
K. William Wise-man, chairman of the board of The HSUS, presents the 1988 Joseph Wood Krutch Medal to Dr. Jane Goodall.

President John A. Hoyt congratulates Jenifer Graham on receiving a special award from The HSUS.

Krutch medalist Dr. Jane Goodall autographs copies of her books for HSUS conference participants.

Photographs by Bonnie Smith
Washington, D.C., is synonymous with politics, and politics were very much on the minds of those who gathered for the HSUS annual conference, held in the nation's capital in October. Not only was the presidential election just a few weeks away, but the political realities of animal protection were also the theme of a number of speakers on the conference program.

The majority of those who addressed the pre-conference symposium on trade in exotic wildlife grappled with federal and local problems of regulatory enforcement and protective legislation. Then, on October 13, former senator Paul Tsongas gave the more than four hundred registrants an eye-opening view of the legislative process at the congressional level. The next day, in a forum on the nation's foremost animal-protection law, Dr. Dale F. Schwindaman of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's APHIS division and Martin Stephens, HSUS Director of Laboratory Animals, presented contrasting assessments of APHIS's performance in enforcing the Animal Welfare Act. HSUS Investigator Robert Baker then delivered a withering indictment of APHIS's role in policing puppy mills that brought the sympathetic audience to its feet.

The political theme was carried into the workshops, as well, where four sessions concentrated on strategies for change in the legislative arena.

All was not politics and strategy, however. Conference highlights included the keynote address of Dr. Michael Fox, who made an eloquent plea for animal rights and environmental perspectives. Dr. Jane Goodall paid moving tribute to captive chimpanzees in an address, "Prisoners of Science," that will linger in the memories of all who heard her.

President John Hoyt, in his report to the HSUS membership, enumerated the many challenges of the past year and focused on several major accomplishments (see the article on page 12). He reaffirmed, as well, the role The HSUS plays, nationally and internationally, in protecting animals from abuse and suffering.

At Saturday's banquet finale, Dr. Goodall received The HSUS's 1988 Joseph Wood Krutch Medal for her landmark studies of wild chimpanzee behavior. Actress Betty White Ludden proved a most popular recipient of the James Herriot Award for promoting and inspiring public concern for animals; and student Jenifer Graham was honored in recognition of her opposition to classroom dissection.

With this accomplished trio as their inspiration, someone observed, conference participants could look forward with renewed vigor to their challenges for 1989. Few who were present could disagree.
HSUS Companion Animals vice president Phyllis Wright (standing) makes a point during her workshop on the “Be a P.A.L.” campaign.

North Central Regional Director Franz Dantziel (standing) and New England Program Coordinator Frank Ribaudo describe tools of the trade in their workshop on cruelty investigations.
HSUS Vice President John Grady (center) and Associate Director of Wildlife Susan Lieberman greet several of Wednesday's speakers. At far left is Clark Bavin of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; next to him is Don Baur, former general counsel of the Marine Mammal Commission; and at far right is Vance Hughes, formerly with the Department of Justice.

Dr. Michael Fox is congratulated by conference attendees after his keynote address, “Bioethics and the Golden Rule.”

Former Massachusetts senator Paul Tsongas addresses Thursday's general session on “Animal Justice and Today's Political Realities.”
HSUS Senior Vice President Patricia Forkan, moderator of Friday's forum, chats with participants (from left) Dr. Dale F. Schwindaman of APHIS, HSUS Director of Laboratory Animals Martin Stephens, and HSUS Investigator Robert Baker.

Actress Betty White Ludden accepts the 1988 James Herriot Award at the Saturday banquet.

HSUS Captive Wildlife Specialist David Herbet (right) answers questions after his Thursday workshop.