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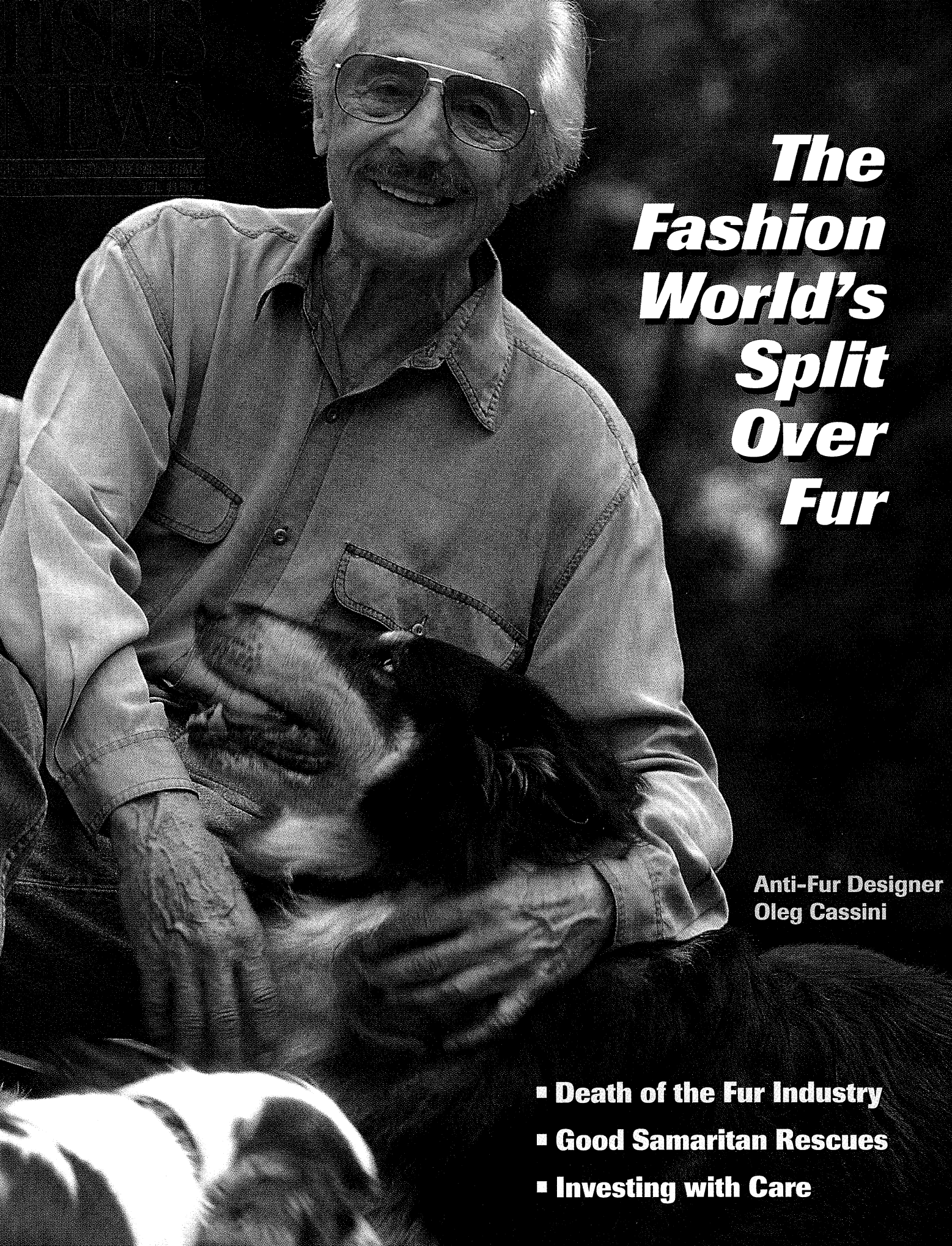
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The Fashion World's Split Over Fur

**Anti-Fur Designer
Oleg Cassini**

- **Death of the Fur Industry**
- **Good Samaritan Rescues**
- **Investing with Care**

Responding to the Challenges of Dog Ownership

IN THIS COLUMN I USUALLY speak to you of issues and programs of far-reaching import and global scope, and I often engage you in discussions that explore the realm of the philosophical and ideological.

But today the matter at hand is both closer to home and more immediately practical: caring for dogs. Specifically, I wish to bring your attention to our new book, *The Humane Society of the United States Complete Guide to Dog Care*, and ask you to take advantage of the gift-giving season and a very special offer to make this important book available to friends and family.

This book goes directly to the heart of our charitable purpose—the protection of animals—by empowering dog owners and potential dog owners to respond humanely to the challenges of dog ownership and to develop a lifelong partnership with their dogs.

The Humane Society of the United States Complete Guide to Dog Care is an impressive collaboration between a talented writer, Marion S. Lane, and HSUS staff from many disciplines. Our approach is unique. Unlike other “complete” dog books, ours does not tell the reader about the breeding of dogs, for we are acutely aware of the misery caused by canine overpopulation. It doesn’t include a chapter describing dog breeds and breed characteristics. Instead our book provides a wealth of information on how to choose the right dog (from the perspectives of both dog and owner), how to live happily with a dog, and how to solve problems along the way.

Because we believe this book belongs in the hands of every dog owner and anyone who is considering sharing a home with a dog, I am announcing a special offer to HSUS members. From October 1,

1998, through December 31, 1998, we are offering *The Humane Society of the United States Complete Guide to Dog Care* at a special price: \$17.00 including shipping and handling (see the inside back cover). This represents a significant discount from the suggested retail price of \$24.95 and our usual price to HSUS members of \$19.95 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling.

This is a book of which we at The HSUS are understandably proud. But we aren’t alone in that assessment of its merits.

Roger A. Caras, president of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, says, “Loving concern for your pet is evident on every page of *The Humane Society of the United States Complete Guide to Dog Care*. It is the bible for dog owners—clear, concise, indispensable.” Once you’ve had an opportunity to read *The Humane Society of the United States Complete Guide to Dog Care*, we believe you’ll agree.

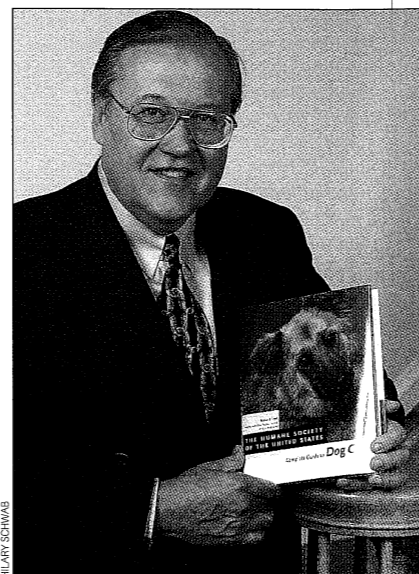
I urge you to give copies of the book as gifts this holiday season. As an HSUS member, you will be directly assisting The HSUS in the performance of our mission.

More important, however, is the help you will give to others. I believe that every one of us knows someone—friend, neighbor, or relative—who could benefit from the caring advice in this book. And our canine companions will benefit most of all.

Thank you, and have a happy holiday.



Paul G. Irwin, President



HILARY SCHWAB

fall 1998

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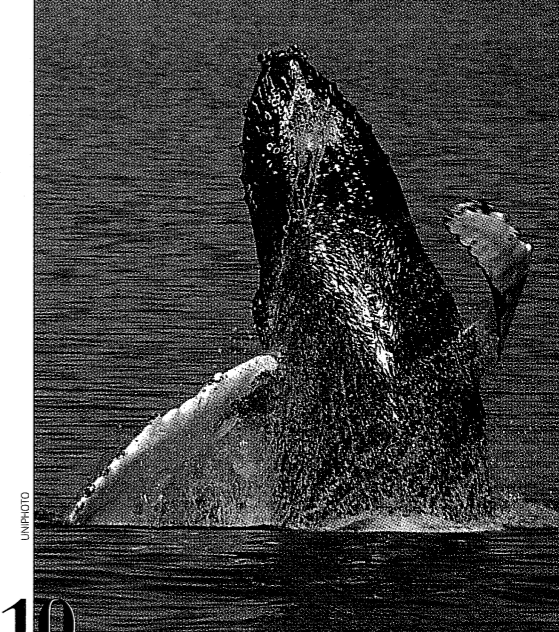
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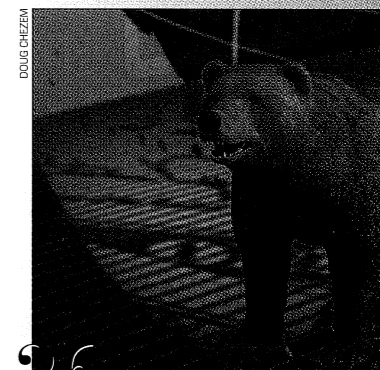
On the cover:

Oleg Cassini is pictured with *Done Deal* and another of his many rescued animals. Photograph by Carol Cornwell



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THOSE OF YOU WHO are regular readers of the *HSUS News* will notice significant changes in this issue.

We've opened our pages to accomplished writers from outside The HSUS in an effort to bring you a wider range of views and voices on timely issues. Matthew Scully was a speechwriter in the Bush White House and is a literary editor of the *National Review*—an unusual background indeed for a fervent animal protection advocate. Writing in our first Forum, on page 16, Matthew deftly blows away the media's fur industry apologists, who are whistling in the wind when they claim, "Fur is back!" Matthew also learns from Oleg Cassini how the legendary fashion designer is making amends for his decision in the 1960s to put First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy in

a leopard coat. Mr. Cassini's timing couldn't be better, for The HSUS has just launched Fur-Free 2000™, our international campaign to drive a stake in the heart of the fur industry, once and for all.

If you've ever risked life and limb—or ever thought about doing so—to rescue a dog or cat on a road-way, you'll want to read Marion S. Lane's advice to all potential good Samaritans on page 12. Coauthor of *The Humane Society of the United States Complete Guide to Dog Care* (see the inside back cover) and an award-winning editor and writer on dog-related subjects, Marion urges safety first and suggests that the Samaritan's most valuable piece of equipment may be the car phone.

We've made other changes, too. Because we want to give you an opportunity to comment on the *News*, you'll see letters to the editor appearing regularly. We also want to speak to you, editor to reader (we're doing that right here), and learn more about you and what you want from the *HSUS News*.

To accomplish these goals, we've asked our new art director, Paula Jaworski, to redesign the *News* inside and out. One glance at the issue's front cover of Oleg Cassini, however, may have already telegraphed those intentions.

After seventeen years as editor of the *HSUS News*, I've been challenged—and rewarded—in putting this issue together. HSUS President Paul G. Irwin, Senior Vice President Wayne Pacelle, and I are eager to hear what you think of it. Write us at the HSUS address at right, or you can e-mail me at hsusdjs@erols.com.



Deborah J. Salem, Editor

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letters

An Activist in the Making

I'D LIKE TO THANK THE *HSUS News* for providing the names and addresses of people I can write to on behalf of so many causes for the good of animals and the planet. It makes me feel like I'm doing something on a larger scale—and that really matters to me. If there are other ways to prevent suffering, I would like to know what a low budget person could contribute!

Kimberly D. Farrar
Phoenix, AZ

You sound like a potential member of the *HSUS Action Alert Team*! Any current member of *The HSUS* (with an annual membership contribution of \$10 or more) can join, free of charge. You'll receive our quarterly publication *Animal Activist Alert*. Each issue is filled with information on how you can make a difference for animals, right from home. Write *Animal Activist Alert*, *The Humane Society of the United States*, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037. You can also access our electronic newsletter, *HUMANELines* (humaneln@ix.netcom.com), for even more timely information.—Ed.



One Sickened, One Touched

I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF HSUS for many years now.

The one thing that I loved about your publication is that I could learn about animals and animal welfare issues without being disgusted, upset,

and sickened by the photos that were presented to me.

When I saw the photos of bludgeoned cats in your Spring 1998 issue ["One Deadly Night at Noah's Ark"], I quickly became sick and threw your publication in the garbage. I am dedicated to the cause of animal welfare, but I refuse to be forced to be a witness to every sickening event that happens across the world.

I ask you to please give people encouragement, success stories, and above all else, education. The animal welfare movement is an uphill battle, and I have always looked to your publication to inform, inspire, and give guidance.

Lynne Slightom
San Rafael, CA

I WANT TO COMMENT ON THE Noah's Ark story. I had an extremely hard time reading this article. I feel for the cats who suffered and for the cats who must have been scared watching their feline friends be beaten to death by coldhearted "humans." To the people who believe "Boys will be boys," I say, "Boys will be mass murderers, too." At least 50 percent of mass murderers admit to animal abuse. This fact should soften people's cold hearts when it comes to animal abuse, but, unfortunately, it doesn't. My deepest sympathy goes to [Noah's Ark owners] David and Laura Sykes, and also to anyone who has lost a companion animal to the senseless acts of humans. My heart is with you.

Kerri LaShelle
via e-mail

We welcome letters from *HSUS News* readers and will publish as many as we can in upcoming issues. We reserve the right to edit letters for publication. Send to Editor, *HSUS News*, *The Humane Society of the United States*, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037, or e-mail hsusdjs@erols.com.

A FREE WEEKLY ELECTRONIC ALERT ABOUT THE HOTTEST ANIMAL ISSUES

● The Humane Society of the United States creates and distributes **HUMANELines** so you can MAKE A DIFFERENCE instantly! Each issue includes names, addresses, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail addresses, making your efforts on behalf of animals both efficient AND effective.

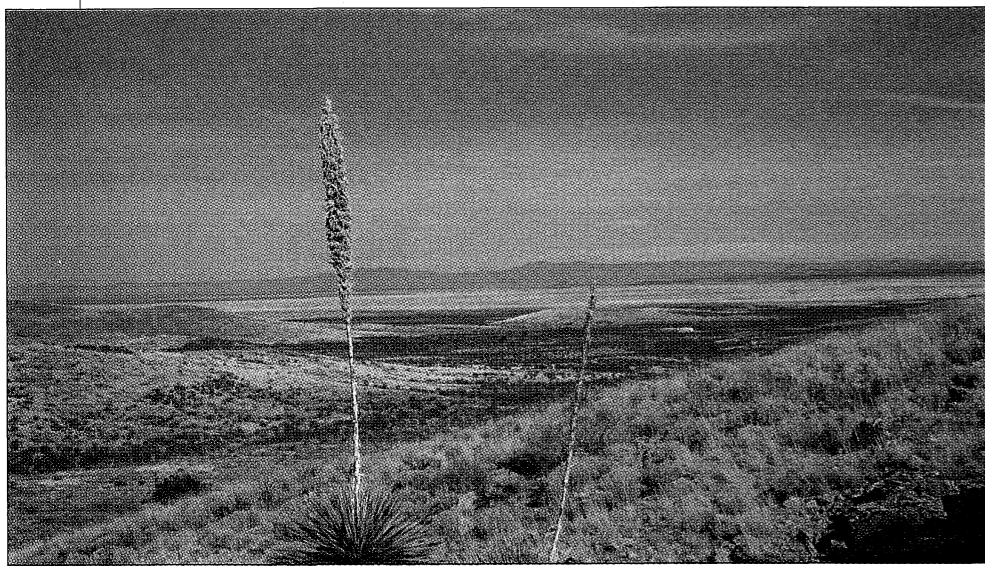
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spotlight



"I love living on my land and sharing it with the wildlife," says Tina Bandick (below) of her 1,280-acre desert property (above). Ms. Bandick's is the largest conservation easement yet negotiated through the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust.

Trust Us

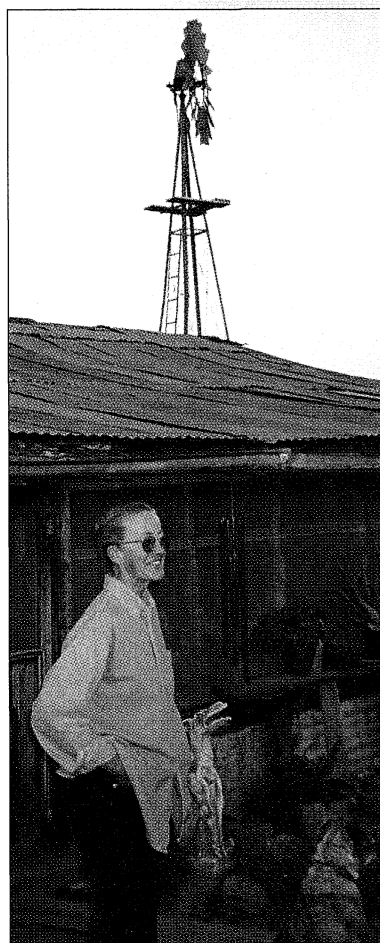
THE HSUS WILDLIFE LAND TRUST announced in May that Tina Bandick of Road Forks, New Mexico, had agreed to preserve her 1,280-acre desert property as a wildlife sanctuary. Ms. Bandick's is the largest conservation easement negotiated through the Trust to date.

The Trust is dedicated to the protection of wildlife through the creation of wildlife sanctuaries. Trust staff work with private landowners who donate their land, or rights to their land, to the Trust for its permanent protection.

"I love living on my land and sharing it with the wildlife," explained Ms. Bandick. "But over the years I have come to realize that responsible stewardship of the land requires an ongoing commitment, one that should include the protection of wildlife. That is why I was thrilled to find the Wildlife Land Trust. With their help, my land is now a dedicated wildlife sanctuary."

Ms. Bandick granted the Trust a conservation easement, a legal agreement that prohibits harmful uses of the land. All conservation easements granted to the Trust prohibit commercial and recreational hunting and trapping.

"By donating a conservation easement to the Wildlife Land Trust, Ms. Bandick created a sanctuary where animals can thrive without fear of hunting, trapping, or poisoning," said Executive Director John F. Kullberg, Ed.D. "We are as impressed with her generous act as we are with the awesome beauty of her land."



A Tree Grows in Washington

ON JUNE 3 REP. SONNY CALLAHAN of Alabama joined Fawzi Al-Sultan, president of the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), and Jan A. Hartke, Esq., executive director of EarthVoice, for a tree-planting ceremony on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. The event symbolized the shared promise to improve the lives of the rural poor throughout the world in ways that are self-sustaining and respectful of animals and Earth.

Representative Callahan serves as chairman of the Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee in the House of Representatives. He plays a key leadership role in funding global development and environmental institutions.

IFAD has taken a leading role in addressing desertification, a process of erosion that affects one billion people worldwide and threatens vast numbers of animal species with extinction.



Rep. Sonny Callahan, left; Fawzi Al-Sultan, middle; and Jan A. Hartke, Esq., plant a Chinese chestnut tree on Capitol Hill.



Hatred of the gray wolf runs deep in the upper Midwest. Even with ESA protection, wolves have been illegally shot and trapped.

This sounds like good news for the wolves, for it recognizes that gray wolf populations in the upper Midwest have grown and spread steadily since first receiving ESA protection in 1974.

The State at the Door

ALTHOUGH MUCH MEDIA attention has focused on the legal troubles of the wolves of Yellowstone National Park, a more serious threat to the life and health of wolves in the upper Midwest may be brewing.

In June Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt announced that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would propose to remove the gray wolf population that occupies Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan from the list of animals protected by the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Responsibility for managing the wolves would return to the states in which the wolves live.

However, a return to state control could imperil these populations. Before the ESA made killing wolves illegal, Minnesota hunters, trappers, and state "predator control" agents killed about 250 wolves a year—out of the remaining 450–700 wolves in the lower forty-eight states. Little has changed in Minnesota since then. The state legislature is already exerting intense pressure on the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to plan seasons for hunting and trapping wolves if ESA protection is lifted.

Hatred of the wolf runs deep. Even with ESA protection, wolves have been illegally shot, trapped, and deliberately run over with snowmobiles. In Yellowstone an American Farm Bureau lawsuit provoked a federal court to order the removal of all the park's reintroduced wolves. This order is being appealed, but such extreme anti-wolf actions show that the future of the gray wolf is not secure in Yellowstone, the Midwest, or anywhere else in the lower forty-eight states.

Please write the Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240, and tell him that the gray wolf still needs the protection of the ESA. Yielding responsibility for wolf conservation to the hunters and trappers that dominate state wildlife management will cause the needless and cruel deaths of hundreds of wolves and will reverse the gains that wolf populations have made under ESA protection.

A Better Way

THIS SPRING THE HSUS AND THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF Natural Resources (MDNR) embarked on a new nonlethal approach to managing urban Canada geese in the Detroit metropolitan area. HSUS members and volunteers were trained in techniques to assist landowners with problems related to geese. Graduates of the training program returned to their communities to help educate neighbors about ways to alleviate problems with Canada geese and to foster respect for all wild neighbors.

In previous years Michigan trapped urban geese and sent them to slaughter. The HSUS began working with MDNR to find humane alternatives. The new program averts divisiveness in the community over the issue of killing geese and instead brings neighbors together to address conflicts over how to handle local populations of geese.

The new program includes the collection of goose eggs in areas designated by MDNR. Working under a permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, teams of HSUS volunteers locate goose nests and remove incubated eggs at early stages of their development. The eggs are replaced with plastic eggs that are removed after the nesting period has ended. The removal of eggs from nests in areas densely inhabited by geese will help to stabilize populations over time. Teams also collect data that MDNR can use to better understand the habits of the geese.

The program's present and future success relies on this committed HSUS volunteer corps. "This program has been a wonderful experience for us," said Belle Isle Park naturalist Suzan Campbell. "The HSUS volunteers are helping us humanely manage our geese so that we may protect the biological integrity of the park. We couldn't have done it without them."



As part of the effort to stabilize goose populations in densely inhabited areas (above), HSUS Great Lakes Regional Program Coordinator Michele Childs, right, and HSUS member Lisa Cotter place a plastic egg in a goose nest (left) in Michigan.

Irwin's New Role

PAUL G. IRWIN, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF executive officer of The HSUS, was elected president of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) in June. Mr. Irwin, whose term will end in June 2000, succeeds Hans Peter Haering of Switzerland.

Mr. Irwin was elected a vice president of WSPA in 1996 and has served on its Executive Committee for the past ten years. He will work closely with WSPA chief executive Andrew Dickson and WSPA's seventy-person staff.

WSPA, headquartered in London, comprises more than three hundred animal protection organizations representing seventy countries. Its U.S. office is in Boston.

For the past several years, WSPA and Humane Society International have collaborated on a number of international animal protection projects in Central and South America.

As one of the major supporters of WSPA since its founding in 1981, The HSUS can take great pride in Mr. Irwin's presidency of this prestigious international body.



As the new president of WSPA, Paul G. Irwin, left, will be working closely with Andrew Dickson and his staff.

Hail the Safe Haven

ANIMAL SHELTERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY PROVIDE SAFE HAVEN TO MILLIONS of lost pets every year, but they also provide other services to their communities, including controlling stray animals, rescuing injured animals, and offering homeless cats, dogs, and other animals for adoption into loving, responsible, and permanent homes.

November 1-7, 1998, marks the third annual National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week, an event sponsored by The HSUS to recognize the nation's animal shelters. This year The HSUS is highlighting the important work performed by animal control officers. These individuals are on the front line of animal-related problems and are often the first ones to help animals and people in need.

Animal shelters and animal control officers need the support of their communities. To learn about many ways you can help, visit your local animal shelter or contact The HSUS.

The animal control officer is often a community's unsung hero.



Intern Ian Spiegel (above) shows Maryland school-children (above and below) how to play safely with dogs.



The HSUS's Leslie Sinclair, D.V.M., at podium; letter carriers; and others kick off National Dog Bite Prevention Week in Washington, D.C.

Is It Sinking In?

MILLIONS OF CHILDREN ARE BITTEN AND INJURED BY DOGS each year in the United States—as many as twenty children suffer fatal injuries. With the U.S. Postal Service, The HSUS cosponsors National Dog Bite Prevention Week every June to try to reduce the number of dog bite victims. This year The HSUS also sponsored a master's thesis project by an intern from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and Hygiene.

Intern Ian Spiegel recognized that although many programs and videotapes have been developed to teach children about how to act safely around dogs, little is known about whether children really understand this advice and are able to use it when most needed. To find out, Mr. Spiegel designed a pilot program on dog bite prevention aimed specifically at children in the second through fourth grades.

Using a pre- and post-program evaluation, he was able to show that dog bite prevention education can make primary school children more knowledgeable about dog behavior and body language and can teach them ways to avoid situations in which they may be bitten or injured by a dog. While more work is necessary to determine whether such education actually changes a child's behavior when he or she encounters a dangerous dog, the results of this study are encouraging and support the inclusion of dog bite prevention programs in public and private school systems.

up front

Snow Geese in Peril?

Agency proposal could lead to massive killing

IF THE PLANS OF SEVERAL STATE wildlife agencies and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) are implemented, up to three-quarters of the midcontinent population of the lesser snow goose will be killed by sport hunters during the next few years. International treaty law has already been amended, and proposals call for lifting historic protections of migratory waterfowl and for encouraging hunters to kill all the geese they can. The scale of destruction would exceed any seen since the nineteenth century, when market hunting to supply urban centers with meat decimated many wildlife populations.

This population of geese breeds in the Canadian arctic and winters in the United States. The geese used to rely on the extensive salt marshes of the Texas and Louisiana Gulf coasts for winter sustenance, but the destruction of these and other wetland habitats has forced the geese to switch to agricultural waste grain to survive. The abundance of rice, soybeans, and wheat left over from fall harvests in wintering habitats and along migratory routes has allowed the goose population to increase.

Scientists, waterfowl hunting organizations, and state wildlife agencies now claim that snow geese are destroying the arctic and subarctic habitats where they breed. A study committee concluded that damage is occurring at specific sites along the western shore of Canada's Hudson Bay and James Bay and recommended that U.S. recreational hunters be enlisted to reduce the population to 1.5 million from its current 4-6 million.

In July HSUS staff traveled to Churchill, Manitoba, accompanied by Vernon Thomas, Ph.D., University of Guelph zoology professor and snow goose researcher, and naturalist Barry

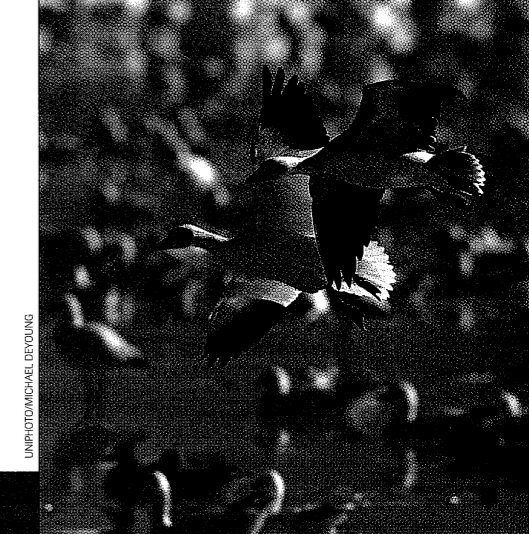


Lesser snow geese display courting behavior and (inset) fill the skies during their winter migration. The FWS's plan could threaten up to three-quarters of the midcontinent population of the lesser snow goose.

Kent MacKay, international program director of the Animal Protection Institute. We found an ecosystem changed in terms of plant structure but neither imperiled nor destroyed—to the contrary, it is vibrantly alive.

In August the FWS prepared a draft environmental assessment of the plan to decimate this population. The plan proposes extending the snow goose hunting season so that the birds can be killed along the entire stretch of their spring migratory route. It proposes lifting the historic prohibition on the use of electronic calls and baiting to lure as many geese as possible to hunters' guns. It will almost certainly allow for unlimited killing of geese and may even permit the use of live decoys to lure the wary birds from the sky.

Geese who breed and feed in heavily grazed areas do not reproduce so successfully as those who move to new areas. Since fewer geese hatch in heavi-



Check Out Our Library!

Models, videos prove popular alternatives to dissection

IN 1995 THE HSUS BEGAN lending educational videos, CD-ROMs, three-dimensional models, and charts to help students who oppose dissection complete their classwork and to encourage the adoption of such alternatives to dissection in classrooms. Since then The HSUS has loaned three hundred alternative teaching aids to dozens of students, teachers, and parents from thirty-one states and three countries. We have also introduced our Alternatives Loan Program at several science teacher conferences each year.

For students at the middle school through college level, the program currently has available more than one hundred alternatives to the use of animals for dissection and/or invasive live-animal exercises. Videos like the *Cat Anatomy Instructional Videotape Series* and hi-tech CD-ROMs—including *The Digital Frog*, *DissectionWorks*, and *The Ultimate Human Body*—provide exhaustive reviews of anatomy. In all, the program offers alternatives geared to the study of fourteen species—cat, clam,

crayfish, earthworm, fetal pig, frog, grasshopper, human, perch, pigeon, rat, shark, sheep, and starfish.

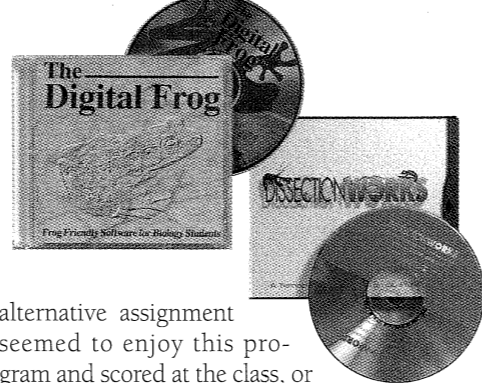
A number of companies have donated materials, with a total retail value of more than \$7,000, to the program. A recent grant will allow us to substantially increase our inventory and help us reach more students and educators. Many borrowers have given financial support to the program.

Each year The HSUS counsels hundreds of students on how they can best voice their opposition to dissection and express to teachers and administrators a preference for alternatives. Combined with a new dissection campaign information packet and videotape and our recently launched e-mail discussion group, the Inter-Campus Animal Advocacy Network (I-CAAN), the Alternatives Loan Program is helping to hasten the transition toward more animal-friendly classrooms. "Thank you so much for allowing me to use these materials. You helped me save the life of a cat, and I am eternally grateful. You even helped to open my teacher's eyes to the possibility of switching over to a nondissection curriculum," wrote one student. "The seventh graders who chose to use this

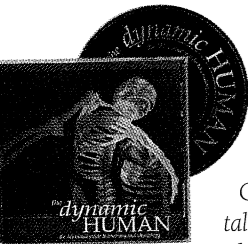
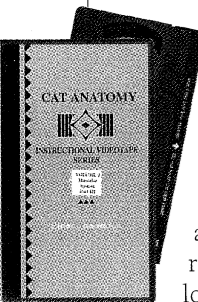
alternative assignment seemed to enjoy this program and scored at the class, or above the class, average on the final exam," observed a teacher.

To learn more about our Alternatives Loan Program, contact The HSUS, Animal Research Issues, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037; 301-258-2042; or hsuslab@ix.netcom.com. A current list of available materials is on the HSUS Web site at www.hsus.org/ari.html—Jonathan Balcombe, Ph.D., associate director for education, *Animal Research Issues*

The HSUS's National Association for Humane and Environmental Education has published a booklet offering alternatives to classroom chick-hatching projects. Although popular with many elementary school teachers, these projects often produce unintended suffering. *For the Birds! Activities to Replace Chick Hatching in the K-6 Classroom* provides fun, easy-to-use lesson plans with clearly outlined objectives, skills, and procedures. To order, send a \$3.00 check or money order to NAHEE, P.O. Box 362, East Haddam, CT 06423-0362. (Add state tax if applicable.)



WALTER LARRIMORE



TONY STONE IMAGES/SPIN SHAW

Pet owners in "no-pets" housing may have to find other housing for their pets or face eviction—a tragedy for the pet owner, the animal, and the community.

Opening More Homes to Companion Animals

HSUS helps landlords see pet owners as good tenants

LIVING WITH A COMPANION ANIMAL has many benefits, but, unfortunately, some landlords and managers of rental housing reject applicants who have pets. Almost half of all renters in the United States have pets as family members, and it is likely that number would be even greater were it not for "no-pet" policies. People surrendering their companion animals to shelters across the country often cite landlord problems or a pending move as the reason for their decision, and The HSUS frequently hears from distraught pet

owners who cannot find rental housing that will accept them.

Lisa Boegl, outreach program supervisor for the Peninsula Humane Society in San Mateo, California, says that the demand for rentals in San Mateo is so high that many landlords who would otherwise be willing to allow pets find it easier to rent to residents without pets, mistakenly believing that doing so eliminates a potential problem. Ms. Boegl sees the high number of animals brought by their owners to her shelter as a direct effect of the tight housing market.

In housing units where pets are not allowed, many landlords have well-established residents who want to have pets, and it is not uncommon for residents to keep pets despite "no-pet" policies. As one manager told The HSUS, "Even if I don't allow pets, I've still got them." Nonetheless, residents are often forced to find other housing for their pets or face eviction.

Landlords and housing managers have legitimate concerns about allowing companion animals in their units. An informal survey conducted by The HSUS revealed that landlords are most worried about damage, odor, waste disposal, noise, and fleas. However, they recognize that pet policies have a big impact on rentals. "Anytime we allow pets, we open up our market by at least 40 percent," say landlords.

The HSUS is committed to ensuring that responsible pet owners are not denied the companionship of pet family members in rental housing. To help open doors for these prospective residents, The HSUS has published *Putting Out the Welcome Mat for Pet-Owning Tenants*, a brochure to show landlords and housing managers how they can benefit from a "pets-welcome" policy. Our publication *Pets in Housing Guidelines*, adapted from the Hawaiian Humane Society's guidelines, contains useful tips to help residents, landlords, and pets live together successfully.

To promote responsible pet owners as responsible residents, HSUS staff members have been attending annual meetings of apartment associations to present the case for allowing pets in rental housing. At meetings of the National Apartment Association and Texas Apartment Association, thousands of managers and landlords have been eager to learn about creating better housing solutions for pets. Pamela Weiss, director of business development for *allapartments.com*, an on-line resource that lists millions of apartments in thousands of cities, plans to include HSUS material on the company's Web site. "This will be an excellent opportunity to broaden the scope and reach of this vital information to the on-line community," Ms. Weiss says.

The HSUS is committed to promoting responsible pet ownership, improving landlords' opinions and policies on pets, and showing animal shelters how to do the same.



Paul G. Irwin, in front of team helicopter, and John W. Grandy, Ph.D., right, help to administer immunocontraceptive vaccine to an elephant.

Summer Success in South Africa

Immunocontraception slows elephant population growth

IN 1996 THE HSUS SIGNED A FAR-reaching agreement with the South African government's National Parks Board to provide a \$1 million grant over five years to support its spectacular parks system and the progressive management policies it has adopted. We are achieving stunning results in this exciting program.

The HSUS grant supports and promotes the experimental immunocontraception of elephants in Kruger National Park as a way of humanely limiting population expansion, supports habitat acquisition and management in national parks, and promotes the development of a comprehensive ecotourism program by South Africa's national parks and HSUS members.

In July an HSUS team led by President Paul G. Irwin and Senior Vice President of Wildlife Programs John W. Grandy, Ph.D., and directed by HSUS immunocontraception consultant Jay F. Kirkpatrick, Ph.D., replaced or attached radio collars and administered the immunocontraceptive vaccine porcine zona pellucida (PZP) to eleven elephants. Although many African elephants remain seriously endangered, immunocontraception may provide a humane way of limiting elephant populations in smaller reserves where elephants' increasing numbers can lead to problems between elephants and neighboring farmers.

The research effort was led by Douw

Groebler, chief veterinarian for Kruger National Park. Other team members included Richard A. Fayrer-Hosken, B.V.Sc., Ph.D., of the University of Georgia, who used ultrasound to determine the elephants' reproductive status. In all, the team has provided immunocontraception to twenty-four elephants, not only preventing pregnancies but also gaining information that will be useful in limiting population growth in small confined herds.

The HSUS also visited Addo Elephant Park and Titsikama Coastal Park to review land conservation programs for which we have pledged support. Addo is a small but growing park near Port Elizabeth. Its 260 elephants are reproducing at an accelerating rate because of the availability of new habitat. Our PZP vaccine may prove to be a valuable tool for reducing the reproductive rate of this population.

The HSUS has also pledged support for expanding and maintaining Titsikama's beautiful Otter Trail, an example of a site that has the potential to attract ecotourists from throughout the world.

The HSUS team also met with Ian Player, D.M.S., to discuss his decades of work in the KwaZulu-Natal region and pledged our continuing support to the chief executive and director of South Africa's national parks, Mavuso Msimang.

The Year of the Irish Proposal

IWC ponders de facto resumption of commercial whaling

THOSE WHO STUDY THE history of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) since its founding in 1946 may be surprised to learn that the commercial whaling moratorium never became fully effective (see the Spring 1998 *HSUS News*). Shortly after the IWC's moratorium on whaling, Norway, Japan, and Iceland began "scientific whaling" programs. A few years later, Iceland halted its scientific whaling program in response to an international boycott of Icelandic fish products. Norway ceased scientific whaling briefly, only to resume commercial whaling in earnest in 1993.

Since 1993 Norway has increased its self-allotted kill quota each year. In the first year, Norwegian whalers slaughtered 293 whales. This year Norway unilaterally increased its quota to 671 whales—the highest quota since the country resumed commercial whaling in defiance of the IWC. Japan has killed hundreds of whales each season in the Southern Ocean Sanctuary and last year began a "scientific whaling" program in the North Pacific, where it plans to kill one hundred minke whales a year.

Whaling countries are not the only ones pushing for a resumption of com-

mercial whaling. This year's new IWC chairman, Michael Canny of Ireland, is pushing for the IWC to allow a resumption of commercial whaling. This Irish proposal would permit commercial whaling within a country's two-hundred-mile coastal zone in return for the creation of a "whale sanctuary" on the high seas.

Although Mr. Canny calls the Irish proposal an effort to establish a global sanctuary, it is in fact a reauthorization of commercial whaling. Clothed in language he hopes is acceptable to the international public, Mr. Canny's argument is that any area outside the two-hundred-mile zones where whaling was authorized would constitute a "de facto global sanctuary."

With the exception of the World Wide Fund for Nature, conservation and animal protection nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) are adamantly opposed to the Irish proposal. Several countries—including Australia, Italy, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States—oppose its reauthorization of commercial whaling. Mr. Canny candidly admits that if the IWC authorizes the resumption of commercial whaling, quotas will probably be sought by many coun-

tries including Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Norway, Russia, Taiwan, Thailand, and even some Caribbean and Latin American countries. Mr. Canny's initial suggestion was to limit quotas to Japan and Norway, but he has since been advised that doing so would not be consistent with international legal and jurisprudential principles.

Fortunately, the Irish proposal has so far failed to garner the 75-percent support required for passage. Many point to Mr. Canny's failure to explain how adequate enforcement of commercial whaling would take place. Even with the present ban on commercial whaling, whale meat regularly appears in supermarkets in Japan and Korea. Species that have been protected for many years, such as the Brydes whale, have been found in Japanese markets. Some of the illegal whale meat is undoubtedly coming from Norway, where illegal shipments of whale meat have been intercepted at airports. Japan claims that it has stockpiles of whale meat dating from before the moratorium, but it has refused to quantify those stockpiles, which would be more than twenty years old. One can only conclude that Japanese whalers are failing to abide by Japan's self-allocated "scientific" quota of minke whales and are killing highly endangered whales as well.

The Irish proposal was center stage at the IWC's meeting in Oman this May, but whaling nations also took the fiftieth anniversary of the IWC as an opportunity to mount an attack on the organization's structure. The Japanese pushed strenuously for secret ballot voting and for excluding targeted NGOs from IWC meetings. Further, in a united effort, delegates from Japan and the Caribbean harangued anti-whaling delegates, stalled meetings, and threatened to leave the IWC unless commercial whaling was allowed to resume.

The IWC did agree to begin monitoring environmental threats to whales caused by world climate change, increased pollutants, and habitat degradation.

This IWC meeting made clear that the best way to protect whales is to create a real global sanctuary. The HSUS believes that the U.S. delegation must lead in this effort.—*Leesteffer Jenkins, Esq., HSUS legal advisor; Kitty Block, Esq., HSUS legal counsel, Investigative Services* ♦



UNPHOTO/MICHAEL DEQUING

A humpback whale dives near the coast of Alaska. The HSUS believes that the best way to protect whales is to create a real global sanctuary for them.

ALICE MORGAN WRIGHT—EDITH GOODE FUND TESTAMENTARY TRUST

DECEMBER 31, 1996

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

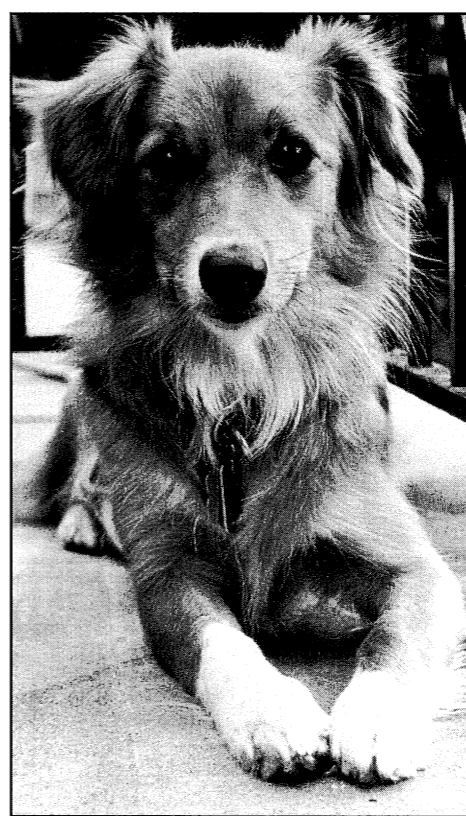
Assets	
Trust Corpus 12/31/95	\$1,576,091
Principal Additions:	
Gain on Sale of Securities	10,173
	1,586,264
1996 Income from Investments—Net	77,482
Other	1,500
Less: Distribution of 1995 Income	(81,309)
Balance 12/31/96	\$1,583,937
Represented by	
Cash	90,414
Accrued Interest	17,478
Investment Securities—at Book Value	1,475,806
Other	239
Total Trust Assets 12/31/96	\$1,583,937

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Receipts	
1996 Income from Investments—Net	\$77,482
Disbursements	
Grants of 1996 Income to Organizations Listed	\$77,482

ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING AID FROM ALICE MORGAN WRIGHT—EDITH GOODE FUND 1996 TRUST INCOME

- AARK (Abaco Animals Require Kindness), Marsh Harbour, Bahama Islands
- Advocates for Animals, Edinburgh, Scotland
- American Fondouk Maintenance Committee, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts
- The Animals' Crusaders, Inc., LaConner, Washington
- Assistance aux Animaux, Paris, France
- Blue Cross of India, Madras, India
- Brooke Hospital for Animals, London, England
- County Wicklow Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, County Wicklow, Ireland
- Dublin Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Dublin, Ireland
- Eleuthera Animal Rescue Association, Inc., Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts
- Ferne Animal Sanctuary, Somerset, England
- Friends of Dogs, Calcutta, India
- The Fur Bearers, Vancouver, Canada
- Greek Animal Welfare Fund, London, England
- Guam Animals in Need, Inc., Barrigada, Guam
- Hellenic Animal Welfare Society, Athens, Greece
- Humane Society of Greater Dallas, Dallas, Texas
- Humane Society of Nacogdoches County, Nacogdoches, Texas
- The International Society for Animal Rights, Inc., Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania
- Irish Seal Sanctuary, Dublin, Ireland
- Lake City Animal Shelter, Lake City, Florida
- Ligue Française des Droits de l'Animal, Paris, France
- National Equine Defence League, Carlisle, England
- National Humane Education Society, Leesburg, Virginia
- Nordic Society against Painful Experiments on Animals, Hägersten, Sweden
- Peace River Wildlife Center, Punta Gorda, Florida
- Pelican Man's Bird Sanctuary, Sarasota, Florida
- People's Dispensary for Sick Animals, Shropshire, England
- Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad, London, England
- SPCA Hong Kong, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
- SPCA National Council of Southern Africa, Southdale, Republic of South Africa (now operating as National Council of SPCAs, Alberton, Republic of South Africa)
- Tierschutzverein für Berlin und Umgebung Corp., Berlin, Germany
- World Society for the Protection of Animals, London, England



Reflect for a moment . . .

How can I help animals even when I no longer share their world?

Through your bequest for animal protection to The Humane Society of the United States, you can provide for animals after you're gone.

Naming The HSUS in your will demonstrates your lasting commitment to animal protection and strengthens the society for this task. We will be happy to send information about our animal-protection programs and material that will assist you in planning a will.

Yes, I would like more information on The HSUS and will planning.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail this coupon in confidence to Murdaugh Stuart Madden, Vice President/Senior Counsel, The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

TO THE RESCUE

By Marion S. Lane



YOU'RE IN YOUR CAR, heading somewhere or other, a long list of things to accomplish and already running late. Suddenly, you see him—a dog, there, by the side of the road. With a sinking feeling, you realize he's alone. Your car is coming alongside him now. You have only seconds in which to act. But what should you do? This is a wrenching scenario for all who care about animals. Once you've seen the dog (or cat), it's too late to avert your eyes and drive on, even if you wanted to. After all, what if your own dog or cat were standing there? So, before you pull over, good Samaritan that you are, here are some guidelines for assisting animals safely and effectively.

Safety First

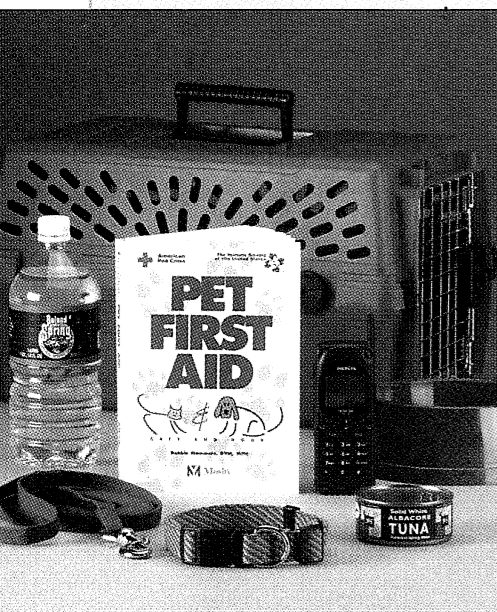
Experts point out that you obviously cannot help an animal if you become injured yourself in the process. Would-be rescuers as well as animals have been hit and even killed by oncoming traffic. Neither do you want to endanger other motorists by your actions. So, begin by following the same safe driving procedures that you would in any other emergency situation. Look in your rearview mirror before braking, signal your intentions, pull your car completely off the road, turn off the ignition, set the parking brake, and put on your hazard lights. If you have emergency flares, prepare to use them.

Next, consider the safety of the animal. A strange, frightened, and possibly sick or injured animal may behave unpredictably. A sudden move on your part, even the opening of your car door, may spook him, causing him to bolt—possibly right onto the highway. Resist the impulse to rush to the rescue. Instead, take a moment to size up the situation. If the animal looks or acts threatening, or if for any reason you feel uneasy about the situation, remain in your car. If you have a phone in your car, call the local animal care and control agency and report the situation. Leave your phone or beeper number with the dispatcher and try to get an estimate of how long it may take someone to respond. If possible, stay on the scene to keep an eye on the dog or cat until help arrives.

While you are waiting, you can step out of your car and help restrain the animal by creating a barrier (such as a piece of cardboard propped against your car) or using a carrier, leash, piece of cloth, or length of rope to keep the animal from leaving the area; signal approaching vehicles to slow down if you cannot confine him; or divert traffic around him if he appears to be injured and is still on the roadway. According to Leslie Sinclair, D.V.M., HSUS director of Companion Animal Care, "It may be possible to lure a dog into your car with food, close the door, and wait for help. Do this only if you are certain someone will come to get the dog very soon. In most cases it is not a good idea to attempt to drive somewhere with a strange dog unrestrained in your car; he may become frantic or aggressive once you're in the car with him. Cats may do the same, as well as lodge themselves under the car seat, from which extracting them can be dangerous."

These recommendations also apply when you travel farther afield. "Look for a safe place to stop," advises Jerry Cheske, spokesman for the American Automobile Association (AAA), an organization that has been offering guidelines for safe travel for almost one hundred years. "Then call the local police to find out what the correct procedure is for that par-

READY TO RESCUE



WALTER LARROQUE

If you know in your heart that you're a rescuer, why not equip yourself to do the best possible job? Here are some things to have in your car at all times.

- Phone
- Phone numbers of local animal control, a shelter, and a twenty-four-hour emergency veterinary clinic
- Cat carrier or cardboard box
- Collars and strong leashes for dogs
- Heavy blanket
- Water bowls and water
- Strong-smelling foods, such as canned tuna or dried liver
- Animal first-aid kit (described in *Pet First Aid*, available from The HSUS for \$10.95 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling)

tical jurisdiction." Another suggestion from AAA is to make sure you report to authorities precisely where the animal is. "Say 'one mile north of Livingston on Highway 101' or 'between markers 65 and 66 on the New York State Thruway.'"

The possibility of spooking a frightened animal is only one reason to use caution in approaching him. Should you succeed in getting close enough to capture him, you stand a good chance of being scratched or bitten. Even a small animal can inflict a painful wound, and if you are bitten by a cat or dog whose vaccination status is unknown, you will be advised to undergo preventive treatment for rabies, which has

been on the increase around the country in the past few years. This was the fate of Jo Shusmith, a good Samaritan from Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, who was bitten by a kitten she was trying to rescue from the roadway of a bridge over the Potomac River. Not only did the kitten wriggle out of her grasp and disappear from view, but she found herself battling her insurance company to cover the cost of a series of expensive rabies injections. A man in East Lyme, Connecticut, had a similar experience in 1996. He was bitten while attempting to rescue a cat who appeared, because of hind-limb paralysis, to have been hit by a car. The cat escaped, but later was captured and found to be infected with rabies. "Rabid animals may be either unafraid of traffic or so paralyzed that they cannot avoid it," cautions Dr. Sinclair. You cannot be too careful when contemplating an animal rescue. *Pet First Aid*, a joint publication of The HSUS and the American Red Cross, contains explicit instructions for approaching and handling injured dogs and cats (particularly your own animals) as well as for reading their body language to help avoid being bitten (see sidebar).

Finders and Keepers

Let's suppose that after assessing the situation, you judge that you can safely capture the dog or cat. Speak calmly to reassure him, make sure he can see you at all times as you approach, and perhaps entice him to come to you by offering a strong-smelling food such as canned tuna or dried liver—which you wisely carry in your car for just such a moment (see sidebar). Let's assume that your efforts are successful. Now what?

If your only interest has been to remove the dog or cat from harm's way, your next move is straightforward enough. Whether or not he is injured, and whether he appears to be a stray or to be owned (is wearing an identification tag or flea collar, has recently been groomed), he should be reported to the local animal control agency. But what if you find yourself forming an immediate attachment to this animal, as many rescuers do? Having snatched him from the jaws of death, can you keep him?

"If a person finds a companion animal, injured or not," says Martha Armstrong, HSUS vice president, Companion Animals, "most states require—and The HSUS strongly recommends—that the finder call local animal control and abide by its policies. Even if you plan to keep the animal in the event no owner is found, animal control should be notified that you have him

or have taken him to a veterinary hospital for treatment." You usually can place a free "found" ad in your local newspaper. Keep a copy of the ad to prove your good intentions should any question arise later. To check on any relevant laws in your state, county, or town, contact your local animal control agency, humane society, or SPCA. Florida's Alachua County, for example, requires finders, by ordinance, to surrender strays to animal control.

Good Samaritans who have never lost a cherished companion animal may conclude that the owner of the found dog or cat callously abandoned him or, at the very least, neglected to keep him safely confined at home. Ms. Armstrong suggests another possibility. "Accidents can happen to anyone. The dog could have slipped his leash on a walk, the cat could have raced out the door that a child or pet-sitter left unlatched, and poof! the animal is out, runs blocks away, is hit by a car, and taken for treatment—and the frantic owner is looking everywhere for a beloved pet!" Don't assume you are dealing with an irresponsible owner.

Many times, of course, the dog or cat you find along the highway will turn out to be unowned, unwanted, and unclaimed. Even so, according to Ms. Armstrong, "the person finding the stray dog or cat does not automatically become the owner or keeper—as in 'finders keepers'—until he has satisfied certain state and/or local requirements." In some areas this means registering the animal with local animal control. In others it may mean posting signs around the neighborhood or advertising the animal in the paper. "In almost every state," Ms. Armstrong points out, "the animal is not 'owned' by the finder until the holding period for strays (as specified by state or local laws) has expired and the finder has made an attempt to reunite the animal with his original owner and/or has taken steps—obtaining vaccinations, license, collar and identification tag, registration—to prove he is now the owner." (Perhaps it goes without saying that if the animal had had a collar and identification tag, all of this trouble would have been avoided to begin with.)

The High Cost of Caring

It can come as a surprise to some good Samaritans, once they have taken the initiative, time, and trouble to rescue a dog or cat along the highway, that the rest of the pet care community may not necessarily rush forward to do what the Samaritan sees as its part. For instance, rescuers may take

a badly injured stray dog to animal control, only to learn that the agency is unable to provide expensive surgery to treat the dog's injuries and, to relieve him from his suffering, euthanizes him instead. A cat with relatively minor injuries may be kept for only the mandated stray holding period and then euthanized. Virtually all animal control facilities have severe budgetary or space limitations and must make painful decisions on how best to allocate their inadequate resources.

Rescuers who take an injured animal to a private veterinary hospital for treatment sometimes are shocked and indignant to discover that the veterinarian, once told the animal was found along the road, does not offer to treat the animal free of charge. F. A. Ackerman, D.V.M., a veterinarian in New York City, explains to those who bring in an injured stray that they must be willing to assume responsibility for the animal before he can begin treatment. "We found out the hard way how many people simply abandon an animal once costs begin to mount. They leave the bill unpaid, and we are left with a dog or cat we cannot legally adopt out or euthanize except in the case of very serious injury." Good care is not cheap, and many veterinarians may have many Samaritans in their waiting rooms

every year. Ms. Armstrong stresses, "It's unreasonable to think that because an animal is a stray, the veterinarian should pay for treatment. Anyone who is committed to trying to save injured stray animals should discuss these issues in advance with the

Experts point out that you obviously cannot help an animal if you become injured yourself in the process.

veterinarian. Fortunately, some states have laws that allow the veterinarian to collect from a fund for treating unowned injured animals who have been presented to them by animal control or a good Samaritan."

The Golden Rule

Despite the many risks involved in being a good Samaritan, there is nothing quite like the satisfaction of stepping forward to help an animal in distress. Saving a life often brings with it a sense of profound responsibility for that life. Charlotte Bennett, a West Virginian who rescued and subsequently adopted a small dog from the same bridge where Jo Shusmith tried to rescue a kitten,

recalls her decision to stop for the injured and pregnant mixed breed she later named Bridget. "I knew I couldn't leave her there. She'd been hit by a car and had a broken shoulder and some other injuries. She was lying in the roadway, unable to stand. I've had Bridget for five years now, and she's a great dog. I have no regrets."

If you're uncertain about whether or not to assist or keep an animal you see alongside the highway, here's a final word of advice from Ms. Armstrong: "First, think of what you would want the finder of your animal to do if he happened to find him injured and his collar missing. You'd want him to take your pet to a veterinarian, and you'd want him to try to find you. At the same time, be reasonable about how much you can afford to do for that animal if no owner shows up. Are you willing to add him to your household? And will you be willing to return him to his original home if the owner turns up after you've started to form an attachment?" Thinking these issues through in advance may stand you in good stead the next time you see that wrenching sight at the side of a road. ♦

Marion S. Lane is the coauthor of *The Humane Society of the United States Complete Guide to Dog Care* and senior editor of *ASPCA Animal Watch*.

Santa says, "Have a Fur-Free Holiday!"



Have a Fur-Free Holiday!

Celebrate compassion this season—send your friends and relatives this festive card bearing the greeting "Have a Fur-Free Holiday." In a design created exclusively for The HSUS by fashion designer Oleg Cassini, Santa shows off his new fur-free coat so everyone can see that you don't need fur to be stylish, warm, and cozy. Help us all make the world fur free! Quantities are limited, so order your cards today!

Please send me _____ packs of Fur-Free Holiday cards (ten cards and envelopes per pack).

I enclose \$10.00 per pack (includes shipping and handling) for a total of \$_____.*

Method of payment:

Check (payable to The HSUS) Visa MasterCard Discover

Account # _____ Expiration _____

Signature _____ Daytime phone # _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail this coupon with payment to Fur-Free Holiday Card, The HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

We ship UPS; please provide your street address. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. *Residents of these states should add the applicable sales tax: CA (7.25%), CT (6%), DC (5.75%), FL (6%), IL (6.25%), MD (5%), NJ (6%), NY (7%), OH (5%), VT (5%).

The Last Gasps of the Fur Trade

By Matthew Scully

IT IS HARD ENOUGH READING THE DETAILS involved in trapping or raising animals for the fur industry. Even more difficult to bear is the recent flurry of magazine articles, industry "fact sheets," and such-like aimed at allaying public concerns about the animals and proving that "Fur is back!"

Listen, for example, to one Dr. Robert Speth of something called the National Animal Interest Alliance, a group devoted to debunking the "false rumors and misleading propaganda" put about by the fur industry's critics. On the group's Web site (www.naiaonline.org), Dr. Speth is identified as president-elect of the Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics, so it would seem he is in a good position to set us all straight as to the facts.

The anti-fur crowd, he begins, is intent on "the destruction of the fur industry." But "it is clear that the truth takes a back seat to zealotry. Having recently visited several mink farms and studied the fur industry, there is little doubt in my mind that the criminal actions and dishonesty that characterize anti-fur activists dwarf any shortcomings of the fur industry. Contrary to exaggerated complaints of the anti-fur extremists, today's domestic mink live a life of luxury compared to their cousins in the wild. They live in clean, comfortable cages with nesting boxes, generally in the company of one or more of their siblings. They are protected from disease by immunization and receive an abundant supply of food."

This certainly comes as a relief. Let's just hope the animals aren't being spoiled by all this pampering. "Luxurious," "clean," "comfortable," "in the company of siblings," "protected," "abundant food"—it al-

most makes you want to curl up in one of these little nests yourself. Just what the industry's own "shortcomings" might be we never learn, never mind that Dr. Speth has supposedly just returned from a round of on-site inspections. Fur farms offer many other amenities, too, he continues. "The carcasses of mink are rendered into feeds for other farm animals, and by-products of those animals may ultimately be used to feed the mink, completing nature's natural scheme of recycling."

So there are very sound and responsible environmental reasons for fur farming, too, and we all want to protect the environment. Even in their final moments the farmers' furry charges have it good: "[T]he introduction of unconsciousness with the use of agents such as nitrogen or carbon monoxide is far more humane than any death that would occur in the wild." It is the industry's critics, Dr. Speth concludes, who lack compassion: "Exploiting the deaths of mink when they are harvested, animal rights activists make wildly irresponsible claims of torture and cruelty."

Many euphemisms have been found for death and suffering, human and animal, but surely "introduction of unconsciousness" is a prizewinner. But the really notable thing about this report by Dr. Speth is that little flip of the word "exploiting." To defend the mink and the fox and

all the other creatures in question is to "exploit" them. To find fault with the industry is "irresponsible." By contrast, to introduce unconsciousness to 30 million such animals (last year's worldwide total) is a mark of compassion, ecological awareness, and indeed democratic duty: "When you go shopping on the Friday after Thanksgiving," Dr. Speth urges—writing just before "Fur-Free Friday" last year—"think about all the wonderful opportunities you have to shop and purchase as you wish. . . . [Fur] is a choice we must all make for ourselves."

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED, America has a new pro-choice movement, this one issuing from the offices of the fur industry as it seeks to prove that fur is back in style. "The fur industry," declares the Fur Information Council of America (FICA) on its Web site (www.fur.org), "believes that the decision to wear fur is a matter of individual choice. Freedom of choice is one of the fundamental rights on which this country was founded. It is up to the individual to decide what he or she will or not wear." This isn't just about fashion anymore; we're talking constitutional liberties here. And it's certainly not about anything so crass as money. Fur is about personal identity, gender equality, and feminine self-assertion, as Julia Emberley theorizes in her recent book, *The Cultural*

Politics of Fur: "The fur clad white woman fetishizes the fear of a masculine loss of power and authority." The anti-fur cause, Ms. Emberley told the *New York Times* last October, "had its moment and did sort of spend itself. . . . Many consumers feel that it is effectively an issue of consumer rights."

Offhand, it would be hard to think of any collection of human beings less independent than the stylists, designers, fashion writers, and salon managers who make up the fashion industry. Their professions are based upon following the herd in search of the latest trends. But with the *Times* piece came the official go-ahead, a validation, and at last a marketing theme beyond mere profit and self-indulgence. The industry was trying to turn its very unfashionability into a fashion selling point. Wearing fur was an act of daring, the empowered victim rising up against the zealots. The inevitable backlash had come.

Vogue followed up in October with a sixteen-page spread featuring snugly warm enchantresses wrapped in fur. Then *Elle*, then *Harper's Bazaar*, then an Associated Press (AP) story breathlessly reporting "the fashion world's return to the bygone days of glamour and elegance." Even a few models featured in those "I'd-rather-go-naked-than-wear-fur" ads back in the early nineties had undergone a conversion, notably Naomi Campbell, who

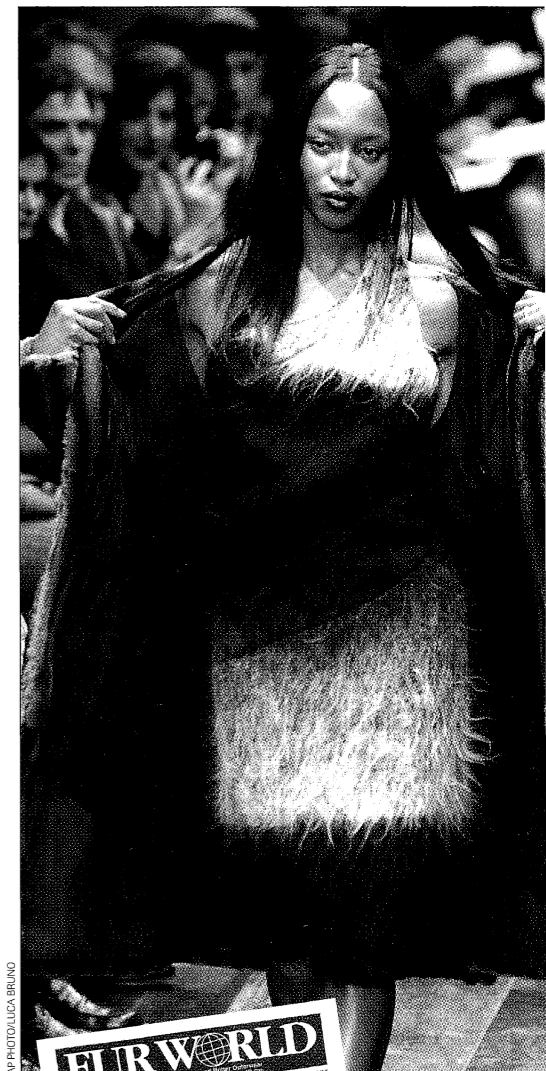
Vogue, *Elle*, and *Harper's Bazaar* touted fur last fall. Naomi Campbell seems to have renounced her former anti-fur stance; (above) she models a mohair dress and fur coat for Fendi's fall/winter 1998 collection. "[F]ur has an image problem," says *Fur World*.



AP PHOTO/LUCA BRUNO

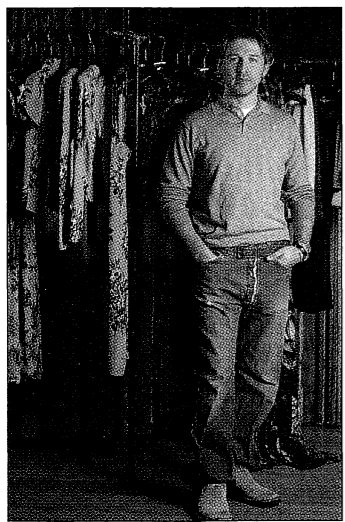


Actors in the fur drama include Karl Lagerfeld (whose fur vest, top, was in his spring/summer 1998 collection for Fendi) and Julia Emberley, author of *The Cultural Politics of Fur*.



AP PHOTO/LUCA BRUNO





AP PHOTO/JIM COOPER



AP PHOTO/RICHARD DREW



AP PHOTO/MICHEL ELLER

Designer Todd Oldham (far left) has sworn off fur, as have legendary designers Geoffrey Beene (middle) and Calvin Klein.

appeared on a Milan catwalk graced by a Fendi sable. Models Veronica Webb and Yasmeen Ghauri also continued to wear fur, along with actresses Sharon Stone, Madonna, and Joan Rivers, though on the anti-fur side we've still got the pick of the litter with Cindy Crawford, Kim Basinger, Tyra Banks, and Elle Macpherson. Among designers unswayed by anti-fur appeals are Karl Lagerfeld, Ralph Lauren, Oscar de la Renta, Donatella Versace, and Jean-Paul Gaultier. Those swearing off fur include Bill Blass, Geoffrey Beene, Calvin Klein, Todd Oldham, and Oleg Cassini (see page 23).

Lately, too, the fur industry has come up with another tack, a divide-and-rule argument to the effect that some animal advocates also oppose testing methods for medical research, even as we all stand to gain from cures for AIDS and other diseases. Ergo: What a bunch of hypocrites they all are, and let's just buy our furs, make our own choices, and forget all that hysterical propaganda about animals and cages and steel-jaw traps. That's what they're here for anyway—our use. It's all a part of nature's wondrous scheme, sound ecology, too, and besides (the FICA reminds us) gals just "love the way it makes them feel!"

Curiously, although the industry insists its decline since the mid-eighties has nothing to do with the moral campaign against fur (in a run of bad luck, furriers faced "general economic distress," a decade's worth of unseasonably "warm weather," etc.), we now learn the Fur Revival is a backlash against that very campaign. Consumers are rising up en masse to assert their freedom of choice, unashamed, victims no more. There is something mighty suspicious about the whole thing. It has the ring of desperation, of people trying to convince themselves more than the rest of us.

There are three angles to the issue: the fur trade, from trapping to farming; the fashion industry; and the global economic picture. Production. Supply. Demand. Let's begin with the trappers.

LIKE FUR FARMERS, "RANCHERS," and merchants, trappers have all sorts of trade groups and Web sites devoted to rebutting criticism and trying to preserve some semblance of respectability. The National Trappers Association (NTA), for instance, carries on its Web site a little item more revealing than any of the broad economic statistics. It is a eulogy to a man named Charles R. Dobbins of Canton, Ohio, who at age seventy-two had laid his last trap. Known as "The Father of Modern Trapping" and author of nine books on the subject, his passing in September 1997 inspired many fond memories: "Charlie was more than the Father of Modern Trapping. He was a Master of the Art of Trapping. . . . Charlie wrote the book and set a standard on the adjustment of leg hold traps. . . . Yes, Charlie will be missed by old trappers as well as young trappers, but, Charlie would have wanted the sport to live on. . . . He has passed the torch and it is up to the rest of us to keep the sport alive. The family has requested that a memorial fund be established to fight anti-trapping issues through the Fur Takers of America and the National Trappers Association."

Now, trying hard here to contain our grief, note the subtext: The trappers need money. They need money because their "sport" is dying—so quickly they already depend on the hunting lobby for most of their political support. Fewer and fewer people have the least interest in trapping animals either for sport or profit. How many teenagers across modern America dream of a career in trapping? Trapping has fallen out of favor because the campaign against fur is succeeding.

Two generations ago, when Mr. Dobbins began his career, there were some half million commercial and recreational trappers in America. By the mid-eighties the number was down to 300,000. Today there are just 150,000, the survivors sustained more by that sentimentality apparent above than by any long-term financial incentive. A fox pelt worth \$80 in Ohio in the late seventies now fetches about \$16.

Fewer and fewer people have the least interest in trapping animals either for sport or profit. How many teenagers across modern America dream of a career in trapping?

The price has "rebounded" from \$8 in the early nineties amid a general slump in domestic retail fur sales.

So the trappers have looked to foreign markets. An estimated two million animals are trapped and killed annually in the United States, not counting incidental catch like squirrels, hawks, cats, dogs. Of that GNC—let's call it our gross national catch—60 to 70 percent is exported. But there is trouble abroad, too. At last count, eighty-eight countries had enacted bans on the steel-jaw leghold trap. The fifteen member-nations of the European Union took it a step further, banning imports of fur pelts from any countries still using the trap. Only by a frenzied lobbying campaign were U.S., Canadian, and Russian trappers able to avert this catastrophe,* gaining a compromise brokered by the Clinton administration under which trappers pledged a gradual transition away from the leghold method. But that's a small victory right there. When have they ever before deferred to public opinion? All those years devoted by Mr. Dobbins to giving the world a better steel-jaw trap, and it turns out the world doesn't even want it.

Meanwhile, voters in Massachusetts, Arizona, and Colorado have approved state referendums banning the leghold trap. Californians will vote on a similar initiative this November, Proposition 4, and with 733,000 signatures putting it on the ballot, the signs are good. The most alarming development for the trappers, however, is their ostracism within the fur industry itself. With polls showing three of four Americans opposed to commercial trapping, the industry's chief line of defense is to note that 80 or so percent of furs are farm- and "ranch"-raised, hence disposed of in a more "humane" and enlightened fashion. A smart move, PR-wise. How comforting to think of the little varmints frisking and capering about the ranch, blissfully unaware of the mercifully quick fate awaiting them. Only from the trappers'

*The United States, Canada, and Russia supply nearly all the wild-caught fur to the world market.

peculiar angle is there a downside: The "ranch" defense has rendered them a disreputable minority within their own trade, conceding, in effect, that trapping animals for profit is indefensible.

This explains a lot of things, for example the prickly and overblown view trappers have of themselves, evident in the NTA's credo: *We, the Trappers of North America, prompted by a feeling of profound respect and gratitude toward the many valiant Fur Trappers who have gone before us, whose courageous deeds and exploits will forever embellish the pages of our Nation's history. . . .* It also explains why the industry, on the chic, *haute couture* end of things, adamantly resists the use of labels on fur products telling buyers whether the "fur resource" was trapped or farmed (never mind that consumer rights theme of its current ad campaign). And it explains the touchiness of designers themselves, the famed Karl Lagerfeld in particular, who will brook no questions about how the fur was obtained, who obtained it, or how it felt to be the resource.

Indeed the fur industry might be called an economic alliance between two opposite but equally repugnant subcultures. On the one hand there are the trappers and fur farmers with their storied traditions and dead-serious attachment to a Way of Life. On the other hand we have the beautiful people with their renowned sophistication, delicate sensibility, and attention to detail (all except a few little details), too busy being creative and brilliant and famous to be pestered with rude questions about bloody animals and cramped cages and gnawed-off paws. Worlds apart, as alien to one another as Milan, Italy, to Canton, Ohio—*Vogue* to the *Fur Rancher*—they have in common the same brazen arrogance: The same self-enclosed worldview that what they do is praiseworthy, noble, of supreme importance, worth any sacrifice.

But the whole alliance depends upon their never crossing paths, and those few details never getting out. Milan must never be seen in the company of Canton, the



The ugly truth behind fur: A coyote caught in a steel-jaw leghold trap has ripped most of the bark from a nearby tree limb in a desperate—and futile—attempt to escape.



A trapper collects his grisly catch. Two generations ago there were some 500,000 commercial and recreational trappers in America. Today there are just 150,000.

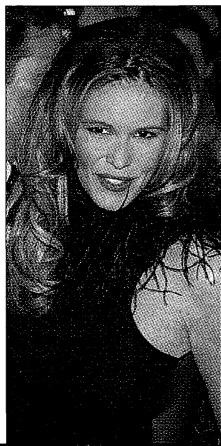
Stellar opponents of fur include (clockwise from above) supermodels Cindy Crawford, Tyra Banks, and Elle Macpherson; and 1998 Academy Award winner Kim Basinger.



AP PHOTO/LE CHRISS RIZELLO



AP PHOTO/CHRIS RIZELLO



AP PHOTO/DAVE THOMSON



AP PHOTO/REMY DE LA HARPE

footlights shining on Designer and Model but never on Producer. The moment they are brought back together in the public mind, as in simple pictures showing the animals caught in traps and cages, the alliance begins to unravel. The consumer sees the connection. In time, the entire industry is done for. Listen to an admiring AP profile of one Peter Leggett and son, producers out in the field gathering the designers' material: "Leggett and son Ron are perhaps the most industrious fox trappers in Maryland. . . . If they find a fox, they kill the animal with a hard rap on the head using a wooden-handled pole with a metal fork at the end. The catch is put in the truck, and it's off to another trap. At the fur shed, they string each animal up by its hind legs for skinning, a job they perform in about three minutes. Clad in white, disposable coveralls to protect their clothes,

the two men then dispose of the carcasses and put the pelts on wire stretchers for two weeks."

What courage it takes to rap and fork to death small uncomprehending creatures who have spent the night in hopeless struggle. Imagine how they feel as he approaches with the fork. This is the forbidden detail, the connection we are not allowed to make. Mr. Lagerfeld, meet Mr. Leggett.

RANCH" WAS AN INSPIRED touch as the industry began disowning the trappers in favor of more "humane" alternatives. A. J. Niman and D. M. Broom of the University of Cambridge give us a glimpse of life on the ranch for the 30 million or so fox, mink, chinchillas, beaver, rabbits, and other creatures being prepared for delivery: "On fox

Like trapping, fur farming is in eclipse, its dwindling numbers subsisting on the scraps of a once broad and lucrative domestic market.

farms they are kept in small, barren, contiguous cages with no physical enrichment other than a wooden nest box when whelping. They live in a largely static social environment determined haphazardly. They have no opportunity to adjust distance or take shelter from aversive stimuli, such as the presence of humans or other foxes."

A typical cage is 30 by 18 inches, made of galvanized steel mesh allowing feces to fall through. Nest boxes are made of wood, and the kits and cubs separated from their mothers at eight weeks. There is infanticide, obsessive-compulsive behavior, and a level of cannibalism and self-mutilation unknown in the wild. In winter, when there is any heat at all, temperatures are set to stay at 30 degrees (with no way of keeping warm by physical activity), just high enough to keep the stock alive but low enough to promote the desired quality of coat. The animals' nourishment consists of water suckled from plastic nipples on metal pipes and, in the case of mink, that recycled-carcass gruel so memorably described by Dr. Speth.

These are creatures made by *their* Designer to roam and play and forage and tunnel and swim. Yet far from denying the details, their keepers actually cite these smaller cages as a point of pride, an ambitious consolidation in the business reflecting innovation and higher productivity. Typical is eighty-one-year-old John Huggans of Connor, Montana, profiled in the winter 1997 *Fur Rancher*: "Caging was larger [in the 1940s] than it is today. Cages were four feet long compared to the 30 inches of today. 'The animals had plenty of room,' Huggans said. 'But they do just fine in the smaller units.'" The profile adds that his business, as also Mr. Huggans' son's fur farm, has shifted in recent years to foreign markets. Then-and-now illustrations of the Huggans farm show how it grew from a few makeshift warrens in 1939 into a vast arrow-shaped complex of long sunless barns totaling 1,600 "units." The inhabitants are doing "just fine."

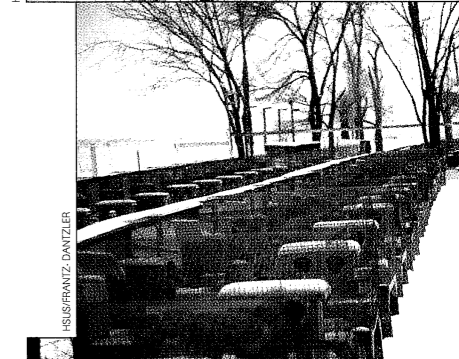
Then comes the harvest, and all the

creatures that creepeth on fur ranches are sent forth into Dr. Speth's "natural cycle of life"—the fur to be skinned, the carcasses to be ground into feed for the cows and the lambs, the cows and the lambs in turn to be ground into feed for the mink and fox. Across the industry, introduction of unconsciousness is variously administered by gassing, clubbing, poisoning, strangulation, neck-breaking with or without the aid of tongs, or by a state-of-the-art method known as "anal electrocution."

There are 415 facilities for mink in the United States, harvesting some 2.6 million pelts, employing (directly or indirectly) about 100,000 people, and accounting for 10 percent of worldwide mink-farm production. Forty of them also raise fox. Some 75 farms raise fox exclusively. A mere decade ago, the fur market sustained over 1,000 farms. It is the same story: Like trapping, fur farming is in eclipse, its dwindling numbers subsisting on the scraps of a once broad and lucrative domestic market.

Resuscitated by foreign markets, it is running out of those, too, as witness not only declining sales but, on the political front, a remarkable bill submitted to the British House of Commons last March. The language is worth quoting in full: *Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and by the Commons, in the present Parliament assembled, and by authority of the same: It shall be an offense for any person to keep or knowingly cause or permit to be kept for the production of fur any mink, fox, or other fur-bearing animal.*

Exactly what Her Most Excellent Majesty or the temporal lords themselves think of this bill is unknown. Sounds like there are going to be some changes in the royal wardrobe. But Prime Minister Tony Blair supports it, and for farmer and furrier the writing is on the wall. The provincial government of Lower Austria abolished the last of the country's fur-farm trade in a vote last year. All but one of Austria's fur farms has been closed for business, and that one goes into history in 2001.



Oh, for life on the "ranch"! A caged fox's anxiety is palpable (top); tiny barren cages, not natural territories, are the homes of ranched foxes (middle); a rancher unceremoniously removes a fox from a cage.



Tony Blair supports an anti-fur bill submitted to the British House of Commons last March.



HSUS Launches Fur-Free 2000™

THIS FALL THE HSUS IS STEPPING UP ITS DECADE-long effort to educate the public about the cruelty of the fur industry by launching the Fur-Free 2000 campaign. Addressing the inhumane practices of trapping and raising animals in cages for their fur, as well as the increased use of fur trim and the roles of department stores and fashion designers, Fur-Free 2000 seeks to foster a more compassionate consumer and increase the number of people celebrating a fur-free holiday.

The HSUS and many of our supporters have sent letters to Macy's and Nordstrom, two leading department stores, asking them not to sell fur or fur-trimmed apparel. The HSUS has

urged Macy's to declare its annual Thanksgiving Day parade fur free and has asked all parade sponsors not to use fur on their floats. (Designer Oleg Cassini has offered fur-free fashions to parade float participants.) HSUS staff will hand out Fur-Free Holiday buttons to parade spectators. In November and December, HSUS ads in New York City telephone kiosks will promote a Fur-Free Holiday and feature an original Oleg Cassini drawing of Santa Claus in a fur-free suit (left). A Fur-Free 2000 billboard is planned for Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles. Campaign fashion events are being planned for both Europe and North America.

The HSUS is also one of the sponsors of a landmark November

1998 ballot initiative in California. Proposition 4 would ban the use of cruel and indiscriminate body-gripping traps including the dreaded steel-jaw leghold trap. The measure bans the sale of fur from any fur-bearing animal caught with a body-gripping trap.

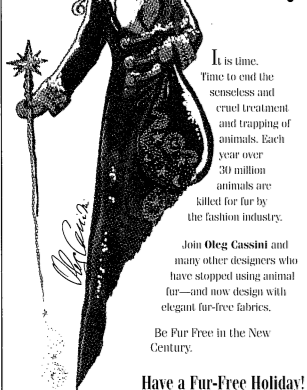
Celebrities have jumped on the Fur-Free 2000 bandwagon—including television talk show host Bill Maher, cartoonist Berkeley Breathed, and actors Angela Bassett, Betty White, Jack Lemmon, and Diane Keaton.

What can you do?

- Don't buy or wear clothing made of, lined with, or trimmed with fur; don't buy fur or fur-trimmed decorations or toys.
- Make sure any faux fur trim on apparel really is synthetic material. When animal fur is sheared and dyed, it can appear to be synthetic. It can even fool salespeople.
- Explain to your family and friends that even a small piece of trim comes from an animal who suffered and died.
- Don't shop at stores that sell fur or items lined or trimmed with fur. Tell the store manager and the company president that you will not shop there if the store continues to sell fur.
- Celebrate a fur-free holiday and urge others to do the same. Contact The HSUS (Fur-Free 2000 Campaign, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037) for Fur-Free Holiday buttons and stickers and for Fur-Free 2000 fact sheets, stickers, and flyers.
- If you have a fur, donate it to a wildlife rehabilitator (wildlife rehabilitators use fur garments to comfort orphaned and injured animals), or send your tax-deductible donations of fur to The HSUS (Dept. FD).
- Urge your federal and state legislators to ban fur trapping and caged-fur production.
- Check out the HSUS Web site (www.hsus.org) for updates on our anti-fur campaign throughout the fall and winter.

—Danielle Bays, HSUS associate, Wildlife Issues

Even Santa Wants a Fur-Free Holiday



It is time. Time to end the senseless and cruel treatment and trapping of animals. Each year over 30 million animals are killed for fur by the fashion industry.

Join Oleg Cassini and many other designers who have stopped using animal fur—and now design with elegant fur-free fabrics.

Be Fur Free in the New Century.

Have a Fur-Free Holiday!

HSUS
THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES
2100 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037 • Internet: www.hsus.org
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Just this once, look away from the profit margins and mirrors and catwalks and fashion glossies, and give a little thought to the animals.

BUT THE KEY RIGHT NOW IS the economics of fur. Last year, 26.29 million mink and 4.45 million fox were farmed worldwide (Scandinavia accounting for 55 and 72 percent respectively). A lot of mink and fox, except by comparison with production in 1988: 41.7 million mink and 5.6 million fox. True, in-between production fell to an even lower 22.8 million total. But its 7 million pelt rebound since 1993 is still a third of its 21 million pelt collapse from 1988 to 1993.

The FICA trumpets a 1.6 percent rise in sales last year. Yet even these gains are illusory: The retail price of fur coats last year rose 1 percent, this a reflection of falling worldwide production. That leaves a net gain of .6 percent. The industry sold fewer goods at higher prices.

In the fur industry that's called a comeback. Outside the industry it's called a recession. It fell to the folks at *Fur World*, the New York-based trade journal, to put a damper on the big revival. "Fur sales for the year failed to generate a full head of steam," it warned last March—five months after the bold "reintroduction" of fur in *Vogue* and the *New York Times*. "[T]he consumer isn't breaking down any doors to buy a new fur, even if they have more money than usual because of a burgeoning economy." That same month *Fur World* ventured an explanation: "Let's face it, fur has an image problem. It's no longer the 'must-have' item in a woman's wardrobe, despite all the rhetoric to the contrary."

To translate this tautology: People aren't buying furs because people aren't buying furs. To translate further: The money isn't there anymore. We, as an industry, are finished.

Even on its own purely monetary terms, the industry has no other explanation available to it. "People forgo luxury items during times of economic distress," explained industry analyst Rob Southwick to the *Boston Globe* in April 1994. "When the economy rebounds, the fur business

will rebound." That was four and a half years ago, and the economy has rebounded beyond all expectations. The number of U.S. millionaires has more than doubled since 1992. Taxpayers reporting incomes of \$200,000 or more have increased by 90 percent. Four million Americans have hit the \$100,000 annual income mark.

Right on schedule, in every luxury industry, Mr. Southwick's prediction has come to pass—and then some. Retail sales in luxury items have increased by 21 percent a year since 1995. Every last luxury industry, that is, except the makers of the classic "must-have" luxury item. Never has Supply been readier for Demand. Yet here is the fur trade, even by its own manipulated numbers, even as it subsidizes designers to study fur cutting in Denmark because it's a dying art here, and even as designers disguise fur in less conspicuous trims and accessories, posting an illusory gain of 1.6 percent in new sales in 1997.

Illustrative was the case of Chicago retailer Andriana Furs, which boasted \$22 million in sales in 1996, \$10 million in 1997, still maintains a Web site full of indignant rebuttals to "fur myths" but, as of May 1998, was mostly busy with bankruptcy proceedings. Somehow Andriana missed out on the revival.

How much simpler a little honesty would be. They are selling a product they don't need to sell. There is beauty and quality in nonfur alternatives, as Mr. Cassini will soon demonstrate. There's money in fur alternatives, too—far more in the long term—as there always is when people use their creative energies.

But if that's not incentive enough then forget the money. Just this once, look away from the profit margins and mirrors and catwalks and fashion glossies, and give a little thought to the animals. The world is bigger than New York, Paris, and Milan, full of strange and wonderful creatures, and they are not doing "just fine." ♦

Matthew Scully, a speechwriter in the Bush administration and contributing editor to National Review, writes from Herndon, Virginia.

A fox lives life the way it was meant to be lived—in the wild.



A Designer's Evolution

LONG, LONG AGO," recalls Oleg Cassini, "I did a coat for Jackie Kennedy. I suggested a leopard coat to her. She loved the idea because those kinds of looks had not been seen for a long time. It was a success in the fashion world, an instant success. But it had a horrendous result in the world of leopards. The result was that about 250,000 leopards were killed worldwide."

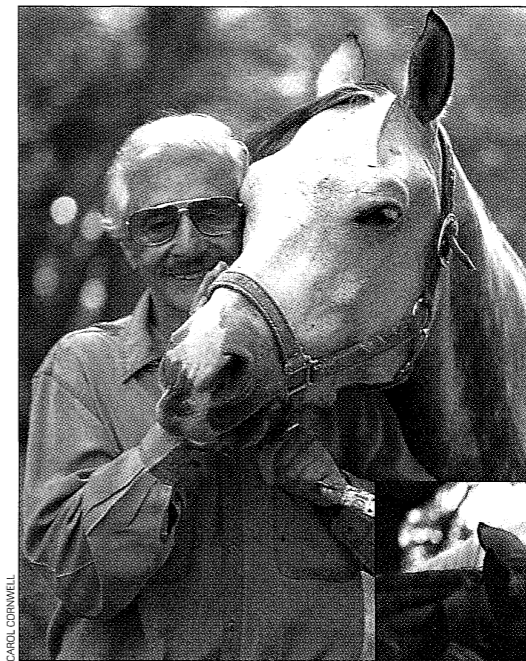
Known as "Secretary of Style" in the Kennedy years, the eighty-five-year-old Mr. Cassini early next year will introduce an upscale collection of "fake fur" jackets and coats under the tentative label, Evolutionary Fur. The collection, a joint venture between the famed designer and Monterey, Inc., the leading manufacturer of imitation fur fabrics in the United States (www.montereyinc.com), is a milestone in the fashion world.

"I'm very aware of what happens in the fur business," Mr. Cassini explains. "I used to be [that way] myself, in a way, when I didn't realize the tremendous damage it did. And then I began to read some articles. I began to look at the pictures, to see the frightening cruelty in how they kill foxes, how they kill mink, how they treat them in a special way so the fur will augment, by keeping them in the cold. . . ."

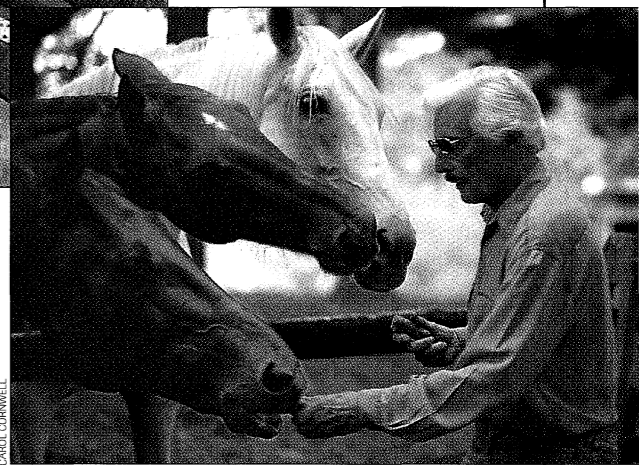
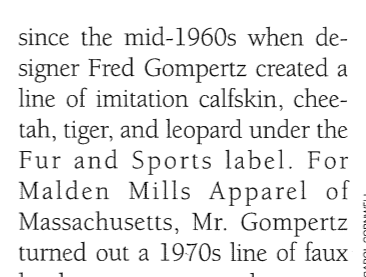
"Anyone who is familiar with animals, and has many like I have, knows that animals suffer. Animals sense when they're about to be killed. They have the imagination to fear. They cry. After vivisection, [killing for fur] is the worst thing. It shows the ugly side of human nature—who for gain will do anything and camouflage it with lofty ideas and words."

The fur industry, Mr. Cassini believes, "will eventually die" as more alternatives are developed and the profit incentive shifts away from animal fur. "It's just pure money. The god of today is money; it probably has always been. And today we're seeing the [industry's] last defense, the rearguard defense of people who just want to make money."

"Fake fur," a term Mr. Cassini rejects, has been in the American market



An unapologetic animal lover, Mr. Cassini has saved a number of retired Standardbred racehorses from slaughter (including *My Perlagative*, left, and the hungry herd, below). Rescued dogs—and even a donkey—also share his home. "Anyone who is familiar with animals, and has many like I have, knows that animals suffer," he observes.



since the mid-1960s when designer Fred Gompertz created a line of imitation calfskin, cheetah, tiger, and leopard under the Fur and Sports label. For Malden Mills Apparel of Massachusetts, Mr. Gompertz turned out a 1970s line of faux lamb-, raccoon-, and coyote-skin outerwear, popular items in their day, even in the salons of Madison Avenue and Rodeo Drive.

More recently the alternative fur market has witnessed exponential growth through the success of such labels as Donna Salyers Fabulous Furs. As retail fur sales nationwide remained static during the last six years, Salyers Fabulous Furs has seen sales rise dramatically. The alternative fur market has seen steady growth throughout the 1990s.

Missing until now, however, was a fashion Name, and indeed, as Mr. Cassini points out, a better name for the product itself. "I would not call them 'fake furs,'" he explains. "The very name 'fake fur' denotes a cheapness, a second-rate quality. But we have used a very new technique. It's a technical miracle that we have been able to reconstruct furs and make them appear like fur when in fact they are manmade, but

we have done just that. This will replace fur, and replace it with imagination, style, and elegance, and probably with a better price on top of all that."

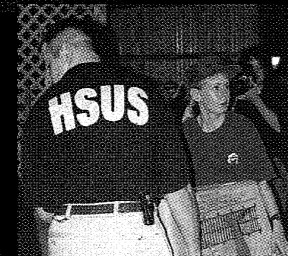
Scheduled for debut at a February showing in Washington, D.C., the new collection is, in Mr. Cassini's view, a "frontal attack" on the fur industry. "We're saying, 'All right, let's stop with the BS. You want a substitute? Very well, then here's a substitute, an elegant, stylish substitute.'"

"Somebody," he adds, "has to step forward. The truth must come out. Until now there was no way to answer the accusation from the fur industry that there was no replacement. Fur is the most ancient part of the human culture, [from a time] when humans had to protect themselves against the cold and they had to kill to eat. But we are not at that stage anymore. We can choose a different way. Evolution has permitted us to look at new horizons." —Matthew Scully

HSUS in Action: Florida Wildfires



Clay County Humane Society staff bandage a pup's burned paws (above); The HSUS's Chris Champine and a volunteer tote a crate (right).



A burned-out house is the fire's aftermath (above); volunteers tend animals at the Flagler County Fairgrounds (left).

THE SOUTHEAST HAS SEEN ITS SHARE OF disasters in 1998. Widespread flooding and devastating tornadoes plagued the area during the first part of the year. Then in July a severe drought triggered raging wildfires in Florida.

Ever since Hurricane Andrew hit Florida in 1992, The HSUS's Southeast Regional Office has been promoting disaster plans for animals in the region. We have sponsored disaster animal-relief team (DART) training and have worked with several states to develop local and state animal disaster plans. All that planning was put to the test in the July fires on Florida's east coast.

Working with the Florida Department of Agriculture and the state's Division of Emergency Management, Southeast Regional Director Laura Bevan and Program Coordinator Kim Staton helped develop response efforts for the fires. They directed DART teams to the fires, arranged for pet supplies to be delivered to fire-ravaged counties where animal shelters took in evacuated animals, and assisted in reuniting evacuated animals with their owners once the fires were under control.

Although wildfires broke out in sixty-six of Florida's sixty-seven counties, the counties of Flagler, Volusia, and Brevard bore the brunt of the fires' fury. Fires consumed eighty thousand acres in Volusia County alone. Flagler County underwent a mandatory evacuation of thirty-five thousand residents over a four-day period. Many animals were left stranded in fire areas.

On Saturday, July 4, Ms. Staton and DART members from Santa Rosa County arrived in Bunnell, Florida, where the Flagler County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was in full operation. She reports, "Animal disaster coordinator Shelby Wolfe asked our team to begin damage assessment in areas that had already been consumed by fire. We spent the first day canvassing the once-lush greenery of Palm Coast, much of which was now only blackened, smoldering landscape, in search of any living creature that may have survived the raging fires. After several unsuccessful patrols down smoke-filled streets, we heard from Jacksonville firefighters about a black puppy who had been chained to a pine tree beside his wooden doghouse. When his owners had unchained him, he had darted under the doghouse and resisted all attempts to rescue him. The firefighters had ordered the family to leave, but they had soaked his doghouse with chemical foam to keep it from igniting. By the time we arrived, the surrounding woods were completely destroyed, and black ash coated the home and a car in the driveway. The doghouse was partially burned and the

nearby ground was still hot. The pup, named Elvis, was huddled next to the car. I am not sure who was more excited—Elvis or our team!

"It took several hours in front of an air conditioner and countless bowls of water to cool Elvis down and get him rehydrated. His burnt paws needed bandages. We sent him off to safety at the Jacksonville Humane Society. He was later reunited with his owner.

"The next two days were spent entering the houses of people who had asked the EOC to have us check on their pets and provide any necessary care. We found many animals approaching dehydration and without food. We filled bathtubs, ice chests, even canoes with water to ensure a sufficient supply for drinking and made sure the animals had plenty of food. Fortunately, their homes were no longer in immediate threat of fire. We kept their addresses close by so we could immediately recover animals if the fires changed course.

"We were not able to locate all of the animals we had been asked to check on. My team was lucky—we found no dead animals and no destroyed homes where animals had once found shelter. Other teams were not so fortunate. Some found the charred remains of dogs tied to trees in areas that had been

totally devastated by fire, and others arrived at houses that were piles of rubble; there was no way to ascertain if there had been any loss of life."

During the worst days of the fires, more than three hundred animals had been evacuated from Flagler County and transported to Alachua County Animal Services Center in Gainesville and the Jacksonville Humane Society and Ocala Breeder Sales in Marion County. Rescued animals included dogs, cats, horses, cattle, goats, chickens, parrots, pigs, and rabbits. After the evacuation order was lifted, the animals were returned to the Flagler County Fairgrounds, where owners reclaimed their pets over the next several days.

Wildfires of this magnitude were not expected in Florida, and it was sad to see the devastation that caused untold damage to people and animals. The impact on Florida's forests has been incalculable; it will take decades for the once thickly wooded ecosystem to again harbor an abundance of wildlife.

It is clear that our work promoting disaster planning is far from complete. Hundreds, possibly even thousands, of animals were left to fend for themselves in the midst of this disaster. So many were left, and too many died needlessly. Advance planning is the only way to ensure the safety of not only human family members, but animal members as well. ❖



Elvis and owner Debby Hodges are reunited after Elvis's brush with death.

FLORIDA TIMES UNION

UNPHOTO/DART TILLEY; INSERTS: HSUS

Just as you can shop for products that have been produced without harming animals, you can shop for investments in companies that do not harm animals.

**By
Bob Brennan
and
Tanya Mulford**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO INVEST IN helping animals? Your retirement plan—whether it's a pension plan, a 401K, or an Individual Retirement Account (IRA)—and stocks, bonds, or mutual funds all give you the opportunity to make humane investments. Without giving you specific investment advice, The HSUS offers some answers to questions you may have about making your investments more humane.

What is a humane investment?

Just as you can shop for products that have been produced without harming animals, you can shop for investments in companies that do not harm animals. If you want to make your investments more humane, there are several approaches available. For instance, the *Cruelty-Free Investment News*, operating out of Reston, Virginia, identifies three major types of humane investors: those who boycott companies that harm animals, those who actively pursue stock in companies that make a positive contribution toward animal welfare, and those who invest in companies that harm animals and then vote on shareholder resolutions to change company policies. Generally, these humane shareholder resolutions do not get voted in by the other shareholders, but at least a point has been made.

To some extent the definition of "humane investment" is open to individual interpretation. You will find that investors and investment advisors have many opinions about what constitutes a humane company. A basic benchmark is often whether the company engages in animal testing, but there are those who make a distinction between testing by cosmetic companies and testing by pharmaceutical companies. Some investors also take into account whether a company participates in habitat destruction or pollution. Some investors look at whether the company makes products such as cruel traps or guns used for hunting. Others find endorsements of exploitative entertainment such as circuses or rodeos unacceptable.

How do I get started?

The first step is to come up with a set of criteria—called a "screen"—for possible investments (see the sidebar for two examples of screens). Determine what business practices you feel comfortable with. Do you want to avoid putting money into a business that engages in animal testing? Do you want to bypass companies that underwrite circuses or rodeos? Perhaps you feel comfortable with an athletic-shoe manufacturer that makes leather sneakers but not with an apparel manufacturer that makes coats with fur collars. It's up to you: be honest with yourself and as specific as possible.

Once you have a screen in place, you can start evaluating companies on your own, with

the help of a financial advisor, or as part of a humane investing club (see below). Investigate companies carefully. Go slowly and do your homework; you won't help animals by losing money.

How do I find out whether a company has humane practices?

Call that company and ask to be sent an annual report. Dig further by talking to customer service representatives and finding the company's Web site on the Internet. Go to the library and look for articles on that company in business magazines and newspapers. Many animal protection and environmental groups have done a lot of the research for you. You can call them and ask if they have guides for humane investing. Look also in animal and environmental protection magazines, newsletters, and Web sites. If you use the Internet to search for acceptable companies, try using keywords such as "cruelty-free," "sustainable," "socially responsible," and "environment," along with "investing."

Does it take time to find humane companies?

It can. But then any responsible investor will take time to choose his or her investments. And if you are trying to find individual stocks that have good investment potential and also meet your humane criteria, you will probably have to spend a considerable amount of time and energy at first. However, the financial and emotional returns will be worth the effort.

Even companies whose policies seem to present nothing objectionable require thorough examination. Samantha Mullen, a member of Washington, D.C.'s Animal Friendly Investment Club of the Capital Area, reports, "Probably the least time-consuming route is to invest in mutual funds whose holdings are limited to specific industry sectors that have nothing to do with animals. But you have to be careful. Sometimes companies that seem to meet your criteria can turn out to be unacceptable because of the financial or promotional support they give to certain activities, like rodeos, that people who care about animals would find abhorrent."

You can cut down on your research time by working with an investment advisor. Some brokers who are interested in humane issues advertise in animal protection magazines and on the Internet. They may call themselves "socially responsible" or "cruelty-free" brokers. Be sure to be very specific about the criteria of your screen for purchasing stocks, and don't be afraid to ask for additional information if one of his or her suggestions makes you uncomfortable.

Also bear in mind that you will be paying for the advisor's services. If you want to avoid paying for advice but want help

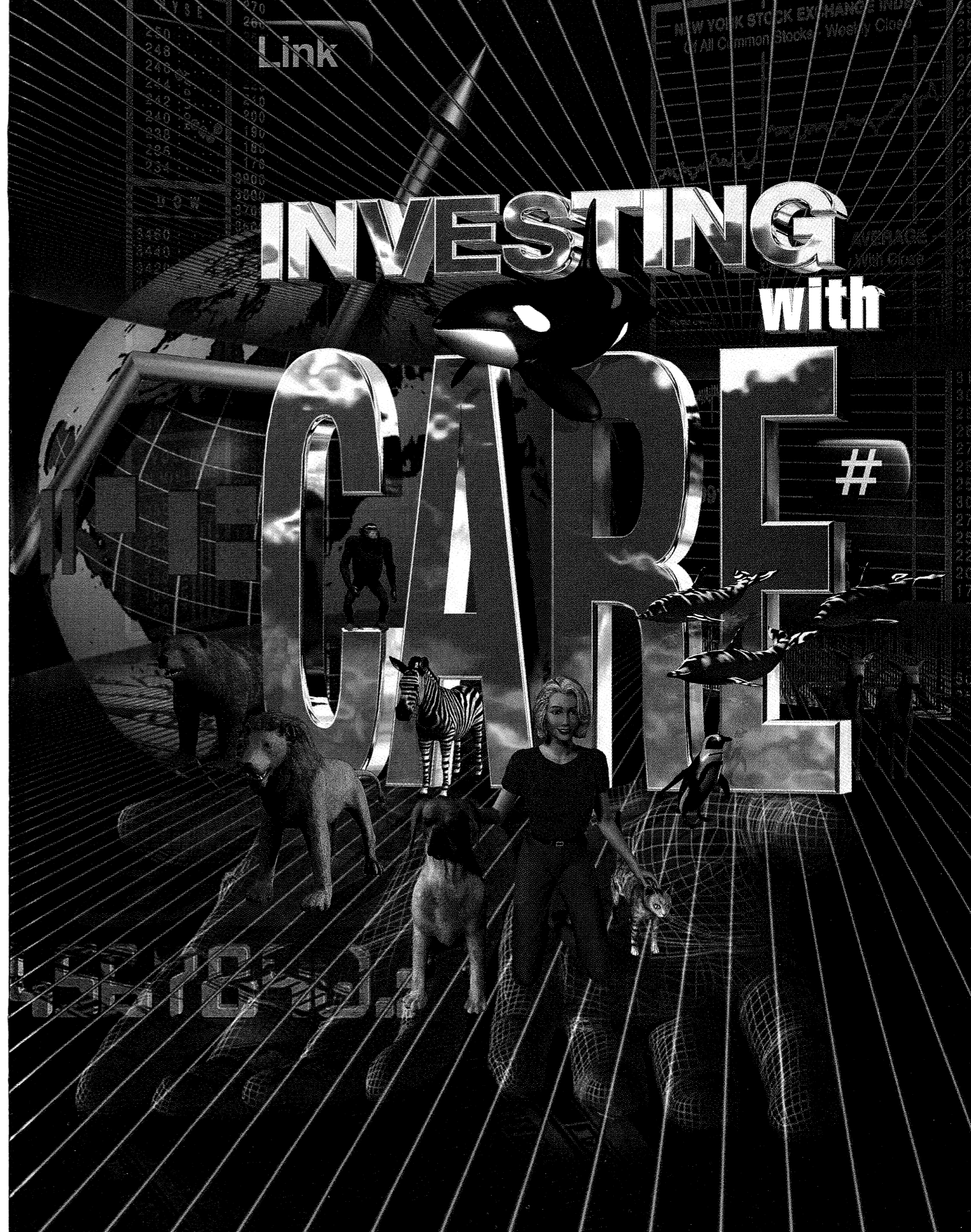


ILLUSTRATION BY DOUG CHEZEM

with research, you might want to consider joining a humane investment club and splitting the research with other like-minded investors.

How do I find a humane investment club?

Because humane investing is a relatively new idea, it is not always easy to find a humane investment club. Start by looking for notices in vegetarian, animal protection, or environmental newsletters or on bulletin boards at your local health food store or co-op. Talk to friends and acquaintances. If you use the Internet, try posting a message on an animal-oriented news group. If you cannot find a club, then start your own.

How do humane investment clubs work?

They are all different. Usually the group brainstorms to come up with an investment screen that is acceptable to all members. Then the group determines how much money each member will contribute each month—\$25 is a typical amount for a group of moderate investors. Members divvy up the research responsibilities, meeting regularly to share information and make decisions. For convenience, some clubs do not even meet in person; the Animal Friendly Investment Club of the Capital Area holds telephone conference meetings at midday on the last Thursday of the month.

Won't humane investing limit my investment options?

Yes. But the same is true if you exercise any discrimination regarding the companies you invest in. As soon as you apply any criteria to your investment strategy, you begin to reduce the number of options available to you. Whether a company is humane becomes one of your various criteria for investing, no less valid than any other. You would never invest in a company that has historically lost money or in a poorly performing mutual fund, so if you care about animals, why would you invest in a company or fund that is inhumane to animals?

Will I lose money if I switch to humane investments?

It depends on how much you limit yourself—there is no reason that you must lose money as long as you are a prudent investor. When investing, there are never any guarantees that you will lose or make money, even in the most traditional of investments.

Are there humane mutual funds?

There are a number of funds out there that call themselves "cruelty-free." "Cruelty-free" is often a limited concept in the investment

Screen Humanely

Here are two examples of investment screens, one for a large organization and one for a humane investment club. They may help you write your own screens.

The HSUS has developed this screen for investing all assets entrusted to the society:

- 1 The HSUS will not invest in any drug-related industry.
- 2 The HSUS will not invest in a personal-care-related industry if there is a question about the use of animals for product studies and/or testing.
- 3 The HSUS will not invest in an industry that uses animals in an end product.
- 4 The HSUS will not invest in an industry that produces products averse to our charitable purpose, especially an industry that produces products that would be used for hunting or trapping.
- 5 The HSUS will seek to invest in corporations that share our charitable purposes or at least do not work against our purposes.

The screen for the Animal Friendly Investment Club of the Capital Area takes a slightly different, but no less functional, form:

"The purpose of the club is to seek to avoid investing in any corporation that causes any animal harm either directly or deliberately as a byproduct of its operation...."

Define your screen's criteria carefully. Your investments need your constant care and vigilant attention.

community: it generally refers only to an absence of animal testing of cosmetics. A fund that advertises itself as "cruelty-free" may well include a pharmaceutical company that tests on animals or a company that uses animals in entertainment.

What can I do to make my 401K or IRA more humane?

Check with the brokerage firm that manages your employer's 401K or your IRA.

Ask for a list of the individual stocks or the stocks that make up the mutual funds involved, and then research those companies. You may run into roadblocks with your 401K; many employers do not give you the option of controlling the stocks that are part of a 401K. At best, you may be given a limited number of options within the framework of your employer's plan. An IRA will give you much more control over the way your funds are invested.

How will my humane investments help animals?

Humane investing offers you a way of helping animals that is different from your other animal-related activities. When you adopt an animal from a shelter or write a letter to your senator or representative in support of a bill that will help animals, your effort is directed toward an individual animal or a particular group of animals. When you invest in the financial world, the most immediate beneficiary will not be any individual animal or group of animals—it will be yourself. Nonetheless, you will have cleaned your financial house; you will have the satisfaction of knowing that your investment dollars will not be directed toward animal suffering and that you are not taking part in an industry that conflicts with your humane values.

But in a larger sense, you will be helping animals over the long term by becoming part of the growing movement of humane investing and by joining with a growing number of other people engaged in socially responsible investing. According to a report on U.S. investments from the Social Investment Forum, in 1997 more than \$1.2 trillion was invested on the basis of socially responsible criteria. As of 1997 there were 144 mutual funds that included social and/or environmental criteria as part of their publicly stated investment policy, while 710 major investing institutions (including pension funds, mutual fund families, community development funds, and foundations) were involved in socially responsible investing.

As more people seek out humane investing, the number of humane investment options will grow. It will become good business to do business more humanely. The end result will be a doubled return on your investment: your own monetary profits as well as tangible profits for animals in how they are treated and how their habitat is managed. ❖

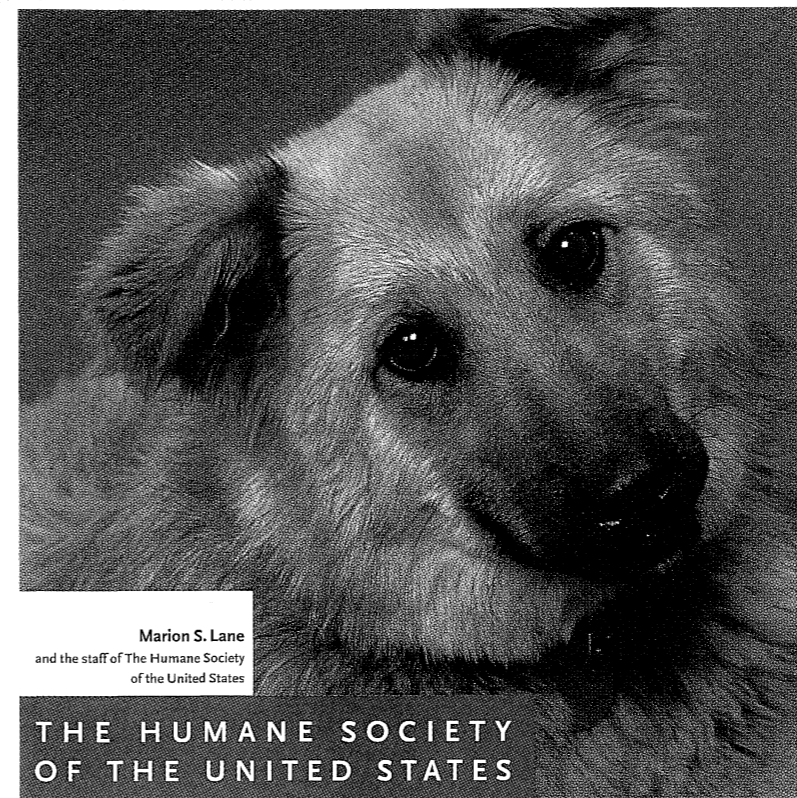
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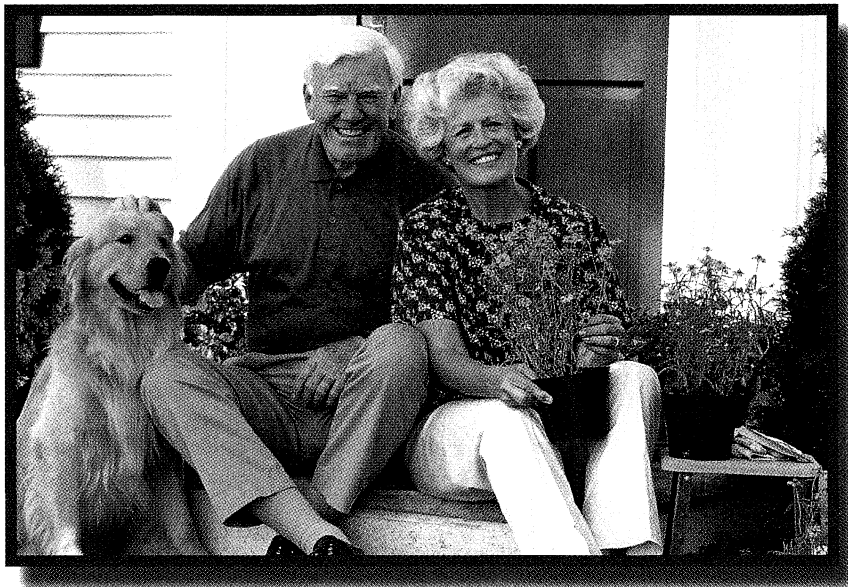
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