroponic and aeroponic farming could well be a substantial boon to wildlife as well as people. As a larger volume of food can be produced not only in less space, but on already de-

veloped property, then less natural land will need to be cleared for farming. That means more habitat left for wildlife. Less pesticide use has obviously positive implications for all of us on earth. And there is an automatic reduction in pollution with less transporting of produce from other countries; with ripe strawberries coming from Maine in January, why ship them in from Mexico?

Considering that soil-less farming has proven itself viable over many years, and given the conflicting demands of increased food production and habitat preservation, surely the time has come for us to encourage both our government and the farming community to take seriously the many benefits of hydroponics and aeroponics.

To learn more go to: <http://disneyworld.disney.go.com/wdw/parks/tourDetail?id=BehindTheSeedsTourPage&bhcp=1>

E. M. FAY is a freelance writer and editor who specializes in animal protection, the environment, and politics. She is Associate Editor of the *Wildlife Watch Binocular*.



Photo http://www.waterencyclopedia.com/images/wsci_01_img0014.jpg

Update On The Catskill Game Farm Cats

Tammy Quist wrote: For the last three and a half months, the Catskill Game Farm Cats have called The Wildcat Sanctuary home. Considering their upbringing in a captive setting, we never imagined how unsocialized these cats would be toward humans. We'll never know the trauma they went through to distrust humans so much. They continue to make progress every day and every day we see them feeling comfortable and at ease.

Mia and Max, two of the cougars, still look frightened when humans approach. Thankfully, with consistent care and feeding, Trista, our newly hired Animal Care Specialist, has started to gain their trust. Mia loves her treats of boxes filled with catnip. **Matty, the third cougar**, anxiously chirps for her breakfast and dinner.

Shazam, the leopard, postures and growls but grows calmer everyday.

Aslan, Asha and Shanti Deva, the lions, play out a continuous soap opera since



Shanti Deva

Aslan can't decide on just one girlfriend!

Since their arrival, just before the holidays, we became aware of many health issues with the seven wildcats. Most had parasites; from coccidian (microscopic parasites) to tape worms. Shanti Deva became ill shortly after arriving. Vets and staff spent several stress-filled days treating her, watching and waiting, until seeing signs of improvement. All the Catskill cats are doing better, their physical wounds healing more each day. Both female lions are showing remarkable re-growth of fur over old facial scarring. We hope that with time and patience their emotional wounds will exhibit the same amazing recovery.

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Please see the great news about how you can help with even larger enclosures for all of the cats AND the on-site wildlife hospital!!!! <http://wildcatsanctuary.org/whatsnew/new.html>

Short-Eared Owls

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ties on the hay bale and have a conversation with him or her, as though they were human. I think they would ask what all the fuss was about, and as hard as I would try to explain, I don't think they would understand. For I think a Short-Eared Owl is a rather humble creature who just goes on with his life instinctually, trying to survive and keep the

species going. Or, more likely, it's I who do not understand. I think for the pleasure of his company, the least we can do is find ways to help them along.

Bonnie Folnsbee, Adirondack Foothills Wildlife, Poland, NY – Bonnie is a wildlife rehabilitator in Poland, NY. www.afwcowls.com



Photo by Bonnie Folnsbee

Short-eared owls are an endangered species in NYS. The owls showed up in an area termed the "grasslands" in Fort Edwards, NY. The area is slated for development. Sadly, development is the biggest reason for their decline, as it results in habitat loss.

The Devastation Of Wildlife Caught In Fire

The following excerpt is one of the first news accounts we've seen showing concern for wild animals caught in fire. We hope this becomes a trend in reporting on disasters.

Mama bear, baby bear rescued:

Amid the firefighting, authorities described the rescue of a bear and her cub. "They had apparently fled the fires, and the mother bear was on the ground by a tree guarding her cub, who was 65 feet in the air," said Karen Parker of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

A specialized team managed to dart the mother and the cub, who fell from the tree into a large tarp set up to catch her.

The mother's paws are badly blistered and she may have some lung damage; the cub was dehydrated, Parker said.

The 3½-month-old cub was rehydrated and is "doing fine," Parker said, while the adult bear is in guarded condition with concerns about lung damage.

Parker said officials found a lip tattoo on the mother bear, indicating she was being tracked, and learned she is 18 years old.



Anne and Peter Muller of Wildlife Watch will be visiting **Friends of the Bears**, a bear sanctuary in Canada. **Stan Pabst** has the most amazing place and has been protecting bears for decades. We will be leaving early August. Here is Stan with one of his babies: You can visit Stan and Will at www.friendsofthebears.ca If you would like to join us for this informal visit to Parry Sound, Canada, please contact us by e-mail: wildwatch@verizon.net Join us in speaking to the Department of Tourism about protecting the bears.

The Satisfaction Of Helping Wildlife

By Casey

Ever wonder about helping a wild animal in distress? In the past, I had been advised against it, but I had a recent experience that changed my feelings about that.

For the last seven springs (and probably longer) a pair of Canada Geese have come to my pond to make their nest and lay their eggs. There is a small island in the center of the pond that makes a seemingly safe place for a nest. I say "seemingly" because most years the eggs or the goslings don't make it. I never really know what happens, but I can guess, since snapping turtles, foxes, coyotes and bob cats live here too. Once the offspring fail, the goose couple leaves. I rarely see them the rest of the year, but, like clockwork, every spring, they return to try again. I think of them as my ephemeral and tenacious neighbors.

One morning this spring, after the nest was built, eggs were laid, and the female had started sitting on the nest almost round the clock, I woke up and saw the male frantically swimming around the island and the female was not on the nest. On the shore of the island I saw what I initially thought was a dead fish, belly up. But, on closer inspection, I realized it was the female, on her back. I was sure she was dead. Then, out of the corner of my eye I saw movement. Her leg kicked and she lifted her head a bit. I hated to see her suffering, but I didn't see

her move again and thought perhaps it was her last burst of energy. I had to leave for work and planned to make calls during the day to inquire about removing the dead goose.

When I arrived back home the goose was still on her back and to my horror, still moving! I felt awful. How could I have left her there suffering? At this point the male, her constant companion, was on the shore right next to my canoe. He was looking at me and then looking at her. I made frantic phone calls to no avail. Finally I reached Wildlife Watch and spoke with Anne Muller. She gave me three contact numbers, one of which was Dr. Barbara Clayton in Pine Plains. I tried her home number and she answered right away. I quickly told her my story and the first thing she asked was, "did you try to flip her over?" To that I responded "no." And she said, "Well, don't you think you should?" Well, of course, but I was afraid of being bitten, either by the female or the very large, healthy and protective male. Barbara assured me that they would not hurt me and calmly but emphatically advised me to simply roll her over. Barbara suspected that the goose would then swim away. She seemed quite confident of this outcome and it was only after I asked, "what if the bird is not ok?" that Barbara matter-of-factly said I could bundle up the goose and drive it to her home. She then cheered me on with "you can do

it" and I proceeded to prepare to get in the canoe and flip the goose. I brought my cell phone, gloves and a towel for wrapping the goose if I needed to. (The thing I forgot to do was to change my shoes to boots, which would have prevented soggy socks.)

When I approached the canoe the male slowly moved into the water and quietly swam to the opposite shore, away from me and away from the island and his mate, but keeping a close eye on what was unfolding. I had the distinct feeling that he knew that I was there to help, and he wanted to give me space to do so. I paddled out and pulled the boat up on the tiny island. The goose picked up her head a bit and moved her foot. She made one very quiet sound and then seemed quite calm (or was she frozen in fright?). I slowly got out of the canoe and with my gloved hands I reached under the goose and she instantly flipped over in the water and proceeded to swim toward her mate on the opposite shore. By this time it was just about to get dark. I could see her reach him and knew I did all I could for the night. Still standing on the island, next to the nest with 5 eggs, I called Barbara. She shouted, "Hooray! You did it! You see, you too can save wildlife! And now you know what to do if something like this ever happens again."

The next morning, the two geese were together exactly



where I left them the night before. The female was sitting in the grasses close to the water as the male stood by her side. I decided to paddle over to the far shore and, although she was able to scoot away a bit she seemed unable to fly or walk. I called Barbara again and again took her advice and purchased some cracked corn at Agway to place near the geese. The eggs were lost due to exposure to cold evening temperatures and, although I initially worried, I had to keep in mind the Canada Geese are not an endangered species!

I invited my friend Fe, a wildlife photographer, to accompany me to deliver the corn and take a few photos. We then left the couple together on the shore. When I returned that evening they were still sitting facing each other. They stayed like that for quite a while and then at one point the male moved closer and sat right next to her. Shortly after that, I was having my dinner outside and I looked up and was thrilled to see them both standing, the female eating the cracked corn I had left. Next thing I knew, they both started walking into the woods. The male led the way and the female slowly followed. I caught this just before it was completely dark.

The next morning, there was no sign of either of the geese. I guessed that they found a safe and secluded place nearby for her to continue to recuperate. Later



The Happy Ending

in the evening they appeared again, walking in the woods beyond the far shore of the pond, never going in the water. Each day it seems the female goose progressively gets better and this morning the two of them were swimming at the edge of the pond. But, they continue to keep away from the island. I am sure they "know" that the eggs have failed and perhaps whatever traumatic experience that left the female in that precarious situation is also in her mind. The male continues to be by her side, a devoted mate.

Had I not spoken to Barbara that first evening, I might not have mustered up the courage to rescue the goose. Each day as I watch her improve, I am so happy that I did, not only because of the good feeling derived from helping a creature in distress, but for the opportunity to closely observe a touching and impressive devotion between male and female.

The Unheeded Cry for Help

By Marilyn Leybra



I got a call tonight through the Wildlife Watch phone number in Rockland County. It was from a woman in Nanuet who said there was a bird outside her apartment

door who was just hopping back & forth and not flying. The woman wanted me to come to get the bird because she was afraid to touch "it." So, at 7PM, I can't believe I went in these horrific road conditions, it was crazy, but I found her, in this huge apt. complex, Avalon Gardens, on Smith Road in Nanuet.

The bird was laying dead right outside her door by the time I got there. He had ice on his little feet. Guess what the scary bird was...a robin!! The little guy flew all the way up here just in time for today's snow storm! The good part is

that the nice lady had bought a cooked chicken for dinner, and she said she couldn't eat it and will NEVER eat a bird again! I know she was speaking truthfully, because a pizza delivery guy showed up at the same time I did. She was distressed over the robin and gave me \$25. However, I did get stuck in a snow bank trying to get back into my driveway. No big deal, I'll get out tomorrow.

Don't fear wildlife – please help when you can. This is a very sad account of someone who was afraid to help a little robin.

Eye on the News

Burgers Beat Beemers In The Warming Stakes

The U. N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization reports that international meat production causes more greenhouse gas production worldwide than transportation. This startling fact is largely caused by human's ever-increasing consumption of hooved animals.

The manure created by the animals we eat emits nitrous oxide, which gives off 296 times more warming than carbon; while methane from bovine digestive tracts "has a warming effect that is 23 times as great."

Simply put, each person who becomes a vegetarian can reduce their Acarbon footprint@ by 1.5 tons of CO2 per year.

To read more, go to:
http://www.time.com/time/specials/2007/environment/article/0,28804,1602354_1603074_1603171,00.html



Photo from USDA

The Wildlife Watch Binocular is published quarterly by Wildlife Watch Inc., a 501 (c) 3 Not-for-Profit Corporation. Contributions are tax-deductible. P.O. Box 562, New Paltz, NY 12561. Phone: 845-256-1400; Fax: 845-818-3622; e-mail: wildwatch@verizon.net; Website: www.wildwatch.org, Anne Muller – Editor. Letters, article submissions and photos are welcome for consideration.

Another Happy Ending For A Canada Goose:

A Letter to Wildlife Watch

Hi. Hope you got my recorded message on your phone, but just in case, thought I'd let you know that the "injured" goose and her mate both flew away in good shape after my husband got close to them (barking like a dog) and scared them away. I guess sometimes aggression can be a good thing. (?) Thanks so much for your caring and concern, especially early on a Saturday morning. It's good to know that someone else out there cares about our wildlife. Thanks again. Diana Kutka

1-877-WILDHELP
OR 1-877-945-3435



Wildlife Watch maintains a **Wildlife Help Hotline** to help humane folks who have found an injured or orphaned wild animal. We maintain lists of wildlife rehabilitators throughout the country. We will do our best to help you find the wildlife care professional closest to you.

R.O.C.K. - REHABBERS OFFER CARE AND KINDNESS

The Passing Of Sara Whalen Of Pets Alive

We are immeasurably saddened by Sara Whalen's passing, both personally and as animal protectors who brought Sara some of our rescues (who didn't?). At Sara's behest, we also adopted a wonderful dog named Chyna. Sara's absolute revulsion over cruelty and killing, including medical euthanasia for the sake of expedience, motivated Sara to endlessly expand Pets Alive to accommodate those who so desperately needed a place to lay their heads and keep their precious lives. Sara spared no expense to provide veterinary treatment to all of her charges.

If an animal protection statue of liberty were erected, it would have Sara's face, and the engraved poem would be as it is on that mighty lady who stands proudly in NY harbor:

*Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning
to breath free.
The wretched refuse of your
teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless,
tempest-tossed to me.
I lift my lamp beside the
golden door!*
Emma Lazarus, 1883

Sara looked into their eyes, and saw this "wretched refuse" as precious life.



Chyna (Jelly)

On a personal note, Sara gave us a precious gift when she asked if we would take Chyna (Jelly). She explained that the husband of a couple was threatening to kill her. Sara took in the cases of extreme abuse or illness, paying for their veterinary care. In fact, she asked us to adopt Chyna directly from the vet where she had brought her to be neutered and given her shots. Chyna became a very special member of our family for over nine years. We did not have the heart to tell Sara that our girl, Chyna, passed away (two years ago).

When Wildlife Watch became

involved with a large abandoned farm rescue, Sara took most of the animals from Nightmare Farm. We recently found the two little twins Tuffy and Lacy at Pets Alive from that rescue. Here's Tuffy as a baby, (below) and Tuffy today (to the right). The twins are together.



Tuffy's baby picture while still at Nightmare Farm.

Their story can be read at <http://www.all-creatures.org/cash/cc2001-sp-farm.html>.

Then, just recently, in late 2006, Sara at Pets Alive took many of the Catskill Game Farm rescues: Famous Shriek and Nudga among them.

Anyone who watched Sara in action with the animals she so loved knew the sincerity of her devotion to them. It was motherhood at its very best. Sara said "yes" when others said "no."



Tuffy today at Pets Alive/Best Friends



Lacy today at Pets Alive/Best Friends. They are both together.

Around 1998, we made a video of Sara at Pets Alive. Sara takes us on a tour of Pets Alive and gives us a medical and social history of many of the animals. As she explains the animal's condition, she also talks about the broader problems of the abuse of that species or category of animal. Wildlife Watch would be willing to share the VHS tape with anyone who would like to see it. We, of course, will retain the copyright, but would be happy to send it for our direct costs of reproduction and shipping. Kindly let us know if you would like a copy. You can e-mail us at: wildwatch@verizon.net.

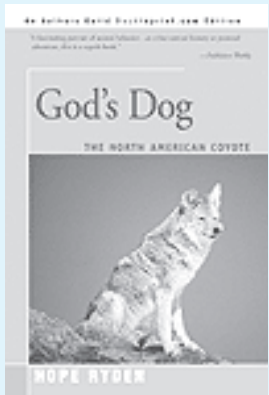


WILDLIFE WATCH CATALOG

GOD'S DOG

We were happy to learn from Hope Ryden that her amazing book, *God's Dog*, is available once again. We encourage you to read it and give it to others to read. Ask libraries to order it, and give it to friends for holidays and birthdays. It will be a gift that will last a lifetime, for it will change the readers' perspective of coyotes forever.

"Full of charm and tenacious inquisitiveness as the appealing animal she pleads is allowed to live."—*The Washington Post*.
\$24.95 or \$20.95 members.



God's Dog : A Celebration of the North American Coyote by Hope Ryden

Wildlife Watchers Should Know About :

CAW OF THE WILD: Observations from the Secret World of Crows by Barb Kirpluk order by calling 1-800-Authors (1-800-288-4677) www.iuniverse.com published in 2005.

Kirpluk is masterful at describing her observations and interactions with these intelligent animals. She broadens our understanding of the species by deepening our connection with the individuals who comprise the species. CAW OF THE WILD is a MUST READ!

This book was sent to us by **Rita Sarnicola of CROW** (Citizens Respectful of Wildlife) in Auburn, NY. Please contact Rita and Joe Sarnicola for a professionally produced DVD of crow ecotourism in Auburn: jsarn@adelphia.net



Best Friends At Pets Alive:

What better solution to a terrible loss than for Best Friends to be at Pets Alive and take over the daily operations. Let's hope this excellent Utah-based sanctuary turns Pets Alive into its east coast branch.

We are so relieved that we were given the opportunity to ID Tuffy and Lacy who were twin babies when we first rescued them.

So many of the animals will now have the continued support and care that only Best Friends can provide with their huge staff and volunteer force.

Wildlife Watch is extremely grateful that they have stepped in to continue to organize and expand Sara's dream.

For allowing us to ID Tuffy and Lacy, and some pigs, our special gratitude goes to **Linda Brink** who is now in charge of pig and parrot adoptions for Best Friends at Pets Alive, and **Kerry Clair**, Manager of Pets Alive/Best Friends who was a close friend of Sara's and is now in charge of just about everything there.

Ken Larson and Barbara Larson who raised these potbellies from babies accompanied the editor of the Binocular to Pets Alive and took the following photos.



Photos by Ken Larson

The above photos are of the Catskill Game Farm potbellies who are now at Pets Alive/Best Friends.

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