

Spring-Summer 2011

Volume 21, Number 1



Poultry Press

Promoting the compassionate and respectful treatment of domestic fowl

Celebrating 21 years of dedicated activism for domestic fowl



UPC# 11656

**United Poultry
Concerns**

P.O. Box 150
Machipongo, VA
23405-0150
(757) 678-7875
FAX: (757) 678-5070

Visit Our Web Site:
www.upc-online.org



Photo: Susan Rayfield

From rotting in cages to roosting in branches, former battery hens enjoy life at United Poultry Concerns. Despite thousands of years of domestication, chickens are essentially the wild jungle fowl of their ancestry, with the same cravings for lush soil, trees, and activities suited to the tropical forests they originated in. May is International Respect for Chickens Month. Let people know how beautiful and "green" chickens truly are.

Exclusive Interview with Poultry Welfare Pioneer Karen Davis, PhD

The Internet publication Free from Harm published an Interview with UPC president Karen Davis in February 2011. Following is a selection from the interview, which can be read in full at <http://freefromharm.org>.

Q. In your opinion, what are the most effective ways to address poultry welfare issues?

A. As advocates we must continually educate ourselves about the animals we seek to help. In the case of chickens, we must inform ourselves not only about the conditions they endure on factory farms – the darkness, crowding, filth, diseases, mutilations, brutal handling, boredom, and so on – but about who they are when they are not suffering and being abused. When we learn about the natural life of chickens, their complex social relationships, their devotion to one another and their young, their intelligent abilities to enjoy and defend themselves, and all of the vigor and vibrancy of their lives in their own world of Chickendom, then something of the nature and depth of their suffering in industrial captivity can be communicated.

We need to help people understand that merely being outside of a cage or shuffled about in a movable pasture, while better than the most severe forms of confinement, does not constitute a humane or satisfying life for chickens. Despite thousands of years of domestication, chickens, even with traits bred into them for meat and egg production, are essentially the wild jungle fowl of their ancestry, with the same cravings for lush soil, trees, and activities suited to the tropical forests they originated in. Chickens in the natural world as well as feral chickens like those in Key West, Florida spend most of their time raising and protecting their families. Roosters, far from being bloodthirsty fighters, are basically family men, devoted to their hens and chicks. And, yes, they will defend their families to the death if necessary, as will a mother hen.

This said, I think the best way to address poultry welfare issues is by combining an affirmative animal rights-vegan advocacy with efforts to improve conditions for the billions of birds who will never live to see a vegan world. I believe we owe it to the birds to do what we can to make their lives less miserable through legislation and public pressure, and to hold the industries that own them accountable. Left to itself,

animal agriculture has no morality. Decades of reading farming publications and attending poultry welfare meetings have taught me that people who raise and slaughter animals do not respect or empathize with animals but regard them solely as resources put here by “God” or Nature to feed and glorify humans.

Unfortunately, there is little we can do to help animals trapped in food production: it simply is too vast, hidden, and complicated to regulate or even monitor. Even as we work for reforms like banning battery cages for laying hens, which I think we should do, but without overstating what can actually be accomplished, the reality of an expanding population of nearly 7 billion people consuming 50 billion terrestrial animals each year and countless billions of sea animals means that the only true way to animal welfare (to animals *faring well*) lies in eliminating the demand for animal products in favor of vegetarian – vegan – food.

There are lots of things we can do to get people to care about animals and stop eating them. I think the most important thing is to stand up for animals and never, ever apologize for them or for caring about them. If there is one theme that has occupied me ever since I became an activist in the 1980s, it's the lack of confidence that often surfaces when advocates face the public. I call this failure of nerve, conveyed through anxious, self-deprecating speech, “the rhetoric of apology in animal rights.” Replacing the rhetoric of apology with a confident rhetoric of affirmation for animals and a compassionate vegan world is vital. A vegan world is a place without slaughterhouses and animal slavery. It is a place where the fellowship of animals is valued, and the dignity of their lives and feelings is respected. Never say the public “isn't ready.” Our task is to make people ready. “The Rhetoric of Apology” can be read at

www.upc-online.org/thinking/rhetoric.pdf.



International Respect for Chickens Day May 4, 2011

“Please do an ACTION for Chickens in May!” A message from Ruby & Ivy

“Dear Friends,

INTERNATIONAL RESPECT FOR CHICKENS DAY, MAY 4 is an annual project launched by United Poultry Concerns in 2005 to celebrate chickens throughout the world and protest the bleakness of our lives in farming operations – including ‘cage-free.’ The entire month of May is International Respect for Chickens Month!

Please do an ACTION for chickens on or around May 4. Ideas include leafleting on a busy street corner, holding an office party or classroom celebration, writing a letter to the editor, doing a radio call-in, tabling at your local church, school or shopping mall, hosting a vegan open house, or simply talking to family, friends or strangers about the plight – and delight – of chickens and how people can help us.

Thank you for sticking up for chickens! Please make every day Respect for Chickens Day. We count on you!

Sincerely,

Ruby the hen & Ivy her foster chick”

UPC will leaflet for chickens in front of the White House Saturday, May 7, 2011. We'll provide banners, posters & brochures. All we need is YOU. Please join us.

Time: Noon to 3pm

Location: Lafayette Park & Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC



You can purchase materials advertised in the Merchandise section of *Poultry Press* by sending your check or money order to UPC. Order by credit card at www.upc-online.org/merchandise/. For the International Respect for Chickens Day posters pictured on this page, go to www.upc-online.org/merchandise/poster.html.

UPC Petitions Florida Department of Education to Stop Classroom Animal Slaughter

“You can see more of that at Hawthorne High.” –High school student Patrick Dougan

On April 15, 2009, two students at Hawthorne High School, in Alachua County, Florida outside Gainesville, bashed a live chicken to the ground, videotaped the episode, and posted it on the Internet. Meanwhile, students inside the school tortured chickens to death in an orgy of classroom cruelty, including decapitation and neck “popping,” under the eye of Future Farmers of America teacher, Allen Shaw. The YouTube video shows Robert Gordon bashing a chicken, while Patrick Dougan says “Rip him apart” and “This is animal cruelty.” They laugh as the chicken flops to death on the ground.

Dougan and Gordon were arrested and charged with animal cruelty, and UPC president Karen Davis was set to testify at their trial, but the charges were reluctantly dropped by the State Attorney’s Office on technicalities. The video that sparked the law enforcement investigation can be seen at www.upc-online.org/hawthorne/.

Fueled by this episode, UPC president Karen Davis and executive director of Humane Educators Reaching Out (HERO), Susan Hargreaves, filed a *Petition for Agency Action* with the Florida Department of Education on March 9, 2011. The *Petition*, prepared by animal law attorney Adam P. Karp, seeks “promulgation of new or clarified rules for humane treatment of animals and banning animal slaughter in K-12 classrooms pursuant to the statutory mandates of Florida education law.” In a press release, Karp explains that while “Florida’s progressive educational system seeks to safeguard the humane treatment of animals,” the abuse of chickens at Hawthorne High School shows “systemic failure by educational leadership” to implement the law, and justifies the petitioners’ demand for discipline of former Hawthorne High School Principal Robert Craig and FFA teacher Allen Shaw.

“Bullying and violence are rampant in Florida schools,” says HERO director Susan Hargreaves, who conducts humane education programs in Florida classrooms. “The Hawthorne High School killings are a



direct and dangerous contradiction to the work of all humane educators,” she says, noting that pigs, chickens and other animals are used in Florida schools in ways that create an attitude of cruelty and disrespect.

To publicize the *Petition* and the issues involved, UPC president Karen Davis, HERO director Susan Hargreaves, and attorney Adam Karp hosted a Rally with Florida activists at the Orange County Courthouse on March 31 in Orlando. “We want an end to animal abuse in Florida schools and implementation of Florida’s humane education laws,” said UPC president Karen Davis in a press release on March 24. “The orgy of cruelty in Allen Shaw’s class led directly to the torture of a living creature outside the classroom. Instead of learning to be kind to animals, students were taught to be cruel. This is not what students should be learning from their teachers.” The 79-page *Petition* can be read at www.upc-online.org/fldoepetition.

What Can I Do?

Urge Florida officials in charge of public schools to implement Florida's humane education laws and prohibit the harming and killing of animals in Florida classrooms. Implore them to ensure that no situation akin to the animal cruelty and butchery conducted at Hawthorne High School takes place again in a Florida school. Request a written reply to your concerns.

ERIC J. SMITH
 Commissioner of Department of Education
 Office of the Commissioner
 Turlington Bldg., Suite 1514
 325 West Gaines Street
 Tallahassee, FL 32399
 Phone: 850-245-0505
 Fax: 850-245-9667
 Email: commissioner@fldoe.org

W. DANIEL BOYD, JR. & BOARD MEMBERS
 Superintendent of Schools
 Alachua County Public Schools
 620 E. University Avenue
 Gainesville, FL 32601
 Phone: 352-955-7300
 Email: supt@gm.sbac.edu & boardmembers@gm.sbac.edu

VEITA JACKSON-CARTER
 Hawthorne Middle/High School Principal
 Hawthorne High School
 21403 SE 69th Avenue
 Hawthorne, FL 32640
 Phone: 352-481-1900
 Fax: 352-481-4859
 Email: jacksonvl@gm.sbac.edu

United Poultry Concerns, Humane Educators Reaching Out & Animal Rights Foundation of Florida Rally for Humane Education in Florida Schools



UPC president Karen Davis talks to Fox TV reporter at Rally.



Far left: Attorney Adam Karp. Far right: Susan Hargreaves (HERO) & Karen Davis (UPC)

Chicken Killers Charged With Animal Cruelty by Contra Costa County DA

Teenagers Strangled to Death Two Hens at El Monte Elementary School in November

Photo: *Contra Costa Times*



On December 1, 2010, three teenage boys were arrested for strangling to death two hens, Linny and Maxine, who were living peacefully in their coop with two other hens at El Monte Elementary School in Concord, California. The school custodian found the hens on the morning of November 24.

Because the offenders are juveniles, the District Attorney's Office cannot release their names; however, the case has been assigned to Deputy District Attorney Jennifer Tompkins, who assured UPC in a recent phone call that the DA has filed charges against all three juveniles. The case is being taken very seriously, she said, and rehabilitative counseling is involved. Under CA Penal Code 597, a person is guilty of cruelty to animals who maliciously and intentionally maims, mutilates or wounds a living animal, or maliciously and intentionally kills an animal.

Ms. Tompkins said the DA's office has received many letters from around the country urging prosecution of the killers of Maxine and Linny. UPC thanks everyone who responded to our Action Alert in the last issue of *Poultry Press*! Thank you for being a vigorous advocate for the birds!

Poultry Press

is published quarterly by United Poultry Concerns, Inc., a national nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization incorporated in the State of Maryland. Federal I.D.: 52-1705678

EDITOR:
Karen Davis

GRAPHIC DESIGN:
Franklin Wade

UNITED POULTRY CONCERNS, INC.

OFFICERS:
KAREN DAVIS, PhD,
President-Director

LIQIN CAO
Vice President-Director

DEBBIE ALEKNA
Secretary Treasurer-Director

WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR/
GRAPHIC DESIGNER:
FRANKLIN WADE

OFFICE ASSISTANT:
RONNIE STEINAU

SANCTUARY ASSISTANT:
SEV BURKHEAD

ADVISORS:
Carol J. Adams, Author
Holly Cheever, DVM
Mary Britton Clouse,
Chicken Run Rescue
Sean Day, Attorney
Clare Druce, Chickens' Lib
Sheila Schwartz, PhD,
Humane Education
Committee of NYC
Veda Stram,
www.All-Creatures.org
Kim Sturla, Animal Place

In Memoriam: **Henry Spira**,
Animal Rights International

Would you like to do more to help the birds?
Just go to www.upc-online.org/email and sign up to
BECOME A UPC E-SUBSCRIBER!
News updates, action alerts, upcoming events and more!

Freddaflower Memorial & Appreciation Fund

We thank those people who have contributed to our work with recent donations *In Loving Memory and in Honor and Appreciation* of the following beloved family members and friends:

My donation is in honor of my two hens whom I recently lost, Little Girl and Bella. They meant more to me than I can truly express with words. They brought me tremendous joy in life and losing them tragically and suddenly has been a lot to bear. Chickens are so special to me and when you lose them they take a piece of your soul with them. I love you Little Girl. I love you Bella. I will never forget you ever. – *Mary Lapara*

My donation is in honor of Whitney Hillman, her mother Kristina Frost, and Chicklett the rooster whom Whitney saved from being slaughtered at her school. Whitney has my admiration and deepest thanks for saving Chicklett, and her mom is to be commended for supporting her decision. – *Marilee Meyer*

Our donation is in memory of Amelia, the beautiful turkey who lived happily at UPC for 4 years until her legs could no longer support her body and she had to be euthanized by UPC's veterinarian in the sanctuary yard on March 22. Everyone who met Amelia loved her. – *Liqin Cao & Franklin Wade*

Dear UPC, thank you for taking such good care of our dear hen, Starlight. I hope she is resting in peace. – *Joanne Douglas*

My donation is in honor of my best friend, my rescued hen Egglentine, or Eggins for short. Keep up the hard work, UPC. I don't know how you can do it without always having tears in your eyes. – *Chris Becker*

This donation is in honor of my grandsons Earl and Carl Perry for the love and care they give their chickens. – *Wendy Perry*

In honor of Nero, Fredericka, Julie, Nathaniel, Leonard, and Bertha, remembered forever and sadly missed. – *Paul Deane*

My gift is in honor of All God's Creatures. – *Brien Comerford*



Sweet and Gentle Amelia

A LEGACY OF COMPASSION FOR THE BIRDS

Please remember United Poultry Concerns through a provision in your will.
Please consider an enduring gift of behalf of the birds.

A legal bequest may be worded as follows:

I give, devise and bequeath to United Poultry Concerns, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation incorporated in the state of Maryland and located in the state of Virginia, the sum of \$_____ and/or (specifically designated property and/or stock contribution).

We welcome inquiries.

United Poultry Concerns, Inc.
P.O. Box 150 • Machipongo, Virginia 23405-0150
(757) 678-7875



Karen & Mr. Frizzle ©2008 Davida G. Breier

Misery In Every Mouthful

Chickens are cheerful, sociable birds who evolved in the forests of Southeast Asia and India. Chickens raised for food never feel the sun or soft grass or see the sky. They never know the comfort and peace of a mother hen's wings.

During their 6 weeks of life before they are slaughtered, baby chickens live in dark sheds on manure-soaked floors breathing poisonous fecal fumes that burn their eyes so badly they rub their hurting eyes with their wings and let out cries of pain.

When they are 6 weeks old the chickens are grabbed, peeping loudly and terrified, and thrown into transport crates. Inside the slaughterhouse, they are hung upside down and dragged through cold, salted electrified water that paralyzes their muscles, to keep them from struggling in their pain and terror. They are tortured with electricity and knives. They are Not stunned.

"The chickens hang there and look at you while they are bleeding. They try to hide their head from you by sticking it under the wing of the



chicken next to them on the slaughter line. You can tell by them looking at you, they're scared to death."-Virgil Butler, former Tyson chicken slaughterhouse worker

Millions of chickens are scalded alive each year in the United States. In tanks filled with boiling water, "the chickens scream, kick, and their eyeballs pop out of their heads," said Virgil Butler, who quit the chicken business and became a vegetarian because, he said, "I could no longer look at a piece of meat anymore without seeing the sad, tortured face that was attached to it sometime in the past."

When one is about to consume the body of a dead bird, one should think about the misery and terror endured by the bird when she or he was alive, as well as the suffering that remains in the body once the bird is dead.

You can do a compassionate deed for chickens & a less violent world starting today by adopting a heart healthy vegan diet. For more information including delicious recipes, contact: United Poultry Concerns @ www.upc-online.org.



Six-week old female chickens about to be tortured to death by Tyson



New Newspaper Ad!

United Poultry Concerns is running this full-page ad in the University of Maryland, College Park student newspaper *The Diamondback* in the special Maryland Day issue April 29 and the Finals Week issue May 12, as part of our International Respect for Chickens Day outreach program.

New Bus Ad!

Also in May, our new "What Wings Are For!" ad (see top of next page) will be on display on buses in the Washington DC Metro Area.



New Method of Torturing Chickens to Death: DECOMPRESSION

By Karen Davis, PhD, President of United Poultry Concerns

**“The Old Town Grain & Feed bar sits on Garrison Avenue in Fort Smith, Ark., a strip of saloons swelling as much with music as with moisture from the Arkansas River.” --
*Meatingplace, October 2010***

Fort Smith is a town where a chicken slaughter and processing company called OK Foods is located, and the saloon strip is where its workers hang out after work. OK Foods is where a decompression technology called “low atmosphere pressure system,” or LAPS, was commercially introduced in 2010 under the guidance of poultry researchers at Mississippi State University who are conducting LAPS experiments on young chickens and calling the decompression system “humane.”

As described in a May 7, 2009 U.S. patent application for a LAP decompression system, the birds are placed in a sealed cylindrical chamber and the pressure in the chamber “is reduced at a continuous rate to a target decompression pressure for a period of time until a state of death is obtained. The low atmosphere pressure slaughter is more humane than traditional slaughter techniques and results in excellent meat quality.”

The “traditional slaughter techniques” refers to the standard commercial slaughter plant method of dragging

chickens, turkeys, ducks and other birds, clamped by their feet upside down on a conveyer belt, through cold, salted, electrified water, designed to paralyze the muscles of their feather follicles in order to loosen their feathers and immobilize them on the assembly line, prior to cutting their throats with electric blades. Contrary to the poultry industry’s claim that electrical stunning is “humane,” it has been established for decades that the birds are excruciatingly tortured with the electricity, which immobilizes them in total agony.

The Mississippi State research team says their LAP decompression system is also more humane than the system of sealing chickens and turkeys in chambers filled with varying combinations of carbon dioxide, argon, nitrogen, and oxygen. These gases, according to the LAPS patent application, can produce “grand mal seizures in the birds, suggestive of extreme pain.” (A gas “stun/kill” method is provisionally supported by some animal welfare proponents as being “less cruel” than the paralytic electrified waterbath, which, given a choice, is probably true.)

The American Humane Association supports LAPS decompression of poultry. By contrast, the American Veterinary Medical Association calls decompression “unacceptable for euthanasia.” The *AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia*, June 2007, explains: 1) decompression can occur at a rate that causes “pain and distress attributable to expanding gases trapped in body cavities.” 2) Young animals can tolerate oxygen deficiency for longer periods than older animals, thus taking longer to die.

(continued) New Method of Torturing Chickens to Death: DECOMPRESSION

- 3) Accidental recompression can occur whereby an animal injured by decompression regains consciousness.
- 4) Bleeding, vomiting, convulsions, urination, and defecation can occur in “unconscious” animals.

Decompression Sickness

Decompression sickness is a collection of symptoms arising from the decompression of a body as it is being depleted of its oxygen supply, causing gases that are normally dissolved in solution in the blood to form painful gas bubbles. Depending on the rate of decompression and other factors, these bubbles disrupt cells, block circulation, compress and stretch blood vessels and nerves, and cause “barotrauma.” Barotrauma is an injury to the middle ear, sinuses, gastrointestinal tract and lungs resulting from the body’s inability to equalize its internal air space pressure with the reduced pressure surrounding it. In *Disaster Medicine*, Hogan and Burstein state that in the process of being decompressed, “The ears and paranasal sinuses may become exquisitely painful from sudden overpressurization” of the gases

trapped within.

In humans, decompression sickness is a risk for underwater divers rising to the surface from deep water below and for aircraft passengers ascending to thinner air. Many people have experienced the painful “crackling” in their ears as the airplane mounts to higher altitudes. Fortunately technology, unless it malfunctions, prevents further pain and distress.

But imagine that, instead of being protected from decompression trauma, you are locked in a cylindrical drum like the one pictured here, as the air is being sucked out while you die. This is the experience the Mississippi research team and the American Humane Association are calling a “humane” death for 6-week old chickens, and that the LAPS patent application recommends for every type of bird killed for human consumption: “The methods of the present disclosure may be adapted for use on any type of poultry, including, but not limited to, chickens, turkeys, quail, geese, ducks, ratites, and combinations thereof.”



Recall that among its objections to decompression, the AVMA lists the ability of younger animals to withstand oxygen deficiency for longer periods than older animals, causing them to die more slowly, yet the LAP system at Mississippi State and OK Foods is purposely designed to decompress birds who are only a month and a half old – the average age at which chickens are slaughtered for human consumption. All birds, from turkeys to quails killed for human consumption, are YOUNG.

Decompression of Homeless Shelter Animals

The September 2010 edition of *Animal People* has an article about the American Humane Association's approval of decompressing chickens in slaughter plants. *Animal People* points out that the language of the AHA's 2010 LAPS endorsement recalls an article, published in 1950, through which the association endorsed decompressing homeless dogs and cats to death for more than 20 years. Notwithstanding, in 1972 the city of Berkeley, California banned decompression as inhumane. Other cities followed, and by the end of 1985, *Animal People* says "decompression was no longer used to kill shelter animals anywhere in the U.S."

However, chickens and other birds defined as poultry and destined for slaughter have no refuge from the extremities of torture in the U.S. or anywhere else in actual practice. Birds in the United States are excluded from federal Animal Welfare Act regulations, and poultry are excluded from the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act – neither Act protects the animals it covers anyway. And as I note in *Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs* on page 151, the European Union, despite its reputation as a paragon of farmed animal welfare progress, allows among other cruelties a vacuum chamber "for the killing without bleeding of certain animals for consumption belonging to farmed game species (quail, partridge, and pheasant)." The birds are "held in groups in transport containers which can be placed in the vacuum chamber designed for that purpose." When I asked animal slaughter researcher, Mohan Raj, what birds in a vacuum chamber are likely to experience, he said the loss of pressure would be "extremely painful" to their ears.

Decompressing Chickens for Human Consumption

An expert in bird physiology at high altitudes, Dr. Ole Naesbye Larsen, says rapid decompression will likely cause a bird's eardrums to bulge and rupture. The ears of birds are extremely sensitive, and I've noticed how chickens bred for meat production, especially, will often shake their heads repeatedly in the presence of high pitched music, as if it hurts their ears. Birds entering a commercial slaughter plant come from densely polluted poultry houses. They suffer as a result from respiratory infections that are likely to intensify the excruciating pain produced by their rupturing eardrums, collapsing lungs, and expansion of gases in their bodies in the decompression chamber.

The researchers gloss over the subjective details of decompression. They distinguish between "rapid" versus "slow" decompression to argue that "slow" decompression is "humane," but what exactly is "slow"? The birds are subjected to varying rates of decompression in numerous experimental treatments. Cut through the lingo and it appears the chickens are taking up to 4 minutes to be pronounced dead, and some of them are not dead even by then. Whatever the researchers decide, when it comes to commercial slaughter plant implementation, processing speed will be dictated by economics – exactly as it is now.

Watching the birds die through infrared monitors, the researchers drop their engineering vocabulary to report euphemistically, for example, that in one of the experiments, "only 2 birds exhibited wing flapping as a part of the death process; the other birds simply lay down and died peacefully." They falsely equate the inability of the birds to stand or hold up their heads ("loss of posture") with slipping comfortably into unconsciousness ("died peacefully") similar to the way the poultry industry and its research teams since the 1930s have equated paralytic immobility with insensibility in birds dragged through electrified water in conventional slaughter plants. But these perceptions are deceptive. As if all this isn't enough, here is how the researchers prepare the chickens for the LAPS experience they're about to undergo in "Example 3":

(continued) New Method of Torturing Chickens to Death: DECOMPRESSION

To begin, electrodes were attached to the skin of 56 broilers so that a Type II electrocardiogram (ECG) based on Einthoven's triangle could be recorded. Additional electrodes were attached to skin overlying the skull at the base of the comb of the bird to record electrical activity of the brain as an electroencephalogram (EEG). The electrodes were connected to a telemeter which sent radio waves to a receiver that was hard wired to a PC-data acquisition system. The birds were placed one at a time into the decompression chamber described in the Test Methods section, and the pressure was lowered to 21.4 kPa (23.57 inHg gauge) over a lapse time of 37 seconds. The low pressure was maintained for 50 seconds (hold time).

Cause of death: "simultaneous crushing of both lungs."

Conclusion

The decompression experiments described in the patent application and the *Journal of Applied Poultry Research* are being conducted simultaneously with electricity experiments, gassing experiments and countless other experiments that will continue throughout the world as long as people continue to eat animal products. Experimenting on chickens and other "food" animals is as much a part of the animal production industry as slaughter plants are. The only way to end the suffering and abuse is to stop eating animal products, adopt a compassionate vegan diet, and get others to join you. The alternative is endless repetitions of merciless cruelty and helpless suffering of the type depicted in the LAPS patent application:

General observations of slaughter under the various treatment conditions were as follows. At the onset of decompression, most birds were in the sitting position. Some birds would stand up as soon as air started exiting the chamber. Within a few seconds, some birds would exhibit one or two head shakes, defecate, raise their contour feathers; all birds became

ataxic [unable to coordinate their muscles in voluntary movement], and then lost postural balance and became recumbent on the floor of the cage, either lying on their sides or backs. At this stage, flapping of the wings began by some birds accompanied by a low, guttural moaning in all treatments, except Treatment 3. It should be noted that the moaning was not considered a vocalization for purposes of determining the subjective slaughter score.

Please remember these birds and how they died. Remember how they are dying every single day, tortured and afraid, helpless and alone at the hands of experimenters and slaughterers without mercy, merely so people can eat them. Burn your knowledge of their suffering into the brain of everyone you know. Every bite of a bird is a mouthful of misery. VEGAN IS THE ONLY SOLUTION.

References

Animal People, "American Humane Association approves decompressing chickens," Sept. 2010.

AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia, American Veterinary Medical Association, June 2007, p. 35.

Cheek, et al. "New Method for Humanely Stunning and Slaughtering Poultry Using Controlled Low Atmospheric Pressure," *United States Patent Application Publication*, May 7, 2009.

Davis, Karen, "Decompression – now the AHA-approved way to kill chickens," *Animal People*, March 2011, p. 4.

Davis, Karen, *Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry*, Book Publishing Company, 2009.

"Decompression illness," *Wikipedia*.

Heckman, Kellie, "A Review of the Use of Low Atmospheric Pressure as a Means of Slaughtering Poultry," PETA, Feb. 2009.

Hogan, David E., and Jonathan L. Burstein, eds, "Mechanical Injury with Rapid Decompression," *Disaster Medicine*, 2007.

Pulley, Stephen A., "Decompression Sickness," *EMedicine*, Sept. 17, 2009.

"Stepping Up: A revolutionary broiler stunning system

pushes OK Foods into new territory," *Meatingplace*, Oct. 2010.

Vizzier-Thaxton, et al., "A new humane method of stunning broilers using low atmospheric pressure," *Journal of Applied Poultry Research*, 19:341-348, 2010.



STOCK CONTRIBUTIONS

Dear Friends,

Several of our members have made financial contributions in the form of stock to United Poultry Concerns through our securities account. We are deeply grateful for these gifts, and anticipate more in the future. There are two obvious benefits in making stock contributions. Please consider these advantages in making your future gifts to United Poultry Concerns.

Donors may give as much stock as they want to a nonprofit organization without impinging upon their estate. By giving this way, they avoid paying a capital gains tax on their assets, because they are gifting their assets.

The benefits to the nonprofit are obvious. In giving a gift of stock, you enable the nonprofit of your choice to grow and do more. It's as simple and important as that. Everyone wins.

United Poultry Concerns has a securities account with UBS Investment Center. For information on how you can donate to us this way, please call 877-827-7870, and a member of the UBS Advisory Team will help you. You may ask to speak directly with Rachel Tomblin or Earl Singletary.

From United Poultry Concerns and all our Feathered Friends, we thank you for helping to ensure our future!

Sincerely,
Karen Davis, Ph.D., President

PLEASE, JOIN US TODAY!

We NEED Your Strong and Continuing Financial Support

New Membership **\$35** 2011 Membership Renewal **\$30**

Membership includes our quarterly *Poultry Press* Magazine to keep you informed on current issues, and how you can get involved in many other ways. If you would like to support us by credit card, please go to our website at www.upc-online.org and click on DONATE to make your donation. It's that easy!

Additional Tax-deductible Contribution:

\$20 \$35 \$50 \$100 \$500 Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make your check payable to United Poultry Concerns. THANK YOU!

Are you moving? Please send us your new address.

Do you want to be removed from our mailing list? Please tell us now. The U.S. Postal Service charges UPC for every returned mailing. Remailing the magazine costs UPC an additional sum. Due to the enormous cost of remailing, we can no longer provide this service. Thank you for your consideration. Please keep up your membership. We need your continuing financial support.



United Poultry Concerns
PO Box 150 • Machipongo, VA 23405-0150

VEGAN RECIPE CORNER

Moroccan Spiced Chickpea Soup

Recipe courtesy Dave Lieberman, FoodNetwork.com

Yield: 6 Servings

Ingredients:

- * 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for garnish
- * 1 large onion, medium diced
- * 6 to 8 garlic cloves, pressed
- * 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- * 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- * 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- * 1 heaping teaspoon sweet paprika
- * 1 (14.5-ounce) can chopped tomatoes
- * 3 (15-ounce) cans chickpeas, drained and rinsed well
- * 1 quart vegetable broth
- * 1 teaspoon sugar
- * Salt
- * Freshly ground black pepper
- * 1 (5-ounce) package pre-washed baby spinach

Directions

Heat olive oil in a large pot over medium-high heat. Add onion and garlic and saute until the onions begin to turn translucent; lower heat if browning starts to occur. Add spices and saute a minute or so. Add tomatoes, chickpeas, broth, and sugar. Season with a couple pinches of salt and 10 grinds fresh pepper. Stir well. Chickpeas should be just covered with liquid. If level is shy, add some water so the chickpeas are just covered.

Bring to a simmer, then lower heat to low and gently simmer for 1 hour.

Remove soup from heat. Stir in the spinach and let heat through until wilted, just a couple minutes.

Season again, to taste, with salt and pepper.

Serve soup, drizzled lightly with extra-virgin olive oil, if desired.



Photo: Liqin Cao

POSTCARDS

20 for \$4.00, 40 for \$7.50



"Love is Best"



"Peaceable Kingdom"



"Chickens - To Know Them is to Love Them"



"Misery is Not a Health Food"

FACT SHEETS

20 for \$3.00:

- "Viva, the Chicken Hen / Chickens Raised for Meat"
- "Jane-one tiny chicken foot"
- "Starving Poultry for Profit" (forced molting)
- "Poultry Slaughter: The Need for Legislation"
- "Why Be Concerned About Mr. Perdue?"
- "The Rougher They Look, The Better They Lay" (free-range egg production)
- "Intensive Poultry Production: Fouling the Environment"
- "Philosophic Vegetarianism: Acting Affirmatively for Peace"
- "The Rhetoric of Apology in Animal Rights"
- "Providing a Good Home for Chickens"
- "Chicken Talk: The Language of Chickens"
- "Celebrate Easter Without Eggs"
- "Chicken for Dinner: It's Enough To Make You Sick"
- "Guide to Staffing Tables: Do's & Don'ts"
- "Assume No Animal Products are Safe"

- "Henny's New Friends"
- "Avoiding Burnout"
- "The Life of One Battery Hen"
- "Bird Flu - What You Need to Know"

BROCHURES

20 for \$3.00:

- "A Wing & A Prayer" (*Kapparot* ritual)
- "Don't Plants Have Feelings Too?"
- "Chickens"
- "The Battery Hen"
- "Turkeys"
- "Ostriches & Emus: Nowhere To Hide"
- "Japanese Quail"
- "The Use of Birds In Agricultural and Biomedical Research"
- "Free-Range' Poultry and Eggs: Not All They're Cracked Up to Be" - *New & Revised!*
- "Live Poultry Markets" (in English, Spanish, & Chinese)
- "Chicken-Flying Contests"

LEAFLETS (FLYERS)

20 FOR \$1.50

- "Chicken for Dinner?"
- "The 'Human' Nature of Pigeons"

Bumper Stickers

Don't Switch from Beef to Chicken: Get the Slaughterhouse out of your Kitchen. \$1 each

Don't Just Switch from Beef to Chicken: Go Vegan. \$1 each

Beautiful Chicken and Turkey Buttons

\$2.00 each. 3 for \$5.00. 10 for \$10.00. Any mixture.

- Chickens are Friends, Not Food
- Turkeys are Friends, Not Food
- Stick Up For Chickens
- Be Kind to Turkeys-Don't Gobble Me



Life Can Be Beautiful - Go Vegan! Brochure



24 full-color 5.5" x 8.5" pages.

\$1.00 each.
20 for \$5.00.
50 for \$10.00.
100 for \$15.00.
200 for \$25.00.

UPC Ordering Information:

All Prices Include Postage
To order indicated items send check or money order to:

United Poultry Concerns
P.O. Box 150
Machipongo, VA 23405-0150

Or order online at upc-online.org



BOOKS & BOOKLETS

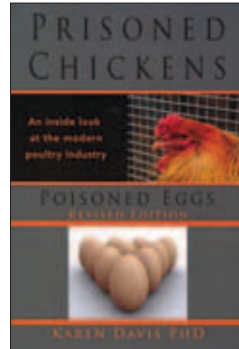
Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry

By Karen Davis

This newly revised edition of *Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs* looks at avian influenza, food poisoning, chicken suffering, genetic engineering, and the growth of chicken rights activism since the 1990s. Presents a compelling argument for a compassionate plant-based cuisine. "Riveting . . . Brilliant."

– *Choice magazine, American*

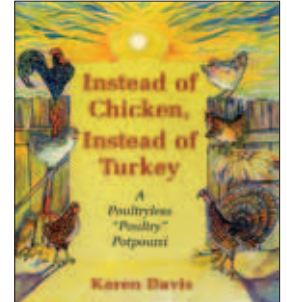
Library Association \$14.95. 40% off bulk orders of 5 (\$8.97 each) = \$44.85 for 5.



Instead of Chicken, Instead of Turkey: A Poultryless "Poultry" Potpourri

By Karen Davis

This delightful vegan cookbook by United Poultry Concerns features homestyle, ethnic, and exotic recipes that duplicate and convert a variety of poultry and egg dishes. Includes artwork, poems, and illuminating passages showing chickens and turkeys in an appreciative light. \$14.95



Animals and Women: Feminist Theoretical Explorations

Edited by Carol J. Adams & Josephine Donovan

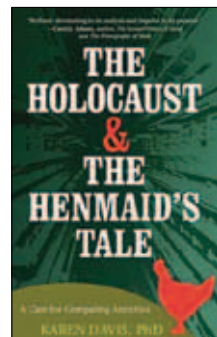
"Karen Davis's brilliant essay [Thinking Like a Chicken: Farm Animals and The Feminine Connection] brings together the book's central concepts, leading to conclusions that rightly should disturb feminists and animal advocates alike." – Review by Deborah Tanzer, Ph.D. in *The Animals' Agenda*. \$16.95



The Holocaust and the Henmaid's Tale: A Case for Comparing Atrocities

By Karen Davis

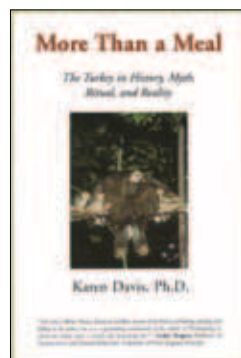
In this thoughtful and thought-provoking contribution to the study of animals and the Holocaust, Karen Davis makes the case that significant parallels can – and must – be drawn between the Holocaust and the institutionalized abuse of billions of animals on factory farms. "Compelling and convincing . . . this bold, brave book." – Charles Patterson, author of *Eternal Treblinka* \$14.95



More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality

By Karen Davis

Karen Davis shows how turkeys in the wild have complex lives and family units, and how they were an integral part of Native American and continental cultures and landscape before the Europeans arrived, while drawing larger conclusions about our paradoxical relationship with turkeys, all birds and other animals including other human beings. "The turkey's historical disfigurement is starkly depicted by Karen Davis in 'More Than a Meal.'" – *The New Yorker* \$14.95



Ninety-Five : Meeting America's Farmed Animals in Stories and Photographs

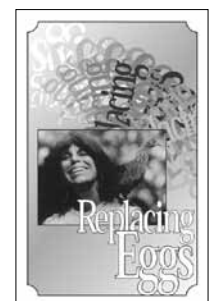
An anthology of photos and stories by No Voice Unheard Editors: Marilee Geyer, Diane Leigh and Windi Wojdak. \$20



Replacing Eggs

By United Poultry Concerns

Sick of salmonella? Our exciting booklet invites you to cook and eat happily without eggs! 21 delicious recipes. \$1.50



CHILDREN'S BOOKS & EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Hatching Good Lessons: Alternatives To School Hatching Projects

By *United Poultry Concerns*

A guide booklet for elementary school teachers and other educators including parents. Revised & Updated by United Poultry Concerns, 2010. 16 pages of information, storytelling, classroom activities & color photos.

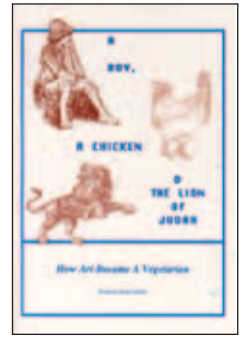
Grades K-6 (some activities are designed for K-12). \$2.50 per booklet. \$1.00 per booklet for orders of 5 or more. It can be viewed and printed out directly at www.upc-online.org/hatching/.



A Boy, A Chicken and The Lion of Judah – How Ari Became a Vegetarian

By *Roberta Kalechofsky*

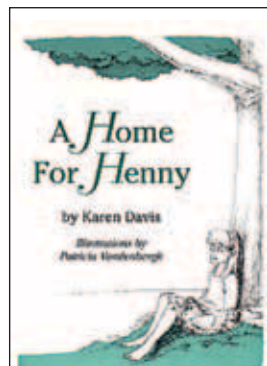
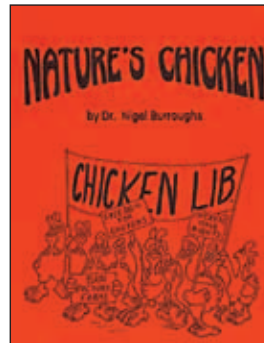
This wonderfully gifted children's story, set in modern Israel, is about a young boy's quest for moral independence. An intelligent book for all ages. Winner of the Fund for Animals "Kind Writers Make Kind Readers Award." \$10



Nature's Chicken, The Story of Today's Chicken Farms

By *Nigel Burroughs*

With wry humor, this unique children's storybook traces the development of today's chicken and egg factory farming in a perfect blend of entertainment and instruction. Wonderful illustrations. Promotes compassion and respect for chickens. \$4.95



A Home for Henny

By *Karen Davis*

This wonderful children's book tells the touching story of a little girl, a chicken, and a school hatching project. Beautifully illustrated by Patricia Vandenberg, it's the perfect gift for a child, parents, teachers, your local library. \$4.95

Animal Place: Where Magical Things Happen

By *Kim Sturla*

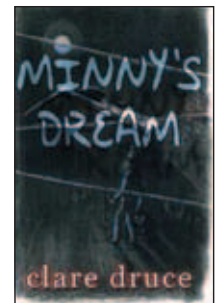
Enchant young children with this charming tale about a stubborn girl who is secretly touched by a cow while visiting a sanctuary for farm animals. \$10



Minnie's Dream

By *Clare Druce*

What happens when a young girl from the city discovers a battery-hen operation in the country? What happens when a "battery hen" named Minny speaks to her? What must she do when her friend Minny is going to be killed? This book is a must for the young person(s) in your life, age 8-14. \$10



Goosie's Story

By *Louise Van Der Merwe*

A touching story about a "battery" hen who is given a chance to lead a normal life – a happy life. This moving book will be warmly welcomed and shared by children, parents and teachers, highlighting as it does the concern and compassion we ought to feel for all our feathered friends on this earth. \$4.95



When the Chickens Went on Strike

By *Erica Silverman* and illustrated by *Matthew Trueman*.

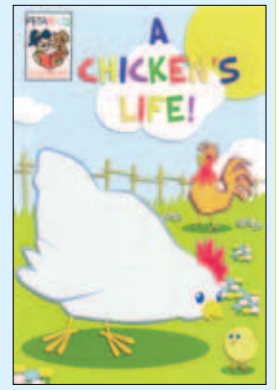
One day during Rosh Hashanah – the beginning of the Jewish New Year – a boy overhears the chickens in his village plan a strike. They are sick of being used for Kapores, the custom practiced in his Russian village where live chickens are waved over everyone's heads to erase their bad deeds. "An end to Kapores!" the chickens chant as they flee the town.

This enchanting book is adapted from a story by *Sholom Aleichem*, the great Yiddish author best known for his tales which are the basis of the internationally acclaimed play *Fiddler on the Roof*. \$10

A Chicken's Life! Grades 4-6

PETAkids Comics

This cute comic book illustrates a group of children visiting an animal sanctuary where they meet a flock of chickens and learn all about them including the differences between Nature's Way and The Factory Farm Way. "Are these chickens really your friends?" they ask. "I've never met a chicken before." *A Chicken's Life* includes a puzzle for elementary school students to unscramble words including barn, beak, cluck, feathers, grass, hatch, peck, peep, wings, and lots more. \$1.50 each. 10 for \$10.



VIDEOS

The Emotional World of Farm Animals

By Animal Place

This is a wonderful documentary produced by Animal Place and led by best-selling author Jeffrey Masson. This delightful film – for viewers of all ages – is all about the thinking and feeling side of farmed animals. **A PBS Primetime Favorite! Get your local station to air it.** VHS and DVD \$20



45 Days: The Life and Death of a Broiler Chicken

By Compassion Over Killing

This 12-minute video shows the pathetic industry treatment of the more than 9 billion baby "broiler" chickens slaughtered each year in the US. VHS and DVD. \$10



The Dignity, Beauty & Abuse of Chickens

By United Poultry Concerns

Our video shows chickens at UPC's sanctuary doing things that chickens like to do! 16:07 min. — Color * Music * No Narration. VHS and DVD. \$10



Hidden Suffering

By Chickens' Lib/ Farm Animal Welfare Network

This vivid half hour video exposes the cruelty of the battery cage system and intensive broiler chicken, turkey and duck production. VHS. \$10

Ducks Out of Water

By Viva! International Voice for Animals

This powerful 5-minute video takes you inside today's factory-farmed duck sheds in the US. VHS. \$10



Inside a Live Poultry Market

By United Poultry Concerns

This horrific 11-minute video takes you inside a typical live bird market in New York City. An alternative to "factory farming"? Watch and decide. VHS and DVD. \$10

Behavior of Rescued Factory-Farmed Chickens in a Sanctuary Setting

By United Poultry Concerns

See what a chicken can be when almost free! This 12-minute video shows chickens, turkeys, and ducks at UPC's sanctuary racing out of their house to enjoy their day. VHS and DVD. \$10

Inside Tyson's Hell: Why I Got Out of the Chicken Slaughtering Business

By Virgil Butler

Produced by United Poultry Concerns and the Compassionate Living Project, Virgil's eyewitness account of what goes on inside chicken slaughter plants is an indispensable contribution to animal advocates working to promote a compassionate lifestyle. DVD. 58:35 min. \$15



Delicacy of Despair

By GourmetCruelty.com

This investigation and rescue takes you behind the closed doors of the foie gras industry and shows what ducks and geese endure to produce "fatty liver." 16:30 minutes. DVD. \$10



Chickens at Play

By United Poultry Concerns

This vibrant video shows chickens at the United Poultry Concerns sanctuary accompanied by lively music, with brief explanations of what the chickens are doing throughout their daily activities into the evening as, one by one, they hop up to their perches for the night. Narrated by a young child. 10:04 minutes. Watch: <http://vimeo.com/13210456> DVD. \$5. \$12.50 for 5.



Stickers

Send a message with your mail! Order our eye-catching color stickers! 100 stickers for \$10.



With Heart and Voice - a Beautiful Greeting Card from UPC

\$19.95 for 20 cards. \$38.95 for 40 cards. envelopes included. Single card & envelope \$1.00.



POSTERS



International Respect for Chickens Day

Celebrate 12.5" x 17" Wings 12" x 16"



A Heart Beats in Us the Same as in You

Photo by PeTA
Full-color poster vividly captures the truth about factory chickens for the public. Vegetarian message. 18"x22".



Friends, Not Food

Photo by Franklin Wade
Liqin Cao & FreddaFlower.
Full color 19"x27" poster.



WHAT WINGS ARE FOR



Photos by Jim Robertson & Karen Davis
Great educational tool. Full color 11-1/2"x16" poster.

Walking to Freedom After a Year in Cages

Photo by Dave Clegg. Full color, 18"x22" poster.



"Battery" Hens

Roosting in Branches After Rotting in Cages

Photo by Susan Rayfield
This beautiful color poster shows the rescued Cypress hens at UPC. Perfect for your office, your home, your school. 11.5"x16".



Great Turkeys Poster!

Photos by Barbara Davidson & Susan Rayfield
The posters are in color, and come in two sizes; 11.5" x 16", and 18" x 27"

UPC posters in any mix: One for \$4. Two for \$5. Three for \$7.

UNITED POULTRY CONCERNS, INC.



P.O. Box 150
Machipongo, VA
23405-0150

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Rockville, MD
Permit # 4297

INSIDE

Poultry Welfare Interview
International Respect for Chickens Day
Petition to Florida Dept of Education
El Monte Chickens Update
Decompression Technology
Misery in Every Bite
Recipe Corner & More

*Wishing You a Happy Spring & Summer
Please renew your membership for 2011!*



Photo: Carol McCormick

At the slaughterhouse, birds may wait in the trucks from one to 9 hours or more depending on killing and processing speed. These chickens fell off the truck onto the cement loading dock at Townsend's chicken slaughter plant in Millsboro, Delaware.