

The Last Will and Testament Of an Extremely Distinguished Dog

A few months ago, HSUS member Barbara Meyers sent me the following tribute to her dog, Duke. Ms. Meyers's tribute is an adaptation of a work written in 1940 by Eugene O'Neill entitled "The Last Will and Testament of Silverdene Emblem O'Neill." In place of my usual President's Perspective, I am pleased to share this moving tribute with you.—J.A.H.

I, Grand Duke of Old Mill Meyers (familiarly known to my family, friends, and acquaintances as "Duke"), because of the burden of my illness and realizing the end of my life is near, do hereby bury my last will and testament in the mind of my Mistress. She will not know it is there until after I am dead. Then, remembering me in her loneliness, she will suddenly know of this testament, and I ask her then to inscribe it as a memorial to me.

I have little in the way of material things to leave. Dogs are wiser than men. They do not set great store upon things. They do not waste their days hoarding property. They do not ruin their sleep worrying about how to keep the objects they have and to obtain the objects they have not. There is nothing of value I have to bequeath except my love and my faith. These I leave to all those who have loved me. To my Mistress, who I know will mourn me the most, to my companions Pinky, Skila, Sam, and Thomas and—but if I should list all those who have loved me, it would force my Mistress to write a book. Perhaps it is vain of me to boast when I am so near death, which returns all beasts and vanities to dust, but I have always been an extremely exceptional dog.

I ask my Mistress to remember me always but not to grieve for me too long. In my life I have tried to be a comfort to her in time of sorrow and a reason for added joy in her happiness. It is painful for me to think that even in death I should cause her pain. Let her remember that, while no dog ever had a happier life, I have now grown ill and pained. I should not want my pride to sink to a bewildered humiliation. It is time for me to say "good-bye." It will be sorrow to leave her but not a sorrow to die. Dogs do not fear death as men do. We accept it as a part of life, not as something alien and terrible which destroys life. What will come to me after death? Who knows! I would like to believe that I will be in a place where one is always young; where I will someday be joined by companions I have known in life; where I will romp in lovely fields with those that have gone before me; where every hour is mealtime; where in long evenings there are fireplaces with logs forever burning, and one curls oneself up and remembers the old brave days on earth, and the love of one's Mistress.

This is much to expect but peace, at least, is certain; and a long rest for these weakened limbs and eternal sleep is perhaps, after all, the best.

One last request I earnestly make. I ask her, for love of me, to have another. It would be a poor tribute to my memory never to have another dog. What I would like to feel is that, having once had me, she cannot live without a dog! I have never had a narrow spirit. I have always held that most dogs are good (and two cats: Sam and Thomas). Some dogs are better than others—like me—and so I suggest a German Shepherd as my successor. He can hardly be as well bred or as mannered or as distinguished and handsome as I, but my Mistress must not ask the impossible.

He will do his best, I am sure, and even his inevitable defects will help keep my memory green. To him I bequeath my collar and leash and my heavy winter parka which was made to order. I leave him my place in the car which I loved so much and wish for him long rides with open windows.

One last word of farewell, dear Mistress. Whenever you think of me, say to yourself with regret but also with happiness in your heart at the remembrance of my happy life with you: "He is the one who loved me and whom I loved." No matter how deep my sleep, I shall hear you, and not all the power of death can keep my spirit from wagging a grateful tail.



John A. Hoyt



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Winter 1986

Cover photo by Dodo Knight from "Horses 1986" © by Bo-Tree Productions



Stern and Embarrassed

There are some red editorial faces at *Pet Age* magazine, a monthly distributed to 16,000 pet industry people free-of-charge.

Pet Age's December 1985 issue featured an admiring profile of Marc Stern and his exclusive pet store, The Pet Gallery, in the Short Hills (N.J.) Mall. At the same time, Mr. Stern was serving a ten-day jail sentence for his conviction on cruelty to animals charges stemming from a 1984 investigation (see the Fall 1984 HSUS News). Mr. Stern was jailed for failing to obtain veterinary care for a dog that died in his Skamperdale Kennels, the same facility from which Mr. Stern is reported in Pet Age as generating Akitas, an Oriental fighting dog, for prices ranging from \$1,500 to \$5,000. "Our idea is to provide the demanding customer with a store where he or she can find the highest quality animals and the most attentive personal service. We want to show people that they can buy a better dog at our shop than at a kennel, because we screen dogs from the breeders," *Pet Age* quotes Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern also faced penalties in two other animal-related cases in December. In a consumer-fraud suit filed by the Morris County (N.J.) Office of Consumer Affairs, Mr. Stern acknowledged failing to give specific notice to consumers regarding their rights under New Jersey's sale of animals regulation at both of his New Jersey stores. Mr. Stern was also to appear before a municipal judge in Monroe, N.Y., where he pleaded guilty, in 1984, to 100 counts of animal cruelty resulting from his operation of a Harriman, N.Y. kennel.

His sentence there was a \$5,000 fine, three years' probation, and divestiture of all pet businesses.

"Customers are willing to pay premium prices at The Pet Gallery because, through word-of-mouth, the store has developed a solid reputation for the excellent health of its livestock," gushed *Pet Age*'s freelance writer in his article.

Pet Age's newly appointed editor, Karen M. Long, commented, "We were not aware of [Mr. Stern's] activities at the time we ran the article. We are real sorry that we published it. We like to deal with reputable shops and will not print anything positive on [Mr. Stern] in the future."

Pet Age had not yet decided whether it would offer a clarification of its position on Mr. Stern in a future issue.

Texas Alternative

Six Texas animal-welfare organizations have announced the establishment of a special permanent fund for alternatives to animal use in research and teaching by Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine. Available funds will be used for equipment and programs designed to reduce and replace the use of laboratory animals, according to the Animal Rescue League, Citizens for Animal Protection, Houston Animal Rights Team, Houston Humane Society, Houston Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. Initial expenditure will be for a "Resusci-Dog," a sophisticated dog mannequin developed by Dr. Charles Short of Cornell Veterinary College, for the teaching of cardiopulmonary resuscitation to replace live animals. Purchase of a "Resusci-Cat" will follow.

The college is especially interested in the use of funds for computer replacement of animals in teaching, research, and diagnostics.

Houston-area animal-rights activists have praised the school for demonstrating an enlightened attitude and willingness to substitute advanced technological equipment for the old, outdated reliance on animals that resulted in tremendous animal suffering.

Pound-Seizure "Blues"

Although he is known for calling alleged perpetrators of crime "Dogbreath." Detective Mick Belker on NBC-TV's "Hill Street Blues" has a soft spot in his heart for animals. The Emmy-award winning series took on the issue of releasing pound animals for research in an episode first shown in December. Detective Belker went undercover at the "East Side Animal Shelter" to uncover a scheme by the manager to sell dogs for research. The detective ended up arresting both the pound manager and the researcher who bought the dogs illegally. "Those dogs are for pets," growled Detective Belker.

That's The HSUS's position exactly.

If you would like to thank the producers of "Hill Street Blues" for taking a stand on this important issue, please write to the Hill Street Blues Production Office, MTM Productions, 4024 Radford Ave., Studio City, CA 91604.





Programmed to Win

If you hurry, you still have time to enter the Pets Are Wonderful Council's 1985 shelter awards program. Your shelter's imaginative program to increase pet adoptions, raise funds, promote humane education, or attract volunteers could earn it a cash award. Entries close February 1. Shelters handling fewer than 10,000 animals a year will be considered in one category; those handling more than 10,000 will be judged in another. Winners will receive a cash prize and a plaque.

This year, the Pets Are Wonderful Council will also give a special \$5,000 award to the animal shelter or humane society that demonstrates the best overall program to increase adoptions to responsible owners and/or lower its animal returned-to-shelter rate. The winner will be chosen based on the quality, creativity, and effect of its program or combination of programs. Only one \$5,000 award will be offered.

For more information on the contest, write the Pets Are Wonderful Council, 500 North Michigan Ave., Ste. 200, Chicago, IL 60611 or call (312) 836–7145.

Cross This Toy Off Your Holiday Gift List!

"Earl the Dead Cat lets you say farewell to smelly cat food, litter boxes, and live cats that shed and go into heat," reads the newspaper ad. "Earl is a cuddly, understuffed, and very dead toy cat complete with his own death certificate."

By now, many of you have probably seen this repulsive advertisement for Earl, which depicts the toy cat sprawled across a highway's white line. Dubbed "the last cat you'll ever need," Earl is covered with fake fur, has crosses for eyes, and sells for \$14.95.

In a recent Washington Times interview, Barry Gottlieb, president of Mad Dog Productions, which developed Earl, elaborated on the advantages of having a stuffed dead cat as a pet. According to the article, "Kids can grab Earl by the head and spin him around without fear of being scratched or bitten," and, "rarely will an owner of Earl have to call the fire department to retrieve him from a tree."

While The HSUS recognizes Mad Dog Productions' feeble attempt at humor, the dead cat only encourages hostile attitudes toward gentle pets.

Carson Criticizes Fur Fashion

In November, some of you night owls might have heard Johnny Carson, popular talk-show host and fashion leader, express his opinion on "The Tonight Show" that fur coats should not be made from the skins of wild animals. During a segment in which wildlife expert Jim Fowler discussed a domesticated arctic fox, Mr. Carson questioned whether garments were made from the animals.

After the telecast, HSUS President John A. Hoyt wrote Mr. Carson of our support of his statement. "While we are certain you will receive negative reactions from the fur and trapping industries, I want to assure you of the strong support of The HSUS, our membership, and the vast majority of citizens across this nation," said Mr. Hoyt.



THE HSUS 1985 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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A LIFE-STYLE FOR THE

North met South, East met West, as four hundred HSUS members and animal-welfare proponents converged on the Chicago suburb of Schaumburg, Illinois, October 16 through 19, 1985. Conference participants were presented a variety of options to enhance "A Life-Style for the Eighties" which avoid the exploitation of animals in food, shelter, and various discretionary purchases.

Almost two hundred animal-control and animal-welfare professionals attended this year's pre-conference session on "Perspectives on the Care and Utilization of Companion Animals." They heard representatives from The HSUS, the American Veterinary Medical Association, the National Animal Control Association, the Michigan Humane Society, and Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, and other guest speakers grapple with many of the most controversial problems facing animal control in communities nationwide. "I was expecting fifty people and got two hundred," said a pleased and surprised Phyllis Wright, HSUS vice president for companion animals. "I think this is a perfect example of the increasing interest in the important roles humane societies and animal-control organizations are playing in their communities."



Eric Blow, president of the National Animal Control Association, chats with HSUS Vice President Phyllis Wright during the October 16 companion animal symposium.

Workshop participants speak candidly during a Thursday session.





HSUS Director of Higher Education Programs Randall Lockwood described computer capabilities at a Saturday workshop. He spoke on rediscovering animals' minds and feelings at Friday's general session.



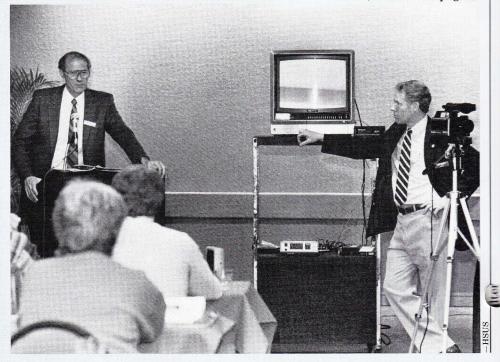


Radio commentator Paul Harvey (left) and Mrs. Harvey (second from left) join television news producer Gena Fitzgerald and investigative reporter Scott Klug (right) to receive certificates of appreciation from John A. Hoyt.

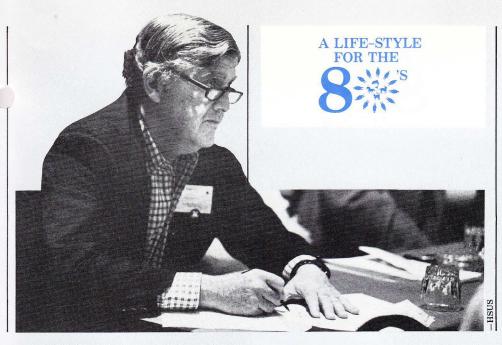
At the conference opening session, speakers examined the conference theme from differing perspectives. Dr. Michael Fox's keynote address focused on the small decisions that affect a humane life-style. Dr. Michael Giannelli, director of ProPets, charted the progress being made to end the releasing of pound animals for research.

On Friday, Dr. Randall Lockwood, HSUS director of higher education programs, gave participants a fascinating look at a rediscovered view of animals' minds. Joyce Tischler of the Animal Legal Defense Fund, Neil Wolff of Veterinarians for Animal Rights, and Kenneth Shapiro of Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals reported on the activities of their respective organizations and their struggles for acceptance within the larger purview of their professions.

Although there was no special trip scheduled for the 1984 conference, television journalist "Sonny" Bloch took conferees on an outing of sorts on Friday night when he introduced the public broadcasting system (PBS) series, "Living With Animals." The first show takes viewers from the Spanish Riding School, in Austria, to (continued on page 8)



HSUS regional directors Frantz Dantzler (left) and John Dommers introduced conferees to video equipment during a Thursday session.



Fred Davis, president of the Massachusetts SPCA, listens intently to Thursday's speakers.

1985 RESOLUTIONS

Each year, those who attend the HSUS annual conference offer and vote upon resolutions proposed for adoption. These resolutions set forth a course of action The HSUS strives to follow during that and subsequent years. Resolutions from previous years remain valid so long as they are appropriate.

Resolution

Whereas, recent developments on both state and federal fronts concerning rights of tenants to keep pets in rental and condominium properties are so limited in effect and proposed application as to be almost meaningless; and

Whereas, economic conditions in recent years have forced an increasing number of individuals into condominiums, apartments, and rental homes; and

Whereas, the evidence is increasingly clear that companion animals contribute a great deal to physical and emotional health, well being, and general quality of life of people, especially the elderly; and

Whereas, "No Pets Allowed" clauses in standard leases are usually completely arbitrary and often unnecessary; and

Whereas, in many cases, these pets, having been well trained, do not violate any of the sanitary codes or rules wherever they may live; and

Whereas, many of these pet owners, being unable to meet high legal fees, are forced to part with their pets, and being unwilling to send them to pounds and ultimate death, abandon them, increasing the multitude of unwanted pets in the streets, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that The Humane Society of the United States continue to work on both the federal and state levels toward meaningful legislation to protect these pet-owners' rights and to take all available steps to insure that the few existing laws are fairly and vigorously interpreted and enforced.

Resolution

Whereas, there is a critical overabundance of stray dogs and cats roaming our cities; and

Whereas, these homeless pets invariably suffer neglect, starvation, and wanton cruelties; and

Whereas, most cities are unable to control such overabundance except by wholesale destruction; and

Whereas, such conditions are in large measure the result of uncontrolled breeding and commercialization by pet shops for the sale of animals to anyone having the means to pay; and

Whereas, there exists an inexhaustible supply of fine pets in public and private shelters already needing homes,

it is hereby

RESOLVED, that this conference go on record as working for the discontinuance of the sale of dogs and cats by pet shops and that sales in such shops be limited to the sale of other animals suitable as pets, pet supplies, and related items.

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Thursday morning's speakers included (left to right) Coleman Burke, chairman of the HSUS board of directors; John A. Hoyt; Amy Freeman Lee, secretary of the HSUS board Michael Giannelli, director of ProPets; and Michael Fox, HSUS scientific director.



Judy Carroll, of the Marin (California) County Humane Society, stops by the HSUS information display between ses-



Dr. Michael Fox lends an ear to a conference participant after his keynote address.

(continued from page 6)

Washington University, in St. Louis, Missouri, where viewers were given a glimpse of the challenges facing peregrine falcon rehabilitators. "Living With Animals," which replaces its predecessor, "Pet Action Line," on PBS. is recommended for viewing by The HSUS (see article on page 12).

Three afternoons of workshops included perennially popular topics, like "Euthanasia," and new offerings, such as "Ideas for a More Humane Life-Style."

During Saturday's traditional closing banquet, President John A. Hoyt presented HSUS certificates of appreciation to several prominent members of the media, including nationally known radio commentator Paul Harvey and investigative reporter Scott Klug.

The banquet ended with the moving acceptance speeches of Dr. Amy Freeman Lee, recipient of the special Krutch Medal, and Max Schnapp, recipient of the 1985 Krutch Medal. These active, eloquent proponents of the humane ethic with many years' achievements between them inspired the younger members in the audience to try, in the upcoming years, to match their accomplishments.





Jenny Jennings of "My Brother's Keeper" brought a wide assortment of cosmetics and toiletries not tested on animals for conference participants to purchase.

Meet Us in Miami

This year, we will be heading for the spectacular resort city of Miami Beach, Florida, for what is sure to be a colorful, timely conference. Don't miss four days at the Doral Hotel On-The-Ocean, October 22-25. We'll give you more details in the next issue of *The HSUS News*.

ALICE MORGAN WRIGHT—EDITH GOODE FUND TESTAMENTARY TRUST

December 31, 1984

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Trust Corpus 12/31/83	\$1,290,364	
Gain on Sale of Securities	35,489	
1984 Income from Investments—Net	123,207	
Less: Distribution of 1983 Income	(139,342	
Balance 12/31/84	\$1,309,718	
Represented by		
Cash	\$ 1,230	
Accrued Interest Receivable	26,812	
Investments—Securities at Book Value	1,281,676	
Balance 12/31/84	\$1,309,718	
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements		
Receipts		
1984 Income from Investments—Net	\$123,207	
Dishursements		

\$123,207

Organizations Receiving Aid From Alice Morgan Wright—Edith Goode Fund 1984 Trust Income

The American Fondouk Maintenance Committee, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts Animal Kind, Kansas City, Missouri Animal Legal Defense Fund, San Francisco, California Animal Rights Network (Agenda), Westport, Connecticut The Animals' Crusaders, Inc., Everett, Washington Asociacion Uruguaya de Proteccion a Los Animales, Montevideo, Uruguay Assistance aux Animaux, Paris, France Association for the Prevention of Cruelty in Public Spectacles, Barcelona, Spain Association for the Protection of Furbearing Animals, Vancouver, B.C., Canada Australians for Animals, Sydney, Australia

Bat Conservation International, Inc., Milwaukee, Wisconsin Brooke Hospital for Animals, London, England Bund Gegen den Missbrauch der Tiere e.v., Munich, West Germany Council for Livestock Protection, New York, New York The Digit Fund, Rwanda, Africa Dublin Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Dublin, Ireland Ferne Animal Sanctuary, Somerset, England Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments (FRAME), Nottingham, England Hellenic Animal Welfare Society, Athens, Greece Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Dublin, Ireland La Ligue Française des Droites de L'animal, Paris, France Missouri Anti-Vivisection Society, St. Louis, Missouri Nacogdoches Humane Society, Nacogdoches, Texas National Equine Defense League, Carlisle, England Nilgiri Animal Welfare Society, Nilgiris, South India Nordic Society against Painful Experiments on Animals, Stockholm, Sweden People's Dispensary for Sick Animals, Surrey, England Performing and Captive Animals Defense League, Devon, England St. Hubert's Giralda Shelter and Education Center, Madison, New Jersey Salonica Animal Welfare Society, Salonica, Greece Scottish Society for the Prevention of Vivisection, Edinburgh, Scotland Society for Animal Rights, Inc., Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Fiji, Suva, Fiji Society for the Protection of Animals in North Africa, London, England South African Federation of SPCA's and Affiliated Societies, Claremont, South Africa Tierschutzverein fur Berlin und Umgebung Corp., Berlin, West Germany Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation, Inc., San Antonio, Texas World Society for the Protection of Animals, London, England

Grants of 1984 Income to

Organizations Listed

Veterinarians Speak With a New Voice for Animal Rights

The Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights (AVAR) was founded in 1981 by Drs. Neil Wolff and Ned Buyukmihci, who wanted their organization to address the moral and philosophical aspects of the rights of nonhuman animals and try to balance the needs of nonhuman animals with those of humans. In this interview, Dr. Buyukmihci, AVAR's West Coast director and associate professor of ophthalmology and chief of the ophthalmology service of the University of California, describes the goals and activities of this unique organization.

What role does AVAR play in animal welfare?

One of the main functions of AVAR is to provide credible, scientifically sound advice on various animal-rights issues. We often act as consultants to animal-rights/welfare groups. We testify on important pieces of legislation that would have major impact on nonhuman animals. We travel throughout the country to give seminars on animal issues and on why animal rights is a needed and timely philosophy. We provide support to students, especially

veterinary, who object to the destructive use of animals in their educational process. Many of these students feel that the killing of one group of animals in order to "help" another group that is essentially the same is fundamentally immoral. We concur and point out that there are ways of obtaining the same education without destroying animals. All it takes is dedication and a willingness to do so on the part of our educators.

What frustrations have you encountered?

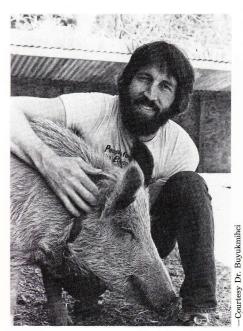
We realize that practical considerations, custom, and numerous other factors make application of an animal-rights based philosophy difficult at times. Not every member of AVAR agrees on all aspects of every issue. We do, however, share a common theme of concern for nonhuman animals above and beyond providing standard health care.

What practices, specifically, does AVAR oppose?

We oppose any exploitation that results in harm to nonhuman animals, but we oppose specifically ear cropping and tail docking of dogs; tail myotomies and tongue myectomies in horses; hot-iron branding; hunting, particularly "trophy" and bow and arrow; trapping; the raising of animals for their fur; lethal predator control; glue traps for rodents and other animals; research using nonhuman animals to study human behavior, drug addiction (such as alcohol, tobacco, cocaine, and others) and trauma (such as gunshot, head injury, and others); the release of pound animals for research, testing, or teaching; the killing of animals in our educational programs, particularly at elementary, secondary, and undergraduate college levels; factory farming of animals used for food; the use of nonhuman animals in product "safety" testing (particularly where

the product is not important for health, where alternatives are available, or where the test involves the LD50 or Draize test); any type of animal fighting; rodeos; and dog racing. This list is by no means complete! Some of our members, including Dr. Wolff and I, have as our goal the abolition of all forms of animal exploitation. We cannot, however, ignore the present suffering of animals by taking an uncompromising stance that would not lead to progress. As painful as it is for us, and particularly for the animals, we feel we must be willing to accept small strides when the alternative is no stride at all.

Is AVAR an "animal-rights" or "animal-welfare" organization? Surprisingly, we have found veteri-



Dr. Nedim "Ned" C. Buyukmihci, West Coast director of AVAR, poses with Ozzie at his animal-rescue haven in California.

narians largely opposed to the concept of "animal rights," feeling either that animals have no rights or that the term is inflammatory. Those expressing the latter sentiment were sympathetic but did not want to become involved because they perceived such a stand would jeopardize their careers or standing among their peers. In fact, several veterinarians suggested we use the term "animal welfare" instead of "animal rights" in our organization's name. We pointed out, however, that, by virtue of their training and career motivation, veterinarians already were "animal-welfare" oriented, albeit usually for utilitarian reasons! In that light, "veterinarians for animal welfare" would be like a group of police forming an organization of "police for the upholding of the law.'

The term "rights," instead of "welfare," was chosen for the title of our organization because it exemplifies the different philosophy of this approach. In most situations in veterinary medicine, the interests of the human "owner" are what dictate the degree of concern for the animal's welfare. Serious ethical and moral dilemmas are created for some of us when we, as veterinarians, are asked to attend animals destined to be killed for food, teaching, research, or testing of commercial products or to be used for human amusement. Our association operates under the premise that all animals have independent interests and intrinsic value that are independent of others'. Each animal is an end in itself and is not simply a means to another's end. In this light, it is inappropriate to consider animals as property. Nor is the present veterinary oath appropriate since, by its language, it predicates animal care on the basis of its effects on society and not primarily out of concern for the individual animal. It is our contention that, ideally, each animal we treat should be considered the benefactor.

Who belongs to AVAR?

The members of AVAR are primarily veterinarians from the United States. We have many veterinary members from other countries, including Scotland, England, Switzerland, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and Mexico. We are a diverse group, having private practitioners, government workers, and academicians.

The association is a growing organization. We routinely receive inquiries from veterinarians and we also are in the process of establishing student chapters at the various veterinary schools in the U.S.

In an effort to broaden our input, we also have a nonveterinary affiliate status. We value this group of people for the insight they bring to AVAR as well as for their moral support. They have been instrumental in helping to spread the word about AVAR to their own veterinarians.

What are the benefits of AVAR membership?

We publish a bimonthly newsletter and we have an annual meeting held in conjunction with the annual conference of the American Veterinary Medical Association. Last year, Professor Tom Regan was our guest speaker and gave a presentation on why the concept of animal rights is critical to progressive veterinary medicine. Our next meeting will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, in July.

How might veterinarians join AVAR? Veterinarians should be at the forefront in ethical issues surrounding the use of nonhuman animals. If you know of veterinarians who are willing to contribute to this venture, please have them contact either Neil Wolff, D.V.M., AVAR, 530 East Putnam Ave., Greenwich, CT 06830 or Nedim C. Buyukmihci, V.M.D., AVAR, Route 1, Box 170, Winters, CA 95694.

"Pet Action Line" Now on Commercial Television Stations

"Pet Action Line," The HSUS's weekly television program devoted to wildlife and domestic animals, is now on commercial television stations. The more than eighty half-hour "Pet Action Line" segments have been made available to UHF, VHF, and cable television stations for them to broadcast in competitive local markets.*

Originally aired for a year and a half on up to 160 public broadcasting stations nationwide, "Pet Action Line" will now appear on many different network-affiliated and independent stations that serve smaller geographic locations and will have one or more commercial sponsors.

What does this mean for the program and its viewers? First, each station will be making its own decision on whether to purchase the package of "Pet Action Line" programs. (In this way, the program's commercial distribution will be very similar to the public broadcasting system stations' selection process.)

If a station hears from viewers who want "Pet Action Line," chances are it will buy and broadcast the program. Station managers and program directors respond to whatever program will bring them potential viewers. Potential viewers translate into good ratings, and good ratings translate into advertising revenue for the stations. If HSUS members, individually or through their local humane organization, contact their local stations and ask for "Pet Action Line," then the show will have a better chance of being bought by the stations.

With so many stations broadcasting in every area, how do you choose which one to contact? You might start by contacting one of the larger independent stations on the VHF dial, asking that it air "Pet Action Line."



"Pet Action Line" host "Sonny" Bloch announces syndication of The HSUS's telesion program at the 1985 HSUS annual conference.

(VHF stations are usually the most interested in obtaining new programming for their schedules.) If you do not receive a favorable response, then go to the next largest station and so on, until a station agrees to broadcast the show. The program is offered to stations on a first-come, exclusive basis so, once a station has made the commitment to take "Pet Action Line," no other station should be contacted.

"Pet Action Line" is available to commercial stations on a barter basis, which means that, of the six minutes allocated on each program for advertising, three of those minutes are allocated to the station to sell for its own income.* Local humane societies can buy all or part of those three minutes for their own messages. If a humane society cannot afford to buy time itself, it may want to approach a local business to ask it to buy a minute or more for its own advertising. With minutes pre-sold in this manner, either to a

*The other three minutes of available time will be used by The HSUS to promote support for local societies and membership in The HSUS. humane society or local business. a station will be even more interested in scheduling "Pet Action Line."

(To help local humane societies prepare their own commercial messages, the Action Line Group, producers of "Pet Action Line," will produce them in Washington, D.C., at a nominal cost. These costs would range from \$200 to \$300, using slides and a script prepared by the humane organization.

When you contact a local station, tell the manager that he/she can contact Rodney Bryant at the Action Line Group at (202) 332-1462 for a demonstration tape of the show and for any other information the manager may need. This will put the stations in touch directly with the "Pet Action Line" producers.

Once your station has decided to put "Pet Action Line" on the air, please send a thank-you note to the station manager. Then, of course, watch "Pet Action Line" every week! Not only will you learn all about the world of animals and the crucial problems facing them, but you will also be helping humane organizations locally and nationally to do something about those problems.

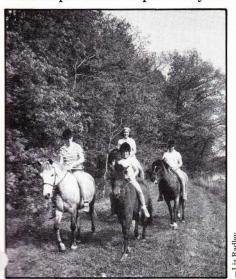
^{*}UHF (for Ultra High Frequency) stations are broadcast on the television dial at numbers 1–13; VHF (for Very High Frequency) stations are broadcast on the VHF dial at numbers above 13; and cable television is a system available for a fee to individual homes.

"Living With Animals" Replaces "Pet Action Line" on PBS

In October, a bright, new, fast-paced, magazine-style program on animals and their world made its debut on public broadcasting system (PBS) stations across the country. "Living With Animals" replaced The HSUS's "Pet Action Line," which is now syndicated for viewing on commercial television stations (see the accompanying article).

"Living With Animals" shares host H.I. "Sonny" Bloch with "Pet Action Line" but, unlike the latter, "Living With Animals" contains many short segments, ranging in length from thirty seconds to seven minutes. This new format allows each "Living With Animals" program to include many more topics in a half-hour broadcast. The first installment took viewers from the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, Austria, to the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., to Washington University's peregrine falcon program in St. Louis, Missouri. Short how-to segments on dog training, bird-proofing your home, and pet care were interspersed with regular features, such as "Ask Guy," with wildlife naturalist and HSUS Director of Data and Information Services Guy Hodge.

"Living With Animals" has several new departments. "Junior Reports" focus on pet-owner responsibility for



"Living With Animals" demonstrates how riding can be safe and fun for everyone —horses included.



 $Actress\,Robyn\,Douglass\,is\,one\,of\,a\,number\,of\,celebrity\,guests\,appearing\,on\,``Living\,With\,Animals.''$

children and teenagers and "Man's Best Friend" spotlights local animal stories of inspirational, humorous, or novelty interest. "Living With Animals" deals with controversial problems through its "Point/Counterpoint" and "News from the Animal Front" features.

"Are Bats Dangerous," "Latchkey Children and Animals," "How to Adopt a Wild Horse or Burro," "The Pros and Cons of Keeping Ferrets," "Birds and the Elderly," "Pet Phobias," "Pets in Public Housing," "Dog Obedience Trials," and "Animal Artists" are a few of the topics covered in the first half-dozen "Living With Animals" shows.

If your PBS station is still airing "Pet Action Line" rather than "Living With Animals," it does not mean that it will not be broadcasting "Living With Animals" eventually. The Action Line Group, producers of both "Pet Action Line" and "Living With Animals," "delivers" the programs to stations via satellite at the same time each week. Some stations started airing "Pet Action Line" several months after satellite delivery began in 1984, so they have a backlog of "Pet Action Line" programs in storage yet to be

aired. Those same stations are now receiving "Living With Animals" by satellite and are storing those episodes until all of the "Pet Action Line" programs have been broadcast.

"Living With Animals" does have one more thing in common with "Pet Action Line": viewer involvement and support are crucial to its success. If your station has begun showing "Living With Animals," please write the station manager thanking him or her for the program. If neither "Pet Action Line" nor "Living With Animals" is being shown locally, write PBS station managers asking that the show be telecast in your area.

This is an exciting time for two new programs on animals. We hope all HSUS members will continue to support the fine animal-oriented programming we have come to enjoy each week.

Any HSUS member or television station manager with a question about either "Pet Action Line" syndication or availability of "Living With Animals" should write the Action Line Group, 1410 15th St., NW, Washington, DC 20005.

Fall Actions Seek Trapping's Downfall



HSUS Vice President John W. Grandy (second from right) and (from left) Ria Katz; Donald A. Molde of the Nevada Humane Society; J. Steward White of the Nevada Humane Society; and Charles Watson of the Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association prepare for action on the bobcat suit in front of the county courthouse in Reno.

The fall of 1985 was like many others. The leaves turned golden brown and the woods had that special aroma that signals the approach of winter. But, for wildlife in most parts of the country, fall marked the arrival of that special menace in the woods and streams—the steel–jaw leghold trap. So, for The HSUS, the fall of 1985 was a time of renewed effort to end the agony of the trap.

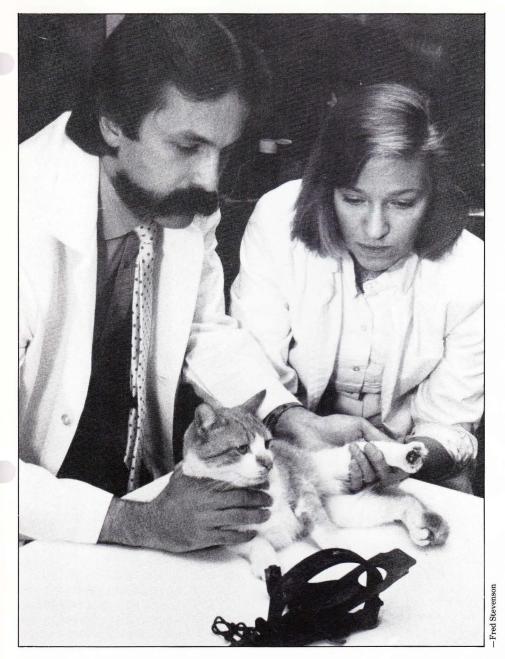
This fall, it seemed that our wildlife

department's entire effort was devoted to trapping. We were involved in three lawsuits and major ad campaigns, all aimed at ending the use of the leghold trap through direct defensive legal action and by telling the public of the cruelty inherent in wearing furs.

Our first visible efforts became apparent in late September, with the publication of the October issues of *Cosmopolitan* and *Ms.* magazines.

There, we carried full-page advertisements headlined, "Here's the Part of a Fur Coat Most People Never See." The ads featured basic facts on the cruelty of the leghold trap and the disastrous consequences of buying furs Twenty-two million animals, at a minimum, are killed and tortured each year: seventeen million for their fur. and another five million household pets and "unwanted" animals that trappers discard and term "trash." In response to these ads, The HSUS has distributed tens of thousands of pieces of literature alerting people to the horror and cruelty of trapping. Response has been overwhelming-but not overwhelming enough. We need to do more. We must spread the word and enlist greater support, until everyone knows that leghold traps are barbarous devices of torture and fur coats are not sleek, stylish, or "macho"—they are symbols of cruelty.

On October 10, 1985, The HSUS and other animal-welfare organizations went on the attack. With attorneys for the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF) leading the charge, the ALDF, The HSUS, and fifteen other animal-welfare and/or conservation organizations filed suit in New York State to end the use of the leghold trap. This major, precedent-setting suit is increased in its importance because it is filed under the New York state anti-cruelty statutes. Its premise is that, as New York law pro-



Just two days before the statewide ban on the steel-jaw leghold trap went into effect, Dr. Douglas Heacock of Madison, New Jersey, amputated the leg of a young cat caught in a leghold trap. Ironically, the cat was found weeks before trapping season was to begin and in a county where the trap had been illegal prior to the ban.

tects all forms of animal life, including some laboratory animals, from the most horrendous forms of cruelty, such law must also prohibit the torturous leghold trap. Yet, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation permits the use of the steel-jaw leghold trap in spite of its undeniable cruelty. In addition to being a party to the lawsuit, The HSUS provided an expert affidavit, prepared by Vice President John W. Grandy, which proved that the leghold trap is unnecessary for any so-called wildlife management purposes.

On October 25, The HSUS, through Dr. Grandy's direct testimony, participated actively in a lawsuit to end the trapping of bobcats in Nevada.

The issue in this case is not only the cruelty and destruction caused by the trap, but also the fact that the state of Nevada has consistently failed to promulgate laws that would ensure the protection and welfare of bobcats. The suit, brought principally by the Nevada Humane Society in Reno, seeks an injunction against the trapping and killing of bobcats.

As if that were not enough, in the middle of October, The HSUS was called upon to defend the major victory which animal-welfare proponents had won just a year before in New Jersey. In 1984, that state passed a complete ban on the use of all steel-jaw leghold traps. In October of 1985, trappers in New Jersey filed suit challenging the

constitutionality of the New Jersey ban and asking that leghold traps be allowed once again. Ironically, the suit also asked that the padded steel-jaw trap—which trappers have vehemently opposed in the past-be permitted. The HSUS, led by its Mid-Atlantic regional office, was outraged. After all, animal-welfare proponents had spent nearly twenty years working to achieve this complete ban! We are certain that the law is constitutional and that the ban encompassed both the padded and unpadded steel-jaw leghold traps. Once we learned of the suit, The HSUS immediately joined in support of both the state attorney general's office and the constitutionality of the New Jersey law and opposed any use of steel-jaw leghold traps. As of early December, a final decision had not been rendered; however, a preliminary decision has been issued which upholds the ban.

Victory in court is never certain, but we are committed to winning these tests. Where laws are not strong enough, we will lobby for change. Where good laws exist, we will support them or sue to ensure enforcement. We will continue, where possible, to provide public education. In short, we are preparing for more fights to end the use of the brutal leghold trap. With the help and generous support of members, we are looking forward to these future campaigns.



by John W. Grandy and Guy R. Hodge

Are They Working?

The increasing effort to conserve and preserve nongame wildlife is one of wildlife management's few success stories in the last ten years. For decades, species not prized by hunters or trappers were virtually ignored by federal and state wildlife management agencies. Since the early 1970s, however, these agencies have awakened to the necessity of preserving nongame wildlife, animals not targeted for consumptive use (killing) by hunters, trappers, or commerce.

Hundreds of species have been aided by nongame conservation programs. Nongame funds have financed a census of the bald eagle—biologists not only have counted the birds surviving in the wild but also have mapped nest sites to protect them from human intrusion

The peregrine falcon is another of the species aided by nongame programs. Funds from these programs have made possible the reintroduction of this endangered species throughout much of its original range. Nongame projects have involved such diverse endeavors as studies on bats and the publication of blueprints for the construction of bluebird nest boxes.

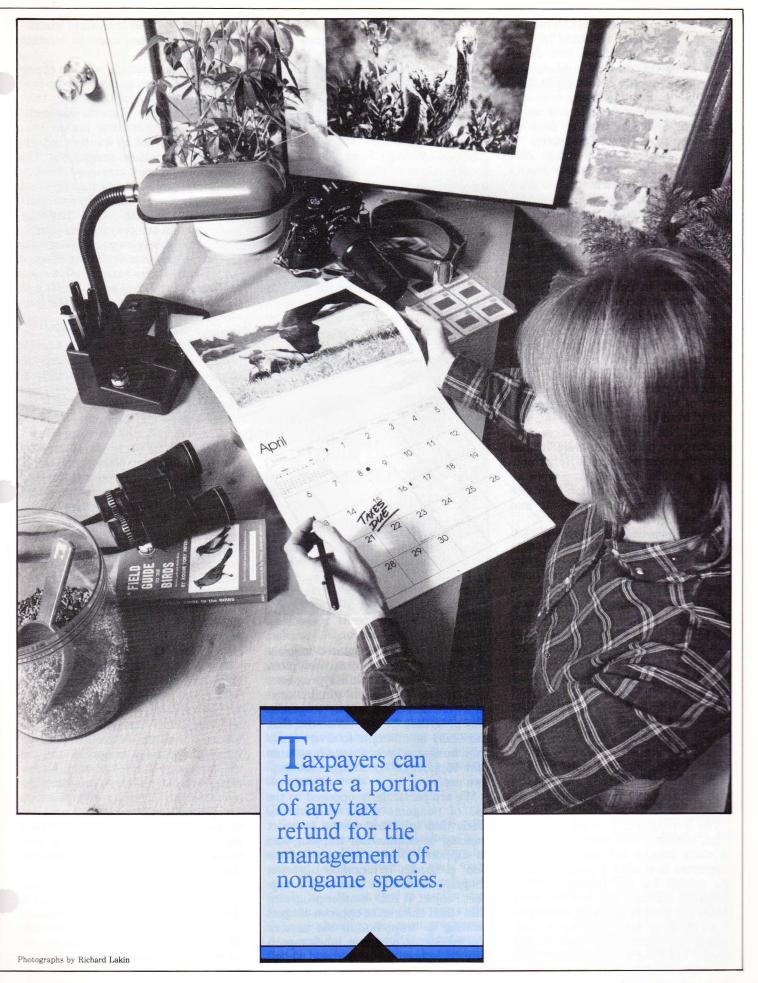
Historically, wildlife-management agencies have tended to look at animal species strictly as resources. There was no place in the scheme of wildlife management for animals that were not "harvested." In 1978, the President's Council on Environmental Quality reported that, of every dollar in the federal budget allocated for wildlife management, ninety-eight cents were spent on game species. The priorities of states were even more distorted, with ninety-nine cents of every dollar going to provide targets for hunters and trappers.

It was economics, rather than logic or science, that determined how wild-life was managed, with programs conducted essentially on a cash-and-carry basis. The key to involving a government agency in a wildlife-management project was to provide it with a funding base. Hunters and their allies used this tactic by providing revenues from license fees and excise taxes on guns and ammunition to underwrite the cost of managing

and manipulating game animals. But, with few exceptions, no one provided similar financing for the management of nongame species.

Most wildlife managers had themselves been hunters and trappers from a very young age—thus, they simply accepted the concept of sport killing and found themselves promoting an activity they enjoyed. For these reasons, game departments had no compelling interest in nongame wildlife programs. Wildlife-management agencies operated as providers rather than protectors of wild animals. Indeed, to this day, numerous wildlife managers act as little more than technicians, trained in producing deer, turkey, beaver, and other species sought by hunters or trappers.

In recent years, however, colleges have graduated increasing numbers of students not already committed to sport hunting, and hunting fees have not kept pace with inflation. In Pennsylvania, for example, resident hunting fees have not been increased since 1973, although the game commission was faced with double-digit inflation



for more than a decade. Hunters have grown increasingly resistant to even modest boosts in license fees. A decline in the number of hunters also contributed to the reduction in revenues. Hunting and trapping were simply not self-supporting, in any sense. Game departments tried to draw on revenues from state treasuries to cover deficits but, with budget cuts during the 1970s, game departments found themselves in a bind. As a practical matter, it was impossible for them to continue to maintain their programs and services. Game departments faced the prospect of discovering new sources of funding or curtailing operations.

Propelled, in part, by the lack of funds and an increasingly aware and concerned public, wildlife managers began to think nongame. A study by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service revealed that more than half of all American adults (ninety-three million persons) participate in some form of nonconsumptive wildlife activity, from bird watching to squirrel feeding. Not surprisingly, these nonconsumptive participants were inclined to fund programs voluntarily for nongame wildlife. Indeed, they were already spending one-half billion dollars per year on bird watching and bird feeding!

Game departments devised a variety of funding measures to tap this source of funds. First, most game departments changed their names to reflect a broader interest and to attract a broader constituency. California and Washington earmarked proceeds from the sale of personalized automobile license plates for the purchase of habitat for endangered and nongame wildlife. California also joined with New Hampshire, Colorado, and Maryland in selling wildlife decals for the benefit of nongame animals. Missouri citizens passed a constitutional amendment raising the state sales tax, with the revenues designated for the state nongame program. Some states stayed with or adopted general appropriations.

The most popular funding mechanism, however, has been a check-off on state income tax forms allowing taxpayers to donate a portion of any tax refund for the management of nongame species. Citizens in many states can contribute as little as \$1.00 or as much as they want by so indicating on their state income tax forms. Thirty-one states have, thus

far, enacted such check-off programs, and these have become increasingly successful. In three years, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has grossed \$1.2 million from income tax returns, with taxpayers contributing a record \$447,000 last year. In 1985, nearly 100,000 taxpayers contributed over \$460,000 to the Michigan Nongame Wildlife Fund. Nationwide, contributions to check-off programs increased from \$6.5 million in 1983 to \$9.0 million in 1984.

The HSUS is deeply concerned that funds designated for nongame programs may not be used exclusively for the preservation and management of nongame and endangered species. All laws are not explicit, and the distinction between game and nongame species is arbitrary in that there is no

We are concerned that there may be attempts to divert funds from nongame programs to programs that support or encourage consumptive use.

basis for segregating hunted animals from other wildlife. Moreover, most directors of state wildlife programs are the same people who administered and were dedicated largely to game-only programs. We are concerned that there may be attempts to divert funds from nongame programs to programs that support or encourage consumptive use.

We are particularly opposed to the use of nongame funds to purchase lands that are later opened to sport hunting or commercial trapping and to support hunter or trapper "education" programs. In a number of states, nongame funds have been used to support Project WILD or other programs that teach children to approve of sport hunting or trapping. In the eastern United States, nongame funds reportedly have been used to stock white-

tailed deer and beaver on state wildlifemanagement areas open to hunting and trapping!

We also question the wisdom of perpetuating an antiquated system that categorizes wild animals by their perceived material worth. Nongame programs reinforce the notion that wildlife not prized by hunters or trappers is second-class animal life. The current trend may create (at least in the short run) separate management structures for consumable and nonconsumable animals rather than integrate them in an ecosystem approach. This preferable viewpoint recognizes that each species is deserving of equal concern and limits manipulative management to those cases in which it is demonstrably necessary for the benefit of the animals themselves.

Nonetheless, we are encouraged by the emergence of nongame wildlife programs. For years, due largely to the fact that hunting and trapping licenses supplied revenue, hunters and trappers dominated wildlife-management policies and programs. Clearly, wildlife should not be managed according to the will or whim of hunters since wildlife is the property of all the people, some ninety percent of whom neither hunt nor trap. In practice, however, the habit of deference and accommodation to so-called sportsmen has become so ingrained that the general public is largely isolated from the policies and programs of wildlife departments.

The nongame programs have broadened both the funding base and constituency. Now, animal advocates can demand a voice in the management of all wildlife.

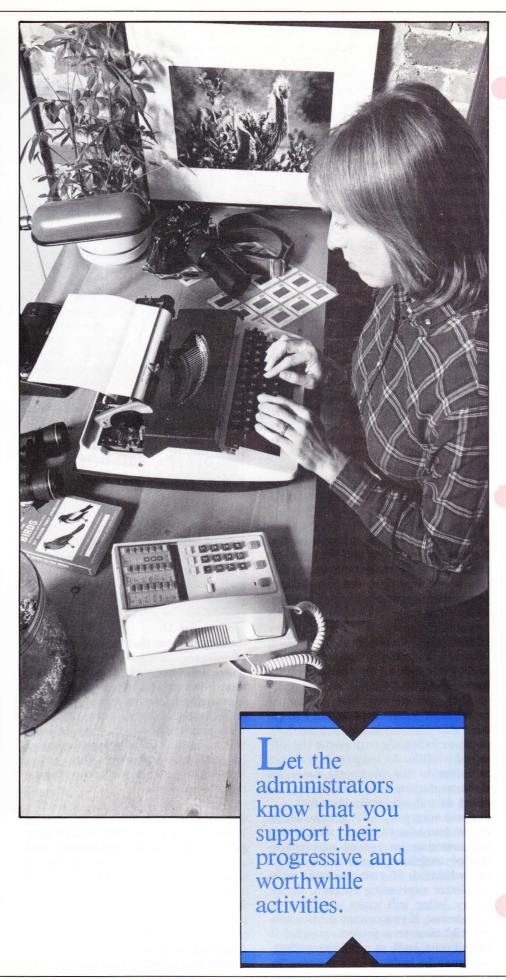
For a time, this process will not be easy. Departments are still dominated by hunters and trappers, and old habits are difficult to break. Yet, more and more, the mechanisms are there for our voices to become increasingly influential, forcing beneficial and humane management of all wildlife. For these reasons, nongame programs deserve our strong support and active involvement. The programs are not yet perfect, but they provide the opening to citizens to become active participants in setting wildlife policies that truly benefit wild animals.

John W. Grandy is vice president of wildlife and the environment for The HSUS and Guy R. Hodge is director of information services.

tax refund-or otherwise make a contribution-for wildlife programs. Other laws specifically give fish and game officials the authority to conduct nongame programs. Every word in these laws is important. Exactly what kinds of programs are to be funded? For what animals are they intended? New York's law clearly is not for nongame animals only; the funds can be used for hunting and trapping programs. New Jersey's law is only for endangered and nongame species. The law is clear because the definition of nongame is spelled out as "any wildlife for which a legal hunting or trapping season has not been established in the state or which has not been classified as an endangered species by statute or regulation of the state." The Ohio law is not so clearly worded. It uses the terms "nongame" and "endangered wildlife special account." Yet, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources interprets the law to mean that it can use funds to "enhance" both game and nongame animals as long as the stated projects are nonconsumptive programs. In some states, the funds can also be used to enhance and facilitate programs for plants that are endangered.

Examine your state's law to see who is specifically charged with carrying out its goals. If that is not covered in the law, the fish and game department should be able to supply specifics. Does an advisory board or commission have a role? Most states have at least one board or commission to advise fish and game officials on wildlife policy, including how funds for nongame programs should be spent. The individuals appointed to these powerful, yet relatively unknown, bodies have traditionally been so-called sportsmen (hunters or trappers). Are public hearings held? How does the department get the funds from the state treasury? Does it submit approved vouchers from specific projects or does it automatically receive the funds as they come into the treasury? Does the law stipulate that these funds are not to replace other normally appropriated funds? In other words, is it clear that the department cannot shift funds from a nongame program to a game program and replace the money from the tax check-off plan? This would, in effect, be one way of subsidizing game programs.

Find out how the money has been spent in the past. This is a good indication of priorities and future plans. If



a program is very young, even one year of history is informative and tells you a lot about intentions. Write to the governor or fish and game officials for this information.

Decide on Your Action

If you feel that your state's program is being properly run, be thankful—on paper. Let the administrators know that you support their progressive and worthwhile activities and urge them to continue their good work helping wildlife in the future. This is important because the director of the program, the makers of policy at a higher level, other key appointees, or even the governor himself may leave office and be replaced by others with different opinions on how the program should work. The more praise a good program receives, the less likely it is to be changed in the future. If you are unsure of the program's success, write to ask additional questions about specific concerns.

Talk with others who may be involved. Environmental groups may be closely monitoring activities. Even though their interest may be based on different concerns, they may be useful allies in learning about a program and often their interests may overlap with those of animal-welfare groups. If you discover that funds are being improperly spent or that the program is not meeting expectations, then work for the program's improvement.

Letters expressing your concern or support should be sent to your governor, state legislators, and, perhaps, to the fish and game officials themselves. The governor's staff will undoubtedly refer your letter to the natural resources department but will note that a significant number of letters have arrived on the subject. Elected officials or politically appointed directors of the major departments are much more likely to respond to the wishes of the general population than is the leader of the wildlife division, who tends to care about the wants of sportsmen groups.

Form a coalition of others concerned about the program. A coalition of groups formed solely to oversee this program could have a tremendous impact. Animal-welfare groups, environmental groups, The League of Women Voters, taxpayer organizations, women's clubs, garden clubs, chambers of commerce, and civic organizations might lend their support.

If funding levels of programs set by

the legislature are inadequate, lobby the legislature for an increased level of appropriations for nongame wildlife. They certainly hear often and loud from trapping and hunting groups. We must let them know that nonconsumptive users of wildlife are equally enthusiastic.

Lobby for proper spending of funds. For example, we would all support expenditures to enhance nongame species but would oppose monies being diverted to purchase hunting areas or to finance trapper education. Lobby legislators with responsibility over fish and game issues, especially members of committees with oversight on these matters. Contact your own state legislator and ask him or her to put pressure on the administrators of the program. If legislative oversight hearings (to assess a program's progress or status) are held, testify and express your concerns. If none is scheduled. lobby for them.

Get the press involved. Write letters to the editor on the importance of nongame-program funds being spent to assist wildlife and not to make it easier to kill it. Ask your local newspapers to do stories or editorials on the issue. Point out that many more people in your state are nonconsumptive users of wildlife than are consumptive users. (Find out what percentage of the population possesses hunting, trapping, or fishing licenses.) Alert the press to potential problems and ask that it investigate the issue itself.

In states where advisory commissions have been formed to assist fish and game officials in allocating expenditure of funds, ensure that the board makes nongame programs a priority. Get yourself and other knowledgeable persons appointed to the commission. In some cases, the person needs merely to be a citizen, preferably with an interest in wildlife. If you need to find someone more officially "qualified," look for professors at a state university or someone else with a recognized knowledge of wildlife. Look for potential candidates among your humane society's board of directors, experts that have testified on wildlife issues before the legislature, or authors of books on wildlife who reside within your state. Find out the procedure for getting such a person appointed to the board. You will probably be most successful in obtaining an appointment if you work with whoever is responsible for such matters in the governor's office. If we do not work for appointment of individuals with genuine concern for nongame programs, then only sportsmen will have input into the vital decision-making processes.

Directly lobby those people who are currently serving on the advisory board. Get college students involved, especially if representatives from their school are on the board. Write letters or ask to present your point of view personally. These board members may have only heard from fish and game personnel in the past.

Changing Your Law or Passing a New One

If all else fails, you may have to attempt to revise your state's law. (An attempt is now being made to change the New York law.) Your goal would be to make the law clear as to which animals are to be covered and how the decision making on expenditures is to be made. If changes in the law are sought, discuss the matter with legislators who have knowledge and experience in wildlife issues. Ideally, the original sponsors of the law (who should share your dissatisfaction with the way the program is now being administered) could take the lead for you.

If your legislature is considering enactment of a program to fund the nongame-wildlife program or if you want to get such legislation introduced, work now for the following provisions:

- The law should be written so that the funds can only be used to enhance and protect nongame wildlife and not subsidize or promote sportsmen's activities.
- The law should be administered by personnel whose prime allegiance is not to hunters and trappers but to all citizens in the state. If a new office charged with these duties could be created with personnel who do not have a consumptive-use background, the program would work most smoothly.
- The law should contain a mechanism to ensure public input into how the funds are to be spent and that the general public will be represented.
- The law should allow for public review of expenditures and programs and permit legal redress should abuses be found.

Ann Church is coordinator of state legislation for The HSUS.

VCOUS DOGS:

Communities, Humane Societies, and Owners Struggle with a Growing Problem

t used to be true that "when dog bites man, it's not news." That doesn't seem to be the case anymore. Newspa-

by Dr. Randall Lockwood

pers, magazines, and television news shows have been filled with reports of dog attacks and, in response to this heightened concern, many cities, counties, and states have started to pass tougher laws to deal with the problem

of vicious dogs.

The actual number of dog attacks has declined in the past several years. Reported bites to letter carriers dropped from 7,000 in 1983 to under 6,000 in 1984. In New York City, reported dog bites fell from more than 40,000 six years ago to under 10,000 in 1984. If these statistics reflect a general trend, why are local and state legislatures now showing such alarm?

Several factors have made the problem of vicious dogs more visible.

The U.S. Department of Health's Centers for Disease Control no longer keep track of national statistics on dog bites. We must rely on incomplete information from individual states to track the seriousness of the dog-attack problem. Although the total number of bites seems to be declining, severe or fatal attacks are on the rise. In addition, the victims of such incidents, or their families, have become increasingly willing to take their grievances to court, often with success. In 1984, an eleven-year-old girl was awarded a record sum of \$1,088,325 for physical and mental trauma suffered as a result of a dog bite.

The growing problem of severe dog attacks is linked to several disturbing trends. First, many dogs continue to be bred with little or no attention given to their temperament. Usually, there is no attempt to evaluate the potential aggressiveness of these animals nor concern for properly socializing them to people during the critical periods of their development. The dog-bite problem has also been ag-

gravated by the persistence of the illegal sport of dogfighting and by the growing popularity of breeds originally used for fighting, including the pit bull-type dogs and others, such as the Akita. Although there are many reputable breeders, the heavy demand for such breeds often results in animals that are physically or behaviorally unsound.

Nearly all of the recent attempts to toughen dog laws have been brought on by specific dramatic incidents.

• In December of 1979, a six-yearold boy in Hollywood, Florida, was mauled by a pit bull, one of fortyseven such attacks in that area that year. This prompted the city to pass a law requiring owners of "American Pit Bull Dogs," "Pit Bull Terriers," and "Staffordshire Terriers" to complete special registration forms and have

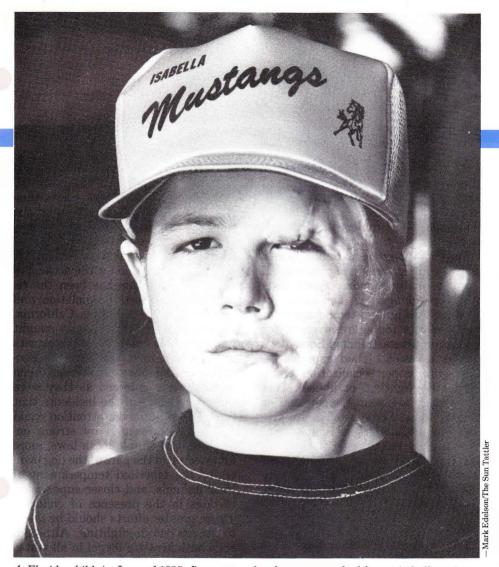


In a demonstration of jaw strength, a pit bull terrier clamps its teeth on a towel held by a Philadelphia SPCA agent.

\$25,000 of liability insurance. This law was ruled unconstitutional in 1982.

- In September of 1983, an elevenyear-old boy was killed by a pit bull in his Cincinnati, Ohio, home. Two months later, after much debate, the Cincinnati City Council passed a law defining vicious dogs to include all pit bull terriers and requiring such dogs to be confined indoors or in an enclosed and locked pen while on the owner's premises and leashed and muzzled when off the owner's property.
- In December of 1984, a nine-weekold boy in St. Petersburg, Florida, was killed in his crib by a pit bull that had been trained to hunt pigs. This and other serious attacks prompted Broward County officials to replace the defunct Hollywood ordinance with a new, county-wide law that went into effect last October. This law regulates "any dog which substantially conforms to the standards of the American Kennel Club for American Staffordshire Terrier or Staffordshire Bull Terrier or the United Kennel Club for American Pit Bull Terrier.' Owners of such animals are required to have \$1 million in liability insurance and keep their animals inside or behind a six-foot fence and muzzled and leashed when off their property "except at a lawful dog show or in the case of a dog engaged in hunting supervised by a competent person.
- During the winter of 1984/85, several Rhode Island children were attacked or threatened by dogs on playgrounds. In one widely publicized incident, a pit bull boarded a school bus and reportedly threatened several children. In Providence, a child was mauled by an unlicensed, unregistered, and unvaccinated dog. In January of 1985, the city council asked the state's law department to draft an ordinance to address the vicious-dog problem. The new law went into effect September 1, 1985. It defines "vicious dog" as one that, unprovoked, bites or attacks a human or other animal or approaches

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A Florida child, in June of 1985, five years after he was attacked by a pit bull terrier.

people in a "vicious or terrorizing manner." Also included under the definition of vicious are any dogs known to have a tendency to attack unprovoked; any dogs harbored or trained for dogfighting; and any dogs not licensed according to city, state, or town law. To keep such a dog, owners must keep them in enclosures at least six feet high. Owners are required to have at least \$100,000 liability insurance. The dogs must be tattooed with a registration number on the inner upper lip. When not penned, the dog must be on a chain of less than three feet with at least 300 pounds tensile strength!

In addition to the examples above, lawmakers in California, Kansas, Minnesota, Alaska, and New Mexico have passed or considered strong viciousdog laws. Most recently, The HSUS has been asked to assist in strengthening vicious-dog ordinances in Balti-

more, Maryland, and Las Vegas, Nevada. Both of these requests came soon after highly publicized dog-attack cases.

Have these tough new laws helped relieve the problem of dangerous dogs? For the most part, the answer is clearly "no." Many of these ordinances were passed amidst the public frenzy surrounding tragic incidents. Most were put together without consulting the people most affected by the laws, including humane societies, animal-control officers, veterinarians, dog clubs, and law enforcement officials. Nearly all have proved to be unenforceable.

Laws that single out specific breeds, particularly pit bulls, have been especially vulnerable. The Hollywood, Florida, ordinance was ruled unconstitutional and, in recent weeks, the Broward County ordinance that replaced it has also been revoked. A pit bull ordinance in the village of Tijeras, New Mexico, is currently in litigation. The American Kennel Club and the Cincinnati Kennel Club are involved in a federal suit over Cincinnati's law. Even Rhode Island's "generic" viciousdog law faces challenges and is undergoing revision because of confusion and difficulties with enforcement.

The challenges to these laws have been based on several common arguments.

Vagueness—Breed-specific laws are often unclear about the animals covered by the regulations. The term "pit bull" has proven to be particularly troublesome, as has the term "vicious." Most of the laws are also vague about how the determination of breed or temperament is to be made and who is to be responsible for making it.

Overinclusiveness-Some laws try to avoid the problem of vagueness by precisely defining the animals covered using the breed standards of the American Kennel Club or the United Kennel Club. Breed clubs and national organizations have repeatedly objected to this approach, pointing out that the majority of animals covered so broadly have no history of aggressiveness. In their attempts to include anything that might conceivably be a pit bull, legislators often include relatively rare breeds that have not been implicated in recent incidents, such as Bull Terriers and Staffordshire Bull Terriers. Use of such breed descriptions does not eliminate the problem of vagueness. Animals that meet UKC "standards" as American Pit Bull Terriers vary widely in appearance, often resembling Boxers and other breeds.

Underinclusiveness—Although a number of public health surveys seem to support the notion that pit-bull types of dogs are overrepresented among animals causing fatalities and severe injuries, many different breeds and mixtures have been responsible

for bites and human deaths. Most of the new laws fail to recognize that, under certain circumstances, virtually any dog might be considered dangerous.

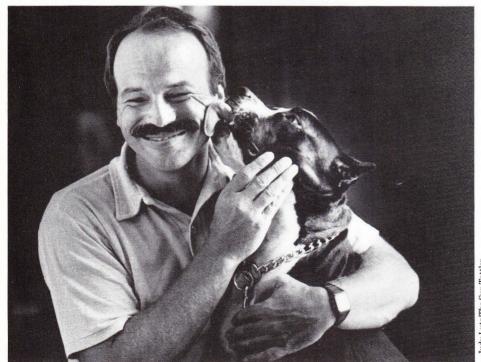
Due process—Several challenges to vicious—dog laws have made reference to the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution, which provides that no state shall deprive a person of property without due process of law. It has been argued that regulations that ban certain dogs or make ownership of them extremely difficult (for example, by requiring an almost inobtainable amount of insurance) violate this provision.

The tendency to pass hastily conceived dog ordinances has produced a number of problems. Several communities find themselves with tough laws that are not enforced, so the problems continue. In some areas, the media attention has actually *increased* the demand for pit bulls and other dogs with

a "macho" reputation. Finally, the furor over which animals should be considered to be vicious has drawn attention away from the fact that most dog-bite problems are caused by people.

Dogs can become a public health problem for a variety of reasons, all brought on by humans. Some dogs are more dangerous by virtue of breeding that ignores temperament or which selects for aggressiveness for fighting or attack training. Some dogs bite as a result of bad experiences, such as improper socialization, training for dogfighting, or abuse. Most biting dogs are poorly supervised or running loose. Some attacks are provoked by mishandling or ignorance of basic animal behavior. Although humans are ultimately the cause of nearly all dog attacks, it is usually the animals that pay the consequences, rather than their owners.

Many people, including this professional dog trainer in Florida, defend the pit bull terrier and reject its reputation as a killer.



What can individuals and communities do to deal with the problems posed by vicious dogs? First, they should establish laws that put the blame where it belongs—on people. Irresponsible ownership must be made costly, and such owners should be held accountable for the actions of their animals. This has been the recent trend in effective legislation, and several states, including California, Georgia, and Kansas, have sought manslaughter convictions for owners of dogs that have killed people. Second, existing laws should be taken seriously and enforced as they were intended. Many of the incidents that have attracted media attention could have been prevented by strong enforcement of simple leash laws, more knowledge on the part of the dog owners of the inherited temperament of their animals, and closer supervision of dogs in the presence of children. Third, greater efforts should be taken to stamp out dogfighting. Although such activities are illegal in all states and a felony in twenty-nine, The HSUS is seeking to make dogfighting a felony in all states. Finally, everyone who provides pets to the community, including breeders, pet owners, dealers, and animal shelters, must recognize the moral and legal responsibilities to provide safe and healthy companions to responsible owners.

Attorney Lynn Marmer, writing in the *Cincinnati Law Review*, sums up the issue quite succinctly:

"People determine whether dogs will be useful inhabitants of a community or nuisances. It is the people who breed and foster viciousness in dogs whom legislators also must control."

Dr. Randall Lockwood is director of higher education programs for The HSUS and a recognized expert on problems associated with vicious dogs.

UPDATE.



A baboon in a head-injury experiment flounders on an examining table at the University of Pennsylvania. The controversial head-injury laboratory has now been closed.

Pennsylvania Head-Injury Lab, Under Fire, Is Closed Indefinitely

In September, the University of Pennsylvania indefinitely suspended all research using primates in the head-injury clinical research laboratory at its medical school and reprimanded the researchers responsible for supervising the experiments. The university also imposed a set of requirements that must be met before any experiments using primates will be permitted.

Animal-rights groups had been extremely critical of the research, which involved inflicting massive wounds on baboons ostensibly to simulate brain and head injury in human beings. The groups staged a four-day sit-in at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) building in Washington, D.C., demanding that funding of the research be stopped (see the Fall 1985 HSUS News).

The university initially halted the experiments last July after concerns had been raised in a preliminary NIH report. University of Pennsylvania officials said they made their final decision to shut down the research based primarily on a report by the university's own ad hoc committee and would continue the suspension of the experiments regardless of the outcome of the final NIH report on the lab.

The university's own animal-care committee minutes, released in September, indicated that, as long ago as 1982, the dean at the School of Medicine had for several months halted experiments in the laboratory. Failure to provide adequate care for research primates was the reason given for that action. According to the September statement, research at the lab could only resume if several specific requirements of review, funding, and NIH guidelines are met.

The University of Pennsylvania has agreed to pay a \$4,000 fine to settle charges by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that it violated the Animal Welfare Act during its head-injury experiments on the baboons. The University also agreed to overall improvement in

its use of painkillers in its care of injured animals and in its training of laboratory animal personnel.

In a separate review, Secretary of Health and Human Services Margaret Heckler decided to continue indefinitely the suspension of funding to the head-injury lab. Congressional action to deny funding to the lab was discontinued after members received personal assurances from the university that the laboratory was—and would remain—closed.

EEC Keeps Its Doors Closed to Seal Pup Products

The European Economic Community (EEC), which represents ten trading nations, has agreed to continue its ban on the importation of baby harp seal skins and other products derived from them. Infant hooded seal skins and products from infant hooded seals were also included in this measure. The ban has been extended until September 30, 1989, when the organization will again have the option to lift it, continue it another four years, or extend it indefinitely.

The ban was greeted jubilantly by HSUS members when it originally went into effect in the autumn of 1983. The campaign to end the Canadian seal slaughter had absorbed years of effort, in this country and abroad, on the part of animal-welfare groups and private citizens.

Under the EEC agreement, the term "baby" refers only to those newborn harp seals with white fur that have not yet moulted (specifically, pups to ten days of age). Seals that have begun to shed their neonatal fur or have already moulted can be and are, in fact, killed despite the fact that they are young pups and may still be nursing.

While the EEC ban does not officially end the annual Canadian harp and hooded seal hunts, it has, in effect, caused the collapse of the lucrative European market for all seal fur. (In the United States, these sealskin products are prohibited for sale under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.) Some infant harp and hooded seals are still clubbed in Canada, but the numbers killed in 1985 dropped by a dramatic ninety-nine percent compared to years when no ban existed.

U.S. Scientist Backs Away From Icelandic Whaling Research

One of the principal threats to the implementation of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) moratorium on commercial whaling has been the proposal by Iceland to continue large-scale whaling activities under the guise of scientific research (see the Fall 1985 HSUS News). The HSUS and several whale-protection groups recently eliminated an important element in this bogus scientific project by pressuring its leading U.S. proponent to withdraw.

Shortly after this year's IWC meeting, representatives from conservation groups converged on Iceland to protest directly its proposal

to kill, supposedly for scientific purposes, 800 fin, sei, and minke whales. Opponents noted that the plan had been sharply criticized by a large portion of the IWC scientific committee for failing to address the important gaps in knowledge about these three depleted populations of whales. Whale protectionists felt the real motivation behind the plan was to keep the Icelandic whaling company in business during the moratorium, since the resulting export of whale meat to Japan would yield some \$25 million.

One of the unexpected defenders of Iceland's plan was Dr. Richard Lambertsen, a whale researcher from the University of Florida. Dr. Lambertsen had spent most of the previous five years in Iceland conducting studies on diseases in fin and sei whales. His name appeared in Iceland's proposal as a foreign scientist who might take part in the project.

Dr. Lambertsen had prepared a \$1.5 million grant proposal to submit to the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) which, like Iceland's proposal, called for the killing of several hundred fin and sei whales to investigate the causes of natural mortality in these species. To gain support for his project, Dr. Lambertsen had solicited letters of endorsement from several U.S. academic institutions and government agencies. His research could only proceed, however, if the Icelandic government decided to continue large-scale whaling. It is, therefore, not surprising that the Florida researcher supported the Icelandic plan.

The HSUS contacted professors at both the University of Pennsylvania and Oregon State University who had endorsed Dr. Lambertsen's UNEP proposal and asked them whether they knew that the whale samples he would be examining would be taken from animals killed specifically for scientific research—not taken incidentally from whales killed under a valid IWC quota. Neither did. Both wrote letters to Iceland withdrawing their support for any research conducted on whales killed in violation of the IWC

Iceland planned to kill and butcher whales, such as this minke taken by a Brazilian whaling operation in 1978, as part of scientific experiments.



-Campbell P

commercial whaling moratorium.

The HSUS and ten other animalwelfare and conservation groups next requested the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to review the permit it had issued to Dr. Lambertsen to import whaletissue samples from Iceland. The eleven groups presented a detailed critique of the permit, pointing out that many of the circumstances that existed when it was originally issued in 1981 had radically changed. The NMFS Office of Protected Species agreed and made it clear to Dr. Lambertsen that he would have to submit a new permit application if he wished to import whaletissue samples from whales taken in Iceland after 1985.

On a third front, The HSUS worked closely with the Florida representative of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Holly Jensen, to encourage the University of Florida to examine Dr. Lambertsen's role in the Iceland project. Ms. Jensen persuaded the University Animal Care Committee to review Dr. Lambertsen's work. Once the NMFS decision has been made, however, this committee's chairman referred the matter to the university vice-president and provost, Dr. Robert Bryan.

Dr. Bryan, in turn, side-stepped the issue, saying the university would not interfere with the valid research of one of its faculty members. Dr. Lambertsen correctly sensed that the university's "escape" based on the issue of academic freedom was not going to defend him for long. Rather than prolong further scrutiny of his role in the Icelandic research project, he announced to the university in early November that he was withdrawing his proposal for further involvement in the program.

Criticism of its research proposal, coupled with the strong possibility of a boycott of Icelandic fish products, however, had already caused Iceland to at least temporarily reconsider its decision. Iceland had been counting on Dr. Lambertsen's



Members of a working group at the PETS workshop discuss its priorities for successful and professional shelter management.

participation to give its project some badly needed credibility in the international scientific community. His withdrawal forced Iceland to reveal its real motives for pursuing "research" whaling. If Iceland wants to study the status of the whale populations surrounding it, it can conduct sightings, cruises, and photoidentification studies. These nonlethal techniques would provide much more reliable information at a much smaller cost in dollars and in lives of the whales being studied.

PETS Program Sets Sights On Objectives

In October, more than seventyfive people representing animal shelters across the country crowded into an HSUS conference workshop session to learn more about our Professional Education and Training Services program (see the Fall 1985 HSUS News). Barbara Cassidy, HSUS director of animal sheltering and control, gave them information, but she turned the tables and asked for information from attendees as well. She divided them into groups and asked that they prepare a list of priority skills that should be addressed by upcoming PETS workshops. "All five groups identified essentially the same needs," she said. "Improving personnel management—education of staff, boards of directors, and the public; fund-raising; long-range development and planning; and public relations skills were mentioned by each group." The responses reinforced the perception of a need to professionalize all aspects of shelter operation. This is the goal of PETS. "It is our belief that professionally trained agency leaders will put into effect the needed improvements in their own agency's operation," explained Ms. Cassidy.

Each year, the PETS program will offer two or three intensive seminars for management and executive staff focusing on such areas as labor management, contract negotiations, budget developments, staffing policies, management style, and employee motivation and productivity.

The first PETS seminar, to be held in Indiana during March 1986, will concentrate on management styles and employee training and motivation. The seminar will also include a session on how The HSUS standards for humane societies and animal-control organizations can be implemented in the attending individual's shelter.

By having its executive director attend the seminar, the entire organization will be given the opportunity to commit itself formally to these professional standards.

The exact date and location of the first PETS seminar will be announced.



NAAHE Completes a Busy Fall Workshop Schedule

Teacher-training workshops and seminars have always been an important part of the work of the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAAHE), and this past fall has been no exception.

Director Patty Finch and Kind News Editor Vicki Parker attended the annual meeting and conference of the New York State Humane Association (NYSHA) in Utica, N.Y., in September. They conducted presentations on a wide range of topics, including methods for using NAAHE publications, implementation activities from the People & Animals curriculum guide, and the development of adopt-a-school programs. NYSHA's president, Dr. Marjorie Anchel, noted that these were some of the few humane education workshops she had attended "where truly practical, usable information was presented."

Following the Utica conference, Ms. Finch and Dr. John Grandy, HSUS vice president of Wildlife and Environment, attended the North American Alliance for Environmental Education conference in Washington, D.C., on October 1. They participated in a panel discussion on Project WILD, the prohunting/trapping/management curriculum guide sponsored, in part,

by the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Another panelist was Dr. Cheryl Charles, national director of Project WILD. Though the audience consisted of many Project WILD graduates favorably predisposed toward the program, many reported that they were impressed by the arguments critical of Project WILD raised by our staff members.



NAAHE Director Patty Finch gives a workshop on Project WILD.

In October, the NAAHE staff returned to New York for the Humane Education Committee's second annual conference, held at Teacher's College, Columbia University. Patty Finch and NAAHE editors Vicki Parker and Willow Soltow conducted a series of workshops designed to help teachers implement humane education lessons

and activities in their classrooms. Ms. Finch and NAAHE Research Associate Bill DeRosa presented a workshop on the teaching of controversial issues in high school.

In November, Patty Finch participated in the Wisconsin Federated Humane Societies' Humane Education Communications seminar held in Madison, Wis. There, she delivered the keynote address and presented a series of workshops, including one designed to assist shelter educators in bringing humane education into the schools.

Vicki Parker and Willow Soltow traveled to Ashland, Mass., for the animal-care and -control workshop sponsored by the Animal Control Officers Association of Massachusetts. Ms. Parker and Ms. Soltow conducted an informative presentation on developing community information and education programs. Rounding out the month's activities, Bill DeRosa and HSUS Director of Laboratory Animal Welfare John McArdle conducted a workshop at the National Science Teacher's Association regional conference in Hartford, Conn. Mr. DeRosa and Dr. McArdle addressed the topic of a humane approach to high school biology and introduced several alternatives to dissection and invasive biology experiments.

Institute Publishes Second Annual Volume

This fall, the Institute for the Study of Animal Problems's research associate, Linda Mickley, completed the editorial work on Volume II of Advances in Animal Welfare Science, now available to our members (see back cover). This volume, which has a wide selection of articles ranging from a survey of the use of T-61 as a euthanasia method to an in-depth critique of psychological experimentation on animals, will be of interest to those HSUS members who wish to expand their knowledge and expertise

in the science and philosophy of animal welfare and rights.

Our lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to stop research involving the transfer of human growth genes into farm animals came to trial October 11 (see the Winter and Summer 1985 HSUS News). A final judgment will be made after we have prepared additional material to support our contention that the USDA must conduct an environmental impact assessment because of the potentially profound conse-

quences of genetic engineering on agriculture.

During the last quarter of 1985, the Institute's director, Dr. Michael Fox, spoke on various aspects of animal welfare and rights at a workshop on animal control in Anchorage, Alaska; a lecture to the press in Amsterdam, Holland; a symposium on alternative farming methods and regenerative agriculture in Kansas City, Mo.; and lectures at Washington College, Md., and Wesleyan College, Neb.

ANIMALS It's their world, too. But you'd never know it.

Take a look around you at the animals sharing Already, we're speaking out against senseless our planet. Newborn calves thrust into solitary killing and cruelty toward animals, helping to confinement grow up without room even to turn eliminate inhumane commercial farming practices; around. Millions of kittens and puppies are condemned improve conditions to death annually because their owners didn't care for laboratory enough. Seal pups are brutally clubbed animals; and in the first step toward end the brutality becoming fashionable of clubbing fur coats. seals, trapping With your help, The with steel-jaw Humane Society of the leghold United States can give our traps, and animals the protection harpooning they deserve. whales.

Membership categories:	☐ Individual Membership—\$10	☐ Sustaining—\$100
	☐ Family Membership—\$18	□ Sponsor—\$500
	□ Donor—\$25	☐ Patron—\$1000 or more
	☐ Supporting—\$50	
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NIH Animal-Protection Provisions Hurdle Veto, Become Law

In November, the House and Senate voted overwhelmingly to override President Reagan's veto of the authorizing legislation for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This bill, which directs NIH how to spend the \$5+ billion in funding it receives annually, also contains provisions to improve protection for the millions of laboratory animals used in federally funded research projects.

In overturning the veto, the House gave *final* passage to a bill that had been a source of controversy between the White House and Congress since 1983 because of provisions that President Reagan called threats to "the ability of NIH to manage itself."

The president had twice vetoed this bill, claiming that Congress was attempting to "exert undue political control over decisions regarding scientific research." Among the provisions he found objectionable were Rep. Doug Walgren's, which require every federally funded research facility to have a functioning animalcare committee whose membership includes a veterinarian and an outside member who would represent humane concerns; require the director of NIH to establish guidelines for the proper care and treatment of animals, including painkillers, tranquilizers, and pre- and post-surgical veterinary care; and require laboratory animal personnel to have training in humane care and use of animals and alternatives to animals in research.

Both NIH and the White House had insisted that such directives amounted to "micromanagement" of the agency and that Congress was overstepping its bounds in prescribing these changes for NIH.

The HSUS spearheaded the fight to include the Walgren provisions in the NIH legislation, which will be in effect for three years.

Special Thanks

The HSUS would like to salute and thank the following members of Congress for their special help during the fall. Because of their tireless efforts, we are making strides in federal legislation to help animals.

- Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas, sponsor of the Dole bill, for amending the 1985 "farm bill" to include protection for laboratory animals;
- Sen. John Melcher of Montana, for insisting on special language in the Dole amendment to the "farm bill" to provide for the psychological well-being of primates used in research laboratories:
- Sen. Thomas F. Eagleton of Missouri, for his sponsorship of an amendment to the Interior Appropriations bill for fiscal year 1986 that would delete the \$15.6 million added to the Department of the Interior bill to fund the removal of 17,000 wild horses and burros from public lands in the West; and
- Rep. Henry A. Waxman of California, Rep. Edward R. Madigan of Illinois, Sen. Orrin G. Hatch of Utah, and Sen. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts, for leading their congressional colleagues to override President Reagan's veto of the NIH authorization.

Encouraging News for the Endangered

The HSUS, as a part of the Endangered Species Act Reauthorization Coalition (ESARC), can report significant progress in its goal to pass strong legislation to renew the act.

On July 29, 1985, the House passed a bill that would provide a desperately needed funding increase for the Endangered Species Act (ESA). H.R. 1027 would also provide increased protection for 'candidate'' species (those known to be in danger but not yet placed on the endangered/threatened species list). In a report accompanying the bill, the House encouraged the Department of the Interior, which administers the ESA, to improve protection for endangered plants. It successfully rebuffed efforts on the part of hunters and developers who attempted to put language in the house bill that would have lessened protection for threatened predators, such as the wolf and grizzly bear, and threatened and endangered species using western rivers.

The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works was scheduled to rewrite the senate version of the ESA bill, S. 725, during the first weeks of December. S. 725 contains an even larger funding increase for the ESA than does the house version and currently contains no language that would weaken protection for threatened predators. It, unfortunately, does not contain any increased protection for "candidate" species or endangered plants. However, we feel we have a good chance of continuing protection for predators as well as gaining protection for "candidates" and plants when the House and Senate form a joint committee to reconcile their differences in the two bills.

Passage of the final bill, which will then go to President Reagan for his signature, is not expected until late this winter.

Entangled?

In early November, The HSUS joined with thirteen other animal-welfare and conservation groups in requesting \$1 million to allow continuing action and research by the National Marine Fisheries Service on marine mammal entanglement.

Hundreds of thousands of seabirds, fish, sea turtles, and marine mammals—including endangered whales and seals—die every year when they become tangled in discarded fishing nets and other debris. We are hopeful that we will get funding to continue this vital program, the only one of its kind in the world.



More Maneuverings for Wild Horses

The Senate has replaced the House as a battleground to save our nation's wild horses and burros living on public lands in the West (see the Fall 1985 *HSUS News*).

Sen. James A. McClure, chairman of the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, added \$15.6 million to the president's budget request for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for fiscal year 1986. Unless this money is deleted, the Senate Interior Appropriations bill would require the roundup of a new group of 17,000 horses and burros in 1986. American taxpayers will foot the bill—a total appropriation of \$21.8 million just to round up and care for wild horses in fiscal year 1986.

As chairman of the subcommittee that funds BLM programs, Sen. McClure has presided over the addition in the Senate of more than \$30 million to the BLM's budget over the past two fiscal years. While many members of Congress talk about cutting budgets and saving money, they continue to waste your tax dollars on projects such as this which harm wild animals.

Sen. Thomas F. Eagleton of Missouri will offer an amendment to delete the money added to the program by Sen. McClure. Please contact your senators and ask them to vote *for* the Eagleton amendment.

The key players in this congressional drama are 1) your senators, who will have the opportunity to vote for the Eagleton amendment and 2) Reps. Sidney R. Yates of Illinois and Ralph Regula of Ohio, who will face Sen. McClure in the house-senate conference on this matter. Please contact these important members and let them know you do not support massive, indiscriminate roundups and do not want your hard-earned money going to conduct them.

"Farm Bill" Would Help Lab Animals

In a surprise tactical maneuver, in October, Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole attached provisions protecting laboratory animals to the Agriculture and Food Trade Conservation Act of 1985, the Senate's version of the "farm bill." These provisions would improve conditions for laboratory animals, amending the Animal Welfare Act.

Sen. Dole's amendment would direct researchers to 1) avoid repeated operations on the same animal, 2) administer tranquilizers, painkillers, and anesthetics to reduce animal pain and distress, 3) consult with a veterinarian when planning potentially painful experiments, and 4) avoid duplication of experiments by utilizing an information service at the National Agricultural Library.

The amendment would also require each institution using animals to establish an animal-care committee. This oversight committee would have at least one member not affiliated with the institution to represent community concerns for the welfare of animal subjects. The animal-care committee would be required to inspect a facility at least twice yearly, evaluating painful research practices and examining the conditions of animals and their environments. The committee would then submit its findings in report form to an administrative representative of the institution. In the event of violations of the Animal Welfare Act, the research facility would be given time to "clean up its act." If the problems went uncorrected, they would be reported to USDA's Animal and Plant Health

Inspection Service (APHIS) and to the federal agency funding the research. Under Sen. Dole's amendment, fines for each unchecked violation would escalate substantially. Funding could be cut off to those facilities that allow violations to persist.

Thanks to the efforts of Sen. John Melcher, the only veterinarian in Congress, the provisions include stipulations that provide for the psychological well-being of primates. Sen. Melcher's conviction that the Dole amendment is crucial to assuring the humane treatment of research animals added strength to the measure's passage.

The complete "farm bill" was passed by the Senate in November. Because the House had already passed its own version of this legislation that did not contain provisions to improve the Animal Welfare Act, a conference of select house and senate members had to work out the differences between the two versions. Once that happened, it would be crucial that the House approve the senate–sponsored lab animal provisions.

H.R. 2653, a measure similar to Sen. Dole's amendment, currently exists in the House. This bill, sponsored by Rep. George E. Brown, does not actually have to pass for the House to approve the Senate's amendment to the "farm bill." Members of the House must simply demonstrate their collective support for legislation protecting laboratory animals. The HSUS is urging members of the House to cosponsor Rep. Brown's bill (H.R. 2653) and to support the senate language in the "farm bill" to improve the care and treatment of lab animals.

Any member of the Senate may be reached c/o The U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. Any representative may be reached c/o The House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.

New England

Pickup Proposals

Last year, the New England Regional Office supported a New Hampshire bill to prohibit the transportation of dogs in open pickup trucks. Although the bill, sponsored by the New Hampshire Animal Rights League, was never reported out of its committee, it did illustrate the need to protect pets from needless tragedies while being transported on local roads and interstate highways. The regional office will recommend the introduc-



The New England Regional Office is working to prohibit throughout the region the carrying of animals in open pickup trucks.

tion of similar bills throughout New England this coming year and requests news clippings or case reports documenting animal injuries or deaths resulting from transportation in open vehicles.

Please send information to the address below.

Fund-raising Fun

A day-long seminar in fund-raising techniques will be sponsored by the New England Regional Office on Saturday, March 22, 1986, at the Marriott Hotel in Worcester, Mass.

According to John J. Dommers, New England regional director, "This much-needed seminar will be specifically 'tailored' for animal-protection organization leaders who are looking for new ways to raise money and build membership. I rarely meet with a group that doesn't bring up the topic of fundraising in some capacity—for a new shelter, rescue vehicles, video equipment, educational materials, or training program expenses.

"Outside experts will present sessions on a variety of topics that will give participants ready-to-use, fun ideas and techniques that work."

For information and registration details, write or call the regional office at P.O. Box 362, East Haddam, CT 06423, (203) 434-1940.

or weres.

North Central

Dantzler Advises in Illinois

North Central Regional Director Frantz Dantzler was recently appointed to the Illinois Non-Game Advisory Board. The twelve-member board reviews potential projects and evaluates nongame programs for the department of conservation. The program is funded by a special check-off feature on state income tax forms and has become popular in several states having similar funding systems (see the article on page 16).

The board is composed of a crosssection of people representing various wildlife conservation groups and individuals. "For years, the animal-welfare movement has advocated that the states take an active role in the protection and promotion of all wildlife species, not just those that are hunted for sport," Mr. Dantzler said. Many states have discovered widespread interest in nongame programs because they give the citizens a voice in the protection of these animals and their habitat.

"The vast majority of the public does not participate in hunting programs; therefore, it is encouraging to see nongame programs grow and the animal-welfare movement represented in them in a positive way," commented Mr. Dantzler.

Gulf States

Oklahoma "Networks"

Gulf States Regional Director Bill Meade recently invited all Oklahoma humane societies and animal-control agencies to form a statewide organization to promote animal-protection legislation. In past years, differences in organizational approach and personal opinions countered any strong, statewide efforts to pass important legislation. In the 1985 legislature, a bill requiring the spaying and neutering of shelter-adopted animals saw groups working both for and against the measure.

At the invitation of The HSUS, twenty-seven groups agreed to cosponsor the meeting. Each organization attending was given one vote on all matters. The groups discussed past legislation and the difficulties of each bill.

Out of these debates came a decision to support a spay/neuter bill and an anti-cockfighting bill and to study "pound seizure" legislation. A coordinated effort will be made with the new national ProPets Coalition (see the Summer 1985 HSUS News), which fights pound seizure nationwide.

All participants expressed gratitude to The HSUS for organizing the meeting. Everyone agreed the effort to bring Oklahomans together to work for animal protection and welfare had been a success.

Decompression Campaign Pays Off

The Gulf States Regional Office has been fighting to convince a few animal-control agencies and humane societies that using decompression chambers for euthanasia is inhumane and undesirable.

Texas has been a particularly difficult state to convince because several large agencies used decompression and Texas A&M University has traditionally advocated its use.



Gulf States (continued)

The past twelve months have proven to be the turning point in this battle for The HSUS and the many local humanitarians who have worked to end the use of the chamber.

First, Houston Animal Control and the Austin Humane Society abandoned decompression. Following these two key successes, Mr. Meade contacted each of the six shelters in the state still using the chamber. He was able to apply a good deal of pressure on these cities not to stay a part of a dwindling minority.

El Paso, Abilene, Irving, Amarillo, and Garland have made the decision to abandon decompression for euthanasia. Richardson, Tex., remains the last holdout.

The regional office staff is gratified to realize that Texas may be decompression-free within a few months. "We have worked hard for seven years to achieve this goal. I am pleased, for the animals' sake, to see it finally coming to pass," said Mr. Meade.

Field Notes

Field investigator Bernie Weller conducted a two-day cruelty investigation workshop in Midwest City, Okla., in August. Personnel from six nearby communities attended. This type of outreach training is very economical and promotes real improvement in animal control in small communities.

In September, Mr. Weller inspected a number of animal shelters in the Texas valley and visited quarantine stations at the U.S. and Mexican borders. These facilities not only handle livestock passing between countries, but they process thousands of exotic birds for the pet trade as well. Mr. Weller discovered a number of questionable conditions he will pursue with appropriate authorities.

West Coast

The Real, Cruel Thing

"I was absolutely shocked!" said West Coast regional investigator Eric Sakach when shown a videotape of a bullfight held recently in California. The tape, made by San Francisco television station KPIX, was part of an exposé on bloodless and not-so-bloodless bullfights held in California. Said Mr. Sakach, "We know now that the bullfight was staged at a bullring that has been used fairly regularly in Morgan Hill, located in Santa Clara County. We also know the group that was responsible for holding it."

The Humane Society of Santa Clara Valley (HSSCV) and the West Coast Regional Office are trying to find out exactly when the fight was staged. According to HSSCV Executive Director Warren Brodrick, "We are going to find out how such a blatant violation of the law could have happened, and we will be seeking prosecution of those responsible through the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office."

Bloodless bullfights are being held more and more frequently in California due to a loophole in the penal code allowing such spectacles if they are held in connection with religious celebrations or festivals. The HSUS contends that all fights are held illegally, based on a 1981 opinion by the attorney general that it would be a violation of the penal code to stage a bloodless bullfight at which a priest simply said a Catholic mass and blessed the bulls. The West Coast Regional Office recently obtained information from the Catholic Church that it would be a violation of church law for a priest to offer a mass at the site of a bullfight.

The HSUS will be seeking legis-



Bloodless—and bloody—bullfighting remain a serious problem on the West Coast, as animal-welfare supporters struggle to close a loophole in the California law.

lation during the next session to have the loophole closed once and for all.

Ferret Problems

In November, the California State Fish and Game Commission considered a request by a California resident to keep two ferrets as pets. Pet Business magazine quoted the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council's (PIJAC) general counsel as saying the case "could have national implications." Ferrets are now illegal in California. The HSUS's captive wildlife division submitted testimony to fish and game commission director Harold Cribbs supporting a continued ban on ferret ownership.

Ferret fanciers have described the case as "undoubtedly, the most important case affecting California ferret owners in the history of the state" (according to the Southwest Ferret Association newsletter).

The fish and game commission will address the issue of whether or not ferrets should be legal as pets in California on March 7, 1986, at 9:00 a.m., in Sacramento. HSUS California members are urged to write Harold Cribbs, Director, California Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 to ask that the present regulations be left as they are.



"Critter Car" founder Barbara Meyers talks to "Living With Animals" host H.I. "Sonny" Bloch about her new transportation service.

Mid-Atlantic

"Critter Car" Comes to N.Y.

HSUS member Barbara Meyers has begun a transportation service exclusively for pets and their people.

The "Critter Cars" operate twelve hours a day taking pets and their people to veterinarians, groomers, hotels, parks, or any place they wish to go in the New York City area.

Ms. Meyers began her business last May, after a personal tragedy convinced her of the need for a pet-oriented service. She had been recovering from orthopedic surgery when her beloved German shepherd, Duke, was struck with cancer. They needed to travel frequently to the Animal Medical Center in Manhattan from their home in Brooklyn. No transportation at the time was

available to the disabled pair, and only the intervention of a compassionate friend allowed them to keep their appointments. After Duke's death, Ms. Meyers's "Critter Car" began.

Hers is one of a number of services in communities across the country making animal-oriented transportation available to pet owners.

Dog Racing Proposal Draws Criticism

A proposal to legalize dog racing in Pennsylvania drew criticism from animal-welfare advocates at a state house committee hearing this past fall. HSUS investigator Bob Baker told the business and commerce committee that dog handlers use live jackrabbits in training racing greyhounds and the rabbits are often mutilated and left to die.

Great Lakes

Testifying Against "Pound Seizure"

It has taken tremendous effort and cooperation, but Michigan animal-welfare supporters have succeeded in devising a strategy to defeat pound seizure and eliminate the surplus animal population that makes pound seizure possible.

Members of the Michigan Federation of Humane Societies and the Michigan Humane Society devised a two-part strategy that not only encompassed the passage of legislation that would keep pets out of research, but also included eliminating the unwanted animal population.

Michigan residents collected more than 50,000 signatures in support of S.B. 393, which would prohibit pound seizure throughout the state, and S.B. 394, which would mandate spaying and neutering of all animals adopted, and submitted them to the legislature. Then, they planned a rally on the steps of the state capitol to take place on the



Great Lakes Regional Director Sandy Rowland testifies at the state senate hearing on pound seizure in Lansing, Mich.

same day as the bills' hearings. More than 500 people came to the capitol to show their support.

Animal-welfare advocates filled the hearing room inside, with one after another testifying in support of the bill. The Great Lakes Regional Office supported this effort by sending out an action alert about the rally and presenting testimony before the committee hearing the bill.

Other states in the region are also addressing pound seizure. West Virginia residents hope to have their say in the legislature this winter, and Ohio held hearings in November.

A Day on Dogfighting

Kurt Lapham, the Great Lakes' new program coordinator, organized a one-day training workshop on dogfighting in Lebanon, Ohio. This autumn, twenty-five law enforcement officers from southern Ohio participated in the session, which included an overview of dogfighting, terms and definitions, undercover techniques, and the identification of evidence.



Mid-Atlantic (continued)

"At least 100,000 jackrabbits are ripped apart by training grey-hounds each year so a thirst for blood is cultivated in the dogs," Mr. Baker told Associated Press News.

Patricia Owens, managing director of the Women's Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Pennsylvania, urged the committee to look at more viable, long-term solutions to loss of jobs than dog tracks. She said the money the state would realize from racing is

insignificant.

"We condemn the bill because it would institutionalize cruel and inhumane treatment of animals," she said.

New Coordinator Named

Rick Abel joined the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office as program coordinator in November. His experience as community relations director for the Halifax Humane Society, Daytona Beach, Fla., will be extremely helpful in his position with the region.



Rick Abel has joined the Mid-Atlantic office as program coordinator.

Southeast

Putting What They Learned To Good Use

In September, investigator Paul Miller gave an eight-hour workshop on blood sports at the Wilson County Technical Institute, in North Carolina, at the invitation of Sheriff Wayne Gay of Wilson County and Jane Owen of the Humane Society of Wilson County. That workshop, attended by eighty-six law enforcement, humane society, animal-control, and United States Department of Agriculture personnel, reaped almost immediate benefits. In November, many of those who sat in on the workshop were involved in a raid in neighboring Greene County that netted thirty arrests and seizure of twenty-nine dogs in the largest dogfight uncovered in eastern North Carolina in more than a decade. Included among those arrested by Sheriff Early Whaley was Jeffrey Burke, reportedly the editor of Gamedog Digest, an underground dogfighting magazine published in Colonial Beach, Va. All of those arrested pleaded guilty to charges of promoting cruelty to animals, a misdemeanor. Each was sentenced to a \$250 fine plus court costs and a portion of the veterinary bill to treat two of the seized animals and two years' probation against further arrests for dogfighting and/or cruelty to animals.

Information accumulated by HSUS investigators was cross-checked against the list of arrested individuals to reveal that at least half showed evidence of previous involvement in dogfighting. Local officials used these data to build their case against those charged.

Support Needed

Lorraine Moore, program coordinator of the Southeast Regional Office, was one of several people to testify on behalf of three pending South Carolina animal-protection bills. At a September hearing, a state house subcommittee heard Ms. Moore clarify the need to enact better laws in that state, where those found guilty of animal abuse are frequently fined only \$25. The subcommittee also heard similar pleas from the South Carolina Animal Control Association and the South Carolina Humane Association.

The Southeast Regional Office has sent out more than 70 press releases and 200 letters to publicize and gain support for these bills. H. 2353 would permit animal shelters direct access to the most humane euthanasia drug of all, sodium pentobarbital. H. 2354 would require felony penalties for the fighting or baiting of any animal. H. 2355 would elevate the penalties for animal cruelty and neglect to a maximum \$1,000 fine, a year in jail, or both.

Now is the time for HSUS South

Carolina members and friends to write their state representatives to ask for their support on these bills. Inform your state senators that you'll be expecting their cosponsorship of, or votes for, the senate versions of these bills when they are introduced.

Seizure the Issue

During its annual meeting in October, the Florida Animal Control Association voted to support legislation to end the release of shelter animals for research.

Clay, Hillsborough, and Duval counties continue to allow their tax-supported animal-control facilities to act as supply houses for laboratories.

While activists in these jurisdictions struggle to abolish "pound seizure," the Southeast Regional Office is working to see the practice eliminated by state law. H.B. 14, introduced by Ray Liberti, would accomplish this but, unfortunately, there is no companion bill, so far, in the state senate. Many state senators have offered support, but no one seems willing to address this controversial issue head-on.

Florida members should encourage their legislators to prohibit pound seizure statewide. Contact the Southeast Regional Office (325 John Knox Road, Bldg. E, Ste. 203, Tallahassee, FL 32303) for more information.



Beware of Breeding/ Lease/Purchase Contracts

The HSUS General Counsel's Office periodically receives requests for assistance from people who have become involved in so-called breeding/lease/purchase contracts. These are arrangements in which a professional breeder leases a female dog to an individual lessee-purchaser in exchange for that individual taking care of the dog and agreeing to have the dog produce a specified number of litters, with the pups turned over to the breeder. Once the litters are produced, the lesseepurchaser acquires full ownership of the female dog. The appeal to the consumer, of course, lies in the illusion of acquiring a pet without paying for it. These contracts are to be avoided for a number of rea-

First and foremost, they promote unnecessary breeding and proliferation of the canine population at a time when there are already millions of homeless animals subjected to starvation and cruelty and countless fine dogs available for adoption in shelters.

Second, these contracts are tightly written in the breeder's favor. For example, the lessee-purchaser is usually made responsible for veterinary expenses if the dog is injured; must pay the breeder several hundred dollars should the dog be lost, killed, or injured in such a way as to prevent breeding; and agrees to pay the breeder's attorneys' fees and other legal costs should the breeder have to repossess the animal. In addition, the lessee-purchaser assumes responsibility for the day-to-day care of the animal and of the litters until the pups are given to the breeder.

Third, the consumer is usually obliged to return the dog to the breeder for any failure or unwillingness to comply with the terms of the contract. It sometimes happens that the individual has a change of heart about breeding the dog and, at the same time, has become at-

tached to it. The consumer then faces the difficult, painful choice of either returning the animal to the breeder or facing a lawsuit for breach of contract.

Michigan Dove Hunt Stopped

On August 20, 1985, a scheduled dove hunt in Michigan was stopped. The Michigan Natural Resources Commission (NRC) had declared an open season on mourning doves to begin on September 15. However, the Circuit Court of Ingham County closed the season before it began by granting a motion for preliminary injunction in favor of the Michigan Humane Society, which had brought the suit, and ruling that the NRC had no authority to schedule the dove hunting season.

The court noted that, while the Michigan legislature added mourning doves and other Columbiformes (a family of birds) to its list of game birds in 1980, it had not established a hunting season for these birds. The court then found that merely because the animal had been added to a list of game animals did not confer authority upon the NRC to establish a hunting season. It further noted that, previously, Michigan had declared crows to be "game birds" and later, in separate legislation, established an open season on them. Moreover, in Michigan, moose are listed as "game animals" although state law prohibits killing them at any time. The court also quoted from letters that NRC officials had written years earlier to concerned citizens reassuring them that a mourning dove season could not be established without state legislative action.

Mourning dove hunts, and that species' status as a game bird or song bird, have been the subject of referenda, suits, and legislative battles in other states, including Ohio and South Dakota.

Lackawanna Clinic Suit **Progresses**

As we reported in the Fall 1985 HSUS News, four veterinarians and the local veterinary association have filed a lawsuit against the Humane Society of Lackawanna County (HSLC) of Pennsylvania, challenging its right to operate a spay/ neutering clinic. The veterinarians alleged that the HSLC is not allowed to employ a veterinarian to operate its clinic since it is not a professional corporation or licensed to practice veterinary medicine. They further alleged that the failure to pay taxes on the income from the clinic violated the HSLC's tax-exempt status and that the clinic was unfairly competing with local veterinarians and tending to create a monopoly.

In a preliminary hearing held recently in the Court of Common Pleas of Lackawanna County, the court dismissed all allegations regarding unfair competition and taxexempt status. The only issue remaining for trial will be whether a humane society in Pennsylvania may employ a veterinarian if it is not licensed and is not a professional corporation. (The licensing allegation applies to the HSLC; the veterinarian the society employs is licensed to practice.) Lawyers for the HSLC will contend that, under Pennsylvania law, this practice is no different from a nonprofit legal services group's employing a lawyer or a public hospital's employing doctors and nurses to further their charitable purposes.

The Law Notes are compiled by HSUS General Counsel Murdaugh Stuart Madden and Associate Counsel Roger Kindler.

New from The HSUS



These valuable new publications should be of interest to HSUS members involved in many different animal-welfare issues. All are available from The HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

Injury, Damage to Health and Cruel Treatment (Present Conditions in the Shipment of Live Animals) A thirty-six-page report documenting the inhumane treatment and agonizing deaths of wildlife in the international pet trade. Explicit photos and carefully researched text written by John Brookland, Cheryl Hora, and Nick Carter of the Environmental Investigations Agency (U.K.); published by The HSUS and A.W.I. HS0002 \$5.00

National Wildlife Refuge Packet

Learn what you can do on a local level to stop the slaughter of innocent refuge wildlife. Packet includes the 1985 Refuge Managers' Address list, Hunting Programs on National Wildlife Refuges, and Fact Sheet on Consumptive Uses of National Wildlife Refuges.

GR3097 \$1.50

Captive Wild Animal Protection Packet

This model law and accompanying material can be used at the local or state level to provide protection for wild animals that are pets, in traveling and roadside exhibits, in circuses, or in transit. Packet includes a model bill, fact sheet, and explanatory bill notes.

L6008 one packet/60¢ 10/\$4.50

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"Beware" Warning Cards

Colorful cards to post in your community to warn pet owners of the dangers of lost or stolen pets ending up as research subjects.

GR3095 309 PM2074 12/

12/75¢ 50/\$1.50

How to Establish Spay/Neuter Programs and Clinics

A nineteen-page report describing strategies for and issues surrounding establishment of a spay/neuter clinic and program as part of a sound local animal-control program. Includes private and public clinics, a cooperative program, veterinarians and legal issues, income tax issues, differential licensing, and more.

AC4009 \$2.00

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