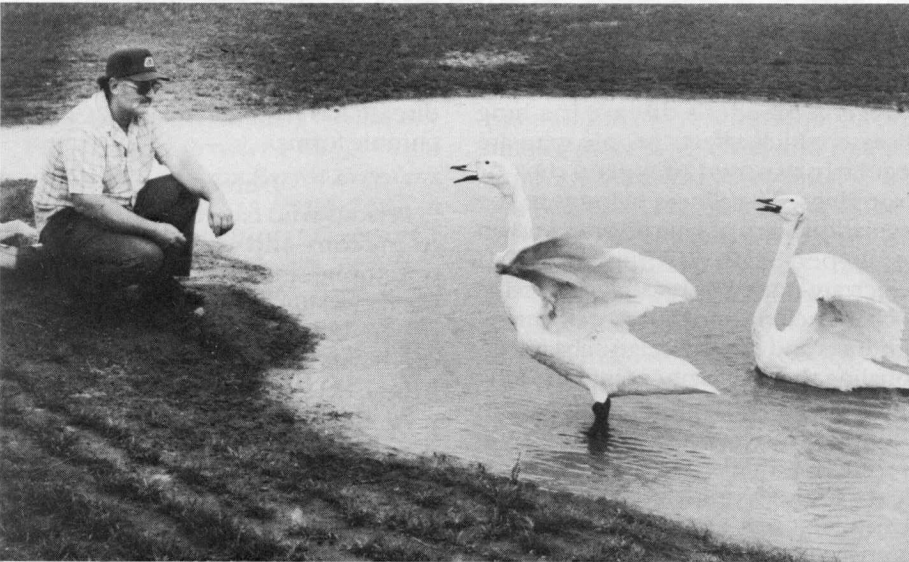




Joseph Hoy with a pet llama which is "king of the zoo."



Hoy and two of his rare whooping swans.



Tender care by Hoy helped the young deer recover after being torn by dogs.

People Who Deserve Tribute . . . Let's Call Them Good Samaritans

*by Grover Brinkman
Columbia, Illinois*

Despite our lifestyles of stress, there are many men and women who could be called good samaritans in more ways than one. Some of these people are hard to find because they keep a low profile, proud of what they are doing yet never hungering for publicity.

Remember the movie of long ago, "Magnificent Obsession"? This was the "good samaritan" theme at its finest, the hero living his life of good deeds but never revealing his lifestyle.

Joseph Hoy, shown here, is one of those people. Not only does he love all the creatures of the wild, but also he is a good samaritan to wild animals and wildfowl in trouble.

On a rolling homestead near his home at New Minden, Illinois, he has created two large lakes and wildfowl nesting areas. It is a protected area surrounded by a tight fence, and flocks of wild geese and ducks instinctly sense a factor of safety here. After a few weeks at this refuge, where feed is in abundance, they grow so tame that soon the birds eat from his hand.

Area game wardens and conservation men know about this refuge, and any time they find an injured animal or bird, they bring it here, hoping its life can be saved. Hoy, shown here feeding a young fawn, received the animal on the brink of death, its coat badly torn by dogs. For long weeks he doctored it patiently. Now it is nearing recovery and follows him about the refuge much as a pet dog might do.



*Owl with broken wing,
nursed by Joseph Hoy,
New Minden, Illinois.*

From llamas to mute swans, all the animals and birds live at this refuge in complete safety.

"My family keeps growing," he said.

An owl tangled with a moving car on a nearby interstate one foggy night, and had a wing broken. It hovered in a nearby field, unable to fly (see photo). When a game warden rescued the injured bird, his first words were: "Here's another one for Hoy."

There is a fraternity among men like Hoy. In the next county is a young man who works with eagles, helping restore the bald eagle back to its normal population, taking it off the endangered species list.

At Christmas time, Hoy loads some of his favorite animals in a truck and takes them to a nearby city, part of a live nativity scene.

Is there a moral here? If there is, perhaps it is the fact that kindness, once offered, is universal, in both the human and natural world. ●

Wild geese become so tame they ignore the cameraman.

