

The Animal Communication Newsletter

What's Up With Animals?™

"Believe, Be Open, Be Willing to be Surprised!"



Feb.
2008



Greetings!

You'll notice a new look this month, as I am pleased to debut the new, fresh design for **What's Up With Animals?**

And along with this new design, I am also happy to announce that I'll be publishing monthly, in an effort to be more timely, and to provide more space for everything I'd like to share from the world of animals and interspecies communication.

As always, I send this newsletter from my heart, to yours.

Maureen



Animal Communication Tip of the Month

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Animals are extremely sensitive to vibrations. And that includes the vibrations associated with their own names.

An animal's name has an energy, a connotation, and over time, a memory that is firmly attached to it. And sometimes, it may be helpful to shift that energetic vibration, in an effort to erase frightening memories of an unpleasant or cruel event that has happened in an animal's past.

Susan Sheridan, president of the [Bay State Equine Rescue](#) (BSER) here in Massachusetts, has told me that BSER routinely changes the names of the horses who come into its care, hoping that by doing so, they may help to extinguish the horses' painful pasts, and signal to them that they are about to start a new, and happier, chapter of their lives. My own mare was rescued by BSER from an auction where she would almost certainly have been sold for slaughter. She was in pitiful physical condition, having been used for years to produce foals as part of a [Premarin program](#). When she was welcomed into the rescue, Susan gave her the beautiful name, "Hayley," to let her know that she was safe, and would never again be subject to ill treatment.



I was recently privileged to have the opportunity to communicate with a gray pony whose name was "Goose." I didn't know much about Goose's background, but when I connected with him, he showed me a fleeting image of a traumatic accident in which he had been involved, and let me know that the woman who had been riding him had hit a tree, fallen off, and been badly hurt.

Goose's person, Susan, confirmed that it was she who had been seriously injured two years ago, when Goose had suddenly spooked. She hadn't been on his back since then, and Goose had remained withdrawn and fearful.

During the course of our telepathic "conversation," Goose had also let me know that he did not like his name. He thought it was silly and undignified, and asked that it be changed to something that connoted more respect. Susan took this suggestion to heart, and decided to rename her pony, "Harvey." His response has been dramatic. He immediately signaled that he loved this new moniker by pricking up his ears when he heard it, and he seemed to recognize that it signified that his very identity had been transformed.

Even Susan was amazed at how "Goose's" attitude had changed, now that he was "Harvey." It was as though by discarding his former name, Susan could erase some of the old trauma that "Goose" had experienced. As "Harvey," this pony has become more approachable and outgoing, in a way that did not seem possible just a few short weeks ago.

When I did a followup session with "Harvey," he not only confirmed that he liked the sound of his new name, but complained that his stall's nameplate still read "Goose." He felt that the change would really not be official until his stall was framed with his new label. Susan subsequently acknowledged that the old "Goose" nameplate was still in place, but has made plans to honor Harvey's choice with a new one.



Book Review

Where the Blind Horse Sings: Love and Healing at an Animal Sanctuary by Kathy Stevens



In telling the story of the farmyard denizens who live and thrive in the warm embrace of the **Catskill Animal Sanctuary** (CAS) in Saugerties, New York, Kathy Stevens never set out to write a book about animal communication. But in a very real sense, that's what she did.

Where the Blind Horse Sings: Love and Healing at an Animal Sanctuary chronicles not just the communication that is possible between humans and animals, but perhaps just as poignantly, the silent knowingness that passes among animals themselves: unspoken but breathtakingly real.

It was on a cold November evening, that Rambo, the belligerent ram with a bad rapsheet, saved the lives of two turkeys:

Rambo charged up to me, stopped dead, looked up at me with his great yellow eyes, and bleated. "Something's wrong," he said-no matter that what he said was "baaahh," because his communication was perfectly and instantly clear.

It turned out that the turkeys, Chuck and Cliff, had been accidentally left outside in the freezing weather, and may have perished if not for Rambo's insistence that something was amiss. Kathy pondered:

What had just happened? So much was revealed in that single communication. That a sheep was aware that the turkeys were outside was impressive enough. That he figured out how to tell a human blew me away. But most astoundingly, Rambo had just shown concern for two animals of a different species and had known that I would help them.

CAS is a place where abused, abandoned, and unloved animals can come to heal and bask in the sunlight of kindness and acceptance. Typical of them was Buddy, the blind Appaloosa who is the namesake of this wonderful book:

Buddy had been housed in a small, irregularly shaped barbed-wire pen. Every time he moved, a barb would gouge the flesh of his chest, his flank, his neck. Eventually, for safety's sake, he'd stopped moving. For the two weeks prior to coming to us, he just stood in one spot, head hung low, even refusing to eat.

But Buddy blossomed in the care of CAS, and soon showed evidence of his brave heart and passion to do normal horse things. Kathy describes their shared exhilaration as Buddy progressed to the point that he could gallop through fields and traverse wooded trails, as she laughed and cried and rejoiced with him, all the way.

Many of the farm creatures roaming free at the Catskill Animal Sanctuary had originally been bred for food, and Kathy points out the shocking truth that for pigs and chickens and cows, the laws governing their slaughter are more stringent than the regulations addressing their daily care.

Inevitably, there are days when it is time for the people at the Sanctuary to bid a sad farewell to the animals who have become beloved friends. In stark contrast to the way that their lives would have ended in the frightening, bloody corridors of a slaughterhouse, the creatures at CAS are gently held and kissed good-bye as they take their final breaths.

I cried as I read of the dignified death of the gentle Holstein steer, Samson:

The huge syringe of barbiturate emptied into him, and then the second remarkable thing happened. Samson turned around, looked as deeply into my eyes as any living thing before or since, and licked my face. Then he licked it again, and again, and again. Over and over as he was dying, the cow who had finally known love was, I believe, saying thank you. He was, I believe, saying, "I love you, too," and he was, I believe, saying good-bye.

Kathy Stevens may not consider herself to be an animal communicator, but as **Where the Blind Horse Sings** makes clear, she understands a language of the heart that needs no translation.



Last Issue's Survey Results

Does Your Animal Have ESP?



Two Thirds of Respondents Say Their Animals Can Read Their Minds!

While the information elicited from this informal poll is admittedly unscientific, the anecdotal "real life" reports about animal intuition were fascinating.

The survey was inspired by Rupert Sheldrake's seminal work on animal communication, **Dogs That Know When Their Owners Are Coming Home: And Other Unexplained Powers of Animals**. And indeed, **more than half of those who participated said that their animals knew when they were on their way home, before they actually arrived.**

Over 60% said that their animals could anticipate something happening, even before it occurred. One person said, "They can always tell about 10 minutes before I start getting ready for a walk, that they're going, just about the time I start to think about it." Another recounted an

incident in which her Great Pyrenees foretold an earthquake. "My dog was in the living room with my husband and me when he jumped, barked just once, and looked at us," she said. "Right after that, there was a small earthquake. We live in Maine and almost never get earthquakes."

And one person spoke of her amazement at her dog's ability to respond to her telepathic suggestions: "Sometimes I can think, 'WAG TAIL,'" without even moving my head, and Petey will wag his tail, even though we're a distance apart and he's not even looking at me."

I asked whether the respondents had ever noticed their animals expressing concern for a person or another animal who needed help, and some of the stories were quite poignant.

One person recollected:

"They say that horses (I have three) have no perception of death. My friend had to have her gelding put to sleep because of ill health. All the other horses (five to be exact) stood around moping for several days before the event took place. Then, for a good part of the week after the gelding's death, they kept visiting the gravesite. My friend had lain him to rest under an apple tree in the back part of the pasture."

And another talked of the unspoken--but often profound--understanding between horses and people:

"The most remarkable experience I've ever witnessed with my mare, 'Ally,' was one day when a friend came to visit and brought his two daughters, one of whom was a five-year-old with Down's Syndrome..

She came into the paddock and was helping to groom Ally. Ally dropped her head to her and kept it there. The child went wandering around the paddock and Ally kept her nose right on her shoulder. The girl wandered close to the fence with an electric strand across the boards (turned off), and Ally very gently guided her away from it, and back toward the middle of the paddock. I was nearly in tears just watching Ally's sensitivity toward the little girl."



Participate in our New Survey

As always, the results will be shared in a forthcoming issue.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Have you ever changed the name of one of your animals? What inspired you to do it? What happened then?

 [TAKE THE SURVEY NOW](#)

Announcing FAST New England

**A New Online Clearinghouse to Recover Stolen
Animals**



In April of 2007, I received a disturbing call from a woman who contacted me to see if I could communicate with her two dogs, who had been stolen in an act of revenge six months before. She had tried everything, including filing police reports, visiting local shelters, and even calling her congressman. The dogs were still missing, and the trail had gone cold.

The heartache that ensues when a beloved animal is lost or missing is painful, but when the missing animal has been deliberately snatched away, it is just devastating.

While there are many resources for people whose animals have escaped or strayed from home, there is much less support for those whose creature companions are the victims of what can only be described as a ruthless crime.

I want to change that.

So on January 24th, 2008, I launched the [Finding Animals Stolen Tipline \(FAST\)](#), an interactive Internet clearinghouse to report and recover animals who have been stolen in the New England states of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, and Vermont.

It is my fervent hope that [FAST New England](#) will shine a bright light on the plight of stolen animals, and through its state-of-the-art technological capabilities, be instrumental in quickly reuniting them with their grieving people.

Among the services offered through the site is [FAST TALK](#), a live discussion forum where visitors can share up-to-the-minute information about stolen animals, report sightings, and provide useful tips to victims of animal theft.

[FAST New England](#) also sends out **Stolen Animal Dragnets** to a voluntary mailing list of interested citizens, advocacy organizations, shelters, humane societies, and animal control officers who register to receive these bulletins.

Please visit [FAST New England](#) if you're interested in learning more about this important venture.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Americans Against Horse Slaughter](#)

Washington DC
March 4-5, 2008

[Whole Cat Workshop](#)

Grafton, MA
March 9, 2008

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Moose's Story

A note of thanks

QUICK LINKS

[Animal Translations](#)

On January 9th, 2008, Jody Dinnell called me from her home in Chester Springs, Pennsylvania, hoping that I would be able to communicate with **Moose**, the feral cat for whom she had been caring for the last two years.



Moose had somehow gotten hurt, and Jody knew she had to get him to a vet the next morning, but was concerned about whether the feisty cat would accept her intervention.

I promised Jody that I would do what I could. Moose let me know that he had actually aggravated an old injury, but that he felt pretty vigorous, and that he would be able to adapt to his situation, whatever happened.

I made sure that Moose understood what was going to happen to him, and reassured him that he would be surrounded by people who loved him.

When I spoke with Jody the next morning, she told me that Moose had been successfully treated and neutered, but that he was distressed at being held captive in a crate, for his own protection, until he recovered from the surgery. I suggested that [Rescue Remedy](#) might help to alleviate everyone's (cat and humans!) stress, and asked her to let me know how things resolved.

I was so pleased, then, to get a followup note from Jody, in which she said:

"I just wanted to let you know that Moose is doing fairly well.. . ."

"Thanks again for your willingness to jump right in on a tough situation. Your communications and insights really helped guide me and your support was so much appreciated during what was a very stressful time."

[Animal Translations Blog](#)

[Americans Against Horse Slaughter](#)

[Catskill Animal Sanctuary](#)

[Dogs Deserve Better](#)

[Finding Animals Stolen Tipline \(FAST\)](#)

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What's Up With Your Animals?



There are so many ways to communicate with animals, as these stories attest. Animals are natural telepathic communicators, and it's because they're so good at it that I can "hear" them.

If you think that you and your animal would benefit from a [telepathic consultation](#), please drop me a note or give me a call.

Until Next Time!
Maureen Harmonay



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