FOND FAREWELL—HSUS Gulf States Field Representative Bernard M. Weller gives a farewell gesture to a lion cub at Lion Country Safari in West Palm Beach, Fla. Weller accompanied the cub on a flight from Corpus Christi, Texas, after rescuing it from the backyard of a private citizen in that city.

Zoos Sell Cubs to Illegal Buyer

"This incident gives all zoos a black eye," declared Sue Pressman, HSUS director of wildlife protection, after learning about a recent sale of several lion and cougar cubs by the Dallas and Atlanta zoos to a private buyer in Corpus Christi, Texas, who did not have a federal license to purchase them. "Dallas and Atlanta zoo officials should have checked this man out. Their failure to do so has resulted in the animals being resold in the public marketplace like some inanimate object by people whose only concern is making a fast buck on their flesh."

HSUS Gulf States Representative Bernard M. Weller rescued three of the animals from the backyards of private citizens in the Corpus Christi area last June. During his conversations with the cats' owners, he discovered that one cub had been sold to as many as four separate people in less than 6 months. Another had been given away as a wedding present.

One of the cougar cubs was being advertised in a local newspaper for sale at $500. Weller persuaded the owner to donate the cub to HSUS after pointing out it was illegal to buy or sell exotic animals without a license by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA). He also gained custody of another animal in the same manner. However, he was forced to pay $100 to a lion cub owner who demanded a return on his investment.

Dallas and Atlanta zoo officials told Weller the original buyer of the cubs, George Dismukes, represented himself as (Continued on page 3.)

BULLETIN: HSUS Gulf States Field Representative Bernard M. Weller has just completed an investigation of a greyhound racing training track near Lubbock, Texas. Watch for his poignant on-the-scene story in the next issue of The Humane Society News.
Bernard M. Weller signed a complaint against him. County temper and open wounds, was given in the winter issue of The over a year ago after HSUS Gulf States Field Representative animals before a county court last May. He was fined $1000 and placed on 12 months probation. A description of Graham's stable operation, which included neglect of animals with dis­temper and open wounds, was given in the winter issue of The Gulf States Report.

Graham was charged with 12 counts of cruelty to animals over a year ago after HSUS Gulf States Field Representative Bernard M. Weller signed a complaint against him. County Court Judge Margarita Garza held 11 of the charges in abey­ance during Graham's probation. He told Graham that he was not going to place him under supervised probation. “The only supervision you are going to have is the people of Nueces County who are going to watch you very carefully,” the judge said.

Stable Owner Convicted of Cruelty

Roy Graham, a former Padre Island (Nueces County, Texas) stable owner, pleaded guilty to one count of cruelty to an­iimals before a county court last May. He was fined $1000 and placed on 12 months probation. A description of Graham's stable operation, which included neglect of animals with dis­temper and open wounds, was given in the winter issue of The Gulf States Report.

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HSUS Stops Raccoon-Baiting

HSUS has forced the discontinuance of raccoon-baiting events at the Guadalupe County Fair in Seguin, Texas. Bernard M. Weller, HSUS Gulf States field representative, visited the fair on Sept. 4 to insure that the brutal practice, in which raccoons are baited and then killed with a blow to the head after being startled by fire or sound, was not being practiced.

Raccoons are normally tormented and then killed by a group of men who have been called the “Cowboys.” The raccoon event was discontinued after Weller, who has supported the HSUS for over 10 years, attempted to have it stopped.

Animal Control Publication Available

A highly instructive publication for animal control officers has recently been completed by the Center for Urban Programs at Texas A&M University. The book contains 28 articles on a wide variety of educational and managerial programs in animal control. The book is available in paperback form for $5.00.

Zoos

A new advertising campaign is being undertaken by the American Humane Association to publicize the fact that zoos are a long way from the old days of animal cruelty and exploitation. The campaign is part of a national effort to increase public awareness of the humane aspects of animal control.

HANDS FULL—Participants attending the HSUS Fort Worth Leadership Development Workshop on April 4 and 5 were, from left to right: Mary Taylor, Edward Warren, Jr., Linda Ross, and Melinda Goemaat. All from Oklahoma. More than 100 humanitarians from the Midwest and the South attended the workshop, which offered a wide variety of educational and managerial programs in animal control. Watch for an announcement of the next workshop appearing in a future Gulf States Report.

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MODEL HUMANE SOCIETY—These new cages are only part of the more than $280,000 worth of improvements undertaken recently by the Humane Society of Austin and Travis County (Texas). The remodeling job also included maximum security rabies runs for dogs and a new surgical room. Douglas Scott, HSUS Gulf States regional director, called the facility the most modern and humane animal shelter he had ever seen.