

January 3, 1977

Danny O'Keefe
7123 Woodrow Wilson Drive
Los Angeles, California 90068

Danny,

I met with your Greenpeace friends a couple months ago as they passed through on their way north; and I must agree with you Danny, they are upright, honest dudes, with an excellent project to propel I sure hope Simpatico can help Greenpeace this year.

Now, on to the Art Beal Foundation. We're having a big fundraiser February 20 (Sunday) here in San Luis Obispo. We're attacking a \$3,600 debt (part on the delinquent property taxes on Nitwit Ridge and part on the loan we received to help make the out-of-court settlement in 1975) with a day of comedy, music, and fun. We plan to start the day out by taking a whale-watching boat ~~from~~ Morro Bay; the California Grays, during February/March, are returning to the Bering Sea from Baja.

What this letter is obviously leading up to, Danny, is the solicitation of your help. We'd love to have you come up, take the whale boat with us (I'm trying to get the boat for just the cost of the diesel fuel), perhaps sing a few songs on board, and later play in the outdoor downtown shopping plaza known as the Network. (Should momma nature turn the spigots on, we're covered indoors.) The thing about this Art Beal Foundation benefit is that we're not selling tickets for a concert. We're promoting a Sunday in the Network. And we get 10% of the gross of each shop; there are 15 shops.

Art talks of you often and he, like us, believes you would be a tremendous help to the day. Don Novello (alias Father Sarducci of the SmothersBBrothers show) is coming up to do a round of comedy. I think you'd really enjoy it, Danny; and we could all go up to Nitwit Ridge that night.

In any case, we are a Foundation now. We stuck our knicks out to preserve this wild and original property in its pure state; now, in order to keep the county from taking Nitwit Ridge over, we need to pay off those ugly back taxes.

We'll be happy to cover your travel expenses, feed you and put you up -- just like you get treated by SIMPATICO. Let us know soon, Danny, so we can get the advertising rolling. The big rock FM here in the county, KZOZ, is co-sponsoring the event with us; so it's free 30-second spots (and they'd love to help promote your appearance!).

Yours In Continuing Friendship,

John FitzRandolph & Vicki Leon
Co-Founders, Art Beal Foundation