PETA's Charitable Gift Annuity Program

A win-win situation for animals and for you

It may be hard to find many win-win situations in today's financial environment, but we think that we have one—PETA's charitable gift annuity program.

For nearly 15 years, PETA members have supported our critical work by creating gift annuities. For them, establishing an annuity was a perfect way to make a significant gift to animals while securing a regular and reliable income.

Charitable gift annuities are a simple agreement between you and PETA. In exchange for your gift of $10,000 or more, PETA will pay you and/or a designated beneficiary annual payments for life. These annual payment amounts are fixed and are backed by a special reserve fund as well as by all of PETA's assets.

In addition to the fixed annuity payments, gift annuities also offer significant tax benefits, such as a federal income-tax deduction in the year in which the gift is made and capital gains tax savings if your gift is appreciated securities. Moreover, in most instances, the annuity payments are fixed and are backed by a special reserve fund as well as by all of PETA's assets.

Immediate Charitable Gift Annuity Rates for One Annuitant

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If you are 60 years of age or older, an immediate charitable gift annuity may be a great way to make a gift now while receiving the security of a fixed income each year for the rest of your life.

Gift annuities can also make good sense for those between the ages of 50 and 60 who want to secure a steady income for their retirement years and can benefit from a current-year tax deduction. With a deferred gift annuity, the longer receipt of the payments is deferred, the higher the annuity rate and eventual payments.

We would like to provide you with more information about PETA's charitable gift annuity program, including a personal and confidential gift illustration. Please contact Tim Enstice, the PETA Foundation's planned giving manager, at 757-962-8213 or PlannedGiving@peta.org. You can also visit our gift annuity Web page at PETAPlannedGiving.org.

As always, we suggest that you consult your financial advisor and legal counsel prior to establishing a charitable gift annuity or finalizing any long-term plans.

PETA's Gift & Estate Planning Club

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That's just what is happening here at PETA. Spring is a time for new beginnings—and guess what? That's just what is happening here at PETA.

Since time began, animals have been left out in the cold—both literally and figuratively. Regardless of your political persuasion, animal issues have often been at the bottom of policymakers' barrel. The last president and his appointees undertook federal protections for animals, including the Endangered Species Act, meager factory-farming restrictions, and even our ability to tell people what is going on in laboratories under the Freedom of Information Act—which is often what allows us to unearth details of federally funded experiments on animals.

Now we have a new presidential administration and, at least, the promise of change—and not just for human citizens. That is why I am pleased to share with you the exciting news that PETA will be opening a small office in Washington, D.C. Please take a look at the article on page two to learn more about our initiatives and plans to create a pro-animal culture in the nation's capital.

I'd also like to mention the estate intention form that we sent you in February. If you haven't yet filled it out and returned it to us, may I please give you a gentle reminder to do so? Letting us know of any planned gift that you have made helps us to plan for the future, evaluate campaign priorities, make appropriate staffing decisions, and develop effective and efficient strategies to help animals based on a better estimate of what our resources are likely to be.
This spring, several dozen PETA staff will move into an office building in the bustling DuPont Circle area with the goal of making the call for animal rights heard in America’s most powerful city.

With a new president, new leaders of the executive agencies, many new members of the House and Senate, and an influx of young professionals flocking to D.C. for jobs with the new administration, our goal is to reach as many people as we can with our compelling message of compassion for animals—and we’ll be charting a new course for our movement that will make it far harder for public officials to discount animal issues.

We know all about change, and we know that change, particularly important change, does not often happen overnight. While the new administration may be more animal-friendly than any other before it, we’re in this battle for the long haul. So we’re setting up shop in Washington to ensure that policymakers, regardless of who is running the government, see animal issues as something that the public cares about and wants them to take seriously. Our job is to show decisionmakers that animal issues are matters of national importance related to our own health and that of our environment as well as to our economic well-being and sense of community.

Compassionate people make better neighbors, better citizens, and better decisionmakers. Not only will we be pushing that message in meetings, we’ll also, in classic PETA style, be using provocative ads on buses and subway trains; holding town hall-style meetings at churches, temples, and social clubs; and holding special events at restaurants, gyms, and bars. And yes, there will be eye-catching PETA demonstrations in front of fur stores, fast-food chains, and other outlets that promote cruelty to animals. We’ll be doing everything possible to remind Washington that animal rights is one of the most urgent social justice issues of our time.

Being in Washington will also enable us to make face-to-face contact with important journalists who are permanently “camped” there. Coverage of animal issues by these news outlets is crucial to our strategy to raise awareness among Washington’s policymakers—and beyond.

Washington residents won’t, of course, be the only ones to hear our important message. The city’s museums, theaters, and monuments attract visitors from all around the world. By reaching these visitors with PETA’s message, we will be spreading the message of compassion to all corners of the globe.

With PETA in Washington, people might assume that we’ll be spending more time lobbying Congress. Not so. Many authorities on the subject have observed that Congress serves less as an agent of change and more as a codifier of current practices. Creating positive change for animals, we believe, is best accomplished through direct contact with consumers, business owners and leaders, scientists, government officials, and regulators.

One example is our work with U.S. and international regulatory agencies (e.g., the Environmental Protection Agency, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development). PETA is the leader in pushing our government to change policies in order to reduce (and eventually eliminate) the use of animals in chemical and drug testing and to use more sophisticated non-animal test methods instead. PETA was the first animal protection organization to take on the...
Our vigorous Community Animal Project and our two mobile veterinary clinics are still needed there and in adjoining North Carolina (and even in South Carolina), so we will continue to improve the lives of dogs and cats throughout those impoverished communities.

So there is excitement in the air, and this lean, mean, fighting-for-animals machine is expanding! It means that we are being daring in these tough economic times, but we know that we’ll be in an even better position—literally—to help animals, so off we go!

We are very grateful for the support of our Augustus Club members, whose generosity enables us to make the most of this unique opportunity to put animal rights front and center on the nation’s—and the world’s—agenda.

Gerda Chason: Translating personal tragedy into action for animals

It is in the face of adversity and during the times that are most difficult that we show our true colors, and by every measure, Augustus Club member Gerda Chason is an extraordinary mother. Her beloved son, Clifford, died in 1999 in an automobile accident on Highway 27, just outside Bainbridge, Ga. Gerda and Clifford were devoted animal rights activists. They went vegetarian because they no longer wanted to be part of the killing and cruelty to animals. When Gerda learned of Clifford’s death, she says that she “wanted to die too. But then the idea of a billboard came and that made me feel somewhat better.”

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Gerda—who has had a special place in her heart for animals, especially dogs, since she was a child—growing up in Germany—also started the Decatur County Humane Society to promote humane treatment of animals and address cases of cruelty to animals. Gerda says that she will not forget animals.

Mammoth issue of regulatory testing (beginning in 1998), and we’ve since assembled a team of well-known scientists whose expertise on this issue is unparalleled by any other organization.

PETA’s success in getting animal tests stopped has already spared hundreds of thousands of individual animals from pain and death in various government testing programs. Having an office in Washington puts us in an even better position to influence government regulatory-testing policies at the drop of a hat.

This does not mean that PETA will be leaving Norfolk, Va. Many of our departments will still continue to operate from our efficient Norfolk office building on the Elizabeth River. This city provides us with an extremely cost-effective site for our “behind-the-scenes” departments.
I forgot to mention that this elephant is frozen in place, not moving, so "a" cannot be the right answer. And he stood like this for only 10 or 20 seconds, so "b" is wrong as well. Oh, and this elephant lives in the wild—the photo was taken in Botswana, so we can nix "c." That leaves "d" as the correct answer.

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Like so many animals, elephants are tuned in to a world beyond our sensory reach. I sometimes play hide-and-seek with my dog when we are in the woods. But it's no contest—she chases down my scent trail like there's nothing to it. I think all other animals are tuned in to some aspects of the world that we are unaware of.

(DID YOU KNOW?)

What Is This Elephant Doing?

a) Walking
b) Taking a nap
c) A stupid circus trick (bullhook hidden from view)
d) The same thing my dog does when she holds her breath
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I hope that you enjoy this quarter’s newsletter, and I hope that you know that we appreciate you—one of our wonderful Augustus Club members whose commitment to PETA’s work ensures a legacy of compassion that will benefit future generations of animals and people alike.
This spring, several dozen PETA staff will move into an office building in the bustling DuPont Circle area with the goal of making the call for animal rights heard in America’s most powerful city.

With a new president, new leaders of the executive agencies, many new members of the House and Senate, and an influx of young professionals flocking to D.C. for jobs with the new administration, our goal is to reach as many people as we can with our compelling message of compassion for animals—and we’ll be charting a new course for our movement that will make it far harder for public officials to discount animal issues.

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PETA Goes to Washington:

a Voice for Animals at the Epicenter of Change

Have you heard about Washington’s newest residents? They’re energetic, smart, compassionate, motivated, accomplished, dynamic, experts at community organizing, and they radiate an attitude that says, “Yes, we can!” We’re talking about PETA!
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Celebrate Life
With Springtime Flavors

Quinoa Spring Salad
3/4 cup frozen green peas
2 cups boiling water
3 cups cooked quinoa, cooled
1 cup chopped roasted red bell peppers
3/4 cup sliced green onions
1 cup chopped basil
1/4 tsp. sea salt
1/2 tsp. of your favorite vinaigrette

Recipe: In a bowl, soak the frozen peas in the boiling water. Let sit until the peas have completely defrosted. Drain the peas and pat dry.

Recipe: In a large bowl, combine the peas with the remaining ingredients and toss to mix well. Serve immediately or refrigerate in an airtight container.

Makes 5 to 6 servings

Chilled Spring Sweet Pea Soup
This is a light, creamy springtime soup, great for lunch or dinner.

Recipe: 2 bunches spring onions
1 leek, trimmed
3 cups peas
1 cup date-sweetened granola
4 tsp. vanilla
2 tsp. vanilla
1 stick vegan margarine, softened

Recipe: In a medium-size sauce pan, heat the olive oil over medium-high heat. Add the leeks and the onions and sauté until soft and slightly translucent. Add the garlic, peas, and the seed to the pot and cook until tender.

Recipe: Place the soup in a clean container and fold in the remaining puree. Add the mixture into a pan. Dice the vegetables and add to the pot. Mix the mixture into a pan.

Recipe: Preheat the oven to 325°F. Dice the fruit, add cinnamon, and put the mixture into a pan.

Recipe: Mix the grain, vanilla, and additional cinnamon with the margarine and spread generously over the fruit.

Recipe: Bake for 15 to 20 minutes.

Recipe: Makes 3 to 6 servings

Makes 4 servings

Strawberry-Pear Crisp
Crunchy granola tops fresh, baked fruit for a delicious treat.

Recipe: ¾ pt. strawberries
4 ripe pears
4 tsp. cinnamon
2 tbsp. vanilla
1 stick vegan margarine, softened

Recipe: Preheat the oven to 375°F. Dice the fruit, add cinnamon, and put the mixture into a pan.

Recipe: Mix the fruit, add cinnamon, and put the mixture into a pan.

Recipe: Bake for 15 to 20 minutes.

Recipe: Makes 4 to 6 servings

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© iStockphoto.com/Klaudia Steiner

© iStockphoto.com/Allan Scott
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(as posted on PETAPrime.org by Steve Martindale, a PETA Foundation planned giving officer)