

**CLEAN KILL**

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Of all the devices used for unpremeditated killing, the automobile offers the common man the greatest variety in shape, size, color, and maneuverability. At the same time, the automobile allows the common man to kill without being physically involved or morally responsible. It is the automobile that permits the common man to kill clean, that is, the killer remains clean. Clean Kill is the logical conclusion to a sterile slaughter. By using Unknown Animal Cemetery Kits (UACKs) the common man is forced to witness and take some responsibility for an impersonal annihilation. However, in order to maintain the level of objectivity inherent in the original act, UACKs provide the common man with disposable gloves and shovel, thereby continuing to keep the common man clean.

### CLEAN KILL Documentation

The idea for Clean Kill occurred while on a return trip from Nashville, Tennessee. I discussed the idea with my wife who thought it was absolutely ridiculous. A year later I began the project. The following is a chronological listing of the important events that have taken place during the development and presentation of Clean Kill.

December 12, 1977:

I employed Frank Baker to make the wooden stakes, pegs, and box for the deluxe UACK.

December 14, 1977:

I placed employment notices in the Fashion Design area. Within a few days Sandy Gutin answered the notice. After I had described the project she agreed to make the bags.

December 21, 1977:

Sandy and I bought the material necessary to make 10 bags. I received the first bag for approval.

January 20, 1978:

Frank Baker delivered the pine box, stakes, and pegs.

January 21, 1978:

I obtained the remaining 9 bags from Sandy Gutin, plus all the surplus material.

February 10, 1978:

Ellen Kendall and I purchased the disposable gloves and shovels as well as located the subject for my winter Documentation.

February 11, 1978:

I recorded the Winter Documentation at Tyson Valley Research Center with the aid of Ellen Kendall.

February 14, 1978:

I discussed the project with Jon Palmer who advised me to talk with the Highway Department to see if they would pick up the used bags.

February 24, 1978:

I talked with the St. Louis County Highway Department and received two different reactions. The first came from a female secretary who thought that Clean Kill was a very humane gesture giving what amounted to a dignified burial for the animal. The second reaction came from a gentleman having some say in but not complete charge of highway business. He thought the project was absurd, was angered that I was a graduate student, and underscored the fact that no one could use the highway right of ways without official permission. The essence of our entire conversation can be seen in his hypothetical story of why Clean Kill would not work: "What if a small boy is riding his bicycle on the road, trips on the stake, falls off and impales himself on that stake?" My answer was, "sir, the sharp part of the stake goes into the ground." retorted by repeating his original statement regarding right of ways. At this point I asked him if he were the person who could grant official sanction. He answered that he was not but gave me the name of the individual who was. With this encounter I decided to seek sponsorship from an organization sympathetic to Clean Kill before continuing any discussion with the highway departments.

March 1, 1978:

I met with Mr. Anthony of the Humane Society. He was curious about the oblong pine box containing the deluxe UACK and generally interested in the project. He said that he would present the project to his board at their next meeting on March 16th.

I talked with Howard Jones after the meeting with Mr. Anthony. Howard enthusiastically supported the project and gave me names of other organizations which might be interested in Clean Kill.

March 2, 1978:

Over the telephone I requested an appointment with Dorothy Stade of the Sierra Club. Instead of an appointment she gave me a bureaucratic outline of the Sierra Club and told me how busy she was, so call back in 10 days.

March 13, 1978:

I met with Connie Hath, Executive Director of the St. Louis Audubon Society and board member of the Humane Society. She was very interested in Clean Kill and suggested mass production in less expensive materials. She envisioned Clean Kill as a national campaign. She also gave me other names and told me that she felt Martin Schweig, President of the St. Louis Audubon Society, would be interested.

Later I talked with Shirley Siler of the Animal Protective Agency and made an appointment with her on March 23 to fully explain Clean Kill. I subsequently cancelled our appointment feeling that it would be unproductive after seeing the situation at the Animal Protective Agency and hearing the comments of Martin Schweig.

March 15, 1978:

I discussed Clean Kill with Martin Schweig, President of the St. Louis Audubon Society and influential member of the Animal Protective Agency. After the presentation he asked what I wanted. My reply was financial support to either launch a short-term publicity campaign

or mass produce an inexpensive, totally utilitarian UACK. His response was not positive. First, he felt the name Clean Kill was confusing, especially with the recent steel trap controversy. Second, he saw the project dealing after the fact and not with prevention: instead of instilling an awareness of highway slaughter, Clean Kill would clean the highways. Finally, on a practical level, he stated that those who would stop were not the ones involved in most of the slaughter. Clean Kill just would not go over with the public, he said, because it is a “two-step procedure instead of a one-step.”

Later that day I spoke with Joel Plotch about printing a limited edition of Clean Kill t-shirts.

March 29, 1978:

I met with Ida Kugelman about producing a limited edition of t-shirts advertising Clean Kill and also about doing graphic work on this documentation. Our next meeting is on April 4.

Clean Kill  
winter documentation 1978













































Unknown Animal Cemetery Kits  
U.A.C.K.











