

20 October 2002

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I first became acquainted with Lynda Staker of Proserpine, Australia, three years ago through her authoritative manual Don't Step Backwards about the rearing, rescue and rehabilitation of native animals.

Impressed with her knowledge about and commitment to marsupials, I invited her to lecture on the subject of her expertise last July in Columbus, Ohio at the second annual Macropod Information Exchange. At this event, co-hosted by Ohio State University and the International Kangaroo Society, Ms. Staker spoke on the needs of marsupials in the areas of care, disease, management, and rehabilitation.

Her reputation is such that her lecture – on a topic that would, at first glance, not seem a natural for Midwest audiences – was attended by more than 70 people. Ms. Staker is not only a recognized expert in the field but also a dedicated conservationist, in the best sense of the term – and that “real-ness” is conveyed in her both speech and demeanor.

While she was in the United States, my wife and I hosted her in our home for a week. We were greatly impressed with her honesty, intelligence, thoughtfulness, generosity of spirit, and wit. We would have her as a guest again without question.

Lynda is someone I am proud to call a friend. And I say this as a retired policeman, having served as a member of the Detroit force for 25 years, having lived for 53 years as resident of Michigan.

Being involved with kangaroos zoologically for the past seven years, I am most appreciative of Lynda's willingness to share her knowledge, assist in the husbandry of these animals, and raise awareness of the troubles certain species of these useful, interesting marsupials face in their native country.

Ms. Staker represents the very best in the international exchange of information. Her dedication to the betterment of all living things – especially kangaroos – is impressive. I can most wholeheartedly recommend that she be granted the ability to further educate Americans on the care of these noble creatures.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey Schrock
CEO Perfect Pets Inc.