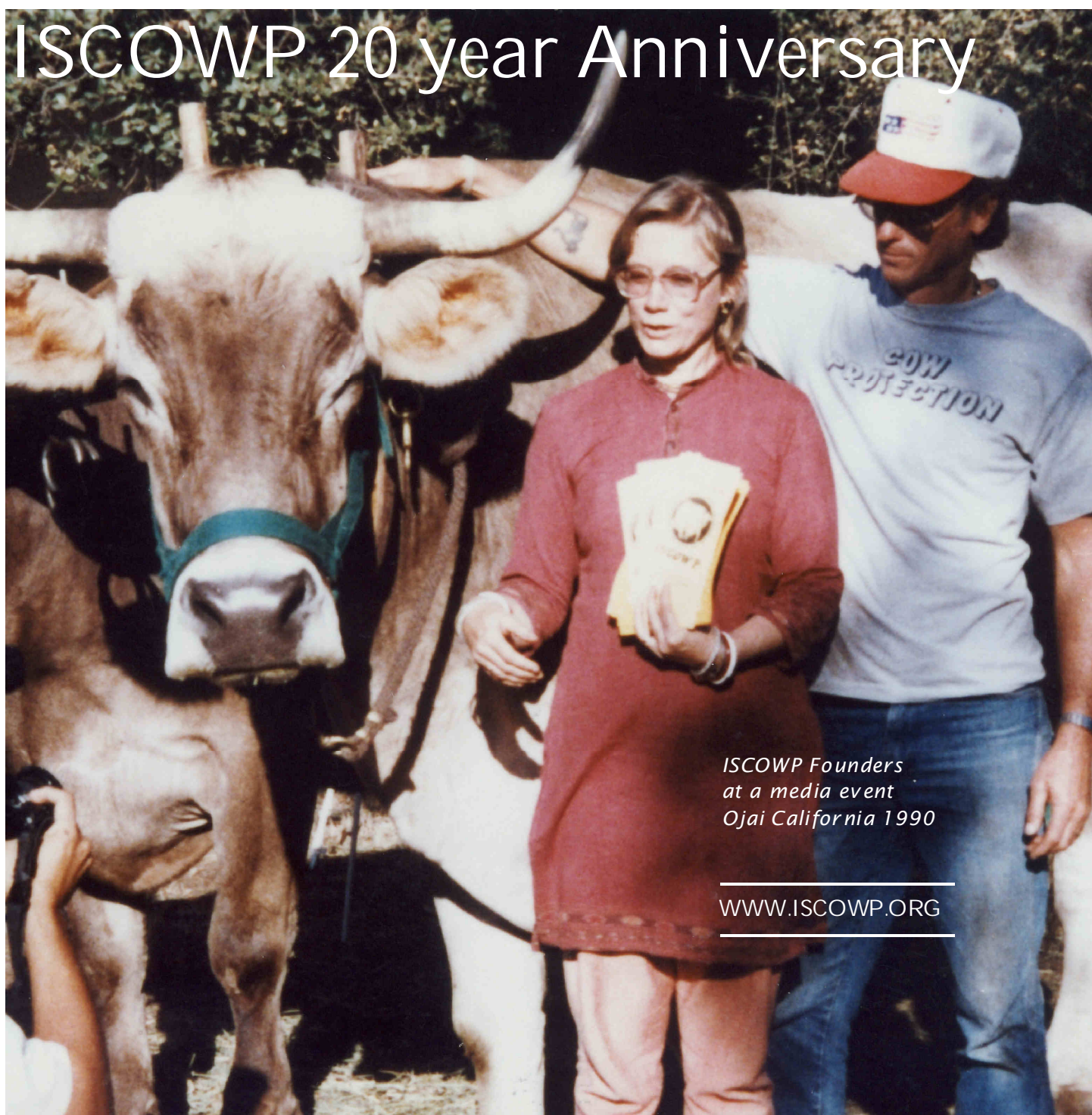


ISCOWP® News



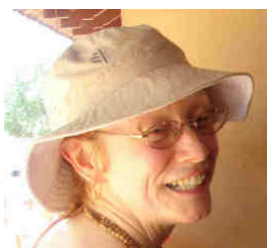
ISCOWP 20 year Anniversary



ISCOWP Founders
at a media event
Ojai California 1990

WWW.ISCOWP.ORG

Compassionate cow protection, 20 years 1990—2010



Dear ISCOWP Members,

This year marks the 20th year since ISCOWP has been incorporated. When we first started ISCOWP we could never have imagined the road we were to travel down; the experiences, heartaches, desperations and joys that caring for cows would bring us. The greatest part of the past 20 years has been you are supporters who have made it possible for us to travel this road. ISCOWP is totally supported by individual donations, and it is you who can take credit for the last 20 years of ISCOWP and its future. Every donation we receive reminds us of your participation and support and how wondrous it is that you have trusted us to properly utilize your gift for the cows. We look forward to another 20 years of cow protection with you traveling down the road by our side. Thank you for all you do.

Yours, Chayadevi

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ISCOWP Profile

The official International Society for Cow Protection, Inc. (ISCOWP) was incorporated in the USA, March 1990, as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization. William and Irene Dove (Balabhadra das and Chayadevi dasi) are its managing directors. They are disciples of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, the Founder Acharya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON). Through their spiritual master's teachings, they have imbibed the practices and benefits, both spiritual and material, of lifetime cow protection.

Cow protection means enabling cows to live out their natural lives with love and affection. The tenets of cow protection are universal and nonsectarian, available to all regardless of race, creed, or nationality.

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www.iscowp.org/Donate.htm

To donate by mail:
Make out check to ISCOWP and send to ISCOWP mailing address

A copy of each year's ISCOWP IRS Form 990-EZ is available at www.guidestar.org

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www.iscowp.org/T-shirts/T-Shirts.htm

Adopt A Cow

www.iscowp.org/AAC/Adopt%20A%20Cow%20Today.htm

Editor's note

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Protect the Cows: Build the Barn Roof!



Left to right: hay barn, new, old, and geriatric barns and one of two ISCOWP residences.

Do you think the roof might collapse? That was the question and fear this winter with the continual heavy snowfall during February.

It has been apparent for years that the old barn roof needed help. The old barn was built in the mid 1960's when the farm was owned by the Ramineck family. Since then most of the roofing material has not been replaced. We have been patching the roof as needed, discovering more paper thin tin each year. Leaks are obvious along the support posts and on the barn

floor. It is now quiet apparent that the roof has gone past the patching stage and needs to be replaced with new tin roofing. Help us make this year the year of no leaks!

It is basically a simple job of removing the old tin and replacing it with new tin. The basic roof structure is still sound, but there might be a place or two that some of the wooden support structure will need to be replaced as well. We have had several roofing contractors look at the roof and turn in BIDS for labor only. So far the BIDS have all been close to \$4,000 just for labor.

We will be ordering the tin roofing material from one of our neighbors who supplied us with tin roofing when we built the new barn. The lightest colored roof shown in the photo is the old roof, 70 feet by 94 feet, which is the area that needs to be replaced. In our inspection with the first contractor we discovered some structural damage due to the heavy snow load last winter. We are fortunate to have the materials on hand to repair that problem.

The old barn roof is the light colored one in this photo. Some of the tin roof was installed 40 years ago and is now dangerously paper thin. Heavy snow or hail, as we had last winter, could collapse the roof!

We will be ordering the new corrugated tin roof with green enamel finish to match the new barn roof. We have spoken to our supplier and he is just waiting for our approval to make the order. With your help the old barn will get a new leak free roof that will last for another 40 years.

To Build a new roof:

Labor	\$4,000.00
Materials	\$7,000.00
Total:	\$11,000.00

A special feeding of treats to all 20 members of the herd will be done in honor of any donor of \$1000 or more with prayers for the physical and spiritual well being of the donor. A picture will be sent of the event. This is besides the monthly gifts of dried organic produce from our garden. To find out more and how you can donate click this link: (thank you) www.iscowp.org/Project/Project%203c.htm !

Letters

Appreciation

From: Raj
To: ISCOWP
Sent: Tuesday, September 01, 2009 2:32
Subject: Re: Thank you

I feel honored to have made the donation. Thanks for sending me the ISCOWP newsletters.

When I was in India this March, my dad asked me to donate some money for cow protection. As you may be aware, there are some organizations in India trying to protect cows from getting slaughtered and modified genetically with other varieties. I wanted to donate to some in India and was doing research when I found you on the web. I was pleasantly surprised to see loving faces and smiling cows in your farm. As Krishna is dear so also are cows to me. That's when I decided to know more about you.

Are you doing anything outside US in India? I feel each ISKCON center around the world should have ISCOWP next to it supporting cows.

From: Pandu das
To: ISCOWP
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2009 11:53 PM
Subject: Thanks.

Dear Balabhadra Prabhu,

I just wanted to thank you for expressing your appreciation for our work and giving further inspiration. You are such a great role model and pioneer in the field of cow protection in the West, so your words really meant a lot to me. Hare Krishna.

From: Labangalatika dasi
To: ISCOWP
Subject: Gaurangi
Date: Mar 9, 2010 5:28 AM

I hope Balabhadra reached home safe and sound and has recovered from the journey. Did you have a nice dinner at Rajlaxmi Joshi's place? I was delighted to see you looking so well. Your recovery is amazing. The photos I took are very nice. I'll send one at a time. Here is Gaurangi/She just loved you!

From: Melissa Flores
To: ISCOWP
Sent: Sunday, October 25, 2009 11:58
Subject: Re: Sri

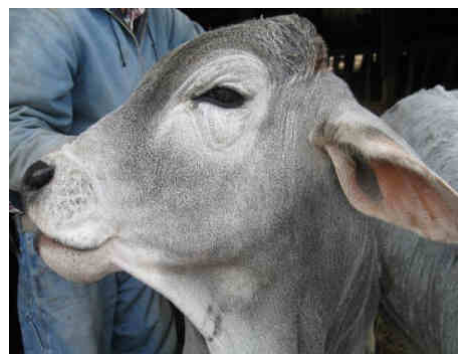
Thank you so much for the lovely update! I am very happy to hear that my adopted ox Sri is doing well and living a happy life. Thank you also for this opportunity to serve!
From your servant and well wisher.

From: Radhapriya devi dasi
To: ISCOWP
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2009 7:08
Subject: Re: Thank you

Thank you very much for the regular updates on my adopted ox Priya. They really are a treat as is the produce ya'll regularly send. I'm very much appreciating the dried bitter melon. Our crops here in Austin did



Asha enjoys the spring weather.



Sri came to the ISCOWP farm with his brother Priya and his sister Amrita.

not do so well this year due to the intense drought and excessive heat we had this summer. So it's a nice treat.

It is so nice to see and hear about the cows and bulls living happily and being protected. Thank you very much for your kind service. All



Balabhadra with Gaurangi at Labangalatika's Govardhan Trust in Raigad, India.

glories to You and the other devotees who are selflessly dedicating your lives to fulfilling the other half of Srila Prabhupada's mission. I hope one day I will be able to come and visit.

From: Shrutadev
To: ISCOWP
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2009 10:24
Subject: Re: Radhe Shyam

Thank you so much for the lovely update and nice photos. You are very kind to take the time to keep us informed. It makes me want to fly right out there and chant some rounds to Radhe Shyam, my adopted cow, in that beautiful fall weather! Thank you and Hare Krishna.

From: Gupta das
To: ISCOWP
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2009 6:19 PM
Subject: RE: Asha

Its nice to see Asha, my adopted cow. She really is becoming a beauty. Thank you for all you do. Your service is inviting the Visnudutas to your door. Hari Bole

Recommended Reading New Cow Protection Books

From: Chris Fici
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2009 9:33
Subject: A New Look On Cow Protection

Click yogaofecology.blogspot.com for more articles in addition to this one, that give environmental knowledge, practical resources, and spiritual wisdom for the land and heart.

By Chris Evans on 3 Oct 2009
September 27th, Secunderabad, India

– At an event covered by state and national media, Andhra Pradesh Minister of Education Sri D. Sridhar Babu launched a book by ISKCON devotee Dr. Sanjay Shah (Sahadeva Dasa) entitled *To Kill Cows Means To End Human Civilization*.

Speaking to an audience that included four vice-chancellors of Andhra Pradesh universities, the Minister congratulated Dr. Shah for his work in promoting ancient India's cow protection values. He also discussed the need for more information and awareness in the area.

Dr. Shah's book laments the fact that people today are treating other life forms as if they are inert objects, devoid of any feelings whatsoever. "We are showing unprecedented

"Cows are the very representative of God's voiceless creations, a symbol of selfless service to man in life and in death," Shah explains. "Our attitude towards this important animal will decide our fate. Strange or even eccentric though it may sound, cows will prove to be the making or breaking point for humanity."

Shah believes we are already standing at the ultimate crossroads. Dangerous challenges from environmental, moral, economic and health fronts are



Cows were treated like family members and looked upon with great respect in the Hindu society. Donating a cow to a poor individual was considered to be a very good deed. This photo was taken by Balabhadra while at the ISKCON Tirupati, India goshalla (cow protection facility).

cruelty and callousness towards those creations of God with whom we share this planet," Shah states. "Cruelty has been industrialized, and barbarism institutionalized."

The mistreatment of animals today is the worst in human history, he says, claiming that the unspeakable treatment meted out to animals will never go unpunished by the stringent laws of nature.

staring us in the face. Global uncertainties are mounting, and humanity's future prospects look increasingly bleak.

"Before it's too late," says Shah, "Mankind has to get back to the cow – back to its mother."

To Kill Cows Means To End Human Civilization is available for reading and download at: www.cowism.com. The author can be reached at sahadevadasa@gmail.com

From: Chris Fici
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2010 5:36
Subject: A New Book For Mother Cow

By Bhakta Chris Evans:

We are pleased to announce the release of the latest book by Dr Sahadeva dasa, "Cow and Humanity – Made For Each Other."

This book discusses the vital role of cows in the peace and progress of human society. Among other things, it also addresses the modern ecological concerns. It emphasizes the point that

nature's incomes. It started gorging upon resources that took nature millions of years to create and which were saved up by nature according to its own plan of functioning.

Nature has her own way; she better understands her own affairs than we. We have one planet to live on and all our needs have to be satisfied with whatever is here. We can not import a thing from other planets for our survival, no matter how much we advertise our dubious moon missions by getting worthless rocks and blowing billions.

This is where cow comes into picture. Living with cow is living on nature's income instead of squandering her capital. In the universal scheme of creation, fate of humans has been attached to cows, to an absolute and overwhelming degree. This implies that welfare and well-being of cows means progress and prosperity of humans and neglect and mistreatment of cows means degradation and ruin of humans. In the natural plan, human society should depend on cows for its requirements of economic prosperity, food production, soil fertility,



Pandu beginning to train an ox at Belarus in –22 F.

'eCOWlogy' is the original God made ecology. For all the challenges facing mankind today, mother cow stands out as the single answer.

"We're finally going to get the bill for the Industrial Age. If the projections are right, it's going to be a big one: the ecological collapse of the planet," says Jeremy Rifkin. (Jeremy Rifkin started the Beyond Beef campaign in 1992 of which ISCOWP was a coalition member). At the dawn of the industrial age two hundred years ago, humanity took a wrong turn when it started living on nature's capital instead of na-

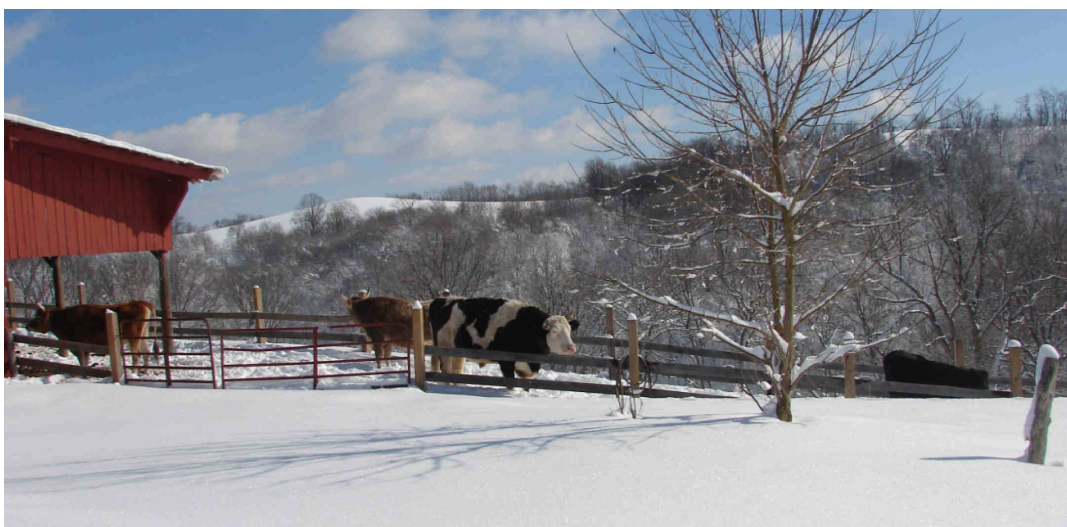
This senseless exploitation of resources can not go on forever. This cradle to grave economics in which we turn every natural resource into a toxic waste is inherently self-destructive because in nature, there is no such thing as waste. So called waste generated by one living being is effectively utilized by another and so on until nothing is left over. This is called the cycle of life. But today our linear system of living which is immensely destructive has replaced this natural cyclical system.

So called waste generated by one living being is effectively utilized by another and so on until nothing is left over. This is called the cycle of life.

nutrition, healthcare, fuel supply, transport, spiritual well-being, sustainable development, individual and social peace, higher consciousness, development of human qualities, performance of religious duties, environmental protection, ecological preservation and balance, advancement of art & culture, cottage industry etc. All the maladies staring in the face of human society today can be traced to one factor – humanity distancing itself from the protection and service to cows. Therefore the Vedas, the greatest repository of knowledge, crown the bovine species with the loving title "mother".

This book by Dr Dasa has many interesting stories and illustrations that go well with facts presented therein. The entire book is available for free reading at www.cowism.com.

Balabhadra met Dr. Sahadeva das in Mayapur, India during his travels in February of this year. Balabhadra was very impressed with Dr. Sahadeva as a person and his understanding of cow protection. We highly recommend reading his books.



The winter was harsh with lots of snow blocking the farm lane and causing loss of electricity.

ISCOWP Farm Update

It was a harsh winter. We had no electricity for one week due to heavy snowfall which caused a tree to fall on the electrical line in the woods. We bought a generator so we could be sure to have enough water for the cows. Usually we have enough water to last us for a few days after an electrical failure. This is due to a 1000 gallon holding tank on the hill above the barns and adjacent residences. However, this loss of electricity lasted more than a few days.

We were also snowed in for most of the month of February with only a few days in which we could get down the lane from our farm to the paved road. Of course this did not bother the cows and they passed through the winter without incident. Now we are officially in Spring and the rain has been plentiful making it difficult to schedule projects like building the new



Top: Baby Balaji, Lakshmi's and Janaka's son, helps greet the first arrival of guests this year. Since 2008 Gadadhara Pandit, on far left, along with Doyal Gouranga have been bringing students to ISCOWP from New York City to experience cow protection
Bottom: Kyra is brushing Sri and helping with farm chores. She and others are coming to do the service that Balabhadra can't do.

Building the new water tank in the barnyard will likely happen in the summer when the ground is sure to be dry. Thank you for gifting the funds needed for this project.

water tank in the barnyard which will most likely happen in the summer when the ground is sure to be dry. Thank you all for gifting the funds needed for this project.

The new fence line that was started in early winter of last year could not be completed due to weather conditions and is now one of the major projects we are trying to finish soon. All the 200 locust posts have been taken from our forest and split by hand and some have been pounded into the ground. We have 165 posts yet to be pounded into the ground. This can not be done when the ground is wet and so the progress is weather controlled.

Beginning plants in the greenhouse, cultivating the soil, and planting are activities necessary to preparing the garden. Besides vegetables, and flowers we have some apple and plum trees to plant this year along with some berry bushes. We are always thinking of possible new produce that dries well to send to you as gifts. Plums are supposed to be the most nutritious dried fruit. However, it will be about 3 years before they produce fruit.

Of course rebuilding the barn roof is on the top of the list of major projects to accomplish this season. We are confident with your help it can be done timely and the cows will have a secure roof over their head for years to come. No more leaks in the barn from this year forward!



Wenda Shehata makes cow dung patties and other cow dung products such as incense to support her program.



One of the new areas for the cows at the new goshalla at Bhaktivedanta Manor in England. A beautiful new facility.

and assorted chickens, ducks, and geese. Wenda and Mathew's cows are all rescues. Most of them come to Wenda and Mathew in a traumatic condition and are nursed back to good health by the great amount of love and sensitive care they receive. An exemplary project with exemplary care givers.

From Wenda's Animal Sanctuary I made an overnight stop at The Bhaktivedanta Manor in England and saw the new goshalla that was recently finished. It is very large and well built with clean milking parlor and large and comfortable areas for all of the cows/oxen and bulls. There are viewing areas at the milk parlor for the many guests to watch the cows being milked and also a small farm store. Syamasundara prabhu and the other devotee cowherds there are doing a wonderful job and the animals are very comfortable.

Belarus

From the old village we had to walk the last 800 meters to the New Vraja

ISCOWP Outreach

Early this year, during January and part of February, Balabhadra traveled to England, Belarus, Ukraine and places in India to visit current and prospective cow protection programs. This is the most practical time for him to make a trip abroad as the labor needed on our ISCOWP farm during the winter is limited. Not only does he distribute knowledge and encourages cow protection programs, but he also attains inspiration and knowledge from other cowherds. The following is a travel diary from Balabhadra.

England

Wenda Shehata makes cow dung patties for sale to support her program Hugllets Wood Farm Animal Sanctuary located in England. While I was there I learned the traditional way of making cow dung patties from Wenda. She and Mathew protect 42 cows and oxen, several sheep, Wilbur the pig,



After a cold morning training the cows and oxen we returned to the Radharani house in the village for lunch. About 20 devotees came for lunch after a cold day of serving the cows. During lunch we talked about setting up a Facebook page for the farm. That evening Vishwambhar Prabhu set up a page under his wife's name....Prabhavati devi.

Mandala farm as the snow was too deep and the devotees didn't have a 4 wheel drive vehicle. It is beautiful country, but very cold.....-30 C. (-22 F). Despite the harsh conditions the 56 cows are in good health and cared for nicely They are very friendly due to being taken care of with lots of love.

Govardhana Charitable Trust
Govardhan Charitable Trust is a cow protection program being run by Labangalatika devi dasi and her husband Prakash Malik. They have 35 acres of land in Roha, India and protect 51 cows/oxen and bulls. They make cow urine and cow dung

products and grow rice, cashews and Mangoes. Labangalatika is a disciple of Srila Prabhupada the founder acharya of the Hare Krsna Movement. Her project is very nicely managed and her cows are taken care of with love and devotion. When medical needs arise, Labangalatika uses mostly homeopathic remedies.



Labangalatika of Govardhan Charitable Trust with two of her young bulls.

I spent some time with Ananda dasi to give her some more hands-on tips on working with oxen. Since my last visit in 2008, I have been working very closely with the devotees in Belarus to encourage them to become more and more involved in their cow program. Several festivals have been held at the farm and now the devotees own three homes in the village close to the farm with other devotees negotiating to buy more of the old village homes. Repair work is ongoing in the barn as well as added shelter being built for the cows. The electricity is now back on and water is now available for the cows on site. Without electricity to run the pump the cows were just left to fend for themselves while out grazing. The devotees have started an Adopt-A-Cow program with close to 1/2 of their cows being adopted. The men meet on a regular basis and are laying plans for 2010 development at the farm.



One of the young devotee cowherds in the ISKCON Tirupati goshalla. This goshalla was the cleanest goshalla I visited. This quality of care helps the cows to be calm.

Tirupati, India

Tirupati ISKCON is a very large and beautiful temple and the Home of Sri Sri Radha Govinda. The temple is managed by Revati Raman Prabhu. They have a School for 300 children and are presently taking care of 200 cows/oxen and bulls. Currently there are two different properties for the animals as well as a large tract of land where vegetables and fruit are being grown. On this large tract of land there are over 25 acres of well established mango groves.

The cows are very well maintained and the facilities for the cows are always kept clean. One of the main projects is the development of the



One of the young cows at the ISKCON Vrindavan goshalla. There has been great improvement at this goshalla since I first visited in 2002.

local breeds of Indian cows, some of which are close to being extinct. All in all a great temple with wonderful devotees and well managed projects.

Mayapur, India

I was in Mayapur for 2 weeks attending the GBC meetings. ISKCON Mayapur has a large goshalla with over 250 cows/oxen and bulls. The weather is usually very nice, but like everywhere else this year, they had a harsh winter for a tropical climate. When I first arrived it was still sweater weather in the evening and early morning but warm during the day.

There are many pilgrims who visit this large temple and goshalla as well. During my visit there was a large group of Russian speaking devotees and as tradition goes it was called Russian day in Mayapur. This means that the Russian speaking devotees take one day and do all of the service for the whole temple project from cooking to cleaning and so on. There were 120 devotees who signed up to go to the goshalla to serve the cows. I was asked to speak to them for 1 hour. We had a nice discussion about cow protection (I had a translator) and then they cleaned the goshalla, washed the cows, and then fed the cows fresh cut grass. The devotees were very enthusiastic and had a wonderful time serving the cows. The cows were also in total ecstasy due to all the extra attention.



On Russian day in Mayapur, 120 Russian speaking devotees came to the goshalla to clean the facilities and bathe the cows.



Nina (Balabhadra's secretary in Belarus) receiving a kiss from one of the cows in the Ukraine.



Kurma Rupa Prabhu, with guests from New Zealand, and one of his protected cows at Care for Cows in Vrindavan India. If you ever go to Vrindavan, a visit to Care for Cows is a must.

There was one lady who at the end of the service period was crying. I asked her why she was crying. She said she was so happy to be able to serve the cows and that her tears were sweet tears of love for the cows

Vrindavan, India

ISKCON Vrindavan has the largest numbers of cows in ISKCON....350 animals altogether. The goshalla is making nice progress in their cow care and more devotees are involved as opposed to hired help.

Kurma Rupa's care for cows project is the premier cow care project in Vrindavan. He is mostly dealing with hurt and abandoned animals. An outstanding project based on loving care for the cows. A must to visit for anyone going to Vrindavan

Jaipur, India

My next stop was ISKCON Jaipur to meet with Pancharata Prabhu to discuss the development of the ISKCON Ministry of Cow Protection in India. The need to have representatives in different countries is very important. For India we discussed the need for a representative in the North, South, East and West. Besides these four regions there will be a need to have an overall coordinator.

In ISKCON Jaipur they have 34 cows and a first class cowherd and family serving the cows.

All About You



Author Vaishnavi Karthik age 11

While on the road, we look to both our sides, and see cows grazing on the grass along the highways. The first thought that occurs to some of us, is the dark side of this, which is of course the slaughter houses. The strong stench makes us want to get away, causing us to forget what this is caused by. Every day, we look around to see many people eating away at their food which in most cases, happens to be meat. Because of hunger, most tend to forget and perhaps ignore the source of their food. While they are enjoying a luxurious life, the cows and other animals are brought into slaughter houses, and killed for meat, and the happiness of other people. It is rare that anyone gets into the animal's shoe to think about all the pain they are going through because of inconsiderate people. We kill the animal for our happiness, and

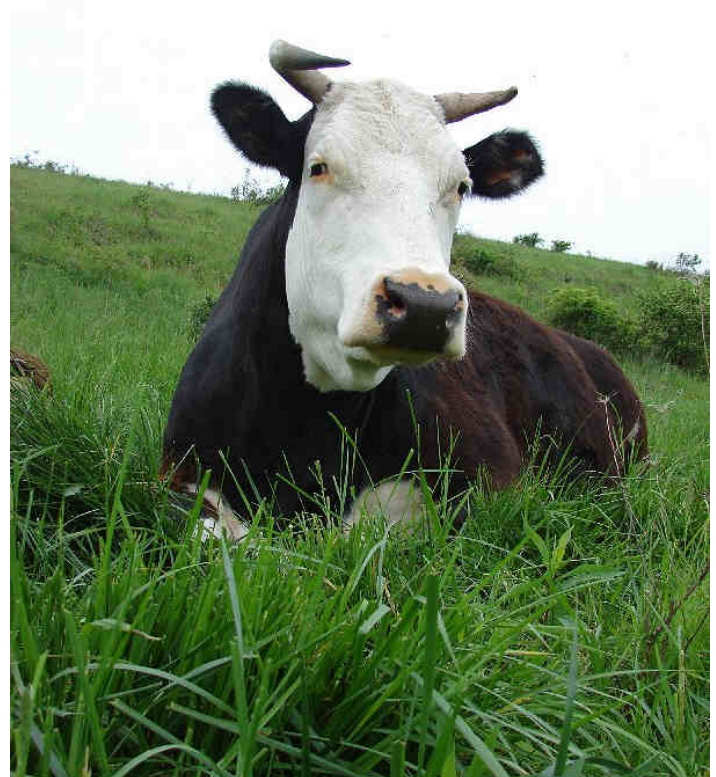
"needs", as if there is no way out of this situation. Unfortunately, many assume that there is no way, since they love the food they are eating.

Here, in California, where my sister, mom, and dad live, plenty of vegetarian foods are available...but no one chooses to eat them, they opt for meat instead. But has anyone thought about the fact that we wouldn't like to be killed for someone else's comfort? If someone even hurts, scrapes, or pushes us, we blame and insult them. But for the animals, their entire life is gone, and they can't rebel, since obviously, they can't talk. We take advantage of this, torture them, and kill them. Remember, what goes around, comes around. We do badly by killing millions every day, not much good is going to be coming back to us.

But at the end, what this brings us to think about is what we can do to help these helpless, innocent animals, and make others understand the importance of vegetarianism. This is where we came to know about ISCOWP, through ISKCON. ISCOWP does a noble job by bringing cows to a safe and caring environment, where they will be raised with the generous donations of many families. ISCOWP does a spectacular job of caring for the animals they raise, and everyone should consider donating to a useful, helpful, and kind society like them if donating to any at all.

My family has been donating monthly to ISCOWP for over 5 years, and even when money is tight, nothing bad will come of donating. When everyone comes together to

help a great cause, the end result will be successful, but most of all, we will feel like we had a part in making it happen. But for right now, there is something small that we all can do. Some of this includes making one meal of the day vegetarian, and increase the number as it goes. More and more people can join organizations such as ISCOWP, and help spread word of the importance of vegetarianism. Hand in hand, we can all make a difference in the world just by doing our own small part. As of right now, the meat industries are thriving, especially when it comes to holidays like Thanksgiving, and the phrase "vegetarianism is thriving" is an oxymoron. But with everyone's help, the phrase "meat-eating/meat industry is thriving" will be a new oxymoron!



Gauravani is one of the cows adopted by Vaishnavi's family.

Q & A: ISCOWP Future

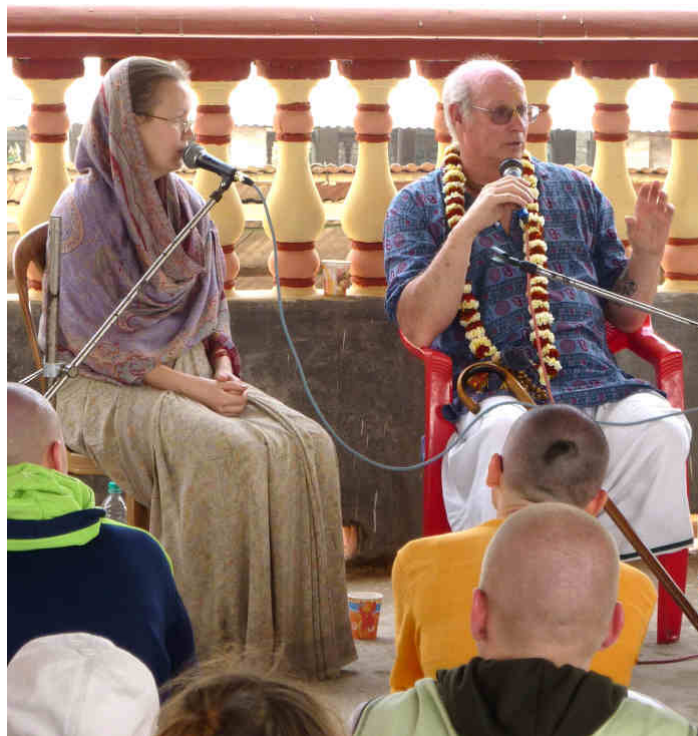
From: Karthik & Kamatchi
To: ISCOWP
Sent: Sunday, January 03,
2010 1:42 PM

You people have always done a great service by adopting the cows and also serving them. Thanks for everything.....have you any idea of adopting any more cows in the near future? or the costs have gone up that it makes it very difficult to manage everything???? Just curious to know how things are going on. We constantly read a lot about how much this country is dependant on meat so the meat industry is thriving very well but we feel pathetic about the number of animals getting killed especially the cows. Really don't know much as to what to do except support groups like you who are doing a wonderful job.

From: ISCOWP
To: Karthik & Kamatchi
Sent: Thursday, March 11,
2010 12:16 PM

We also feel saddened about the number of cows being killed in this country for meat and very much wish we could protect more cows. Since Balabhadra's heart attack, analysis of spinal deterioration that caused him not to be able to walk for two months, Lakshmi breaking her wrist and having a baby, we have had to hire labor to care for the farm since they were the free labor force on the farm. Chayadevi is doing a lot of what Lakshmi used to

do as well as what she always did as far as the paperwork. We need to collect more money than we did before to run the farm as our free labor is not available. So far we are managing due to the generosity of ISCOWP members and are hopeful that eventually



Balabhadra speaking, with translator, about cow protection to 120 Russian devotees at the Mayapur, India goshalla.

qualified persons will appear to help us with the fulltime responsibilities of running the ISCOWP farm. Presently we can not afford to care for more than the number of cows we have now which is 20. So, we are not looking to adopt more cows soon.

What we are learning is that we can influence others to protect cows and to protect them in a compassionate way. You must

have noticed the descriptions of Balabhadra's travels to cow protection programs and those interested in starting such programs in various locations. These trips have been fully sponsored by the interested parties and have been mostly under the banner of the ISKCON

Ministry for Cow Protection and Agriculture of which Balabhadra has been Global Minister since 1998.

We feel by these travels we can protect far more cows than the maximum number of 26 that our present facility can nicely provide for. So far we have functioning representatives in Europe, Belarus, Australia, and Ukraine. Representation is also developing elsewhere.

ISKCON, the International Society for Krsna Consciousness, maintains the Hindu tenets that by protecting the cow there are spiritual as well as material benefits for society at large.

The tenets of cow protection are universal and nonsectarian, available to all regardless of race, creed or nationality.

Within ISKCON there are presently 1000 plus cows under protection and the possibility of more cows in many different countries coming under its protection. Naturally, the ISKCON Ministry is a good place to begin to spread cow protection throughout the world. However, ISCOWP has the goal to reach beyond any religious doctrine as our profile states on page two of this newsletter: "The tenets of cow protection are universal and nonsectarian, available to all regardless of race, creed, or nationality."

ISCOWP and the Ministry have worked cooperatively for years. The shared goals of distributing the knowledge of cow protection, establishing a high standard of competent, compassionate cow care and expanding the number of cow protection programs has created cooperation. Until now we have been more involved in developing our ISCOWP

farm as we had to develop it from scratch. Now that we have the basic ISCOWP farm infrastructure built on 165 acres and it is all paid for, we feel that what remains is maintenance of the facility and its activities as an example for our outreach activities and for the protection of the cows

Now we are in transition. After 20 years we are now entering into another era of the development of ISCOWP. Some of you who have been with us for awhile may remember the different phases or eras of development from traveling with oxen across the country, our first center on 3 acres in North Carolina, our stay at Prabhupada Village on 22 acres, and our acquisition and development of our present ISCOWP farm in West Virginia.

We are now striving to reach beyond our ISCOWP farm and at the same time maintain our cows, garden, grounds, local outreach, and membership care. We are very

We are very attached to our farm and members and very grateful for having the opportunity to personally serve the cows in a beautiful setting and for the wonderful support of our ISCOWP members who are like family to us.

attached to our farm and members and very grateful for having the opportunity to personally serve the cows in a beautiful setting and for the wonderful support of our ISCOWP members who are like family to us. We pray for the intelligence in this transition period to move forward in a way that is true to our members and the cows and encompasses a wider reach beyond our farm for the purpose of protecting more cows.



Balabhadra and loving calf in Ukraine.

Ukraine Highlight

Bezvodnoe is a small village close to Nikoliev. On good roads it takes a little over 3 hours from Odessa. The weather was very cold and the roads were basically a sheet of ice and snow with many pot holes. It took us 6 hours to reach Nicoliev safely but we were very tired from the long and arduous trip.

The cows are of a local breed and friendly. There are two small barns and one big barn. When the big barn is completely finished all 26 cows will move into the big barn.

Dhanesvara das had invited me to come to speak to the devotees about cow protection and training oxen. Mostly we talked about developing rural Krsna Conscious communities, devotional cow care and working the oxen. Bhakta Oleg and his wife Bhaktin Tanya and daughter Godavari are the driving force behind the development of their village. They have 26 cows and oxen. I think there are 16 devotees there and they are trying to fix up old village houses and build some new ones. They have one green house which produced a huge amount of vegetables last year, plus many fruit trees and berry bushes which are well established from days of yore. They are slowly buying up properties in the village and eventually plan to have a school. Bhakta Oleg is a business man and is the one financing everything....he is also a cow man and has a heart of gold.

I will be traveling to the Ukraine in November 2010 to train the oxen and train others how to train the oxen.



Just before our departure from Ukraine we took a group photo with the devotees.



Christina Marie, Twister Lee, Lillian and Bitey Jane

Home for Wayward Holsteins!

Written by Judy Gross, founder of Home for Wayward Holsteins

When I quit my job as an editor in 2003, I never dreamed I'd end up the keeper of the Home for Wayward Holsteins!

through the parlor! Good grief, she was a pistol. Yet out in the barn, she was perfectly friendly, and loved to be scratched and petted. She just didn't want to be milked! She had one of

I'd grown weary of the daily grind of running a small-town newspaper and faced with the prospect of yet another corporate buy-out, decided it was time for a change. Since I lived in mid-Michigan – dairy country – and had always loved animals, a friend suggested that milking cows might be the perfect job for me. I opened the “help wanted” ads, noticed a local farmer was hiring and went knocking on his barn door. In the beginning, I think he suspected I'd lost my mind – or, perhaps, was a “plant” from PETA! – but I ended up working for him for over 2 years. My Holsteins all are culls from his herd.

Christina Marie, AKA #122, was the first cow I bought. She was the KICKIEST heifer I've ever seen go

those “tight” udders that made milking uncomfortable, I think. Even now, if you touch her udder, her foot will come up like it's attached to a lever.

One day, my boss was loading up a nice old cow to take to a dairy demonstration at the local fairgrounds. I joked that he should consider taking #122 instead, and REALLY giving the crowd a show! He replied that #122 was going on the truck, too – but to the slaughter auction! All morning, while I milked, I pondered that fact, and afterwards I went home, changed my clothes, headed down to the sale barn and bought her.

My second cow, Twister Lee, is a registered Holstein who kept going cystic (wouldn't get pregnant) so my boss culled her. At the time, I was toying with the idea of trying to build up a herd of my own, so off to the sale barn I went. This time I had learned my lesson, though. Several of the slaughter buyers had bid against me when I got Christine -- she ended up being the top-selling cull cow that day. Grrr! This time around, I figured out where those buyers were sitting, lopped myself down in their row, and



Bitey Jane and her friends with Judy Gross.

during a brief intermission, announced loudly to everyone that I milked for a local farmer and was there to buy my favorite cow who had been culled from his herd. Ya know, only one of those old boys bid against me, and he only bid once? Twist's a big girl, though, and tipped the sales at over 1,700 lbs., so I still ended up paying \$1100 for her.

The third addition to my herd, Bitey Jane, was named after the funny white blaze on her face, which looks like bite marks! She was the first cow in the herd I recognized by sight because of her distinctive face. Also, she has an unusually sweet temperament. Bitey loves other cows and people. She's patient and long-suffering. She will just about lick you to death! When I was a milker, I'd always look out for her when I was rounding up the cows. I'd stop and pet her, and she'd put her head on my shoulder, and I'd tell her someday I was going to take her away to live in green pastures instead of a concrete feedlot. And that dream came to pass after she developed an abscess in a front hoof and her milk production dropped off drastically. As she was already a fifth-lactation cow, the farmer was willing to sell her to me, and I brought her home in the fall of 2005. A veterinarian drained the abscess, and following a course of antibiotics, she's been sound ever since.

The year 2007 saw some drastic changes at the Home for Wayward Holsteins. In April, Christine gave birth to a heifer calf following her rendezvous with a neighbor's Angus bull. Lillian is 3 now, and while she looks like a beef cow, she inherited her mother's spunky, mischievous but generally amiable disposition. July 2007 saw more changes as we packed our collective bags and moved from Lake City, Michigan, to Carnegie, Pennsylvania, where my future husband lived. Since he's a city boy, I had to buy a separate property in Beaver County for "the girls" as well

as my assorted other critters, including an Alpine goat, two dogs, and an ever-expanding number of cats.

The girls have been happy here in western Pennsylvania, where the winters (present one excluded!) aren't as harsh as they were "back home." My four acres allows them a couple paddocks and a small grassy area where they get to graze one or two days a week in the summer. Otherwise, every day they each get a bale of the best hay I can buy, plus about 10 lbs of sweet feed. They're no longer being bred or milked, and are merely living out their lives in as much comfort as I can provide.



Christina Marie was the first cow saved.

In January of this year, Judy wrote us an email. "So I'm writing to ask whether you might consider taking the girls in the event of my untimely demise. I believe you're located fairly close which is of concern to me ... I wouldn't want the girls trailered a long distance; it would be very stressful for them. Also, I'd very much like them to be kept together if at all possible. They would very much grieve being separated, I think. Rest assured the funds would be available to transport them and to care for them for the rest of *their natural lives.*"

We were impressed with Judy's forethought and agreed to take her cows if there would be a need to do so.

20 Years Later

ISCOWP was incorporated in 1990 while we lived at the ISKCON Gita Nagari farm in Pennsylvania USA. That year we traveled across the country with the oxen Burfy and Lee and our two teenage children to spread the awareness of cow protection.

The picture on the front page was taken by Urvashi dasi who had hosted us in Ojai while we were commissioned to display the oxen at the Ventura County Fair where we became the most popular booth in the livestock area. We had our large sign and literature about cow protection on display. After a week of crowds coming everyday to our booth fascinated by the large size of our oxen and curious how it was that these animals would not be slaughtered like all the rest of the animals in the livestock area after the fair was finished, we were told by the fair managers to leave because we were representing a different philosophy than that of the fair. This event caused a very favorable reaction of newspaper and radio coverage of our activities at the fair and the general purpose of our organization. Much of this reaction was stimulated by Mayesvara das who had connections with the local media and wrote the first newspaper article about ISCOWP being told to leave the fair. The first amendment, the freedom of speech, stimulated the outflow of public support even from people who were not vegetarian, what to speak of being devotees.

In 1992 we were still traveling with oxen, except by this time we had saved Vraja and Gita from slaughter and they became our traveling team. The picture on the back cover shows the second time we led the Denver Rathayatra parade with Vraja and Gita. From 1990 to 1993 most of our activities consisted of leading parades and having booths with the oxen to raise the awareness of cow protection.

ISCOWP News

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