

primate care

primate health

primate news

# **MONKEY** *Matters*

August / September 2001 Vol. 7 Number 4

*Publication of the International Primate Association*

## *Centerfold Geoffroy's Marmosets!*



*Sun Smart  
Monkeys  
Page 9*

*Capuchin  
Brat Rambo!  
Page 13*

*Eight  
Essential  
Tips, Part II!*

*for people who care about primates...*

**We support responsible monkey ownership and the right to be fairly regulated in every state!**



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## Visit The Monkey Matters Website

If you would like to see your monkey's face on our new website, and have not yet sent in a photo, do it now! Short biographies or stories (optional) can be sent in along with your photos!!

<http://www.monkeymatters.com>

Please send your original stories, letters, photos and videos to:  
Monkey Matters  
PO Box 80697 - MB181  
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E-Mail submissions:  
Send a floppy or attach your file and send to:  
[submissions@monkeymatters.com](mailto:submissions@monkeymatters.com)



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"Will Your Monkey Like This Fruit?" See Nutrition, page 17, (Photo of Spot-Nose Guenon "Gueedy")



## *In This Issue.....*

Copyright / Terms Of Use.....Inside Front Cover

Contents..... 1

Monkey Mailbox--Letters To The Editor.....2

Eight Essential Tips: Part II.....3

Useful Products: Electromix Electrolytes.....6

VIP'S - Very Important Primates (Douc Langurs).....6

Ask Our Veterinarians.....7

Cassy Pic (Capuchin)!.....8

Sun Smart Monkeys.....9

Enrichment!.....11

Mick Pic (Marmoset)!.....11

Cool Zone.....12

Capuchin Brat Rambo!.....13

Geoffroy's Marmoset Centerfolds.....15

Focus On Geoffroy's Tufted-Earred Marmosets.....16

The Dieting Monkey!.....17

Monkeys In Action--Your Photos.....18

Nutrition: Offer A Varied Diet.....19

Parting Shots, Your Photos.....20

Mandatory Information, A Letter To New Readers.....20

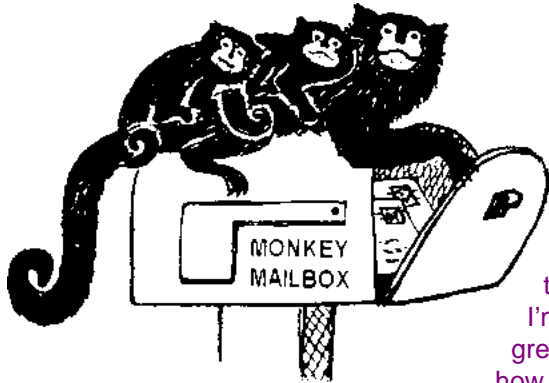
Primate Placement Service.....21

Monkey Matters Complete Guide To Care & Behavior..22

**Centerfold Geoff & Gina** ○ ○ ○ Page 13,14

**Monkey Rope Safety**  
○ ○ ○ Page 12

**8 Essential Tips!**  
**Part II** ○ ○ ○ Page 3



# MAILBOX

Hi Monkey Matters,

My name is Jessica. I'm the lucky one who was able to adopt one of mona guenon Sasha's pet kittens, "Kitty Oreo" (see website). By the way, she is doing great! She loves her new home and has a new friend, "Cypress", my 2 yr. old cat. They play with each other all day (and night) long.

I've just finished looking over your website, and I wanted to tell you how great it is. The pictures and stories are awesome! I'm also a Insulin dependent diabetic and Molly's story was so great. I was diagnosed at age of 5 and was so scared. I remember how mean the nurses were and how hard it was to relate with others.

I hope there are some juvenile diabetics who are able to read Molly's story. It would have made me feel better when I was a child and I know it would help others. Keep up the great work!

Sincerely, Jessica T.

Dear Monkey Matters,

Here is a copy of a letter I sent to the zoning commission and the Baltimore Sun regarding a sanctuary in Maryland:

"To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this in response to a fund raising letter I received today from Frisky's Sanctuary; please bear with me because I am so angry that I may not make much sense to you. I sent a pet of mine to Frisky's sanctuary several years ago that was very much loved. It was one of the hardest decisions of my life but I was not only fighting the after effects of a partially removed brain tumor (being told that it would regrow because they were unable to take all of it; just not knowing when) and the very recent death of my father.

I spoke to Frisky's Colleen several times on the phone and explained my situation to her; also telling her that my beloved pet was young and VERY aggressive; at the time she reassured me that he would be treated as a member of her family and at ANY time that I felt I was able to again care for him he would be returned to me.

I have many times asked for his return and have never even been replied to in any way except to ask for funds in a blanket newsletter. I know from several reliable sources that not only has she seen fit to breed him to further her own personal needs but made up stories of how she RESCUED him.

I questioned her several times by mail about the fact that I could see from his eyes in her newsletter pictures of him that she was giving him some sort of drug (I believe it was Valium); his eyes used to sparkle because he knew he was beautiful and the king of his domain. NO MORE.

He was a legal pet in my home, and before I placed him, she told me that she had all the necessary permits, which I now know was also a lie; so I took my beloved pet and put him in an unpermitted situation. Please do not allow this woman to continue to dupe people into giving her their money for her own personal breeding colony. If you have any questions or would like to respond to me please feel free, and thank you very much for taking the time to listen to me.

Thank you, Connie"

## On The Cover



Beautiful bonnet macaque Kiki. Like all Old World monkeys, bonnet macaques have cheek pouches in which they can hurriedly store food to be eaten later. When faced down by higher ranking individuals (macaque or human), bonnet macaques give submissive grins. During a submissive grin, the bonnet will show the upper and lower rows of teeth and some of the gum line as well, while wrinkling the cheeks and raising the brows to wrinkle the forehead. Bonnet macaque females like Kiki, if not overfed, are usually smaller than Rhesus, growing to be 8.5 to almost 10 pounds and males 12

to 19.5 pounds..(Photo by Steve R.).....q

Part II: The Human/Nonhuman Primate Relationship:

# 8 Essential Tips!



Cinnamon capuchin "Jony", \* Java macaque "Java", (Photo: Joie)



Adult capuchin "Sparky", (Photo by Tammy)

*(8 Essential Tips, Continued from Earlier Issue)*

#### 4. Avoid negative labeling of your monkey's personality.

If you think of him as "a bad boy", "a hyper, aggressive monkey", an "incorrigible brat", etc. you will be the first to be susceptible to your own hype. If you believe you have a "rotten monkey" you are less likely to nurture and help him with his behaviors. Some monkey babies start out very wild, nervous and defensive, biting and screaming with fervor even as babies. They also mature at different rates.

Proper consequences from you, nurturing and care can reverse the behaviors and will lay groundwork for a good adult relationship. Remember, monkeys are works in progress. Expect positive outcomes and behaviors and you are more likely to find a way to achieve them. Remember that monkeys can think and reason. They come to understand your words and fair consequences. They also pick up on your emotional baggage. Come at them with a calm positive approach, not a negative one and don't box them in with labels.

Historically, all monkeys have been labeled as "unhandleable" or "incorrigibly aggressive" as they matured. It was rather like believing that the world was flat. It became a self-fulfilling

*(Continued on next page)*

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prophesy. People believed their monkeys would end up unhandleable and made no effort to have further insights into primate behavior.

**5. Instill a love of adventure that will last.**

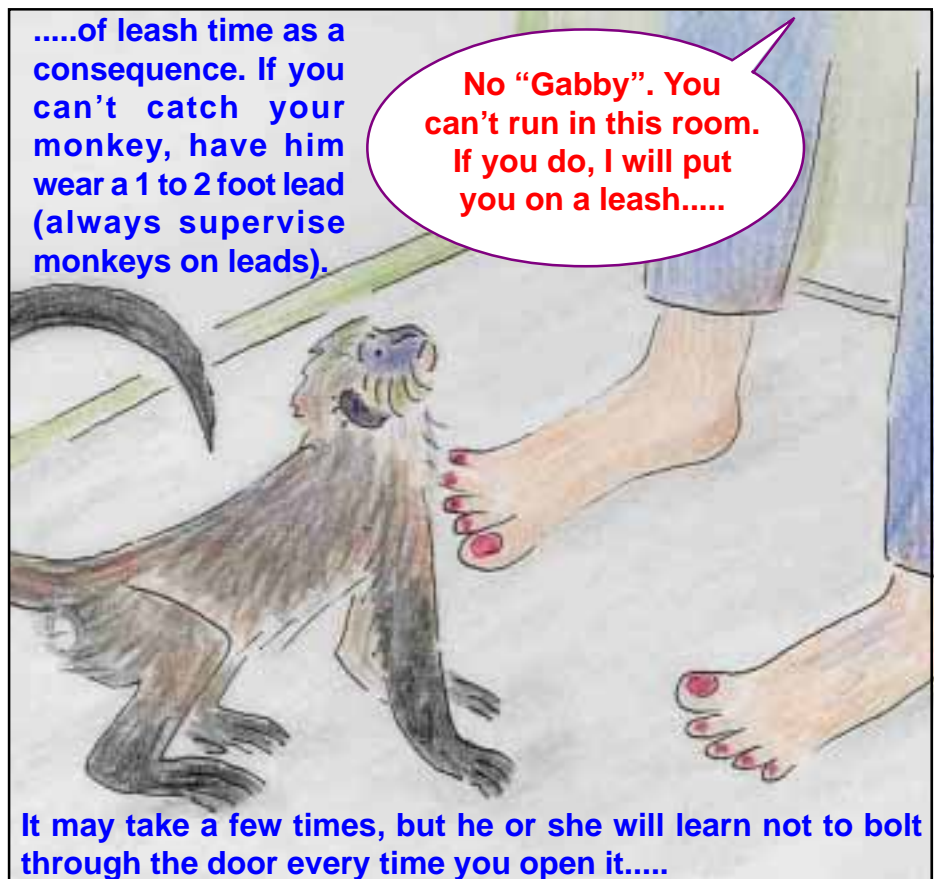
Whether it's is an indoor game of creative tag and chase or exploration of nature on a garden walk outside, teach your monkey a sense of adventure. Be enthused along with your monkey as he turns over a leaf or rock, sifts his hands through the sand in his sandbox or discovers a new way to play with you.

**6. Know that fair discipline is a winning concept.**

Establish a firm bond with your monkey and set clear limits. Establishing boundaries helps monks of all ages feel secure. Monkeys have multiple sets of boundaries that are built in to group or troop life in the wild.

Think through your expectations and let your monkey know what is unacceptable with verbal tags and consequences. "Sasha, no hard landing," is a verbal tag that lets your monkey know what is unacceptable. Next

*(Continued on next page)*



*(8 Essential Tips, Part II, Continued)*  
comes the warning, "Do not land hard on me or you will go on a leash." And then the consequence. No hard landing. Now you are going on a leash. Sometimes it may seem that behavioral boundaries just give monkeys something to ram up against but they are simply testing. If you're firm and the limit is fair, the monkey will blossom in its embrace.

### **7. Score goals instead of fixing penalties.**

Approach monkey care with clear objectives. This strategy works in teaching what behaviors are acceptable. Not having behavioral goals for your monkey is one of the biggest mistakes that people make when they start out with a baby monkey. Monkeys who have no consequences (going from being loose in the house to being restricted on a supervised leash or being put in time out) will persist in inappropriate behaviors like biting and hard landing.

Monkey caretakers tend to scramble at the last minute for advice on fixing bad behaviors which they have allowed to persist for some time. But the sports maxim "The best defense is a good offense" fits for monkey behavior as well. Those who have let their monkey's get away with rough behaviors, who have not planned to succeed with appropriate behavior shaping, have essentially planned to fail.

### **8. Know that violence teaches violence.**

If you rely on physical punishment, your monkey will comply out of fear, not because he necessarily understands the logic or reason behind the requested behavior. Spanking, hitting or body slamming do not instill an internal guidance system of what is acceptable and what is not. It's simply a way to take advantage of a young or small monkey's relative physical weakness. It teaches that physical bullying is an acceptable way to get your way. This feeds into the monkey's instinctive dominance hierarchy and reinforces his defensive/aggressive instincts.

Don't underestimate how much your monkey watches you and imitates or follows your actions. Focus on rewarding them with privileges for good behavior.....☐



***Approach monkey care with clear objectives. Always take the time to praise "good", or "quiet" positive behaviors with a simple sentence like, "Good girl Sasha, holding your kitty1" (Photo of juvenile mona guenon "Sasha" and kitten "Teddy" from CC)***

# Useful Products

By Christine

## Powdered Electromix Versus Pedialyte

▶ Proper electrolyte balance is essential to your monkeys health. Monkeys sometimes become dehydrated when summer heat is excessive. They can also become dehydrated during an illness in which they suffer from vomiting or diarrhea.

▶ **Electromix** powder is a convenient and useful product for preventing dehydration.

▶ Pedialyte and other ready-to-drink electrolyte solutions come in large quantities that must be refrigerated after opened.

▶ **Electromix** comes in five separate packages and a tiny scoop is included in the box for mixing a small amount when you need it. Although it needs refrigeration after mixing, it can be stored

conveniently for much longer periods than Pedialyte.



▶ This electrolyte drink powder contains calcium, magnesium, potassium, manganese, chromium and natural lime flavor. For monkeys who are on a good diet, unlike Pedialyte and most other electrolytes drinks, **Electromix** contains no sugar!

▶ Electrolytes are good for your monkey even when he or she is not dehydrated.

**Electromix** makes a good tasting lime drink that can be made into ice cubes or stirred into a juice and water drink!

▶ **Electromix** can be found in some health food stores and is made by **Alacer Corp.**, ( 8 0 0 ) 8 5 4 - 0 2 4 9 , [www.alacercorp.com](http://www.alacercorp.com)....☐

## V.I.P.s VERY IMPORTANT PRIMATES!



★ The beautiful but endangered red-shanked Douc langur (*Pygathrix nemaeus*), was a victim of habitat destruction during the Viet Nam war. Their habitat in the wild is primary and secondary tropical rain forest at an elevation of about 900 to 6000 feet. The fixed stare, most often given by the old male, is a threat display. The same display is seen in other Old World monkeys such as the spot nosed guenon. In response to the threat display, other individuals may make a submissive grimace: the mouth is open and the teeth are exposed and the shoulders slightly hunched. This submissive grimace may also be used by subordinates to initiate grooming or play.....☐

Suggestions presented in Monkey Matters are generalizations one may consider in handling a primate's problems. Any injury, illness or other condition contracted by a monkey is subject to individual complications. Therefore it is crucial that you seek and follow your own veterinarian's advice as soon as possible. And remember, different veterinarians may recommend different treatments for your monkey's problem.

Vet questions can also be sent via our E-Mail:  
askourvet@monkeymatters.com

## Ask Our Veterinarians

Answering Vet:

Dr. R. (paraphrased)

Question:



The following is some research I have done on the anesthetic drug some vets, including those in some university primate centers, still use on monkeys, ketamine (AKA: ketostet). I've included information on PCP (phencyclidine), formerly used as an anesthetic on humans and animals.

Ketamine and PCP were originally developed by pharmaceutical companies as a general anesthetics. Both are now used illegally as a street drugs because they also produce mild to severe hallucinations and dissociation--the feeling that the drug recipient has been separated from his/her body.

PCP was prescribed for a few years as a general anesthetic under the trade name of Sernyl. People who awakened from PCP experienced excessive agitation, seizures, hallucinations or delirium. Because humans can verbalize their responses, and monkeys can't, in 1965 the use of PCP as an anesthetic for humans was discontinued. **But it was still used as a veterinary anesthetic until 1978!** You might have heard of PCP under some of its street drug names: Angel Dust, Rocket Fuel, Embalming Fluid, Horse Tranquilizer, Monkey Dust, Gorilla Biscuits and DOA (Dead On Arrival).

Ketamine is referred to as a "PCP congener" and follows a similar path as PCP. It was introduced in the US as an anesthetic drug in 1971. As found with PCP, people awakening from ketamine anesthesia showed signs of delirium and were often hallucinating, although the physical symptoms were not as severe as with PCP.

(Continued on next page)

Veterinarians began using ketamine years ago as an anesthetic and still use it today. If you do not ask what your vet is injecting into your monkey before a procedure, then you are unaware. It is probably ketamine (AKA ketostet). Ketamine sold on the street is referred to as Special K, K and Super C.

While the effects of ketamine are not as dramatic as those of PCP, the drug acts within 15 to 45 minutes and lasts four to six hours. The drug effects are most intense for about one hour. There is no reason to believe that drug effects experienced by monkeys and other animals would be any different than those described by humans: Ketamine (given in doses not strong enough to put someone out) stirs excitement and a wild, unpredictable ride, moving into the lost-in-space realm of psychosis. Most users experience vivid hallucinations. Many users experience racing thoughts as well as “racing bodies”, a physical jacking that makes users want to run around and do things. The one difference is that monkeys don’t understand why or where these feelings came from and cannot be reassured that they are drug affects.

The problems it can cause: Ketamine can bring on nausea and possibly vomiting. It commonly causes muscle rigidity, staggering, grinding of teeth, elevated body temperature, increased heart rate, elevated blood pressure, increased salivation and tearing and flushing of the skin. It can increase or decrease the rate of breathing, depending on the dose. Common mental side effects are illogical or disorganized thinking, hallucinations and inability to concentrate.

Behavior often become unpredictable, sometimes violent (behaviors also found in monkeys coming out of ketamine). Some users become hyperactive, bouncing off the walls, whereas others become lethargic to the point of catatonia. This is dose related as well.

PCP and Ketamine produce a state resembling psychosis in most users. The psychotic states produced by PCP and ketamine take much longer to go away than that of other hallucinogens. Effects can last for days from a single dose. As with other hallucinogens, ketamine sometimes triggers a psychosis that becomes lifelong!!

The use of ketamine has been responsible for death in monkeys. Risks of overdosing on  
*(Continued on next page)*



**Cassy**.....Favorite capuchin past time?.....Here is four and a half year old white-faced capuchin, “Cassy”. Monkey mom Kathy says Cassy is “spitting her tongue out at her human sister”. White faced capuchins have very fair facial skin, with dark hands and feet. (Photo from Kathy)

(Continued from last page)

the drug are: a rise in body temperature to as high as 108 degrees, a rise in blood pressure that can lead to stroke or internal bleeding, muscle damage, kidney failure, respiratory failure and coma.

“Coming down” from ketamine usually takes a few days to a week. Then for an additional week or more, individual typically feel depressed and their anxiety level increases. They MIGHT also suffer from memory loss.

The emotional depression experienced by short term heavy users or long term moderate users can continue for up to a year in recovery. It appears that the pleasure center in the brain needs a long time to recuperate from the dissociative anesthetics.

Regarding veterinary use, I have been told by some vets that “monkeys just forget the procedure” because they were on ketamine. Ketamine is not a pain killer. Notice that in humans, it SOMETIMES cause loss of memory. That means that monkeys SOMETIMES forget the pain of a surgery, a tooth extraction. No wonder some of them develop aberrant behaviors when taken to a vet’s office.

As a monkey mom and primate lover, I no longer want ketamin (or ketostet) administered to my monkeys. Here is my vet question: With all the feedback on side effects, can you tell me why it is still used in monkeys?????

**Answer:**

Ketamine is more cost effective than isoflourane gas, a savings that is passed on to the veterinary client. Ketamine is easy to use and is often injected as a preanesthetic even when isoflourane gas is used for the main duration of a surgery. Alternatives to ketamine as a preanesthetic are Ace Promazine and Valium. Valium is probably the safest but doesn’t always effectively relax primates. Some individuals become more agitated.

Because of ketamine’s widespread use, the individual primate keeper who wants to avoid it needs to request another form of anesthetic when speaking to the veterinarian beforehand.

Monkeys who can easily be handled can avoid preanesthetic if they can be physically restrained (wrapped in a towel) while the isoflourane gas mask is held to the muzzle.....☐



Have Sun Smart

**Monkeys!**

**(Warning: Monkeys Need Sunlight - But Don’t Over Do It!)**

◆ Minimize sun exposure for infant monkeys.

Keep their sunning time to about 15 minutes of gentle sun.

◆ Infant monkeys and fair skinned monkeys like white-faced capu chins are at greatest risk for sun damage. If your white-faced capuchin is going out in the sun, use sunscreen if he or she will allow.

◆ Monkeys CAN get skin cancer, especially on furless parts of the body. Symptoms include: a new growth, which may be a small, smooth, shiny, pale or waxy lump or a sore that won’t heal.

◆ Precancerous lesions are small, scaly spots that can show up on the face or hands. Bubbly itchy moles are suspect. Dark spots or moles that have “A-B-C-D TRAITS”: asymmetrical, blurry borders, color uneven or diameter larger than a pencil (in apes).

◆ Monkeys can also get skin cancer from improper exposure to indoor ultra-violet lights. (Continued on next page)

*(Continued...Warning: Monkeys Need Sunlight - But Don't Over Do It!)*

- Monkeys like this black spider who have access to sunlight also need access to shade. Monkeys need mild doses (a half hour to two hours) of sunlight on their skin for their bodies' natural production of the essential vitamin D3.
- But monkeys who are not experienced with living outside will need to be monitored. The hot sun can be relaxing to a primate and sometimes they simply don't know when to move out of the sun, even when in danger of dehydration or sunstroke.
- For safety's sake, minimize your monkey's sun exposure at midday and between the peak hours of 10 AM to 3 PM on sweltering days.
- *Over exposure to sun light is more critical with infants. People with monkeys under three months of age should severely limit their monkey's sun exposure.* At that young age, the baby monkey spends a lot of time riding sheltered on his mother's under belly. Infant monkeys are



at higher risk for death if improperly exposed to high temperature sun!

- Some monkeys like black spider monkey Sam, above, have been known to bask in the sun with their eyes open. Not only can the sun over heat your monkey and cause skin damage, the sun's rays can damage your monkey's eyes! *Over exposure to ultraviolet light has been linked to cataract formation, retina damage and macular degeneration.*
- Your monkey's eyes can also get sunburned. The ultraviolet radiation causes photokeratitis, in which the outermost layer of cells is damaged.....☐

# Enrichment

## Plant Foraging Monkeys



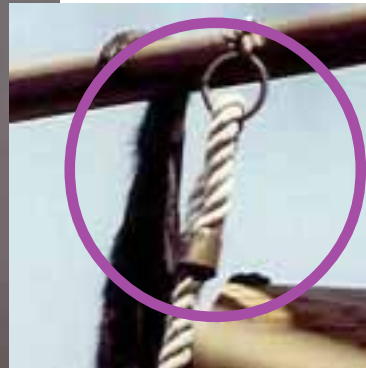
Let's play ball - no lets not! White-faced capuchin "Filo" is picking bamboo leaves through the cage wire, good enrichment for busy capuchin hands. Clumping bamboo grows quickly in the summer and marmosets, squirrels and all larger monkeys like to chew on the shoots as well as shuck the leaves off. (Photo from CC) ....□



*Hey  
Mick!*

Adult common marmoset 'Mick' has free run of the house (it's marmoset-proofed)! Here he is finding another spot in the bathroom to take a nap.....(Photo from Harriet and Kevin)

## Monkey Safety: Fastening Ropes!



Notice how that capuchin “Sparky’s” rope is tautly tied. This provided safety from accidental strangulation during play. There’s more than one way to fasten down a rope. A metal clamp is one excellent way to keep your monkey from redoing the ropes! (Photo of Sparky by Tammy).....☐

*You can stay out where it's hot....I'll stay in with the air conditioning!*

## Our Anthropomorphic Best...

**Cool Zone.....**Adult spot-nosed guenon “Molly” grooming adult white-faced capuchin 'Heidi' on a hot summer’s day.....with the air conditioner on. They have always gone back and forth from an air conditioned room to hot spots outside with no effects. When they get cooled down, they are ready to brave the heat again. When they are too hot, they know where to cool down.....☐





## Brat Of The Month:

### A Maturing Rambo

Rambo, a white faced male capuchin, will be ten years young April 28, 2001. (I on the other hand, am a shaky, physically scarred, ten years older, dealing with Mr. Shenanigan and the Shenanigan Sisters). Our motley troop consists of Rambo, 7 year old spider monkey, sister Xena, and 11 year squirrel monkey sister, Amber, myself, my husband and our lab mix dog. Except for the poor dog, who is submissive to a fault, the rest of us *all* have alpha personalities, so you might well imagine the mayhem that can prevail in our habitat. Rambo *thinks* he is alpha, deferring only to his adoptive father, to whom he allocates the role of Top Alpha and likes to herd, protect and also keep *his* females in line. However Xena who is younger but three times his size and Amber who is a drop in the bucket size wise, pay absolutely no attention to his proclaimed alpha-ness. Amber *allows* him to play with her occasionally and to protect her from Xena's swinging her around by the tail. He won't even dare go near their food until Xena gets her hands on it first. She is quite the food hog and militant about food, while to Rambo eating is secondary to his other projects. One of which (see picture) is trying



to unlock doors, take windows out of frames, take apart anything he can get his hands on.

Although Rambo on occasion, but less so, still challenges me more strongly when he is around, now that Rambo is quite the mature male, it seems that he competes with my husband for me. He has begun to challenge this "other" adult male, and protect me from him like I am his concubine. He also pays more attention to what I tell him and ignores his monkey dad. I can just walk into their play-room (their only room that requires diapers) with a clean diaper and washcloth and he jumps into my lap for a change. He lets me groom him, including filing each finger nail. Then and only if I give it to him takes the file and tries to file everyone else's nails. He loves to please me (when he is not challenging me) and I have found the best punishment when he gets too hair-trigger aggressive is to get in his face first, then ignore him for a period of time. He hates that and will do everything he can to regain my attention, in increments. Like

*(Continued on next page)*

(Continued from last page)

waiting a little, then sitting at my feet, then waiting a little, moving closer. Then touching me with his tail or trying to hold my hand or drop a favorite toy on me. It is so hard to resist, but I do, to maintain the effectiveness of the approach. He has recently even devel-

something when I wasn't there, but attacked me and tried to take it out of my hands if I was holding it. Now he will sneak looks at something he covets and try to plan how to get it without my noticing. If the temptation is too strong over a period of time, he will occasionally become a little pushy.



As far as tool using goes, as I have read in a lot of the monkey literature, I definitely agree, from observation, that capuchins are definitely up there with the chimps. He now tries to saw his rope lead in half with the nail file, having generalized the use of it. And it is a stretch, because the file doesn't actually cut things. Besides soaking his food, he makes bread crumbs out of bread sticks, bread sandwiches and tortilla roll ups (putting my meager culinary skills to shame) When he gets loose in other areas of the house, he turns on faucets, takes liquid soap and sponges and starts cleaning. He will wet and soap up a rag, fold it up neatly into a tight pad and use it as a scrubber. He turns on the water source to the hose outside, then presses the handle to direct the water out. Since it is hard to hold, he will stick it into the slats of the deck to keep it on. He washes my car, decks, windows, tables

oped the grace to stay away from me ahead of time, when he knows he has pushed my buttons too far. That's sometimes the first clue that he has even done something he shouldn't have. I had stupidly left a book in their room and he had taken the liberty of removing a few pages. When I entered the room he was acting guilty and fearful and although not near the book anymore he kept looking over at it, until I spotted it and took it away. Another ploy if he is caught in the act is to pretend that poor Xena, sitting there innocently, has done it, by throwing the item near her and then getting mad at her, both to try and place the blame on her and to divert me. The more juvenile Rambo would have not only taken

etc.

We have developed a ritualistic game together, “Grab- me- if- you- can”. I try and grab his hands, he tries not to let me. When I do get one or both, I flip him over and we start again. He can do this for hours. If I try and stop, letting my hands go limp, he will position them around his for me to continue. He brings me his brush and puts it in my hand to groom him and if I stop, he pulls on my hand to continue. If I dare try and brush Xena, (who will most likely be camped out on my chest) he gets pissed off at her and pulls my hand back to his, or grabs the brush in anger and slams it down on the floor.

Every day with Rambo is a new adventure . . . . . □



## Geoffroy's Tufted-Eared Marmoset

### Centerfolds: "Gina" (left) & "Geoff"!

- ▲ Seven year old Gina & Geoff's (pronounced "Jeff") favorite past times are plant foraging and sunning! They love to climb in their densely planted potted plant habitat.
- ▲ These tiny monkeys fit in your hand when they are born.
- ▲ They start off lighter in color and beardless. Color and facial fur develop as they mature.
- ▲ They have soulful, brown eyes that look quite inquisitive.
- ▲ They are on a diet of monkey chow and canned marmoset diet, along with romaine, broccoli, carrots and other non starchy vegetables, finely chopped. Chopped apple and orange are treat foods.
- ▲ They have two offspring, who live with them and at the age of 3, are the same size as the parents.
- ▲ (See more of Gina and Geoff on the next page.)



Send submissions, stories, letters, photos,  
Helpline Questions & Primate Placement Information to either  
address below:

E-MAIL: [CeeCee@MonkeyMatters.com](mailto:CeeCee@MonkeyMatters.com)

**HARD MAIL: Monkey Matters**

**PO Box 80697 - MB181**

**San Diego CA 92138-0697**



**Obituary** *July 25, 2001: In loving memory of Vicki & Jon's spider monkey Tomasina. She will be missed so much.....*

Focus on:

# Geoff & Gina

Alright already.....Quit with the big camera please!



Notice the arched display of Geoff's tail in the top picture. The longer the camera is focused on them, the more suspicious the pair gets as to the possibility that the camera's a threat of some kind. He also coils his tail as a sexual display when mating.

This pair of Geoffroy's tufted-eared marmosets, *Callithrix geoffroyi*, have two offspring. For anyone who wants to keep monkeys "aviary-style" like wild birds, marmosets and tamarins are ideal. When they reproduce the offspring can continue live with them in the same space if it is large enough. Geoffroys have a group size of eight to ten in the wild.

This cage is 12 feet high, 12 feet deep and 10 feet wide. Their cage top is half solid and half one half by two inch welded wire. Straw fencing has been laid over the wire to make filtered light. Some patches of direct sun come in from the open front of the cage. The remaining three cage walls are solid for wind and weather protection.

Patches of sunlight are favorite places to sit, to warm in the sun and to groom, usually in pairs.

In the wild, these monkeys sometimes feed with masked titi monkeys (*Callicebus personatus*). Masked titis are larger, black faced monkeys who feed on leaves and flowers, leaving gums and animal matter for the marmosets.



Geoffroy's tufted eared marmosets have been reported to follow army ant swarms in the wild. Army ants flush out other insects as they swarm along, providing the marmosets with easy insect prey.

When this pair was housed across from a breeding group of pygmy marmosets they would not breed. It is possible that they were influenced by the older pygmies and viewed them selves as part of their group and therefore suppressed their own breeding behaviors.....□

## The Dieting Monkey.....

.....is no happier than the dieting human! But the over-indulged monkey is put on a diet for the same reason: It's by far the best thing for his health! Monkeys who are overfed and overweight are more likely to contract Type II diabetes, heart disease and other illnesses, as well as having shorter life-expectancies. Monkeys who are overfed as infants usually become larger monkeys as adults than their wild living counterparts as well.

But take it from experience. Dieting is really a let down for the spoiled monkey who is used to plentiful and tasty fare.

Prevention: The best path is to avoid monkey weight gain in the first place. It can be gradual and hard to notice though. If you do see your adult monkey continuing to gain weight, take a close look at:

- ▶ your monkey's activity level (is he sitting too much?)
- ▶ the type of food and
- ▶ the amount of food he is getting. (Stop with the all-you-can-eat monkey smorgasbord!)
- ▶ Cut back on portion sizes

"Bummer!  
Salad again..."



▶ and lighten up by feeding more green vegetables and fewer high-fat nuts. One or two nuts daily is enough for a small monkey like this squirrel.

▶ If you are feeding your monkey high carbohydrate junk foods like chips, popcorn and pretzels, cut them out or cut them back to one piece a day that fits in the monkey's hand!

▶ Stick with quality foods. Feed monkey chow, if he will eat it. Feed small amounts of cooked chicken, eggs and fish for protein, and green vegetables like broccoli, green beans, bell pepper, romaine lettuce and cucumber. Stick with the less sweet fruits like apples and berries (rather than bananas and mangoes). Make sure your dieting monkey gets a vitamin/mineral tablet.

What you want is a slow, not rapid, weight loss for your chubby monkey. If you cannot "tough-love" your monkey into a thinner physique by dietary improvement, the gentlest way to go is.....

▶ whatever your monkey is eating, cut it back by first by a quarter, then later by a third or more, if need be.

▶ If your monkey still isn't losing weight, gradually cut his former intake again.

But remember, there is nothing sadder than someone who eats forbidden food in front of a monkey who can't have any. If you must indulge yourself, kindly and wisely do it out of the vicinity of your monkey. Eventually, former junk-food monkeys will miss it less if they don't see or smell it!.....□

## Monkeys In Action!!



Rocking out, here's "Katie" the Java macaque, left and white-faced capuchin "Rocky" taking it easy this summer. (Photo from Dee)

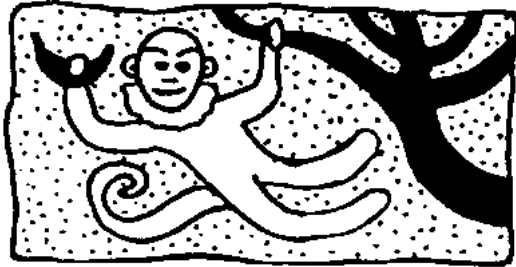
Swamp guenon "Irving" in action as he forages in the shade of his summer time tree bough. Guenons forage for insects as well as tender stems and leaves. Some foliage is plucked just for fun. (Photo by Tom C. )

Send your best shot to:

Monkeys In Action  
PO Box 80697 - MB 181  
San Diego CA 92138-0697



🍎 "Nutrition" is intended for educational purposes. If your primate has a medical problem, consult your veterinarian immediately. 🍌 Monkey Chow is specially manufactured to meet the needs of New World and Old World primates. It is currently recommended as a basic ingredient in every monkey's diet.



# Nutrition

By J Dunn

## Good Monkey Nutrition Means: Offering A Varied Diet!



*Spot-nosed guenon monkey meets pumello fruit!!.....(also spelled pummello). First he puts his nose on it for a sniff, next he licks the peel to see if he can get a preview taste. He's cautious, (no telling what the yellow globe tastes like)!*

*When it's peeled for him, he's quite happy with his first lick of this citrus, a sweet/tart flavor. The flavor is a kind of cross between a sweet grapefruit and an orange. Monkeys who like citrus will love pumellos! Pumellos are NEVER BITTER!*

*Containing the same quality fiber as grapefruit, (which helps keep cholesterol levels low) the pumello is considered an ancestor of grapefruit. So this fruit has been around as long as monkeys have.*

*Pumellos are a healthful fruit. Among their other nutritional assets are: They offer vitamin C, are low in calories and have one gram of protein per cup. Some monkeys will eat the white of the peel for bioflavonoids. For the picky monkey, sometimes it takes eating a little of the new fruit with him or her on more than one occasion.....☐*





Puddle-duck "Sparky" the capuchin, above, is wading in a nonthreatening level of water! Water play is a favored summer time fun for capuchins, guenons and macaques who are lucky enough to have outdoor pools! (Photo by monkey mom Tammy)

## Parting Shots

Gibbon "Sampson" below, demonstrates his version of "King Of The Mountain"! (Photo by gibbon lover Sondra)



See you again  
on-line!!!

<http://www.monkeymatters.com>

An Open Letter To New Readers:

### Mandatory Information!!

■ Monkeys are social/emotional creatures with complex social/emotional needs. They are animals that require serious, well-educated caretakers. ■ Monkey care can be a rewarding and positive experience. Yet with improper understanding and precaution, some mature monkeys can be difficult or even dangerous to humans. ■ A fulfilling and enriched captive life-style can be offered to all primates. Yet receiving improper human care and precaution can be detrimental and/or life threatening to monkeys. ■ To an individual extent, monkeys change in their needs and behaviors at different life stages. They are subject to their own inherent traits, the effects of the environment(s) they have been raised in and whether or not they have a quality/bonded relationship with a human caretaker and/or other social animal. ■ Keeping captive monkeys in pairs or groups as adults requires knowledgeable and vigilant caretakers. Two or more monkeys in a social relationship can result in social benefits and stimulation or in social challenges, tension and aggression, which can be life threatening. ■ For pertinent information in addition to Monkey Matters, the Monkey Helpline is available. For personal experience plus referencing from dozens of primate books, write or call anytime (number inside) with your questions on behavior or care.....□



Monkey Matters'  
**Primate Placement Service**

**For people who want help in placing (not selling) a cherished primate into a desirable, new home call: (800) 796-7363 (ext. 1100146) 24 hours a day.**

Leave a phone number where we can call you back COLLECT.

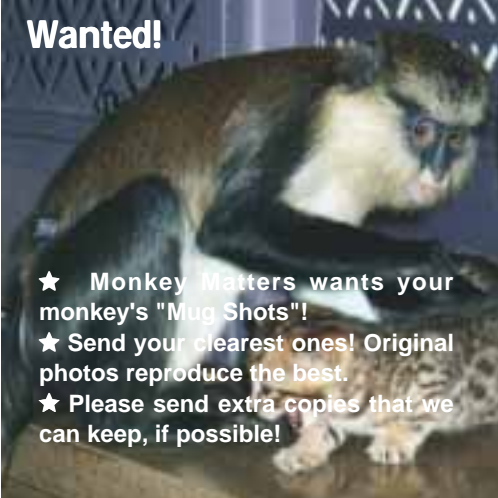
Monkey Matters staff members have successfully placed a number of primates prior to officially starting our Primate Placement Service. We will continue to work with anyone who wants to place a primate up for adoption in deciding what type of home would best suit his or her individual primate's needs. **No money changes hands in a placement.** Where appropriate, we can recommend proper sanctuaries.

To adopt a primate, please contact us **by mail only** with your name, address, phone number, your years of experience with primates. List ages and types of primates, your vet's name (or name of one you plan to use), address and phone number.



- ◆ **Your application will be kept on file.**
- ◆ *Due to volume of correspondence, no replies will be made to applications until a primate is available.....*☐

**Wanted!**

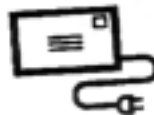


- ★ **Monkey Matters wants your monkey's "Mug Shots"!**
- ★ **Send your clearest ones! Original photos reproduce the best.**
- ★ **Please send extra copies that we can keep, if possible!**

**Monkey Helpline Service:** If behavior is the problem, and you would still like to keep your monkey, please call our Helpline for possible solutions and problem solving skills.



Tel: (800) 796-7363, ext. 1100146



E-mail: [helpline@monkeymatters.com](mailto:helpline@monkeymatters.com)

Due to a change in editorial policy, we are currently not accepting ads.

Petition For Responsible Monkey Ownership

To Whom It May Concern, We, the undersigned, are directly concerned with ▲ the well-being of primates ▲ the education of private owners ▲ the rights of owners in each state to keep primates responsibly ▲ the rights of owners to be fairly regulated. Please keep our petition in favor of the fair private ownership of monkeys in your file. We support the right of citizens in every state to responsibly keep primates (as pet monkeys, as aviary monkeys, exhibitor monkeys, breeder monkeys and rescue monkeys) and our right to be fairly regulated. Where citizens have already lost their right to own monkeys, we support restoration of such rights.

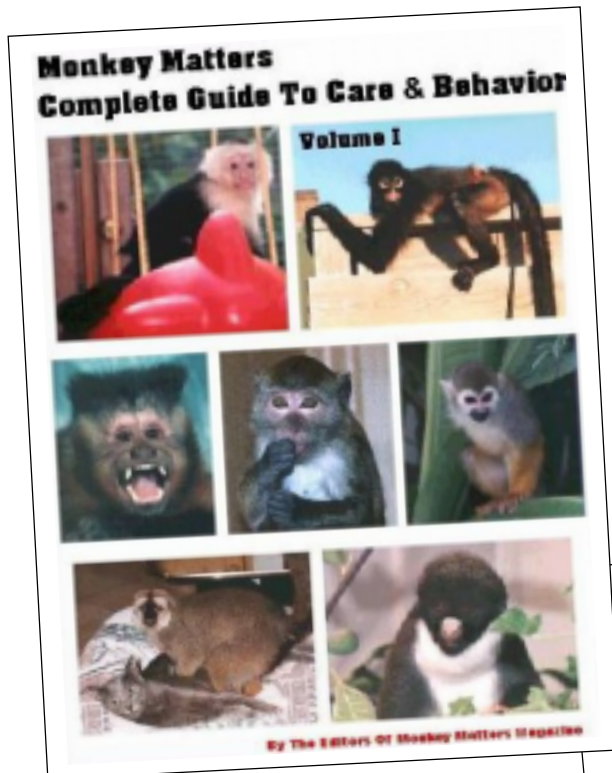
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