

International Primate Protection League's Helping Hand – Asia
Pharane Choitros-Deters, Highland Farm, Thailand
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The Highland Farm Gibbon and Wildlife Sanctuary (recently renamed as the William E. Deters Foundation for Gibbon and Wildlife Conservation) was founded in 1996. The Foundation was established on June 16th, 2003, to honor my beloved husband, after William and several of our Thai animal care workers were brutally murdered on May 10th, 2002. Highland Farm is a refuge center on 35 acres for 40 abandoned, mistreated and/or physically abused gibbons. These little singing apes come to the Foundation on different paths, yet their need for protection, special care and love is still the same. Since their capture in Thailand's forest as babies, none have lived in the forests and/or with other gibbons. Sadly, all are totally dependent on human intervention for survival. Although my husband has been gone for over a year, the work must go on. We are very grateful that we received a special grant from IPPL and The Arcus Foundation, because since my husband has gone, I have not received his retirement money from the US for over a year now. We, including the gibbons and many animals at the foundation, lived on that money. We couldn't build the new 15 enclosures for the new gibbons on our waiting list because of lack of funds. I feel relieved now that help has arrived.