

Dear friend of animals:

We are excited to announce that OCPA is moving in a new direction that will lead to stronger advocacy for animals in Southern California. OCPA board members Julie Curran-Meskell, Dina Kourda and Dave Simon have formed a local division of Animal Protection & Rescue League (APRL) as a new platform for animal advocacy in Orange County, Los Angeles and beyond. As part of APRL, we will continue to focus on new and traditional forms of direct action, including leafleting, tabling, outreach, litigation, video demonstrations, protest campaigns, Internet advocacy and related activities. We will also continue to organize educational events like speakers and film screenings, and recreational events like vegan potlucks and dining outings. If you're interested in getting or staying involved with animal-related direct action, education and recreation, you can find information about upcoming events [here](#).

If you are used to finding out about animal advocacy through Meetup.com, next time you visit the site you'll find information about APRL and our latest campaigns in Orange County and Los Angeles. PLEASE NOTE: if you bookmarked the Meetup site in your web browser, please visit the new site ([here](#)) and create a new bookmark. Otherwise, your bookmark won't work!

APRL is a longtime partner of OCPA's, and founders Kath Rogers and Bryan Pease have personally supported and participated in a number of OCPA's campaigns. With 10 paid staff, a nationwide presence, and a budget and resources much larger than OCPA's, APRL is a major force in animal advocacy. We hope you'll welcome this change as we do, and seek ways to get involved through the Meetup site.

Going forward, OCPA's out-of-state board members Charlotte Cressey and Pamela Kurp, will, along with Tina Locklear, focus on the connection with animals, spirituality and feminism through Internet advocacy. OCPA will no longer organize traditional direct action such as protests. We wish them the best in their new endeavor.

Thanks for everything you do for animals and for your support as we take this important step.

Sincerely,

Julie, Dina and Dave