1e Exhaminer April/May 2016



Welcome - New President / **Ric Lozano**



Hello to all SCAMPP members and welcome to all guests and visitors. First off, I would like to say thank you for electing me president. That said, I am willing to do anything and everything within my abilities to help this organization thrive. I am fairly new to SCAMPP and am still learning every day. I urge all members to send me suggestions and recommendations as to how we can improve the association. Any submissions are confidential and should be submitted directly to me at me personal e-

mail lozanoricardo9@yahoo.com. I intend to put forth recommendations to the board on some areas that I think can be changed for the better. I think we need to take advantage of the technological resources at our disposal to be able to reach out to more and more people, members or not. Also to utilize social media such as YouTube to launch GoFundMe campaigns to really generate strong funding for the organization. I will also be introducing a plan to diversify our monthly meetings and introduce new guest speakers in a wide range of topics as well as incorporate a social and interactive aspect (fun). I believe we need to look into selling something or at least providing something for a donation at events, even as simple as bottled water. I know it's difficult for people to transport their pigs to events so I plan on asking dealerships for donations for a full sized truck and animal trailer. I urge all members to open a Skype account and submityour info so people can still attend meetings and view guest speakers even if they are unable to physically attend. My love for animals is strong and having been fortunate enough to be a caretaker of piggies has been wonderful. We, as an organization, need to remember why we are here. We have a responsibility having domesticated these animals to provide them food, water, shelter and most importantly love. ~ Ricardo Lozano, 2016 SCAMPP President

Editor's Report Did you know?

It seems like forever since our last SCAMPP newsletter. We used to publish the newsletter every month, but towards the end of last year, the SCAMPP Board of Directors decided to switch to bi-monthly (every other month) newsletters in order to save printing and postage costs and give some breathing space between newsletters for our newsletter editor (me). Since it's been so long between newsletters, I wanted to catch you up on a few things and reminders.

- Did you know that SCAMPP did eight events over the last couple of months (and had to turn down two)? SCAMPP is getting more requests for schools & educational presentations.
- Did you know that SCAMPP has a mailing list and sends occasional meeting and event reminders via e-mail to keep you informed between newsletters of what's going on.? If you wish to make sure you are included on that list, please contact <u>peggy@scampp.com</u> or call 951-685-0467 (if you'd rather receive paper or phone reminders, let us know!).
- Did you know that SCAMPP T-shirts, tank tops, hats, visors and various other fundraiser items are available? See <u>http://scampp.com/SCAMPPstore.html</u> or call 951-685-0467.
- Did you know that SCAMPP has a piggy vetliston our website and if you do not see your piggy veton the list, you can contact <u>peggy@scampp.com</u> and ask that it be added? See: <u>http://scampp.com/Vet_Hoof.html</u>
- Did you know that SCAMPP has a Facebook, You Tube, and Yahoo Group List and the links are on the back of each newsletter?
- Did you know that SCAMPP has a Amazon Smile account and a Amazon Wish List? Check them outhere: <u>http://smile.amazon.com/ch/90-0428773</u>
- Did you know that you can donate unused portions of gift cards to SCAMPP? Check out the link here: <u>https://www.charitygiftcertificates.org/GCE/?CID=8880&LinkSource=11243</u>
- Did you know there are several ways you can help SCAMPP and that some of those ways do not involve money, but only a little bit of your time? For info, please contact <u>peggy@scampp.com</u> or call 951-685-0467 or see <u>http://scampp.com/help.html</u>
- Did you know that all donations to SCAMPP are tax-deductible & you do get a receipt?
- Did you know that SCAMPP's website is loaded with many helpful and informative pages? Check it out here: <u>http://scampp.com</u>
- Did you know that YOU are an important part of SCAMPP and YOU are needed for SCAMPP to succeed and help us to continue to try and fulfill our Mission Statement?



April/May 2016



And the

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Vinner is...

and Amy Stong from Pennsylvania

April/May 2016

Congrats Brendalee and Amy!

http://scampp.com

2

Walk With The Animals Event Riverside, CA ~ March 19, 2016





Mushu and Melba were the stars of the day





Our Annual Walk with the Animals event was on Saturday, March 19th. SCAMPP had 8 members and 2 pigs for the SCAMPP

Booth. Our members included Barbie and Scott from Canada who happened to be vacationing nearby here in California. They come out once or twice a year and it is always good to see them. A special Thank You to Barbie and Scott for joining us! After the event, SCAMPP had our Annual Potluck "PIGNIC in the Park" and SCAMPP provided Subway sandwiches for the members present. The pigs enjoyed fresh strawberries as special treats from Peggy B. (the other Peggy) ~ **by Peggy W**.



Yum! Fresh strawberries

Note from Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center, Riverside: What an incredible day the 24th Annual Walk with the Animals was! Walkers completed a 1.3 mile walk around Lake Evans at Fairmount Park then enjoyed an array of about 60 vendor booths and had the opportunity to get pet behavior tips, dogs got to play on agility equipment, attendees watched a demonstration by Riverside Police Department K9 Officers and filled their bellies a hearty pancake breakfast. More than \$53,000 was raised for the cats, dogs, puppies and kittens that reside at the Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center. You can see at least 365 photos taken by our photographer at <u>http://bit.ly/1pBVxnT</u>. We cannot thank all the vendors, volunteers, participants and sponsors enough! ~ *by Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center*



Once Upon A Swine ~ by Ric Lozano



Once upon a time, there was a little piggy named Mushu. Mushu is a very social and friendly little pig. So much so, that Mushu has been a very busy little piggy indeed! She has been traveling all over Southern California attending various events and festivals. Mushu has had <u>three Kiss the Pig events</u> recently at local elementary schools, as well as attending <u>The Butterfly Festival</u> held in Rubidoux (Jurupa Valley) California. She also was the star in a Docu-

mentary Film for some college film students from Los Angeles who wanted to do a documentary film project on pigs as pets. She has been doing very well at the Kiss the Pig events and seems to be more relaxed and calm with each event. She seems to know when we are going somewhere as she comes to the back of the Jeep and waits for me to pick her up and load her. She is very well suited to social events, but she is getting to the point of my not being able to pick her up. Working on ramps and maybe a different vehicle to be able to get her to these functions. We have been attending as many of these events as we can to generate as much money in donations as well as to raise awareness to what it takes to care for one of these fantastic animals. We will continue to attend as many events as possible, but remember we can use all the help we can get.

~ by Ricardo Lozano, SCAMPP President







Ric & Peggy W.

Peggy B.



SCAMPP has participated in this event for the last couple of years. They have many kinds of craft booths, other various animal booths, many activities for kids, live insect exhibits, live music food vendors, you can tour the nature museum on site and take a nature walk along the forest creek trail. They also had two "butterfly tents" full of butterflies and you could go in, learn about them, interact with them and even feed them. Then towards the end of the event, the park does a beautiful butterfly release, setting them free to migrate and populate. We only had 4 SCAMPP members to help at our SCAMPP Booth and MUSHU was our only show pig for the

Ric & Erin, Mushu's parents day. It was very windy and we were constantly



Chloe, dressed for the occasion trying to keep literature and products on the tables (it's a good thing Peggy W's husband Jerry came early to put sandbags on the EZ-Ups), but we did pretty good in raising donations and educating folks about potbellied pigs. We were told there was over 1.000 visitors to the event. ~ by Peggy Wimberly



Butterfly Tents

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Ms. Rode, Principal of Ellington Elementary School, kisses Mushu



Ms. Shirley, Principal of Orangewood Elementary School, kisses Mushu

As mentioned in Ric's article on page 6, Ric and Mushu did three Kiss the Pig events recently at local elementary schools. I tagged along as the admin / photographer / newsletter editor / support person. April 7th was at Ellington Elementary School in Covina, and April 8th was at Orangewood Elementary School in West Covina. These two schools heard about Mushu through a "Kiss The Pig" event that Mushu did in December for Washington Elementary School in Glendora. The kids at these schools exceeded

their sales goal by selling flavored Gourmet Premium Kettle Korn from Pacific Fundraisers. Ric and I each got a package of the PANDA Kettle Korn for bringing Mushu to the events; it was soooooooo good. And Pacific Fundraisers gave SCAMPP a very nice donation for bringing MUSHU, since the principals of the schools agreed to "Kiss A Pig" if the students exceeded their goal. Pacific Fundraisers made the event more fun by adding a Pig Race and a Pig Beauty Contest (using battery-operated plush pigs that wiggle, oink and walk). Teachers raced these pigs against each other for Top

Prize. And classrooms each got a plush pig to decorate and dress up for the Beauty Contest to be judged as

1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. They gave me one of these pigs too. I'm not sure what to do with it yet.... got any ideas (fundraiser for SCAMPP)? Let me know.



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Kiss The Pig ~ continued ~ by Peggy Wimberly



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was on hand to write an article for the front page of their newspaper - with a picture of Mr. Bohlender kissing Mushu (see: *http://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/socialaffairs/20160411/mariposa-principal-plants-one-on-pigs-lips-to-benefit-schoollibrary*); there is even a video on the school's website. Before the kiss, Mr. Bohlender (aka Mr. B) acted very nervous, applied his Burt's Bees' Lip Balm, and placed a piece of zucchini in his mouth to entice Mushu into the smooch. Kids giggled with delight as Mr. B's lips met those of Mushu.

Now..... we know that "kissing a pig" is considered, by some people, as a punishment or a gross humiliating reward to the person having to kiss a pig and some think that it teaches kids that pigs are filthy, nasty, disgusting bad creatures. We (SCAMPP) are there to teach the kids just the opposite. In fact, before scheduling these "Kiss a Pig" events, I explain to the school coordinator that pigs can be very precious, sweet, loving, affectionate pets if treated properly. I also explain the dilemma regarding the myth of the teacup pig and the problem of the many abused & abandoned potbellied pigs in shelters and sanctuaries these days. The schools allow us to bring our educational brochures to hand out to kids, teachers and parents. This particular school understood this so much when I told the coordinator Chuck Cole, that they also asked us to also do an educational presentation about potbellied pigs to the kids and explain that pigs are NOT dirty, filthy, disgusting bad creatures, etc. - after all, they saw how sweet, social and tame Mushu was. The Principal was very sweet and told the kids that they must respect Mushu and not scream loudly and frighten Mushu. The kids were very very respectful. The donations we receive from these events also helps SCAMPP to continue doing what we do as far as educational events. The more people we can educate before they make the mistake of buying what they think is "always" going to be a micro-mini teacup pig and then later abandoning it when it doesn't stay small is worth the work of these events. After all, KIDS are the next generation, right?



Editor's Note: This is the 2nd Herbivore Festival, and the second that SCAMPP has participated in. This event is so well attended (over 3,000 people) that it is planned to happen twice a year; the first Sunday in October and the first Sunday in May. The first one was last October, and I (Peggy W.) ran the SCAMPP Booth at that time (in the pouring rain). However, this May 1st event, I was unable to attend due to an annual trip out of town. I was glad that President Ric volunteered to run the booth this time, with the help of long-time members Rosalinde & Andreas. This was the first time Ric was in charge of the SCAMPP booth, and the first time that Rosalinde & Andreas volunteered. THANK YOU to Ric, Rosalinde, Andreas for stepping up!! The event is a great event for those who are into healthy vegan/plantbased lifestyles. The event is organized by our SCAMPP member, Colleen Hinds, who is a professor of the Crafton Hills College Kinesiology and Health Department. The event features all kinds of booths offering lectures, cooking demos, workshops, performances, fitness activities, vendors, food (for sale and free samples), activities for kids and much more. Since they support & believe in cruelty-free products, saving people, animals and the planet - SCAMPP is invited to have a booth in which to promote saving, rescuing, adoption and education of potbellied pigs and to help raise donations for our organization (PETA and other animal organizations are there also!). These last two events, we hadn't thought of selling products, but merely offering a free piggy keychain to anyone who would make a donation to SCAMPP, and of course, be on hand to answer questions and provide educational materials on the proper needs and care, adoption, etc of potbellied pigs. Ric's came up with some great ideas (his message below). So far we were told no pigs could be brought onto the campus, but Colleen is working on changing that for us beginning with the next event in October and is also going to give us a better location. I hope we can get more members to help out. When there are not enough members working the booth, it does not give time for members to leave the booth to go look at other booths (over 160 booths were there). The next Herbivore Festival is October 2, 2016. Please mark it on your calendar and plan to join us. ~ by Peggy W.



Rosalinde & Ric

Hello again members and guests! I attended The Herbivore Festival on behalf of SCAMPP on May 1st. The festival was a big event, there were many vendors as well as entertainment and lots of food! The foot traffic was steady all day and there were plenty of visitors. Sadly we didn't do so well on donations for several reasons in my opinion. Our booth wasn't located in the best location, there were no other booths around me except for directly across, so I got to see a lot of peoples backs! Also pretty much everyone was selling something and I think people were spending on food and such, more so than donating. We really needed a draw to the booth and Mushu was not allowed to attend. Maybe we need a robot piggy! Bottled Water was an issue and I gave some of my bottles to kids as their parents said the lines at the other vendors were too long... good opportunity for us to give bottled water for donations. Some

toys like the glider planes or something for the kids to play with would have been great, something to think about. I had three couples interested in fostering and several people who wanted to join, wanted a pig or knew people with pigs. Almost all of the literature was gone by the end of the day. Next festival is in October and we can do really well if we put some thought into our booth and goodies. We also need to try and get a better spot and see if we can bring pigs. Special thanks to Rosalinde and Andreas Tropper who came by and gave me a break to eat, Thanks again! I know we are all busy busy busy but we need hands on deck to make these events work for us. ~ by Ricardo Lozano



On behalf of the Herbivore Festival we would like to thank SCAMPP for joining us and having a booth at the Herbivore Festival on May 1st at Crafton Hills College. It made us so happy to have you be a part of this life changing event. We know it is a lot of work setting up a booth and manning everything for the whole day. We were just so excited to share you with all our guests. The festival was a huge success and had a huge turn out ... some sources are reporting 3000 people! We just know that having SCAMPP's presence helped save some piggies and raised awareness. Thank you Rosalinde and Andreas for attending the Festival, taking pictures and sharing your support for SCAMPP. Also, thank you Peggy for connecting with Colleen and coordinating all the materials for SCAMPP's booth. And of course special thanks to Ric for manning the booth all day! We know it is a lot of work planning, driving, setting up, hanging out the whole day and cleaning up.

We are looking forward to having SCAMPP join us for our future Herbivore Festivals on October 2nd, 2016 and May 7th, 2017. We are doing our best to try and help you smuggle a piggy on campus to show people what a "real" mini potbelly pig looks like; Huge and Gorgeous! We hope everyone can join us at these free events where we are trying to save the lives of animals, people and the planet. Thanks again. ~ *by Jason Hinds (husband and helpmate of Colleen Hinds!* ③)



Saturday May 14th ~ The Anaheim Western Days Festival was a nice event, but looooong. I left my house at 6am to get there by 7am, and didn't get home until 6pm. Ric and Mushu were there a couple less hours because they live closer to the event location. Towards the end of the event, a really sweet couple - Andrey and Klye, came all the way from Mission Viejo to help at the booth. They are not even members, but Audrey had seen our SCAMPP Booth at the Pet Expo the last few years, and had e-mailed me to say she missed seeing us at The Pet Expo this year. When I explained we weren't there because we couldn't get enough volunteers, she said she'd love to come help out when she could. I told her about this Anaheim event and she said she and Kyle could come for at least a couple of hours to help towards the end and to help with tear-down. We know it's difficult for members to spend all day at events, but even a couple of hours helps out, so **THANK YOU AUDREY & KYLE**! There are so many great opportunities at these events in which to network, educate, and try to raise funds so SCAMPP can help more rescued piggies with neuter/spay costs, housing, feed, blankets, transportation, etc. There are so many other interesting booths and activities at these events and if we could get more members to split up our time, we could all enjoy the other interesting things going on at these events. This event featured a classic car show with awards, over 100 vendor booths, craft booths, informational and wellness booths, great food, live entertainment, a reptile show, a magic show, pony rides, raffles, bookmobile, children's activities & carnival booths, Police and Fire Department demos, free giveaways, and much more. The Anaheim Fire Department did a "Jaws of Life" demo and I found out something I did not know about our President Ric.... he has actually used the "Jaws of Life" to rescue people because he is a former Fire Department firefighter. So, did you know these events also help you to get to know your fellow SCAMPP'ers as well? ~ by Peggy Wimberly





There are seven dates available during June, July and August in which the Anaheim Public Library Bookmobile will be hosting their Summer STEAM Saturdays where children and their families will be immersed in science, technology, engineering, the arts, animal care and mathematics. Each week children from a different high priority neighborhood (i.e. high density and low income) will be introduced to hands-on science and art projects in order to excite, motivate and encourage further exploration. During these events children will also hear Educational Presentations where they can see, touch, hear, smell, and learn about different types of animals. They have asked SCAMPP to come for one or more of these sessions as we promote responsible pet ownership and animal education. Depending on dates we can get volunteers and pigs to help out... if you are interested in more info and/or helping, please contact peggy@scampp.com or call Peggy at 951-685-0467. We must schedule the dates ASAP, please let me hear from you!

<u>Aug. 20, 2016</u> - FREE Promotional rescue and adoption event fundraiser sponsored by Centinela Feed Stores. This will be a mega-sized Pet Fair and held in Los Angeles. It will include over 200 different types of pet rescues and organizations, and they would like SCAMPP to participate, but we first need to make sure we have enough volunteers and pigs that could be involved before we commit. There will be bounce houses, slides and obstacle courses to keep the kids going for hours. Be entertained by pet games and contests. There will be food trucks and all kinds of products for sale and activities going on. A great opportunity for SCAMPP to network, promote adoptions and educate! If you are interested in more info and/or helping, please contact peggy@scampp.com or call Peggy at 951-685-0467 <u>ASAP</u>.





Hi everyone! I want to talk to you all about how important it is to help and save all of us pigs. My mommy found out on this past weekend that the animal shelter in Des Moines Iowa has took in some abandoned potbelly pigs because someone left them alone and abandoned them. How can a human do that to a animal they once called a pet or once called part of their family? How come humans don't do their research on us? I heard mommy say that some humans are not fit to be on this planet because they are wasteful, uncaring and selfish. They get pets and when they are tired of them or find out that it is not worth the time or not fun anymore, they just throw us away! How can someone do that? Well one thing is for sure, at least we have people like SCAMPP to spread the word about how to help save animals lives and how to take care of us. The more events SCAMPP does (and I know it is time consuming) helps all potbelly pigs and friends. Mommy and I wish that we lived in California so we could help out at the events and be part of the fun but we just get to see the after effects of all the good work SCAMPP members do. Please help spread the word about SCAMPP and help all potbelly pigs and friends have good lives. I am lucky my mommy loves me and spoils me but I can't help think about the ones who don't have homes. Mommy said she wants to open a sanctuary but can't get a loan so she has made a "Go Fund Me" site (see: https:// www.gofundme.com/potbellypigs) but, so far no one has helped and that is sad because my mommy would help every PBP and friend she could! My wish for the night would be this poem mommy and me wrote.

> "Please Lord, hold safe: our pets, keep them safe from the catcher's net. Let them live happy and free, find them homes with green grass to pee. Let them be showered with a hug and kiss, and love never be a miss. Please Lord, hold all animals with care, may their lives be happy and fair. Help humans be open and kind, so that we may find: love in their hearts, straight from the start. So, Please don't lock us in pens, because we will always love you, til the end."



OH, I almost forgot to tell you, mommy got her Associates Of Arts in Technology Degree! The graduation was nice. Sorry I don't have any pictures but mommy was graduating and I can't hold a camera and daddy was so excited for her that he forgot to take pictures. Mommy said all that mattered is that we were there to see her get her diploma. Now she says she wants to get her science degree in technology. My mommy really keeps busy!

Oh yea, and mommy planted me an apple tree in the backyard over the weekend too. I can't wait till it starts dropping apples because I will be in hog heaven!

Well, I hope you all have a great couple of months till the next newsletter, and remember - Please help out as much as possible to spread the word about SCAMPP. Events are important and the more help the better the animals benefit! Hope you enjoyed the poem! Much love ~ by TT from Iowa!



~ continued from last issue ~

One of the central tenets of dominance theory, with any animal, is that we should model our own behavior off of that of another animal in order to effectively "speak the animals' language" so that they understand us. Whether we utilize dominance theory or not, it is easy to appreciate the notion that acting like a conspecific might be worth trying (especially if we are at our wit's end, dealing with a problem pig). However, if the goal is to behave like a herdmate would, we must ensure that our actions truly are "what another pig would do." Fortunately, there is a significant amount of research into the social structure and behavior of both wild, feral, and domestic pigs, to which we can compare our current ideas and better understand any deficiencies in our current applications of dominance theory.

Unfailingly, when someone is told that they need to gain dominance over their pig by behaving like another pig, they are told that they must randomly make the pig leave the bed, because this is what another pig would do. It might seem to make sense at first glance... in theory, a dominant pig controls the resources, and so would therefore control whether another pig could sleep in the bed. But what does current research into pig behavior tell us?

In reality, current research tells us that pigs belonging to a herd actually sleep in communal nests. While in fact a dominant pig MAY well push another pig away from a food source, pigs that belong to the same herd DON'T seem to kick each other out of the sleeping area. As prey animals, communal nesting is an important adaptation to help provide social support and protection from predators - it doesn't make sense, from a survival point of view, to randomly make your herd mates leave the nest. You would both be in a more vulnerable state and more prone to being attacked and eaten by a predator. Studies have shown that even in large herds where the pigs form smaller subgroups to forage during the day (which allows easier maintenance of dominance hierarchies), the pigs all return to the same resting area at night. Additionally, these studies show that resting preference locations don't seem to correlate to social status within the herd - that is, the dominant pigs do not seem to exert 'dominance' over the lower ranking pigs in the sleeping area! So where does this idea come from?

'dominance' over the lower ranking pigs in the sleeping area! So where does this idea come from? Perhaps the impression lies in the behavior of artificial social groups of pigs that are set up in close confinement systems, especially on production hog farms. Unfamiliar, unbonded pigs from different groups that are randomly and abruptly thrown together absolutely will chase each other out of the bed. But why would we want to treat our pet pig like an unfamiliar competitor? Moreover, even when two pigs fight after they are first introduced, they almost always settle down and start sleeping in the same area after they have become familiar with one another. As social animals, pigs are biologically hardwired to seek companionship and the security that nesting with herdmates brings.

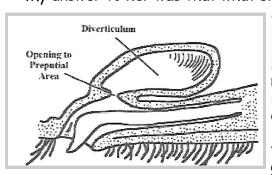
Perhaps the notion also lies in the fact that pigs are indeed noisy, do jostle each other and do sometimes head-swipe each other when they are all settling down for the night. But that's generally just pig-speak for "Hey! I'm trying to sleep! Quit moving around so much!" You might get annoyed and nudge or sharply tell your spouse to stop jostling the bed, but you certainly wouldn't randomly get up at night and make your spouse get out of the bed over and over again!

Conversely, if we are to accept that pig behavior and social dominance within a stable social group doesn't ordinarily involve chasing herd mates out of the nest, and we have a pig that chases us away from the bed, what might this tell us? Unfortunately, it leaves us with this perhaps disconcerting realization: A pig that is chasing a person from the bed probably doesn't view that person as a herdmate, and therefore probably isn't trying to climb any social ladder... consequently; dominance theory wouldn't make sense in this application. More likely, a pig that aggressively chases someone away from the bed may view that person as a threat and is trying to scare that threatening thing away (and don't forget - if the behavior is happening repeatedly, it IS being reinforced!).

Of course, there are no hard and fast rules about the best ways to manage our pet pigs. There is undoubtedly some logic in behaving like the animal in order to more effectively communicate. But we should be very careful about asserting that something should be done because it's "what pigs do" when in fact that may very well not be the case. ~ by http://www.positivelypigs.com/blog GREAT VIDEO: Counter Conditioning Aggressive Potbellied Pigs: https://youtu.be/APunihATG6Y ~ Stay tuned for Part 3, to be continued in next issue.....



Recently I was examining a 3 month old male pet pig as part of his baby vaccine appointments and to check if the piglet was healthy to be scheduled for his neuter surgery. One of the questions that the owner asked me was the she noticed that part of the prepuce (the skin sac around the penis) would get periodically enlarged or swollen. Later, it would go back down in size, which was usually associated with the pet having a strong odor. She was wondering if that was an indication that the pig is old enough to castrated or was that a sign of some abnormality or problem. My answer to her was that what she was seeing is part of the normal anatomy of the male pig.



All swine have in the dorsal-anterior area of the cavity (the inside) of their prepuce two pocket like sacs called Preputial Diverticulum. The function of these structures is not fully known, but most pig experts think that they are part of the male pig's scent and territorial marking system. To the left, is a schematic drawing of the preputial structures and the other scent glands found in boars.

In boars, the diverticula can become quite large and they pool in them urine, smegma, and other secretions. That gives the prepuce an appearance of being partially enlarged

and distended. When those fluids are released, they have quite a strong odor, and the preputial area goes down to the normal size.

Over retention of urine and fluids in the one or both of the diverticulum has been associated with several problems in boars. Infections and abscesses can happen in those pockets. In some cases, the enlarged sacs can block the prepuce opening and interfere in the animal's ability to breed and urinate. In other cases, the penis can be trapped during erection in the preputial diverticulum where the ejaculation takes place resulting in ineffective breeding and sterility. Some pigs can develop bleeding ulcers of the diverticula and those can lead to anemia and reduced libido.

The preputial diverticula can be removed surgically and that resolved the medical problems mentioned above. Those diseases have been diagnosed in breeding male potbellied pigs, and all the ones which I have treated surgically have recovered well and returned quickly to breeding soundness. Preputial diverticula problems are less common in male pet pigs because most of them are neutered in a young age. In castrated pigs, those structures usually atrophy and stay fairly small. In rare cases, they can be associated with urine pooling and infections in that area and the owners notice increased urine odor from their pets, the swelling around the penis area, and sometimes pain and discomfort in the prepuce area and during urination.

Applying pressure to express the fluid out, flushing the diverticula, and antibiotics can solve the problem, but in some cases, the structures have to be surgically removed in order to resolve the problems in those pet pigs.

Some potbellied pig veterinarians advocate the removal of the preputial diverticula at the time of castration as a preventative measure of future problems. I am not opposed to that practice, but personally have not found the extra surgery totally justified and have not made that part of my routine castration surgeries. As I mentioned before, I find that the serious medical problems of the preputial diverticula are fairly uncommon in the neutered males and reserve the surgery to the few that need it. The pet pig that brought this question up, was neutered last week and the last I heard, recovered and was doing well.

~ Best wishes, Ron T Vered, DVM



We all know that a pig is essentially the equivalent of a toddler. And what do toddlers do? Touch EVERYTHING. A pig uses their mouth and hose just like a toddler uses his hands. Of course, we don't necessarily want Piglet to bite and nose everything in his path, but using punishment isn't always the best way to discourage these behaviors either. I receive a lot of questions from people with new piglets who are worried because the piglet snaps when they try to touch his face. Is the piglet being dominant? Aggressive? What possible reason could a piglet have for biting and snapping when their owner is just trying to show affection?

Keep in mind that pigs are incredibly curious. They are extremely intelligent animals with an EXTREMELY LIMITING body-shape. They don't have hands, arms or any other means of investigating like we do. Even dogs and cats have enough mobility in their front legs to reach their face and head. Pigs aren't so lucky... most pigs can, at most (barely), reach their chin with their front hooves. They have poor eyesight and so can't necessarily rely on vision to investigate things either. What they do have is a snout and mouth. Don't assume that every snap or bite is aggression-based or be-cause a pig wants to dominate you. Pigs use their mouths and snouts for MANY different behaviors. Using punishment in

many instances only makes a pig more nervous and anxious and can lead to significant behavior problems down the road. Back to that snapping, swiping, biting piglet... Let's consider a couple of scenarios: <u>Scenario A</u>: You're resting calmly in bed, and you're almost asleep. You feel something brush against your face. What do you do? Maybe you reach up with your hand to see what it is, or brush it away. You realize it was just a stray hair, and so you brush it away, or ignore it, and go to sleep. No big deal. You investigated, found it was nothing to worry about, and wort on with times. The next time you feel this constitue you investigated in the work is the provide the work. went on with things. The next time you feel this sensation, you just ignore it- you know it's just a hair, nothing to worry about!

Scenario B: Let's say piglet is in bed. He is too cute, and you want to pet him while he's lying there! Who can resist that adorable little baby?! You reach over and touch his face, and he whips his mouth around and swipes at you. WHOA! Why did he do that? Well, remember, piglet doesn't have hands. He uses his mouth to investigate things. He's a pig- hav-ing a person touch his face while he's sleeping is NOT something that pigs are born expecting. That's a new thing for him and he's curious and maybe a little nervous! If we proceed by gently and slowly desensitizing him to this, he will likely learn that having people touching/petting him is really great and relaxing.

Okay now let's explore these slightly different scenarios:

It's Scenario A again: You're calmly resting in bed. You're almost asleep and you feel something brush against your face. You go to brush it away – well, guess what – it's a spider, and it bites you as you touch it! YIKES!! It startles you and also hurts! Now you're nervous and anxious the next time you lay down. How will you react the next time you feel something brushing against your face? Will you assume it's something brushing and ignore it? Probably not... You'll likely react even more aggressively, jumping up and swatting at it because you are anticipating a negative experience, and are wor-ried you might get hurt again! It's important to note that EVEN IF it isn't a spider next time, you will likely assume that IT COULD BE - one bad experience will change how you react to that sensation for a long while in the future, even if next

time it IS only a stray hair brushing your face. Okay, let's go back to Piglet. Piglet is relaxing in bed. He feels something touch his face, and tries to grab it with his mouth to see what it is. You respond by punishing the "bad" behavior by swatting him on the nose, scolding him, or kicking him out of the bed. Well, now Piglet has learned that something touching his face when he's in bed, means that something him out of the bed. Well, now Piglet has learned that something touching his face when he's in bed, means that something bad is going to happen, much like the spider in the previous scenario. Can you really blame Piglet for preemptively biting more aggressively the next time you try and touch his face? Remember how you reacted after you were bitten by the spider?

My preference for dealing with this behavior is twofold: first, I simply ignore it. If Piglet is doing it because he's curious, eventually he'll get used to it and won't bother investigating. Secondly, I work on generally desensitizing the pig to having his face touched. I start by giving the pig a belly rub, and then working up to the jaw line. Once Piglet is okay with that, then I begin touching the cheek/snout area. I continue to progress (at the pig's comfort level) to the nose & mouth. It may take only a few sessions or it may take a few weeks. Don't rush it. It's important for a pig to accept having his mouth inspected, and having his ears and eyes checked and cleaned, and if he associates those things with pleasant activities like belly rubs and scratches, he'll be much more willing to allow it. If he expects punishment when people are touching his face, he will react accordingly by being defensive.

Remember that because pigs have such a limiting body and must use their snouts and mouths to do nearly everything, it's incredibly damaging to immediately label any and all biting or swiping behaviors as 'aggression' and/or 'dominance' related. Consider the many other things a pig might be attempting to do when they utilize these behaviors. Responding with punishment may take a perfectly innocent, investigatory bite and turn it into a truly defensive, aggressive bite the next time. Of course, force-free training does NOT equal permissive parenting, and I never allow biting behavior to continue, regardless of the reason. A careful understanding and thoughtful response, rather than a reactionary punishment, can go a long way in building a trust-based, positive relationship between a pig and his human....



In California, Poisonous Death Cap Mushrooms Are The Forager's Bane

FROM: <u>http://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2016/03/20/470825175/in-california-poisonous-death-cap-mushrooms-are-the-foragers-bane?sc=tw</u>



Mature death caps

pain, diarrhea and vomiting.

Donna Davis thought she had hit the jackpot with the two bags of mushrooms she collected in the woods of Northern California's Salt Point State Park. Instead, she ended up in the hospital, facing the possibility of a liver transplant, after mistakenly eating a poisonous mushroom known as the death cap.

The 55-year-old life coach and her boyfriend had collected chanterelles, matsutakes and hedgehog mushrooms, all sought-after edible species.

That night, Davis made mushroom soup for herself, her boyfriend and a group of their friends. "It was amazingly delicious," Davis says. So good, in fact, that she had two bowls.

And she felt fine. Until the next afternoon.

"I slept for three days," says Davis, of her illness in December 2014. "I was kind of in and out of it, just drinking water and not being able to really hold any-thing down."

When she dragged herself to a mirror, she realized she had turned yellow. Davis isn't the first or only forager who has fallen victim to the death cap. Between 2010 and 2015, five people died in California and 57 became sick

after eating these unassuming greenish mushrooms, according to the California Poison Control System. One mushroom cap is enough to kill a human being, and they're also poisonous to dogs.

"Dogs die in droves," says Debbie Viess of the Bay Area Mycological Society. The trouble is, people feel fine for six to 12 hours after they've eaten death caps, says Dr. Kent Olson, the co-medical director of the San Francisco Division of the California Poison Control System. But during that time, a toxin in the mushroom is quietly injuring their liver cells. Patients then develop severe abdominal

"They can become very rapidly dehydrated from the fluid losses," says Olson. Dehydration can cause kidney failure, which compounds the damage to the liver.

When Davis went to the hospital, doctors put her on intravenous fluids. They also pumped her stomach full of activated charcoal to help absorb the poison out of her body, although some doctors question the usefulness of this treatment when many hours have elapsed since the poisoning occurred.

For the most severe cases, the only way to save the patient is a liver transplant, says Olson. (Davis didn't end up needing one and went home before Christmas.)

Researchers are looking for better treatments. One group of scientists is testing the drug "silibinin," which can protect a patient's liver and make a transplant unnecessary. And other scientists are trying to learn more about death caps - hoping to find a weakness they can exploit to defeat them.

If you pull the adult mushroom out of the ground, "it has a cute little cup on the bottom of the stem called a volva that holds it up," said Adams. "And it definitely smells like food." ~ continued on next page ~



Death cap mushrooms have gills from which they launch spores in order to reproduce



Death cap mushrooms bottom of stem upside down



continued on next page

A piece of tissue called the annulus helps identify the death cap mushroom. The annulus can be shaped like a little skirt, or like a ring, as in this photo





~ continued from previous page ~

One mushroom cap is enough to kill a human being, and they're also poisonous to dogs. Death caps are believed to be the number one cause of fatal mushroom poisonings worldwide. (Editor's Note: We know that pigs love to forage.... a fellow pig owner told me her pig died from ingesting poison-ous mushrooms... so please beware where and what your pigs forage).

As many fungi do, death cap mushrooms live off of trees, in what's called a mycorrhizal relationship. They send filaments deep down to the trees' roots, where they attach to the very thin root tips. The fungi absorb sugars from the trees and give them nutrients in exchange.

The death caps arrived in California from Europe as early as the 1930s and '40s, says Anne Pringle, a biologist at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She discovered this timeline through genetic testing of death cap samples collected in California during this era. She says death caps likely sneaked into California from Europe attached to the roots of imported plants - and they got really comfortable, spreading all over the state.

Through genetic testing, Pringle is trying to better understand how death caps propagate, and how long they live. In mushroom-producing fungi like the death cap, much of their body lies under the earth's surface. (The mushrooms are just there to help the fungus spread spores and reproduce.) Pringle wants to know how long the underground bits last - would simply plucking the mushrooms to prevent them from spreading their spores through the air be enough to kill off individual death cap fungi? Or is the death cap more resilient - does each individual develop a vast underground network that would be near-impossible to eradicate? For now, it's looking like the death caps are here to stay.



Death caps under a tree - Death caps are popping up in California year-round in irrigated areas like gardens and under trees

With this year's mushroom foraging season well underway, health workers and experts are warning aficionados to be careful. Death caps, which are abundant in California, can easily be confused for other edible mushrooms, growing mainly under coast live oaks. Death caps have also been found under pines, and in Yosemite Valley under black oaks.

And it's not just amateurs who mistake death caps for edible mushrooms like coccora or paddy straws. "I've seen expert mycologists arguing goodnaturedly about whether a mushroom they were looking at was the deadly one," says Dr. Kent Olson, co-medical director of the San Francisco Division of the California Poison Control System. "At certain stages of development, the mushrooms can be confused."

In hindsight, Davis thinks she confused young death cap mushrooms which have a rounded yellowish-green cap, for hedgehog mushrooms, which are yellow and rounded. Mature death cap mushrooms are big, smooth and an olive green color.

Hedgehog and death cap mushrooms are fairly different-looking. While hedgehogs don't have any gills - ribs under the mushroom cap - death caps do have gills.

"It is easy for folks to make ID mistakes," says Viess, "which is why I encourage strong caution for beginners."

"Assume nothing, and learn for several seasons before you eat any wild mushrooms," warns Viess from the Bay Area Mycological Society. "Use good, regional books, find a mentor, and have your initial IDs checked by more knowledgeable and trusted identifiers."

As for Davis, after temporarily losing her taste for mushrooms, she is now looking forward to foraging again. But she says she'll be much more cautious and "I don't need to collect all that I see," she says. "I'm good with just, you know, a handful."

For more info, see: http://ww2.kqed.org/science/2016/02/23/this-mushroom-starts-killing-you-before-you-even-realize-it/ http://bayareamushrooms.org/mushroommonth/amanita_phalloides.html https://youtu.be/bl9aCH2QaQY_(KQED YouTube Video) http://www.namyco.org/poisonings.php http://www.mushroomexpert.com/index.html Announcements

Newsletter Articles Needed PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES AND PIGTURES

- Adoption or Rescue Stories
- Stories About Your Piggy (Piggy can write the stories too)
- Piggy Info Articles
- Piggy Product Reviews
- Piggy Training Tips
- The Housing Ideas
- Sho Funny, Cute, Interesting Things Your Pig Has Done Stories
- Things You Have Learned About Potbellied Pigs
- Potbellied Pig Medical Issues You Are Experiencing (or have had)
- So Medical Advice Needed
- Lute Piggy Pigtures
- She Piggy Comics/Cartoons
- and pigtures (if you were there, please share your reports and pigtures)
- $\overset{}{\gg}$ Items for sale, wanted, trade or give for free (these items do not need to be pig-related)
- So Member Ads



YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

If you are unable to attend our meetings, but you would like to view and listen in on our meetings via internet, we are now attempting to SKYPE our meetings. Of course, this feature can only be used when we have meetings at locations that of-

fer wi-fi services and have power outlets (for instance, we most likely would not be able to use it at parks or events, or if our meeting location does not have a power source and wi-fi). If you are interested in being added to our list of SKYPE friends, please send your SKYPE name (the name that is at the top of your SKYPE screen) to ric@scampp.com



<u>PIG TRAINING CLASS COMING SOON !</u> If you were able to attend our Pig Training class last summer, you know what a great trainer Kate Connell is! She has offered to come back and do another session for us. She loves working with pigs and said she is excited to be able to work with our pigs again. We have not set a date yet, but it will be sometime after May. So keep an eye out for the date. We would love to have more attendees and more pigs for her to work with. Even if you cannot bring your pig, please come and join us. We usually include a short SCAMPP meeting and a POTLUCK luncheon, including dessert bar. Most of all, you get to meet & greet fellow SCAMPP members in a casual setting. Stay tuned for the date. We hope you will plan to join us.



April/May 2016

Birthdays



Crystal Cascío	Apr. 1
Gordy Cascío	Åpr. 1
Melanie DeJong	А́рг. 6
Oliver Schmitt	Åpr. 10
Debbie Kaye	Åpr. 11
Jacque Keefe	Åpr. 13
Andrew Jackson-Ridondo	Åpr. 13
Sondra Peters	Åpr. 13
Brendalee Lyell-Keate	Åpr. 13
Karen García	Åpr. 15
Petunia Tyler	Åpr. 16
Mushu Lozano	Åpr. 16
Mary Lou Vered	Åpr. 17
James Kenan	Åpr. 18
Kaspar Míllígan	Åpr. 21
Madlyn Rose Pierce	Åpr. 21
Mímí Mísener	Åpr. 23
Nígel Mísener	Åpr. 23
Kím Mulhausen	Åpr. 24
Bacon Tubles	Åpr. 24
Tíffany Voss	Åpr. 26
Míkey Derman	Åpr. 28
Little Bit Richards	Åpr. 29



2	2
Callie Marziani	Мау з
Sadíe Mae Eichenberger	Мау з
Tom Everett	May 6
Hamlette Nath	May 8
Príncess Kozna	May 9
Brunch Unkenholz	May 9
Marílyn Scholl	May 10
Jack Whitmore	May 15
Piggy Piggy Hinds	May 17
Kim Marziani	May 22
Burnie Hill	May 23
LuLu Derman	May 24
Janet Bock	May 26
Chrsity Unkenholz	May 27
Hammie Gaytan	Мау ??

If you or your pig's birthday is not listed, that means we don't have it in our membership records. Also, if you have a Special Occasion that you would like listed, (such as Weddings, Anniversaries, Condolences, Graduations, Get Well, etc), please E-Mail <u>peggy@scampp.com</u> or call 951-685-0467



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WILBUR - is a girl. Her daily chore: lying in the sunroom before watching her doggie companion have her dinner. She is spayed. Wilbur's manicure & pedicure have been kept up with on a regular basis. She is treated for parasites about twice a year. Diet consists of Piggy pellets, leafy veggies and fallen fruit from the trees. She is not obese. She is healthy. For goodies... she gets popcorn when she does her educational tricks, such as counting (up to 3), sits while owner says grace before her meals. She also plays a toy organ. She has been with current owners about 5 years now.

She is dominant of her terrain.... and fond of pushing planks where she wants them. Other than that, we are sorry that circumstances does not allow her to be still part of us. For more information about **WILBUR** and if you are interested in meeting/adopting her, please complete the adoption questionnaire at <u>pigharmony.com</u> and you will be contacted soon after it is reviewed. All potential homes must be receptive to a home visit prior to adoption.



OLIVIA - was a shelter rescue that was held on a humane investigation. Once she became available for adoption, she was pulled by rescue. She has been spayed and wormed and is foster care with her stall mate (MISS PIGGY - below) from the same situation. They both get along well and we would love to adopt them out together, but they can go separately to the right home(s). They are being fostered in Bouquet Canyon, CA. Both pigs are a little shy, however, very curious and will warm up quickly in a calm environment where they will receive lots of patience and TLC. They are both extremely gentle. If you have room in your heart and home for **OLIVIA**, please complete the adoption questionnaire at <u>pigharmony.com</u> and you will be contacted soon after it is reviewed.



MISS PIGGY - was a shelter rescue that was held on a humane investigation. Once she became available for adoption, she was pulled by rescue. She has been spayed and wormed and is in foster care with her stall mate (OLIVIA above) from the same situation. They both get along well and we would love to adopt them out together, but they can go separately to the right home(s). They are being fostered in Bouquet Canyon, CA. Both pigs are a little shy, however, very curious and will warm up quickly in a calm environment where they will receive lots of patience and TLC. They are both extremely gentle. If you have room in your heart and home for **MISS PIGGY**, please complete the adoption questionnaire at <u>pigharmony.com</u> and you will be contacted soon after it is reviewed.



ANNALISA - was found as a stray in the San Fernando Valley right before Christmas. She was scared, cold and hungry. The poor little girl was just skin and bones. She appears to have had at least one litter of babies, although she is still just a baby herself. At the time of receiving her, she was too thin and malnourished to be spayed. She's been treated for parasites and is now spayed and ready to go to her new home. She is a little shy at first, but will readily climb into your lap for a treat. Any potential candidates must be committed to providing her with a loving, kind forever home. A home visit will be mandatory prior to adoption. If you would like to meet **ANNALISA** to see if she would be a good match for you, please complete the adoption questionnaire at <u>pigharmony.com</u> and you will be contacted soon after it is reviewed.



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great with other animals and weighs in at about 40lbs. Peaches has been spayed and she's current on her vaccinations so the only thing missing for this baby is a family to call her own. Peaches' adoption fee is \$250. Peaches is now at Clearwater Farm and Animal Rescue is a 501c3 non-profit organization, located in Oak Glen, California. All adoptions require contracts, home check, and adoption fees. For more info about **PEACHES**, please contact Karen de Moet at (909) 241-5142 or E-Mail: <u>kde-</u> <u>moet@msn.com</u>



ELDON / ID#A1713278 - Male, black, age unknown, neutered unknown. For info, contact San Diego County Department of Animal Services - Southern Region, 5821 Sweetwater Rd, Bonita, CA. Phone: 619-767-2675 and refer to ID Number: A1713278, Necktag Number: S368, Kennel Number is SHUT. See <u>www.sddac.com</u> for more info.



REMINGTON - was found as a stray by Riverside County Animal Control and his owner never came to claim him. I can't imagine why! He is a super sweet and loving two-year old neutered male that smells like maple syrup! He is harness trained, and will let everyone give him love and scratches on our daily walks around the neighborhood. If you have room in your heart and home for this sweet boy, please complete the adoption questionnaire at <u>pigharmony.com</u> and you will be contacted soon after it is reviewed. Home visit is required. He is being fostered in Lake Elsinore.



April/May 2016





ABIGALE is in need of a new home soon! Owner is going through a divorce and is having trouble finding a place that will rent to her. She's very affectionate once she gets to know you. She likes to be around the family. She has a tendency to throw little tantrums or whines when she's not getting her way. After all, pigs have the mentality of a 3-year old child. She's shy with strangers until she gets to know you. She definitely knows who feeds her. She gets along great with current owner's dogs (Pugs). Pigs and dogs should never be kept together unsupervised - regardless of the breed or disposition of the dog or pig. If you are interested in providing a loving,

forever home for **ABIGALE**, please complete the adoption guestionnaire at www.pigharmony.com and we will contact you soon to arrange a meet and greet. **ABIGALE** is located in Temecula, CA.



SWEET PEA AND ARNOLD desperately need a home! Abandoned in Rural San Diego County CA. (Alpine area). One male and one older female Owners moved and left them with neighbors. Neighbors have placed them on Craigslist, and are getting lots of "Weird calls." If interested, contact Leanne 619-787-2550 ASAP. Transport Available!





ANIMAL ID: A4947142 - I don't have a name yet and I'm an approximately 1 year old female potbelly pig. I am not yet spayed. I have been at the Lancaster Animal Care Center since May 8, 2016. I am available on May 23, 2016. You can visit me at my temporary home at L602 at the shelter. The Lancaster Animal Care Center is located at: 5210 West Avenue I. Lancaster. CA. Phone: (661) 940-4191. Ask for ANIMAL ID: A4947142



XENA is a 4 year old mini pig. She was ordered from Texas and flew here to California. She needs a better home, and friends. She was purchased being told her maximum size would be 25 lbs and she is 100 + lbs living in an apartment. She deserves to have more room for her size and happiness. She takes time to warm up to others because her previous owner was abusive and we all know pigs have a sharp memory and never forget things like that. I love this pig but by no means am able to give her the time and attention she deserves. I took her in rescuing her from her previous family who's alternative was to take her to the butcher for profit. For info, contact: ANIMAL PLACE RESCUE, Grass Valley, CA @ 530-798-5114 or

E-Mail: <u>marji@animalplace.org</u>



OUR FACEBOOK SITE IS UPDATED OFTEN WITH ADDITIONAL ADOPTION OPPORTUNITIES. See: www.facebook.com/pages/SCAMPP/217173368325859



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