“The Shame of Fur” Is Launched in Five Cities

On October 3, 1988, The HSUS kicked off its “Shame of Fur” campaign. HSUS billboards brought the “Shame of Fur” message to commuters in New York, Chicago, and several other major cities.

At a Chicago press conference, HSUS Vice President for Wildlife and Environment Dr. John Grandy said, “Each year, the fur industry ultimately is responsible for the deaths of approximately 27 million animals…. We hope to make the wearing of furs as unacceptable as is the smoking of cigarettes in elevators.” Dr. Michael Fox, HSUS vice president for farm animals and bioethics, says, “The widespread acceptance of the physical and psychological trauma that an animal caught in a leghold trap must endure so that humans may profit from the sale of its fur is one of the many tragic signs that humanity has yet to mature and treat all of God’s creatures with respect and compassion.”

Protesters Turn Out at Great Swamp

“Protesters plan to keep pace with deer hunt,” read the banner headline of the Daily Record—and so they did. For the fifteenth year, representatives of animal-protection groups, organized by the HSUS Mid-Atlantic Regional Office and Deer, Inc., gathered at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey in December to protest its annual deer hunt. More than 60 protesters greeted hunters on opening day, and a smaller contingent was on hand the other two days.

Light snow and bitter winds made the three days difficult, but protesters marched and chanted, “Put the blame on fish and game!” Lou Martinez, representing a consortium of hunting groups in New Jersey, said about 50 pro-hunt demonstrators would be on hand to show their support for the deer kill. “Before the hunt began, many deer were starving,” he said. “Since the hunt began, the deer on the refuge are in better health.”

Mid-Atlantic Regional Director Nina Austenberg countered Martinez’s remarks by pointing out, “If the deer are so healthy, continued on page 2
Nina Austenberg speaks to reporters during last December's protest against the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge's annual deer hunt.
DIRECTOR’S COMMENT

by Nina Austenberg

As a rule, I like to save this column to talk about animals that seem to me often overlooked in animal welfare, such as the bee, the lobster, and the bat. Today, however, I’d like to use the column to say thank you and good-bye to a champion of mercy, Dick Kenly.

Dick Kenly worked as a volunteer New Jersey coordinator for the Fund for Animals for nearly 20 years. On the national scene for the Fund, Dick was in charge of a goat rescue on San Clemente Island, made necessary by the U.S. Navy’s plans to shoot the goats because it was using the island for target practice. Locally, he worked hard for legislation to ban the decompression chamber for euthanasia and steel-jaw leghold traps. He and I were together when New Jersey Governor Kean signed the ban on the cruel steel-jaw leghold trap on April 27, 1984. More recently, Dick served on the endangered and non-game council.

Just two weeks before his death I spoke with Dick by phone, and we talked about next year’s protest against deer hunting at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge and possibly expanding the protest to cover the other three wildlife refuges in the area.

On January 10, Dick died while undergoing surgery for cancer. He was forty-eight. Dick leaves the world a little better, a little kinder. God must be very proud of him.

Plan to Attend Regional Workshop in June

Plan to attend a workshop on June 7, 8, and 9 at the Quality Inn, East Brunswick, N.J., sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office and the New Jersey State Department of Health. The three-day workshop will feature noted national and state experts. The focus of the first day will be the “Mid-Atlantic Region Rabies Update: Animal Bites, Reporting, Treatment and Medical Practices.” On days two and three, New Jersey Consumer Affairs Director James Barry will discuss “The New Jersey Pet-Shop Regulations: How They Came About—How They Are Working,” and HSUS Director of Higher Education Programs Dr. Randy Lockwood will address problems of animal behavior and vicious-dog legislation. HSUS Vice President for Companion Animals Phyllis Wright will lecture on shelter procedures, and a workshop entitled “Santeria, Satanic Rituals, and Cults” is planned.

This workshop will provide an important educational opportunity as well as a chance for HSUS members to meet staff from the Washington, D.C., office and others who are interested in animal-welfare issues. A get-acquainted social is planned for Thursday evening. This conference is open to animal-control officers, humane-society workers, HSUS members, and the general public. For further information and a brochure, call the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office at (201) 927-5611.

Pennsylvania Bill Update

Pennsylvania State Representative Christopher Wogan, with a large number of cosponsors, has reintroduced H.B. 558, a bill which will mandate licensing and regulation of the state’s pet shops. Rep. Wogan said, “I feel the bill has a good chance of passing during this session due to the number of bipartisan supporters.”

To offer your support for this bill, write to Rep. Christopher Wogan, 6533 Rising Sun Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111.

Reflect for a moment....

HOW CAN I HELP ANIMALS EVEN WHEN I NO LONGER SHARE THEIR WORLD?

By your bequest for animal protection to The Humane Society of the United States, your will can provide for animals after you’re gone. Naming The HSUS demonstrates your lasting commitment to animal welfare and strengthens the Society for this task. We will be happy to send information about our animal programs and material that will assist in planning a will.

Please send will information to:

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City ___________________ State ______
Zip code ________________________
Mail in confidence to Murdaugh S. Madden, Vice President/General Counsel, The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037.