

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT 1992



**Presented by Paul G. Irwin, President
The Humane Society of the United States
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REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT 1992

Presenting the President's report to the society's membership provides an important discipline in accountability for me and our staff. The cliché about not seeing the forest because of the trees happens to be true most of the time. I welcome the opportunity to place the activities which fill our days within the context of our vision for the creation of a humane society. There is no more noble vision and no more compelling mission since the society we envision will be based upon a profound respect for the other creatures and the multiplicity of life forms with whom we share this earth.

I am convinced that the days we are presently living through provide an opportunity to be more effective and productive in advancing the cause of animal protection. Some of us remember only too well a general attitude in the country which perceived our work and philosophy to be peripheral. There are few who would consider our cause peripheral any more. We have been proclaiming a message which emphasizes the proposition that all life is contingent. Destroying other creatures and encroaching on habitats which sustain them quite simply diminishes all (and certainly human

kind). When pushed to an ultimate conclusion, there is a general growing awareness that human survival cannot be guaranteed when other life forms are dying. Given the focus of the foregoing, this is the time when we must be paying attention to advancing our cause by expanding our numbers and enlightening a multitude of fellow travelers. Our tactics must be varied, innovative and designed to enlist the vast number of people who share our basic ideal of compassion. We do not mandate the total elimination of biomedical research, the elimination of utilization of animals in the food chain, and the elimination of animals in some events which bring people and animals together in a common pursuit.

Let me expand what I mean by offering a few examples. The absolute prohibition of using animals in laboratory experimentation is not a new idea but, it is an objective which will not be realized in your lifetime or mine. Since animals are going to be utilized in biomedical research, most people can be convinced that it is valid to refine the way in which these animals will be used, reduce the number of animals used and to ultimately seek the replacement of the use of animals. Most people will agree, without reservation, that animals who give their lives in a laboratory setting have a right to the best care and most humane treatment which can be afforded them outside the elimination of their use altogether. Therefore, the Humane Society of the United States, criticized by our friends and by our foes, has chosen

to embark upon a campaign and work with dedication toward the end of seeing the implementation of the so called three R's. The old expression that says half a loaf is better than none applies.

It is not realistic to assume that animals will not be a part of the food chain in our life time but it is realistic to work toward the goal of reducing the suffering of multitudes of animals caught in the process of placing food on the dining tables of the nation. It is especially interesting to note that most Americans are becoming aware of the fact that an intensive meat diet is not only unhealthy for the individual but is verifiably damaging to the ecology of our land. The HSUS believes, therefore, that our programs should press towards the goal of eating less meat. Our primary reason is the elimination of suffering for those whose interests we seek to serve and we will embark on a national campaign on this issue during the coming year.

Some of you know that The Humane Society of the United States has been intensively involved for the past two years in negotiating with the officials and sponsors who stage the world famous Iditarod dog sled races in Alaska. This event will continue and dog sled races are presently proliferating within and outside this nation. We have pressed, with great success, the mandate of humane consideration and treatment for animals involved in this endurance event. Through the support of world class dog mushers like Susan Butcher, we are

beginning to see the possibility of forcing humane standards on sled dog races wherever they may occur. The simplest approach to the Iditarod would have been to work for elimination of the event. We would not have succeeded and the possibilities of improving the lot of sled dogs would not have existed.

The Humane Society of the United States is committed to, in many instances, working within the system to reach our goal of lessening the suffering of animals. Because we are hopeful and optimistic about the present climate in which we work, I surely do not wish to imply that those who oppose our views are without extensive resources and capabilities. Our opposition reads like Who's Who in America in so many ways.

The gun lobby is dedicated to attacking all of our programs regardless of analogies to their chartered purposes. The same can be said of the trappers. Thankfully, both of these interest groups are rapidly being perceived as reactionary and out of step with the real world. We do have more concern regarding the unenlightened opposition which exists in the scientific community. It is truly unfortunate that some scientists opt for a perspective which sees animal use existing in a private sector beyond public scrutiny. This use and exploitation is somehow made sacred and untouchable because of the alleged purity of scientific enquiry. We shall continue to make alliances with scientists who are established in many disciplines and, with them make

the case for animal protection within the context of good science. The opposition we face in agri-business is different and more complex. When agri-business sees its purpose totally in terms of bringing dollars to the bottom line, it has moved into an arena where challenge and confrontation are the only options. However, agri-business has entities which are more open to the plight of animals and the necessity of living with care in the environment. We need to be discerning of our opposition in this field and to realize we have friends there, especially in the organic farming movement.

I wish to inform you of some program initiatives which are underway and will be highlighted and intensified in the coming year. The HSUS has always considered itself a colleague with those who work on the front lines in local sheltering and animal control facilities. A part of our responsibility to these colleagues is fulfilled through providing training. We want our assistance to be practical in addressing the hands-on problems which animal sheltering and animal control professionals encounter every day. For that reason the HSUS offered its first training and trade show in February of this year. The response of those individuals we wished to enable was truly amazing. Well over 1,000 attended and many at their own expense. Because of this success the society will be offering a second Animal Care Expo in 1993. We intend to continue training programs

for cruelty investigators and for early and seasoned shelter workers. We shall also provide education in urban wildlife problems, animal behavioral problems, etc. The society is also going to be offering two levels of shelter evaluation. The advanced evaluation will provide professional consultancy in the areas of administration, records management, facilities utilization and architectural consultation. We are determined to continue our role as an effective colleague in addressing the problem of animal suffering which exist in all the communities of the nation.

The HSUS has long taken the position that zoos can provide educational experiences for visitors, and can serve as important centers for the maintenance of endangered species. I reaffirm that position today. However, our policy also carries with it the thrust that inferior zoos must improve or go out of business; that educational programs must inform and enhance the understanding of a shared ecosystem; and that programs to foster the survival of endangered species must be more than wishful thinking or rhetorical rationalizations with empty promises. The HSUS has been patient too long in waiting for exhibits and educational programs to improve, and for zoos to become promised centers of endangered species survival. With few notable exceptions, facilities have not gotten better. Educational programs have continued to be shallow and zoos, rather than providing valid educational experience, have

become recreational experiences, providing entertainment through the spectacle of captive wildlife.

The society will be enhancing its capability to provide innovative leadership for improving the manner in which wild animals are held in captivity. We join with some isolated interests in the zoo community, including a curator at the National Zoo, in pressing for the development of regional bioparks. This nation can support the development of ten of these facilities through private and public funding. Without question, this development concept shows the way ahead for creative protection of all wild animals, but especially those in captivity. We intend to press this agenda.

Over a period of several years the HSUS has been approached by interested individuals who have expressed a desire to establish wildlife sanctuaries under the auspices of the HSUS. Because there are organizations which seek to facilitate this concept, we have referred these requests. It is now indelibly clear that a requirement to prohibit hunting and trapping on these intended gifts of lands will not be honored. Most humane people have never been able to understand why the government or any other entity would want to justify killing for sport or economics in areas designated as refuges or sanctuaries. Consequently, during the coming year, the society will be embarking on a program which will be designed to encourage the gift of lands to be set aside as refuge habitat. Obviously, hunting and trapping will be

prohibited. Because we do not have the resources to maintain this type of property, we will be seeking an endowment to provide for these lands in perpetuity. The Board of Directors has given approval to this project in principle and will provide a final review before formal adoption. The membership will be fully informed of this initiative.

We have a heightened concern regarding marine mammals held in captivity. Studies are showing that the life expectancy of these creatures is greatly diminished when they are sequestered in the artificial habitat of an aquarium, dolphinarium or other such facility. The deaths of two killer whales in Chicago this summer has accelerated our taking a position against wild caught whales and placement in captivity. We will oppose the issuance of all permits for such takings. I anticipate many developments in our marine mammal program and expect one of the major emphasis to be in the area of facilitating release programs which can provide a reasonable guarantee of survival for those creatures who can be set free.

The HSUS has a number of experts in marine mammal welfare. Because of this, we have had a position of leadership at the International Whaling Commission and in several other international marine mammal organizations. We will further strengthen our effort by establishing a doctoral level staff position in 1993 with specialist expertise in captive marine mammals and their release potential.

Communicating our philosophy and positions is an overarching responsibility. We have a demonstrated capability in the print media and our publications frequently receive awards of distinction. We continue to utilize film, television and radio. Now we are proposing to expand these basic communication skills into the format of the future, namely video. Of course, the video format really isn't future at all. It is surely the exploding communication vehicle of the present.

We intend to produce video in three basic areas where we have a mandate to communicate. Our message must be heard and seen by the general public if we are to prevail and since so many are practically addicted to the television screen, video must become an integral component of the way we address this audience. Second, in several parts of this report we have talked about training. Training videos must be developed dealing not only with shelter management and cruelty investigations but, also, with how we provide for our dogs and cats and understand their special needs. Finally, video must become a part of our resource development efforts. Many people support our work with great generosity. Video is an excellent format for letting our friends see how their support translates into a better day for animals.

The reports which follow reflect the important leadership, creativity, and dedication of my colleagues. Because our work is a mosaic and each part overlaps with

another, you will read about one issue from the perspective of several sections. For example, the ivory issue involves wildlife, investigations, and publications. Hopefully, the repetition will reinforce the fact that we see ourselves as a team and that all our efforts are interwoven.

Since this is my first report to the membership, I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to you and to our Board of Directors for the opportunity to serve as President. I consider it both an honor and privilege. It is especially rewarding to be able to continue my partnership with John Hoyt who ably served as President before me. Because of his generous spirit and vision, and our shared mutuality of purpose, The Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International press toward a common goal; namely, the creation of a Humane Society.

PROGRAMS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Patricia Forkan, Executive Vice President

Development and implementation of national campaigns dedicated to ending animal abuse are handled by the Programs and Communications section. The Society's actions on behalf of whales and dolphins also are a part of this section's responsibilities. Another major area covered is state and federal legislation affecting animals. The special projects and public relations departments as well as numerous HSUS publications are also part of this active section's work.

Campaign and Special Projects

The HSUS entered the second year of its successful consumer education campaign, "The Beautiful Choice," to promote the use of cosmetics and other personal care products not tested on animals. In addition to actress Ana-Alicia, the campaign's spokesperson, 15 other celebrities signed a statement in support of this campaign. Their names and/or photographs were featured in an attractive campaign ad that appeared in the year-end double issue of Rolling Stone magazine. In addition, the Beautiful Choice campaign logo was featured in the nationally syndicated cartoon "Hi & Lois." To date, 34 manufacturers have joined the campaign by signing a pledge that states they do not test their products on animals. In a continuing effort to increase consumer recognition of our campaign logo in association with these

manufacturers' products, The HSUS distributed its complimentary campaign kit to thousands of retailers nationwide and set up a campaign display at several natural foods industry and environmental expos held across the nation.

The HSUS also continued its popular "Shame of Fur" campaign, now in its fifth year. Actress Loretta Swit recorded a public service announcement to encourage consumers to "get with it" and stop wearing fur. We also continued our "Be a P.A.L. -- Prevent a Litter" campaign, and began a companion campaign, "Until There are None, Adopt One," to encourage adoption of cats and dogs from animal shelters to reduce the vast number of these animals that must be humanely euthanized.

We revisited our campaign to protect the African elephant, "Remember the Elephants...Forget Ivory," to coincide with the March 1992 meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) that took place in Japan; the 113 nations that are parties to the CITES treaty voted to keep the African elephant on Appendix I, thus continuing a ban on the international trade in elephant parts such as ivory.

We began planning for an important 1993 campaign to protect cats, called the "Year of the Cat." We are joined in this special effort by the American Humane Association, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the Massachusetts SPCA.

On Humane Sunday, the first Sunday in May, The HSUS was featured for the second year in a row in a pop-up pet care section of USA Weekend. The section featured a coupon that readers could return with a donation to The HSUS. More than 20,000 responses have been received, with more coming in every day.

European Office

The European office continued to take the lead in European environmental efforts to save the dolphins and create a global program for protecting animals and improving life on the planet. In November, the European Parliament gave its strong support to the Morris report, a proposal to end the purse seine fishery on dolphins by banning the importation of "dolphin deadly" tuna into Europe. The efforts of HSUS and our international arm, Humane Society International (HSI), were so significant in this decision, that in an unusual precedent, members of the Parliament acknowledged HSUS/HSI staff work on this issue from the floor of the European Parliament.

Nevertheless, support from the European Parliament, important though it is, does not determine the fate of the dolphins. A strong public groundswell coupled with European Commission legislation is needed. So HSUS/HSI has been hard at work on both those important facets. During the winter months, the HSI European Director, Betsy Dribben, spoke to high school and civic groups in Germany to raise their

awareness of the importance of saving the dolphins. Public appearances were also made on Belgian television with an audience of over 2.5 million as well as British Broadcasting (BBC) television and radio network. Letters began to pour into the European Commission -- reaching the leadership which has to make decisions in this issue.

On the economic scene, an HSI consultant worked long hours to negotiate with the Spanish canners, one of the two key groups which has kept Mexicans and Venezuelans in the business of killing dolphins, by purchasing large quantities of dolphin deadly tuna. In July there was a major breakthrough -- the entire Spanish canning industry signed an agreement to go dolphin safe. Now it is only Italy which must yield to pressure from HSI and the public at large to save the dolphins.

Meanwhile, HSI has been working closely with environmental and animal protection groups across Europe on a unified strategy. HSI has been a guest speaker at several Wildlife Link meetings, the coalition of animal protection and environmental groups of Great Britain, and HSI has been a guest writer for an article on the dolphin crisis which recently appeared in the French magazine for the Society for the Protection of Animals.

HSI is also participating in a joint effort in Italy with Earth Island Institute and the Swiss Bellerive Foundation, the latter headed by the distinguished animal

protection couple Prince Sadruddin and Princess Catherine Aga Khan. The objective is to target the Italian public to pressure industry to stop purchasing dolphin deadly tuna.

HSI has also made contact with members of national governments such as the German Bundestag to garner their support for a European policy to help save the dolphins.

In other international areas, HSUS/HSI was the sole non-governmental group credentialed to observe the International Airlines Transportation and Traffic Committee's (IATTC) Live Animal Board, held in May in Frankfurt. At the meeting there was discussion over the transportation of wild caught birds - - an activity which results in high mortality and cruelty. Eighty six airlines have banned the carrying of wild bird trade. Yet, a few airlines still engage in it. The meeting was to determine whether or not there should be a change in policy on this. HSI is pleased to report the IATCC decided to let each airline continue to make decisions - which has resulted in such a strong commercial support for a ban.

HSI has also appeared on European television to discuss canned hunts -- the issue of surplus zoo and other animals -- as targets for hunting. Video footage showing the inhumane slaughter of a tame leopard so shocked European viewers that HSI was invited to participate in an environmental program on how Europeans could help end this tragedy. The video coupled with HSI's appearance resulted in letters and petitions being sent to the Belgian studio. These will be turned over to

members of the U.S. Congress to demonstrate global concern for ending such an outrageous practice.

Whale/Dolphin Campaigns

The HSUS continued its vigorous campaign to save whales and dolphins. Our strategy this year has been to find solutions which have a broad range of support internationally.

For example, we have actively advocated an international solution to the problem of dolphin mortality resulting from the use of purse-seine nets in the eastern tropical pacific (ETP) tuna fishery. Specifically, we lobbied the U.S. Congress to develop legislation that would encourage the U.S. Administration and other countries to negotiate and participate in an international treaty establishing an international moratorium on the use of purse-seine nets in the tuna fishery. The moratorium, if enacted, will reduce dolphin mortality in this fishery to zero.

We also actively participated in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, otherwise known as the Earth Summit, which was held in Rio de Janeiro this past June. Our vigorous lobbying efforts resulted in text in Agenda 21, the primary document signed in Rio, which specifically exempts marine mammals, and cetaceans (whales, dolphins, and porpoises) in particular, from a requirement of sustainable utilization. The language of the text provides that countries and appropriate international organizations

may protect cetaceans from exploitation altogether. This was quite a victory as Agenda 21 as a whole emphasizes sustainable utilization, a term which Japan and others interpret as synonymous with exploitation.

For the 17th year, the HSUS/HSI was represented at the International Whaling Commission (IWC) annual meeting. Although the moratorium on commercial whaling remains intact, our efforts this year were intensified as Japan and Norway in particular attempted to force the IWC to lift the moratorium. Our strategy at this year's meeting was to emphasize issues such as humane killing, non-consumptive use of whales (i.e., whale-watching) and the establishment of a whale sanctuary in the Antarctic. At this year's IWC meeting we were able to prove that the penthrite harpoon is not a humane method of killing, contrary to assertions that have been made for the past ten years. We hope to use the issue of humane killing (or the lack thereof) to prevent a vote in favor of a resumption of commercial whaling at next year's IWC meeting to be held in Japan.

State Legislation

The HSUS responded to over 500 requests from activists who needed information to pursue legislative change at the state level. We provided assistance on a wide range of issues ranging from animal fighting to strengthening animal cruelty law penalties to control of exotic wildlife. Completion of our wolf hybrid legislative information packet

has already assisted many activists in their quest to stop the proliferation of these wild animals as pets.

Passage of a puppy mill protection bill in Missouri, enactment in South Carolina of a first of its kind bill which bans the public display of marine mammals, increased penalties for animal cruelty, and a mandatory spay/neuter law in Connecticut for animals adopted from shelters were some of the highlights of the year.

The HSUS sent over 75,000 alerts to members on such matters as the Draize Eye-Irritancy Test, trapping, pound seizure, horse racing, and cockfighting. Legislative efforts to tackle the pet overpopulation problem are being increased with a major push to come in 1993. We are continuing in our efforts to provide activists with the information needed to thwart the efforts of such lobbies as the pet industry, medical research and sportsmen to enact legislation harmful to animal welfare and in their efforts to weaken laws we actively advocate.

Federal Legislation

The HSUS continued its efforts on Capitol Hill to strengthen federal animal protection laws, seek the introduction of new legislation and oppose legislation which would adversely affect HSUS animal protection programs.

The issue of dolphin protection was thrust into the international trade area when a General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade panel issued a ruling which threatened the

effectiveness of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). The HSUS played a lead role in subsequent discussions with the Bush Administration and Members of Congress; and promoted the subsequent introduction of legislation which offers the best chance in 20 years to end the practice of setting on dolphins to catch tuna. We also persuaded Members of Congress to introduce a bill which would provide recourse for consumers who purchase an unfit dog from pet stores and certain commercial breeders and bills which would institute a policy to prevent the sale of "downed" animals at livestock markets.

The HSUS was successful in getting the House Armed Services Committee to include language in the Department of Defense reauthorization report calling for a stricter review of military research on animals and a study of this practice by the General Accounting Office. In addition, when HSUS determined that legislation providing protection to farm animal and research facilities from illegal acts could adversely affect "whistleblowers" and our own investigations, we worked with the Congress to constructively change those provisions of concern to us before the bill was passed and became public law.

We also lobbied for bills to prevent the import of wild birds which was passed by Congress in early October.

Public Relations

One of the year's largest public relations efforts was getting publicity to help preserve the endangered status of the African elephant. The department held a news conference on The HSUS/HSI investigation and wrote a film that was narrated by Emmy-winner Candice Bergen, with music by Grammy-winner Mickey Hart. Stories mentioning The HSUS and the plight of the elephant appeared in Science Magazine, the Atlanta Constitution and USA Today (which ran two stories as well as a call-in poll on the elephant issue). Broadcasting stories were Cable News Network's Crier & Company; ABC's Wide World of Sports; ABC Radio; Worldwide Network Television; French-speaking Voice of America; CBS Radio; WGN-TV (national cable); and E! Entertainment Television.

The HSUS's work to make the Iditarod Sled Dog Race more humane was featured in USA Today; Outside Magazine; The Washington Post; The Washington Times; The New York Times; Mushing Magazine; and Anchorage Times.

After a news conference highlighting puppy mills, The HSUS was mentioned in a long feature in People Magazine and in Life Magazine. Other companion animal stories (including several about wolf hybrids and greyhounds) ran in USA Today; The Washington Post; and the Chicago Tribune.

Other notable media mentions: People Magazine (federal animal damage control program); USA Today (Kentucky Derby investigation, pot-bellied pigs, and the Chincoteague Pony

Run); Associated Press national wire (Animal Welfare Act and wild horses); Philadelphia Inquirer (Animal Welfare Act); The Washington Post (baboon liver transplant and immunocontraception of wildlife); Newsweek and U.S. News and World Report (zoos).

Animal Activist Alert

The Animal Activist Alert continued to encourage activism on the part of its readers. The AAA is sent to a select number of HSUS members and animal-protection organizations that have expressed a strong interest in writing letters, making phone calls, organizing community actions, and working for legislation on behalf of animals. Over the past year, the AAA covered state and federal animal-protection and environmental legislation, ongoing HSUS campaigns, marine mammals, laboratory animals, the wild-bird trade, and the fight the Endangered Species Act.

PUBLICATIONS SECTION

Deborah Salem, Vice President

On January, 1, 1992, in tandem with other senior management-level changes, the Publications section was created, giving a new structure to the design and editorial staff of The HSUS.

Every year The HSUS produces approximately 100 new items and 100 reprints of its most popular brochures, newsletters,

campaign promotional materials and monographs in support of its programs, operations, and activities. The past year has been a particularly busy one: in some weeks more than 40 items were in the editorial, design, and pre-press stages.

After two years of study, a complete in-house desktop-publishing system using Apple Mackintosh computers has been installed, in two stages. All design and editorial staff members have access to the desktop network. This new technology promises to offer the society greater flexibility and workload capacity as well as a future cost savings in pre-press production.

Several important international meetings served as impetuses for the creation of materials destined for small, influential audiences. One of these items, a full-color monograph on the status of the African elephant, received wide distribution at the two-week-long meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Other monographs were prepared for the International Whaling Commission meeting in Scotland. Previously produced materials, including banners and handouts, accompanied our representatives to the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Special events, such as our celebrity tennis tournament, office relocation, building-dedication ceremonies, and Animal Care Expo '92, required many unusual items to be produced, sometimes on short notice. Novelty T-shirts, tote

bags, posters, programs, and scarves carried a newly designed HSUS logo to thousands of people. At Expo, two eye-catching display booths drew attention to their messages, "Choose a Pal for Life" and "Animals: It's Their World, Too."

A Humane Society International logo was created to accompany the new HSUS logo, reflecting the growing sophistication of our graphic approach and of our international audience.

The *HSUS News*, the society's quarterly membership magazine, introduced a new Humane Society International section, a magazine within a magazine, describing our international efforts on behalf of animals.

The quarterly *Close-Up Report* is the primary HSUS outreach publication. It reaches an average of 1,000,000 constituents, news media, and members of Congress. The *Close-Up Report* educates its readers about the plight of animals in desperate circumstances and in immediate need of public support. Since October 1991 the *Close-Up Report* has described the plight of the African elephant and the threatened reopening of the deadly ivory trade; the tragedy of pet overpopulation; the large-scale use of animals for laboratory research and testing; and the suffering of fur-bearing animals exploited by the fur industry.

The society's most widely distributed publications, the *HSUS News* and *Close-Up Reports*, began new lives printed on recycled paper. Although other of our materials had "gone

recycled" in previous years, technological demands posed by the large, high-speed presses on which the *News* and *Close-Ups* were printed made the search for a high-quality, reasonably priced recycled paper a challenging one.

ADMINISTRATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Katherine Benedict, Director

The Administration and Information Systems section provides services in support of corporate and program goals. The services include management of the facilities, installation and upkeep of organization-wide computer systems, membership services, data processing, the library, and records management. The services provided by the administration and information systems section makes the operations of The Society efficient and effective.

Washington, D.C. Headquarters

The principal office of the Society is housed at 2100 L St. N.W. in the District of Columbia. Officer of the Chief Executive, President, and General Council are based at this location. The Washington, D.C. facility also houses Humane Society International, EarthKind, Center for Respect of Wildlife and Environment, and the Government Relations section.

The Gaithersburg Facility

Ten sections of The Humane Society of the United States are resident in our new Gaithersburg, MD facility. The relocation of these sections, which took place in July, 1992, allowed The HSUS to provide adequate work space for staff and to plan for expansion, computer networking, and office efficiency modifications.

The administration section is focusing on the management of The HSUS records and materials. We will be using a combination of records systems techniques to create a database of information to be used by staff in their ongoing efforts. The wealth of data available at The Society must be properly recorded, consolidated, and easily retrievable. Our animal protection efforts will be greatly enhanced as we come of age in records management.

Ongoing research is being done to make the Gaithersburg facility environmentally sound. Recycling practices, organic cleaning compounds, chemical-free grounds services, and energy saving devices are either currently used or are under consideration to make this facility representative of our goals. The techniques for creating an ecologically sound office environment have also translated into cost savings.

Information Systems

Technology that allows computers to connect and share data (called a local area network or LAN) was implemented this year. The network complements the Society's long term

computer plans, which include global communications, the use of electronic mail, continued standardization or applications, and software development for departmental and records management.

Within The HSUS, a centralized environment for information availability is maintained. The total environment consists of the local area network mentioned above, plus a Mackintosh-based system for publications, and a midrange system that houses the membership records of the organization. The implementation of these systems and the continued improvement in computer usage throughout The Society has, in 1992 alone, reduced operational costs by approximately twenty percent (20%).

Companion Animals

Marc Paulhus, Vice President

The HSUS Companion Animals section provides information and support on a variety of issues relating to those species of animals we commonly call pets - namely dogs, cats, birds, rabbits, and domestic horses.

Among our many programs, we strive most fervently to end the tragic problem of pet overpopulation in this country through campaigns and activities designed to promote responsible pet ownership and the spaying or neutering of dogs and cats. We provide national leadership and support

for all efforts to enact strong legislation that seeks to restrict surplus breeding.

The Companion Animals' section works closely with local animal shelters in communities across the country. Through numerous professional training programs, we reach thousands of individuals whose duties include the care of neglected, abused, stray, or unwanted animals. During 1992, we also increased the number of on-site shelter evaluations conducted to help local groups improve their animal-care services. Our evaluation consultants provide detailed reports and recommendations on such aspects as shelter design, management, and field programs.

The circulation for the section's immensely popular publication Shelter Sense, now in its 15th year, reached an all time high of over 4,000 readers. Shelter Sense continues to bring timely and effective information to those in the animal control and sheltering field, helping them provide the most humane and innovative programs. In early 1992, a special, 28-page adoption edition of Shelter Sense was mailed to thousands of animal protection organizations and facilities across the country. The issue was designed to promote the importance of adopting a companion animal from a local shelter, and has proved to be one of the most popular issues ever published.

In February 1992, the Companion Animals section hosted the most successful and widely-attended event ever held for those involved in the animal care, control, and sheltering field. Over 1,200 individuals gathered in Las Vegas for Animal Care Expo '92. This was the first trade and educational show designed specifically for those involved in animal care and control work. It drew participants from across the country and from international locations as far away as New Zealand. Because of the tremendous success of Expo '92, plans are underway to host Animal Care Expo '93, to take place March 17-20 in Orlando, Florida. Building on our previous success, Expo '93 will offer the latest information, materials, and technology in the field of animal care to those individuals and organizations that work daily to protect animals.

The Animal Control Academy, now in its 13th year, has trained over 2,800 individuals since its inception. The Academy has had a tremendous impact by increasing the level of professionalism among its many graduates. As a result, many states have now enacted mandatory certification programs for animal control officers based on the training requirements and curriculum developed by The HSUS.

As part of the Companion Animals section's role in educating pet owners and the general public about responsible pet guardianship, we began an intense program to combat the serious problem of dog bites in this country. Working in

conjunction with affected interest groups such as insurance companies, the section is producing educational materials to teach pet owners how to avoid or prevent aggressive behavior through training and other techniques.

At the core of the section lies our aggressive efforts to address the pet overpopulation crisis. 1992 marks the fifth year of the highly successful "Be a P.A.L. -- Prevent A Litter" campaign. The number of communities across the country who use "Be a P.A.L." materials to promote awareness of dog and cat overpopulation continues to grow.

The "Until There Are None, Adopt One" campaign, introduced in 1992, is proving to be not only a popular campaign but also an effective one. Shelters across the country are requesting "Adopt One" materials and using them to increase the number of animals successfully placed in new adoptive homes. Our "Choose a Pal for Life" brochures and posters promote the message that the best place to acquire a new companion is at the local animal shelter. We urge people to help save animal lives by not buying a pet from a pet shop or breeder as long as millions of surplus pets are homeless and dying.

FIELD SERVICES

Randall Lockwood, Vice President

The Field Services section oversees the activities of our ten regional offices serving 43 states. These offices deal with the everyday needs of individuals and grassroots organizations. They also help implement national programs of The HSUS at a regional level. No additional offices were opened this year, but the North Central Regional Office was relocated closer to the Chicago metro area as part of a program to expand our efforts in that region.

A major focus of regional efforts in the last year has been to assist in coordinating the delivery of emergency services to animals and their owners affected by natural disasters, and other crises. In February, Regional staff provided workshops on planning for disasters at the Animal Care and Control Expo in Las Vegas. That preparation proved valuable when the Southeast and Gulf States offices were faced with the problems generated by Hurricane Andrew, the third most destructive storm of this century. The Southeast office helped coordinate many relief activities in south Florida, including efforts to establish emergency veterinary medical facilities for dogs, cats, and horses, and lost and found and animal foster care programs. Regional staff brought in emergency caging and other supplies and worked closely with the military and local animal organizations to keep

these efforts going long after the storm had passed. In addition, public service radio announcements were distributed throughout south Florida to inform people of the availability of animal services being provided by the HSUS and other organizations.

The Gulf States office coordinated donations of pet food and participated in the distribution of these supplies to organizations and individuals in the hardest hit areas of Louisiana. Other regional offices aided in getting supplies and volunteer workers to stricken areas in both regions.

Soon after the devastating effects of Hurricane Andrew, Hurricane Iniki struck the Hawaiian island of Kuauai. The West Coast office arranged for emergency shipment of kennels and caging supplies to the island. The HSUS will continue to work with local humane groups and emergency authorities to help them recover from the impact of these storms, to establish effective disaster plans, and to educate animal professionals and the public about how to prepare for such emergencies.

HSUS staff also responded to smaller scale weather emergencies. The West Coast office coordinated the helicopter rescue of five horses and mules left stranded by a blizzard in the High Sierras that also trapped 22 people. The animals had been left behind after the people had been rescued. The success of the equipment and techniques used in that airlift have already changed the way emergency workers deal with

large animal rescue efforts.

In more traditional areas of concern, the HSUS continues to be the primary source of information and support in the efforts against the blood sports of dogfighting and cockfighting. In June staff from the Southeast and West Coast offices assisted law enforcement authorities in searches that led to the arrest of several suspected Florida dogfighters and the seizure of 30 dogs. Northern Rockies staff conducted training in prosecuting dogfighting for Wyoming officials. The timely arrest of more than 200 people on cockfighting and weapons charges helped defeat a bill that would have allowed the testing of game cocks in California. West Coast staffers said passage of this bill would have made it all but impossible to prosecute cockfighters.

Regional offices addressed the general problem of animal cruelty in a variety of ways. Workshops specifically dealing with investigating and prosecuting animal cruelty were conducted in Ohio, Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, New York, Wisconsin and Tennessee. The Gulf States office coordinated the establishment of an organization of cruelty investigators in that area. Workshops and presentations on the connections between animal cruelty and other forms of violence were held in California, Georgia, Virginia and the District of Columbia. The HSUS joined with local groups to offer rewards for information leading to convictions in a growing number of cases of violent acts against pets,

including several shootings and poisonings. Following public outrage over a widely publicized case of animal neglect, the South Central office was instrumental in passage of a bill to increase the penalty for animal cruelty to a Class A misdemeanor, with a fine of up to \$2,500 and up to a year in jail. Similar efforts to strengthen state cruelty codes are under way in several other regions.

The Regional offices also played a major role in monitoring the quality of local animal sheltering and control. The new Northern Rockies office established the Idaho Association of Animal Agencies to fill the need for a state organization for animal control agencies and humane societies. The Mid-Atlantic office mounted a major campaign to block the transfer of \$300,000 from New Jersey's Animal Population Control Fund to the state's rabies fund. This transfer would have undermined that state's outstanding spay/neuter program. The New England office worked successfully for the passage of a Connecticut law establishing a spay/neuter program similar to that of New Jersey. The Mid-West office was instrumental in passing the Animal Care Facilities Act in Missouri, which requires state licensing and inspection of all facilities breeding, selling, or caring for animals. After a study of animal shelter conditions in Arkansas, Gulf States staff met with staff of Governor Bill Clinton, who has appointed a committee to find solutions to the deficiencies identified in the HSUS

investigation. The Southeast office launched a successful large-scale campaign to prevent the state of Georgia from terminating their division of Animal Protection due to lack of funding. We were able to demonstrate that a large segment of the population feels that these services were vital, even in a recession.

The problem of puppy mills continued to be a concern around the regions. The Northern Rockies office initiated an investigation of all suspected puppy mills in that new region and has already closed one operation in Wyoming. The South Central office assisted local authorities in raiding a Kentucky mill, confiscating more than 150 dogs. The Great Lakes office closed a major puppy mill in Indiana and worked for comprehensive legislation in Ohio and West Virginia that sets standards for breeders and assures remedies for the sale of sick animals. Similar efforts have been introduced by the Gulf States office for Arkansas and Oklahoma.

Many regional offices addressed issues involving the exploitation of horses. The Gulf States office researched and continues to investigate the horse slaughter industry in which over 300,000 horses are slaughtered each year and shipped to France for human consumption, The West Coast office continues to push for strong enforcement of a new California law that requires that buyers of horses for slaughter must give notice to the seller of the intended use of the animal. The South Central office monitored the Annual

Pony Penning and Swim in Chincoteague, Virginia and drew attention to the cruelty associated with that event. That office also was present at the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration in Shelbyville to investigate conditions at that event. The Gulf States office initiated an investigation to expose the cruelties of Mexican "Charreada" rodeo which is gaining popularity in that region and is largely unregulated.

The HSUS regional offices gave high priority to working with other HSUS sections to combat the abuse of sick and injured livestock brought to auctions. Many of these "downer" animals are subjected to inhumane handling. Frequently they are trampled by healthier animals. Investigators in six regional offices (Midwest, West Coast, Mid-Atlantic, New England, Gulf States and North Central) surveyed livestock handling practices at thirty three auctions around the country. They demonstrated that problems were widespread and that the industry has largely failed to voluntarily correct these abuses. The results of these investigations were presented at federal hearings on livestock handling and, it is hoped, will help institute reforms in the way injured livestock is treated.

Wildlife issues were also a priority for many regional offices. The West Coast office was successful in restoring the Endangered Species Check-Off on the California State Income tax, which last year raised one million dollars for

the protection of that state's wildlife. The Northern Rockies Office coordinated a volunteer project to remove illegal barbed wire fencing from the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range. These fences have been implicated in the deaths of wild horses on the range. That office also forced the reevaluation of an Army Corps of Engineers plan to poison marmot populations in Idaho that were allegedly damaging water control projects. The Southeast office worked to convince the Florida Game Commission to prohibit the killing of black bears, but the hunt continued with the state game commissioner killing one of the approximately 1,000 bears remaining in the state. Efforts to stop this practice will be escalated in the coming year. Staff of the Mid-Atlantic office processed 11,000 signed coupons protesting the Hegins, Pennsylvania Pigeon Shoot. These were delivered to a Pennsylvania legislator who has sponsored a bill to prohibit such shoots.

We also worked at a regional level to protect wildlife in captivity. The New England office inspected and worked toward positive reforms at six zoos in that region. Regional offices sought legislation in Tennessee, Michigan, Ohio, and Florida that would strengthen restrictions on the ownership of exotics. Staff from the Great Lakes office were asked to serve on an Indiana commission to establish regulations for the safe and humane keeping of wild animals. West Coast office efforts were crucial to the defeat of a California

bill that would have considered ostriches livestock rather than exotics and added to the growing problems of ostrich farms in that area.

A recent development in problems with exotic animals has been increasing concern over the proliferation of wolf-dog hybrids. The population estimate is more than 300,000 in the US. Section staff have been involved with efforts to deal with problems associated with hybrids in Louisiana, New Jersey, Ohio, Michigan, California, Virginia, Texas and the District of Columbia. HSUS workshops specifically dealing with the hybrid issue have been conducted in California, Connecticut, Washington state and Oregon.

Overall, the Field Services section has had a full year of individual accomplishment and productive collaboration with other headquarters-based sections and looks forward to even greater success in the year ahead.

INVESTIGATIONS

David K. Wills, Vice President of Investigations

The Investigations Section fulfills both program and professional service roles for The HSUS.

We seek information and work to discover cruelty and abuse upon another section's specific request. For example, when the Wildlife section wished to convince the conference on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to continue to ban the trade of ivory, Investigations obtained evidence that facilitated Wildlife's work. When Farm Animals section staff wished to expose the plight of down, or disabled livestock, Investigations staff traveled to auction yards to gather evidence showing the abuse of old and weak animals awaiting slaughter.

However, in many instances, due to the nature of the event, Investigations not only uncovers and exposes an abuse, but also speaks for The HSUS on that issue. Events such as the Iditarod Sled Dog Race and Kentucky Derby, and issues such as puppy mills fall into this latter category and are included in the following summary.

IDITAROD

The HSUS monitored the 1992 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race on site for the second consecutive year. Recognizing the Iditarod's popularity and the slim chance of stopping the event entirely, we have dedicated our efforts to work for rules that protect the dogs involved. The HSUS has submitted additional recommendations to the ITC and has begun a dialogue with major sponsors of the event asking for their support of these changes. This year four critical recommendations involving rest stops, veterinary care, leasing of dog teams by competitors and the number of dogs required to finish were all adopted by the ITC. We have also strongly objected to the practice of culling dogs.

HORSERACING

The HSUS attended the Kentucky Derby in 1992 and, for the first time, were invited to meet with Thomas Meeker, President and CEO of Churchill Downs, to open a dialogue on problems within the racing industry. We forwarded a list of recommendations to Mr. Meeker. On September 30, 1992, Mr. Meeker met with HSUS President Paul G. Irwin and Investigations Vice President David Wills in Washington, D.C. He was joined by several racing industry officials.

The HSUS was successful in bringing media coverage to drug abuse in the racing industry. The HSUS was successful in preventing the New York State Racing and Wagering Board from legalizing Butazolidin and Lasix and also blocked efforts by

breeders in the United States to convince England, Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Australia and Canada to legalize the use of these drugs prior to racing. Most recently, The HSUS was successful in blocking a proposal by the Illinois Racing Board to legalize administration of phenylbutazone (an anti-inflammatory analgesic) on race day in Illinois. The Illinois Racing Board withdrew the proposal and, at The HSUS's urging, proposed increased penalties for violation of the state's drug regulations.

CHINCOTEAGUE PONY AUCTION

We stepped up our efforts to end animal exploitation during the famous Chincoteague (Virginia) annual pony swim and auction. We worked more closely with the media to help them report the event from an animal protection perspective. We seek either to improve substantially or shut down this event. Our position is that just because an event is traditional doesn't mean it is humane. We researched and prepared a Chincoteague pony swim fact sheet for distribution.

BEARS

The Investigation Section continued its investigation into the supplying of grizzly bears from public lands to research laboratories. Building upon the Bear # 134 investigation, we discovered a series of transactions involving bears removed from national parks and forests, such as the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area in Montana, and sent to a

research laboratory at Washington State University. We continued to work to expose and stop such transactions. We worked with Alaska Fish and Game to rescue two orphaned grizzly cubs from the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska. The cubs are now at a rehabilitation center, and The HSUS will attempt to facilitate their return to the wild within two years.

LOTA AND CIRCUS ELEPHANTS

As the Lota case has moved through the court system, we have embarked on an investigation into the use of endangered species, such as Asian elephants, in profit-making businesses such as circuses. Many cities have used the results of our investigation to ban specific circuses within their limits. Other cities are working on legislation to stop altogether local appearances by any circuses using animals.

ANIMAL ENTERPRISE PROTECTION ACT OF 1992

We became alarmed earlier this year when we heard that legislation being pushed through Congress, the Animal Enterprise Protection Act of 1992, would severely restrict the ability of The HSUS and other animal protection organizations to conduct legitimate investigations of animal abuse. Working with our Federal Legislation Department and concerned members of Congress, we were able to modify the language drastically so that the new law, while still unnecessary and counterproductive, is far less damaging to our information gathering operations than was the original version.

PUPPY MILLS AND PET STORES

The HSUS continued its ongoing investigation of puppy mills and the sale of sick dogs in pet stores. The HSUS is actively working with the news media to educate the public about the risk of purchasing dogs from pet stores. The HSUS was the main impetus for exposes appearing on ABC's "20/20", and in People and Life magazines, as well as for several local media exposes. One of the most significant events was the introduction of a federal bill in Congress to address this problem. "The Puppy Protection Act," introduced by Representative Benjamin Cardin, would hold pet shops accountable for veterinary expenses incurred by dogs sold in their stores. As a result of The HSUS's exposure of the puppy mill problem in the state of Missouri, state legislation was enacted last summer that requires the licensing, inspection, and regulation of commercial kennels. As a result of The HSUS's investigation documenting the lax enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) by USDA, a senior administration official ordered an Inspector General's investigation of that agency. The "Inspector General's Audit Report of USDA", released in March, was severely critical of USDA's enforcement of the AWA. The HSUS was successful in obtaining precedent-setting sentencing in a criminal case against a puppy mill operator, barring him and all members of his household from any involvement with dogs and cats during his lifetime. He received time in jail as well. The HSUS is

also experimenting with new legal remedies against a puppy mill operator which, if successful, could be utilized against anyone engaged in business involving animal abuse.

OLYMPICS

The HSUS was inundated with calls and letters from members outraged after watching the television coverage of the Olympic three-day equestrian event in Barcelona in July. Horse after horse fell at mammoth fences along a brutal four-mile course, part of a three-day test of obedience, endurance, and agility. We responded immediately, working with expert advisers and planning strategy prior to meeting with Olympic and international equestrian officials to demand changes in any future three-day competitions.

The HSUS Investigations section is a professional team of investigators with a formidable array of expertise that includes two senior investigators with years of experience and a broad range of knowledge; two legal investigators who are trained and disciplined in the legal system from the perspective of animal protection; and an investigator who is skilled in detailed analysis of investigative initiatives pertaining to institutional cruelty.

Two developments are eagerly anticipated by the Investigations section: 1) The installation of our recently developed diagnostic software, ACTS (Animal Cruelty Tracking Systems) and 2) forensic and investigative training at

advanced levels for all investigators. All investigative projects will be enhanced when these two initiatives are fulfilled.

FARM ANIMALS AND BIOETHICS

Dr. Michael W. Fox, Vice President

Developments in genetic engineering biotechnology continue to raise serious ethical and animal welfare concerns. One example is increased health problems, particularly mastitis, in dairy cows injected with genetically-engineered Bovine Growth Hormone (BGH). We have long argued that this poses an obvious consumer health risk because sick cows need antibiotics, an issue that the General Accounting Office (GAO) has recently made public. It is now likely that the Federal Drug Administration (FDA), under public pressure, will not permit commercial use of BGH, which, for the same reason, has not been approved in Europe.

The successful engineering of pigs to have human immune systems places our relationship with animals on a new threshold. These pigs will soon be available commercially as organ donors for human patients in need of a new heart or liver. We continue to oppose the patenting of genetically-engineered organisms and have supported legislation in the House and Senate to impose a five-year moratorium.

We contributed to the drafting of a Congressional

Research Service report, Humane Treatment of Farm Animals: Overview and Selected Issues. While it is clear that there is increasing agribusiness-establishment recognition of farm animal welfare issues, especially the handling of "downers," a recent HSUS investigation revealed that downers (livestock that are too sick or crippled to walk unassisted) received abusive treatment at 73% of the markets with downers present. Instead of being euthanized on the farm or shipped directly to slaughter, many of these animals are sent to intermediate livestock markets where they suffer abuses ranging from being trampled to death, to being left for days without food and water. The HSUS is lending strong support to federal legislation that would relieve this suffering by prohibiting the sale of "downed animals" at livestock markets. The HSUS testified at Congressional hearings on the handling abuses of injured and "downer" livestock. Supportive documentation was provided for legislation to improve the handling and slaughter of poultry.

This Section is continuing its participation in establishing national standards for the raising of organic livestock and poultry. We emphasize the connection between less intensive organic systems that address both the physical and behavioral needs of animals and improved animal health and well-being.