Dear Friends:

It was five years ago that the Gulf States Region of the Humane Society of the United States was established. The pictures on this page are but two of the many animals we have been able to help during that time. Such help has only been possible because of the faithful support of our many friends in the region.

As I am sure you can sense, the rewards of our work have been many and I want to thank all of you who have had a share in the support of our work. But as you continue to read this newsletter about our activities you cannot help but note that the rewards are often outweighed by the cruelties we encounter. We cannot continue our work without the help of our many friends.

The financial burden of the region continues to spiral as the demands for assistance increase and inflation rises. We need the assistance of all our friends in the Gulf States Region. Your liberal support will help us continue our work on behalf of helpless animals. May we hear from you soon?

Sincerely yours,

Douglas M. Scott
Director
While visiting the “pound” in Kingsville, Texas on May 14, 1977, Bernard Weller, Field Representative for the Gulf States Region of the HSUS, found conditions existing that violated the Texas penal code. In his report to the city, Mr. Weller noted that several dogs were infected with mange, resulting in bleeding skin sores. This problem was so prevalent that the entire facility was infected. The cages used to house cats were so small that a confined mouse could not stand, lay, or sit in a natural position. Another wire cage had no food, water or a place for shelter for the cat it contained.

Mr. George Filley III, Kleberg County Attorney, responded to Mr. Weller, expressing concern over reports of conditions existing that violated the Texas penal code. In his report to the city, Mr. Weller noted that several dogs were infected with mange, resulting in bleeding skin sores. This problem was so prevalent that the entire facility was infected. The cages used to house cats were so small that a confined mouse could not stand, lay, or sit in a natural position. Another wire cage had no food, water or a place for shelter for the cat it contained.

As a result, the Commissioners voted to start construction of a new shelter under the guidance of the HSUS. Weller’s findings made the front pages of the newspaper and an editorial was written in support of his criticisms. Denton city officials agreed that the “pound” indeed had many problems and set about to improve the situation. While in that city on June 6, Regional Director Douglas Scott joined Weller and officials from the City Attorney’s office to discuss the matter. As a result, the City Council has appointed a committee to deal with the problems the HSUS brought to their attention. Changes the HSUS recommended have already been implemented in the carbon monoxide chamber and facility.

Euthanasizing unwanted animals was under the guidance of the HSUS. In both Kingsville and Denton “dog pounds” are being transformed into “animal shelters”.

**REGIONAL STAFF VISITS ARKANSAS**

Recently, Douglas Scott and Bernard Weller made a two week visit to the state of Arkansas where they visited with several humane organizations and inspected some of the state’s animal facilities.

The societies visited were the Pulaski County Humane Society in Little Rock, the Northeast Arkansas Humane Society in Jonesboro, the Good Shepherd Humane Society in Eureka Springs, the Fayetteville Humane Society and the Sebastian Humane Society in Ft. Smith. Mr. Scott spoke to these societies about the meaning of the humane ethic, the programs of the HSUS and the relationship of the HSUS to local societies.

During their visit, they inspected zoos in Jonesboro, Eureka Springs, Gentry and Hot Springs. They also inspected animal shelters in all the places they visited and met with city and humane society officials in Little Rock, Jonesboro and Fayetteville about improving their animal control program.

Both Scott and Weller appreciated the great hospitality extended to them by the citizens of Arkansas and look forward to regular visits to that state.

Mr. Scott is available to speak to local organizations upon request and welcomes such opportunities.

**HSUS SEMINARS AND CONFERENCE SET**

Plans for two regional workshops and the 1977 HSUS National Conference have been set. Members and friends from the Gulf States Region are encouraged to mark their calendars now and make plans to attend these events.

**HSUS SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS GIVEN**

Two persons in the Gulf States Region have received HSUS special recognition awards within the last year. Such awards are not given lightly, indicating the high degree of importance that is placed on the service performed by those receiving them.

The first award was given to Mrs. Melinda Gormaert (pictured above with Douglas Scott, Regional Director), president of the local Humane Society and former Mayor of Weatherford, Texas. Mrs. Gormaert was also presented with a plaque for her outstanding contributions to the Gulf States Region.

The second award was presented to Mr. Bill Rice, President of the Marywood Humane Society in Marywood, Oklahoma, for his outstanding service to the region.

**A regional animal control workshop will be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, beginning the morning of Feb. 26th and ending at noon on Feb. 28th. This event will feature HSUS personnel from the Gulf States Region and Washington offices and will include such topics as shelter procedures, cruelty investigation, public relations, euthanasia, spaying, neutering and others. Contact the Gulf States office for more information.**

**A seminar at the New Orleans Animal Control Workshop held in February 1977.**

**More information will follow about the two regional events.**

**arkansas pound**

**Dog in Kingsville facility with mange resulting in swollen leg.**

**Very poor cage for cats with no shelter, food or water in Kingsville facility.**

**Regional Staff Visits Arkansas**

**Arkansas “Pound”**

**Horror Chamber**

This picture depicts a chamber of horrors won over by Douglas Scott & Bernard Weller during recent trip to Monroe, Arkansas. Sept. are being taken by the HSUS to correct the situation.
president of the Volunteers for Animal Welfare in Oklahoma City. Mrs. Goe­maat, with the help of her husband Bob, has performed invaluable service for the HSUS on behalf of helpless animals through investigations she did in Oklahoma zoos miles away from her home, and for the thorough investiga­tion and analysis she did of the Inter­national Science & Engineering Fair that was held in Oklahoma City in May 1975 (written up in the Summer 1975 issue of HSUS News).

Dr. Edwin L. Miller (second from right), past president of the Humane Society of Nacogdoches County in Texas, was the recipient of the second award. Dr. Miller has long been concerned about animal welfare and has been of tremendous assistance to the HSUS in inspecting and improving conditions in cattle auction barns and poultry houses. He has also performed a real service in establishing understanding with law enforcement officials in the Nacogdoches area about their important role in enforcing anti-cruelty laws. Pictured with Dr. Miller are Paul Irwin, Vice President/Treasurer of the HSUS (extreme right), Dr. Grady Wil­lingham, President of the Humane So­ciety of Nacogdoches County (extreme left) and Douglas Scott.

**NORTH TEXAS UNIVERSITY UPDATE**

Douglas Scott and Bernard Weller of the Gulf States Region of the HSUS visited North Texas State University in Denton, Texas in June to inspect their animal laboratory. They report a con­tinuation of the progress written about in the Summer issue of the HSUS News. As a result of the efforts of HSUS, new cages have been installed, living condi­tions for the animals have improved and more consideration is being given to hiring personnel with animal husbandry experience.

**TEXAS LEGISLATION**

Two important bills affecting ani­mals were considered by the Texas leg­islature this year, but did not make it. These were H.B. 874, a bill that would have set standards for the humane care and treatment of animals in muni­cipal and private animal shelters, pet shops, zoos, riding stables and other facilities, and H.B. 887, a bill that would have prohibited the use of a live animal as a lure or quarry in a dog race or in dog coursing. Vested interests managed to twist the meaning of both bills resulting in strong opposition to them on points that were not covered or even hinted at in either bill. We de­plore the use of such tactics and point them out as an illustration of what humanitarians must overcome if we are ever going to get effective animal legis­lation in the State of Texas.

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**HOYT & DOMMERS TO BE AT 1977 A&M WORKSHOP**

The fourth annual Animal Control Personnel Development Program will be held at Texas A&M University No­vember 13-18, 1977. Mr. Hoyt, President of the HSUS and Mr. John Dommers, Director of the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education, a division of the HSUS, will both be on the program. Inquiries about this program may be directed to the Center for Urban Pro­grams, Texas A&M University, Zachry Center, College Station, Texas 77843, (713)-845-4527.

HSUS Board Member, Amanda Blake, on panel at 1976 A&M Conference.