Ann Cottrell Free Chronology

June 4, 2016 - born in Richmond, VA

193? - attended Binford Jr. High School

193? - Attended John Marshall High School, Richmond, VA

1929 & early 1930s - Attended Camp Mont Shenandoah, Millboro Springs, VA

1931-34 - Attended Collegiate School for Girls - Richmond, VA

1934-36 - Attended the Richmond Division of the College of William and Mary (now known as VA Commonwealth University, VCU)

1936-38 - Relationship with Professor Margaret Johnson

1936 - 1938 - Attended Barnard College

1937 - worked at Richmond Times Dispatch in the summer

June, 1938 - 1940 - Worked at Richmond Times Dispatch after graduation from college

Spring 1940 - went to Hollywood on vacation from Richmond Times-Dispatch, wrote stories

Summer 1940 - Hired by Edward Griffith to be the public relations person for Paramount Pictures movie “Virginia” on location in Charlottesville, VA

Fall 1940 - went to NYC to work on “movie magazine” - Fashion, 420 Lexington Ave

Winter 1940-41 - Newsweek NYC

Jan. 3, 1941 - worked in Newsweek Washington Bureau

Early 1940s- lived with Claude James in Washington and had a relationship

Nov. 1941-42 - worked in Chicago Sun Washington Bureau (WACS, Waves, N. St. Louis war plants)

1942 - Nov. 1945 - worked in New York Herald Tribune Washington Bureau

1945 - president of Mrs. Roosevelt's Press Association

January 17, 1946 - Sailed from New York

Feb. 24 - March 7, 1946 - the Philippines

March 12, 1946 - arrived in Shanghai, China

1946 - Chief Information Officer, UNRAA Mission to China. Extensive travel within China with UNRAA - Canton, Changahn, Hengyang, Hankow, Nanking, Peiping, Tientein, Tasingao, Mukden, Changehun, Harbin

May 1 - 13, 1947 - Hong Kong

May 13 - 23, 1947 - Saigon, French IndoChina,

May 25 - June 10, 1947 - Malay, including Singapore and Penang

June 10 - July 4, 1947 - Siam, including Bangkok and upcountry

July 8 - early Sept., 1947 - India via Burma - Travel within India included Calcutta, Darjeeling, New Delhi, Lahore, Kashmir, Little Tibet, Agra, Bombay. (Ann was present in Delhi for the Transfer of Power, Aug. 15, 1947)

Early Sept., 1947 - Aden (brief stopover)

Sept. 21 - Oct. 10, 1947 - Egypt

October 10 - 17, 1947 - Palestine

October 21 - Nov. 1, 1947 - Greece - Athens, Salonika, Bulgarian-Yugoslav frontier

Nov. 1 - 25, 1947 - Italy - Rome, Florence, Milan

November 25 - Dec. 6, 1947 - Switzerland

December 6 - December 31, 1947 - Germany - Frankfurt, Berlin, Heidelberg, Stuttgart, Cologne, Dusseldorf, Essen

Jan. 1 - 20, 1948 - France - Paris, Dunkerque, Calais

January 20 - Feb. 4, 1948 - England

Dec. 1, 1948 - June, 1949 - Information Officer Economic Cooperation Administration ECA (Marshall Plan) - France and Italy

February 24, 1950 - married James Stillman Free

October 24, 1953 - death of Ann's father, Emmett Drewry Cottrell, Richmond, VA

1950s - Ann wrote extensively about the Humane Slaughter Bill and lobbied behind the scenes.

1954-1955 - Historian of Women's National Press Club

Oct. 18,1955 - daughter was born (Elissa Blake Free)

1958 - Ann was instrumental in getting the Humane Slaughter Bill signed into law

1958 - Ann was a founding member of the Friends of the National Zoo (FONZ)

1959 - Rachel Carson called Ann about a story she had written on a woman who had fallen into some herbicides and became ill. Ann told Rachel about the FDA dogs and Rachel wrote to FDA Administrator George Larrick about them.

1959 - Ann discovered beagles being tested for color dye in a sub-basement of the Federal Drug Administration

1962 - Spearheaded a successful citizen campaign to stop a road being put through Glover-Archbold Park

1962- invited and arranged for Rachel Carson to speak at the Women's National Press Club

1963 - authored Forever the Wild Mare

1963 - Received Albert Schweitzer Medal from the Animal Welfare Institute

1966 - testified and was present at WH for LBJ's signing of Animal Welfare Act

1966- Met Ruth Harrison, author of "Animal Machines" in England

1969 - wrote an article in This Week magazine calling for the establishment of a Rachel Carson Wildlife Refuge

1970s - Ann was on the board of the Montgomery (MD) County Humane Society, where Ingrid Newkirk (later the founder of PETA) was working in the kennels and blew the whistle on wrong-doing at the shelter. Ann took Ingrid's side in the dispute

1970s - Ann was on the board of the Washington Humane Society

1971 -1982 - Ann contributed a monthly "Washington Letter" column to Enviro-South magazine

1971- 75 - Ann was a contributor to Defenders magazine, published by Defenders of Wildlife

1970 - Ann wrote a story in This Week Magazine suggesting the establishment of a wildlife refuge named for Rachel Carson and asked readers to write to the Secretary of the Interior. The Rachel Carson Wildlife Refuge in Maine was dedicated on June 28, 1970.

1972 - mother died, Emily Blake Cottrell

1975 - worked on meat book ("Meat, the End of the Affair). She had a contract with Houghton Mifflin which she did not fulfill due to back issues

1975 - Ann's wrote stories about the Army's spraying blackbirds in Kentucky for NANA and the Birmingham News

1975 - On Feb 2, 1976 Ann testified before the Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and Environment Subcommittee against HR 11510 (blackbird killing bill)

1977 - Ann attended first Animal Rights Conference in Cambridge at Trinity College. Signed Animal Rights Manifesto.

1980s - Ann was a contributing editor of Between the Species: A Journal of Ethics

1982 - testified on Capitol Hill to stop bow and arrow hunt on National Zoo grounds in Front Royal VA

1981 - Ann attended and wrote about the Silver Spring Monkey Trial

1982- authored, Animals, Nature & Albert Schweitzer

1983 - Washington Humane Society Humanitarian Award

1988 - co-founded Vieques, Puerto Rico Humane Society

1987 - authored, No Room, Save in the Heart

1987 - received the Rachel Carson Legacy Award from Rachel Carson Council

1970s - 1990s - served on the board of the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship

1990s? - recognized by AARP as a timeless pioneer

1990 - Signed and helped draft the Declaration of the Rights of Animals, Washington DC

1992 - Received Distinguished Alumni Award from Collegiate School

1993 - Received the Great Old Broads of Wilderness Canyon Crone Award

1996 - Inducted into the Virginia Communications Hall of Fame

1997 - Received Top Dog award from Washington Animal Rescue League

October 30, 2004 - death, Sibley Hospital, Washington DC