
THE ISCOWP NEWS

The Quarterly Newsletter of THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COW PROTECTION

Winter

1991

Although Vraja and Gita were saved from the slaughterhouse in April of 1991, they were born in February of the same year. This month we are celebrating their birthdays. The contrast of what their lives could have been and what they are today sets a precedent for the case of utilizing the bull calf's potentials instead of killing him for meat at an early age.

Imagine if we had not heard of their plight. They would have been sent to a veal farm where they would have been chained to a crate in which they could not move, kept in total darkness, and fed a liquid diet formulated to keep their bodies anemic so their flesh would have a pale pink color desired by the gourmet veal customer.

Instead, Vraja and Gita enjoy the fresh clean air, graze in the open air beneath the blue sky in the day and the stars in the evening, and have plenty of green grass and grain to eat.

Their ability to follow voice commands and therefore perform various tasks of great value to the farmer and mankind is the epitome of the usefulness of their lives. Their trained abilities exemplify the bull calf as an intelligent, valuable being and negates the argument that he is useless and therefore should be killed.

We thank you, our members, for making it possible to save their lives and to continue to show their ability and usefulness to mankind. Together we can make a difference.

Happy Birthday Vraja and Gita!



Vraja and Gita are One Year Old!

Annual Report for Fiscal Year March, 1991-February 1992

Thank You For Contributing During The Fiscal Year 1991 (3/91-2/92)

Benefactor: \$1000 or more.

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Junior: \$10-\$25

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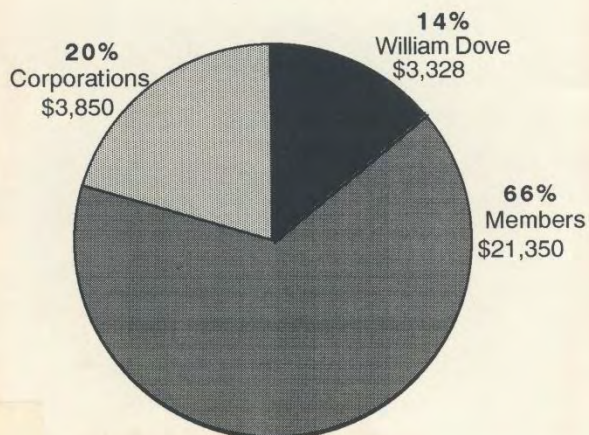
*Because of your help,
Vraja and Gita can show
the world how they lead
useful lives and
need not be killed.*

*Here they are learning
their lesson
in pulling.*



ISCOWP: AN ETHICAL INVESTMENT

Income

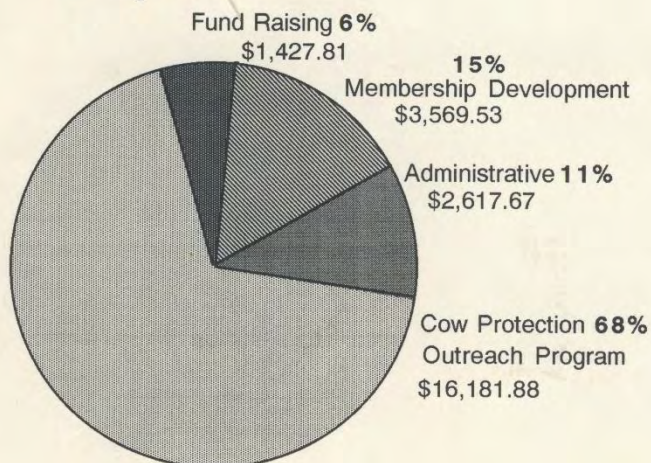


Non cash gifts from members for fiscal year
3/91-2/92

Pick up truck-cash value-\$1,500

Books-cash value-\$1000

Expenses



Cow Protection Outreach Program

Animal Maintenance \$3,437.52
Vehicle Maintenance-\$10,395.45
Travel-\$1,545.90
Displays-\$864.70

INCOME-\$24,172
EXPENSE-\$23,796.89
BALANCE-\$375.11

Accomplishments of 1991

Purchase of ISCOWP Family Farm

On February 19, 1991, ISCOWP purchased 3.5 acres in Efland, North Carolina. This is a rural area of North Carolina but only 45 minutes from Chapel Hill which is home to The University Of North Carolina and Duke University. The area has a known receptivity to alternative life styles and philosophies. ISCOWP is now incorporated in North Carolina as well as Pennsylvania.

Due to our travels last spring and summer we did not utilize this facility. However, many of you expressed a desire to see the theory of ox power in practice, and this summer we are planning on fully developing the land as an example of a sustainable small family farm. We have been donated the use of an adjacent 2 acres and we will be working cooperatively with our neighbor who owns 8 acres.

Twin Bull Calves Saved From The Slaughterhouse

On April 22, 1991, we were informed of twin bull calves who were soon to be slaughtered. We met their owners and saved their lives by agreeing to pay the current price of meat for each of them. We named the calves after two members who each responded to our fund drive to save their lives with \$400, the approximated price of meat for two bull calves. One was named Vraja after Vrajabhadu d.d. and the other was named Gita after Ben Zambiasi and the Hamilton Bhagavad Gita Club.

Saving Vraja and Gita was definitely an accomplishment, but the challenge to show how their lives could be useful was yet ahead. At the age of 4 months we began their training as working, useful animals. As the months progressed they learned all the voice commands necessary to be an efficient team. Now, a year old, they are ready to pull a plow and help us cultivate and plant our fields this spring and summer. This should set an example to the American farmer that there is no need to kill them for they are useful.

New Featherlite Trailer Purchased

Due to our travels in 1990, we realized with the combined weight of our two grown oxen (a ton each) and our heavy weight trailer (4,500 lbs) we were carrying a tremendous load of 4 tons behind our school bus. This resulted in low gas mileage. Since the calves weighed about 200 pounds each we greatly reduced the weight, however; within one year they would increase to a 1/2 ton each. We needed to reduce the weight of the trailer. You, and others like you, helped us purchase a featherlite aluminum trailer that weighed about 2000 pounds less than our old one. As a result our rig became more attractive because of the beauty of the trailer, and we were able to get our speed up to 50-55 miles an hour as compared to 40 miles per hour during the summer of 90.

Cow Protection Outreach Program

ISCOWP traveled coast to coast with Vraja and Gita to major cities in the United States to achieve several goals. We wanted to allow anyone to experience the gentleness of the cow and therefore gain the desire not to eat him. We also wanted people to hear of the alternative energies provided by the cow thus presenting the usefulness of the cow and bull. Cow protection is a philosophy of compassion and practicality. Through educational literature and picture displays, we presented the compassion and the environmental, physical, and economic benefits of cow protection.

The cities of Dallas, Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, and Boulder were a few of the major cities that ISCOWP visited spreading the compassion of cow protection. Thousands of people of all walks of life heard this message and saw Vraja and Gita exemplifying the usefulness of oxen. Approximately 100 members joined ISCOWP at this time.

Junior ISCOWP Membership Offered

During our travels we noticed the sincere receptivity of children to the compassion of cow protection. We realized that multi-million dollar meat chains like McDonald's target the children in their advertising to insure a future market for their product. We felt we had to start an alternative campaign to present the benefits of not eating the cow to the younger generation. Of course due to our limited resources we are not any real threat to McDonald's but the future allows the ability to expand.

A membership fee of \$10 offers a quarterly junior newsletter containing coloring and writing contests. Additional literature is in the process of being printed and published. At present we have the "Friends For Life" coloring book written and illustrated by Rebecca Ann Todd (Madhava Priya d.d.) which is waiting to be printed. The story line is very compelling. It shows the realization of a young girl who lost her calf to the slaughterhouse at a 4-H fair and can no longer eat meat. She is relieved to see Vraja and Gita protected.

The World-Wide True Farmer's Network Begun

Uganda, Germany, New Zealand, Switzerland, Holland, Hong Kong are some of the countries ISCOWP now has members. The True Farmer's Network is a membership program specifically for persons who are farming by the philosophy of cow protection, or who are planning on doing so in the future. By the uniting influence of communication, enthusiasm can be generated to continue farming based on a principle unknown in most parts of the world. As this enthusiasm grows, others will have the courage to take up this method of farming.

With its networking members, ISCOWP serves as a connecting force of knowledge, shared experiences, obstacles and goals. A yearly census of how many cows and bulls are being protected will be published based mainly on our members information. So, if you are farming based on cow protection please get in touch with us and help spread cow protection.

Plans for 1992

During our travels, we met many people who appreciated our explanation of the usefulness of the oxen and the needlessness of killing them. We were encouraged to realize this theory made sense to many people, however; the lack of a practical example negated the enthusiasm in most to become more involved beyond agreeing with the theory of cow protection. Often people would ask us, "Where can I see the ox providing alternative energy and how can I do the same thing on my land?"

We could understand talking wasn't enough. After all, most of us "have to see it to believe it." Innumerable times we came across this reaction to our preaching and eventually our vision and plans for the following year crystalized. We felt to effectively spread the practice of cow protection we must effectively practice it ourselves.

One of our major points has been that cow protection is the basis of sustainable agriculture when practiced on a small family farm. As explained on page 5 we have bought land in North Carolina to develop such a small farm, however; due to our extensive travels during the summer we were not able to develop the land. As most of you know, spring and summer are the prime times for farming unless you live where there is no winter which is not the case even in North Carolina.

Our conclusion has been to put our emphasis this year on beginning to show the practical example of cow protection. In order to do this we must limit our travels to the east coast this year. We will concentrate on attending events on the east coast allowing us to be gone from our farm a few days, or at the most a week.

Traveling across the country has been an exciting and rewarding adventure which we will regret not being able to experience this year. Part of our goals of traveling coast to coast was to enthuse some of our members and friends living in the west coast to attend festivals and events there with oxen. They could do this with far less expense than we, and the added benefit would be they could invite the people they meet to visit them to see the practical example at their farm. When we told people they could visit us at our farm in North Carolina, the reaction was usually that it was too far and too expensive to come here.

To begin the development of a sustainable family farm we have outlined our projected goals for 1992 and included the steps we have already taken in the fiscal year 1991 to achieve these goals.

To Show The Economic Practicality of a Family Farm

Own food needs can be provided from the land worked by oxen

Surplus sold locally to households, stores, and restaurants

Marketing of:

Medicinal herbs

Organic vegetables

Culinary spices

To Provide An Educational Facility

Teamster training programs

Educational prototype

Seminars

International distribution of technical knowledge through development of the "True Farmers Network"

Internships for all practical aspects

Tours of ox powered field work and ox powered energy sources

Research and resource center for outreach lectures and seminars

We will be giving a 7 day seminar on "Vedic Village Economics-The Utility of The Cow and Bull" at the Gita Nagari Farm in Port Royal, Pennsylvania. This will be one of several courses offered by the Vaisnava Institute of Higher Learning. Our seminar will consist of an hour long class each day. A grade will be given to the student which contributes to credits awarded at the conclusion of the complete VIHE seminar. The dates are May 26-June 2. If you would like more information of this seminar please contact H.H. Romapada Swami, 305 Schermerhorn Street, Brooklyn, New York 11217.

To Show Alternative Energy Resources

Alternative to the petroleum dependent tractor-ox power

Plowing

Planting

Harvesting

Hauling

Our two oxen, Vraja and Gita, are fully trained to voice commands and capable of performing all these tasks. We have purchased almost all the old farm machinery necessary.

Alternative to electricity - an ox-powered water system providing water for fields and residence.

You have all received our fund raiser for this project by now. At this printing, your donations are still rolling in. Thank you so much! We will be printing the names of donors to this project in our next newsletter. Some of your names may ap-

pear on page 2 & 3 since your donation arrived here before we went to print.

As you know the water system will be powered by oxen, dependent only on natural resources, built with hand tools, and reproducible world-wide. We will build a prototype first, most likely out of metal. There are several advantages to doing this. First, a natural resource of America is the junk yard. A poor man in America can find the parts for gears at such a place at a very low price. Second, we should be able to manifest the prototype within several months and then get an idea of some of the problems involved. The water system made of wood will take far more research. Third, there will be a system working to give everyone the realization that ox power is a practical alternative energy.

Just recently we received a phone call from a reporter of the local newspaper. They had heard of our water system and wanted to come out and do a story. When I told her it was not built yet, she asked if I had built a prototype she could photograph and write about. This confirmed for me the benefit in building a prototype and then the more difficult wood system.

We will be letting you know of our progress in this project in our forthcoming newsletters and mailings. Thank you again for supporting this project.

The Water System in Action



Umm-Ummmmm-ummm-ummm Good!

Vraja: Did you taste those oatmeal-chip cookies yet?

Gita: I sure did! Holy cow! They are good! I think they get better every day.

Vraja: Did you know some of our members are getting to taste them too?

Gita: Oh like who? Would I know them?

Vraja: Sure you do. Marie Pritekel (Vrajavadhu d.d.), Dr. B.G. Gokhale, Betty Woodhouse, Gary Davidson (Gour Govinda), Dan Duer, Peter Lakusta, and Jashan Chahhatlani are a few members who have received cookies.

Gita: I heard that Laksmi is cooking bunches of them every day. She sends off a box of a dozen oatmeal-chip cookies as a free gift to members who donate \$30 or more to the water project.

Vraja: I think she's only going to offer the yummy cookies a little while longer. She said they are running out of oatmeal at the supermarket.

Gita: Bill says you and I are going to help grow our own oats this year.

Vraja: Boy oh boy, I can't wait. Then we can be sure we'll be able to give our members yummy cookies all the time.

Vraja and Gita:
Hay members! Get your oatmeal-chip cookies while they last!

Read the enclosed form and get your free gift.

ISCOWP

The International Society For Cow Protection

The International Society for Cow Protection (ISCOWP) is primarily concerned with presenting alternatives to present agricultural practices that support and depend upon the meat industry. A lacto-vegetarian diet, cruelty-free lifetime protection of the cow, ox training, alternative energies offered by the cow and ox, and a sound ecological, agrarian lifestyle are the practices that ISCOWP would like to make available to everyone. Through educational literature, seminars, and hands-on educational experiences in living classroom settings, children and adults can be offered a look through the window of an alternative way of life.

Our Goals:

1. To provide a natural and permanent alternative to petroleum-dependent tractors by training bull calves as working teams of oxen
2. To utilize ISCOWP's alternative agricultural practices as hands-on experience in living classroom settings.
3. To demonstrate the usefulness of the natural by-products of the cow by encouraging the production of methane bio-gas from cow manure as a valuable alternative energy source.
4. To present the benefits of a lacto-vegetarian diet through educational literature, nutritional cooking classes, organic gardening instruction, and the production of cruelty-free dairy products from lifetime protected cows.
5. To establish small farm sanctuaries world-wide modeled after the historic Vedic example of agrarian harmony based on lifetime cow protection.

6. To educate society about the practical benefits of lifetime cow protection by the distribution of the quarterly "ISCOWP NEWS" for adults, the "Junior NEWS" for children, related books and literature for adults and children, seminars, hands-on educational experiences in living classroom settings, and direct contact with the oxen through our "Cow Protection Outreach Program".

Our Cow Protection Outreach Program:

Our ox traveling program has been a tremendous tool in achieving the goal of awakening the hearts of everyone who eats meat to the connection between the gentle cow and the hamburger, veal, or steak on their plate. Through direct contact with the oxen and our educational literature, thousands of people who eat meat have received the seed of the vegetarian ideal. As these seeds mature, the slaughter of the gentle cow will diminish.

From 1987-1990 we traveled throughout the country with two oxen weighing a ton each. This summer we traveled coast to coast with two young calves recently saved from the slaughterhouse. Our purpose is to show how U.S. farming practices can be altered so the ox is not the soup bone of the American farm but the backbone.

The International Society for Cow Protection was incorporated in the state of Pennsylvania, March 1990, as a non-profit charitable organization. Its first chapter was begun in Efland, North Carolina, February 1991. William and Irene Dove (Balabhadra das and Chaya devi dasi) are its managing directors. They are disciples of Srila Prabhupada the Founder Acharya of the International Society of Krsna Consciousness. It is through their spiritual master's teachings they have imbibed the practices and benefits, both spiritual and material, of lifetime cow protection.

The tenets of cow protection and ox power are universal and non-sectarian, available to all regardless of race, creed, or nationality.

All donations are tax deductible. ISCOWP's tax# is 23-2604082. For more information write to ISCOWP Box 4607 Timberwood Trail, Efland, North Carolina, 27243.

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ISCOWP

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