THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

SUMMER 1978

HSUS OPENS REGIONAL OFFICE FOR SOUTHEAST

Donald K. Coburn - Regional Director

On the first of March, 1978, The Humane Society of the United States established a regional office located in Orlando, Florida, to further the cause of animal welfare by its presence, influence, and action in the southeast.

Our purpose, with several programs, is to implement the primary and motivating concern of The HSUS: the prevention of suffering and cruelty to all animals.

The regional office will not only initiate programs directed toward the concerns of animals, but will respond to regional concerns from animal welfare organizations, as well as individuals.

The regional office is an extension of our Washington based headquarters. For this region that simply means, the resources and expertise of The HSUS' Staff is available through the regional programs for the benefit of our major concern... ANIMALS.

The HSUS is active in virtually every area of animal protection, fostering the humane ethic and philosophy through educational, legislative, investigative, and legal channels.

WORKSHOP

A two day ANIMAL CONTROL WORKSHOP for the Southeast Region will be held in Montgomery, Alabama, November 3 and 4.

Here is an opportunity for all humanitarians, who are actively involved in animal welfare, to receive professional information and to share your concerns with others.

A brochure and registration form will be mailed to your local society soon. OR, pre-register by writing to HSUS-Southeast Regional Office, 3165 McCrory Place, Suite 215, Orlando, Florida 32803.


Put these important dates on your calendar NOW!!!

NOVEMBER 3 AND 4... MONTGOMERY, AL.

MEET THE STAFF

Ginnie Stripling is the Executive Secretary and manages the daily office affairs. Ginnie will receive your calls and direct your concerns to the proper area for response and answer. Often, as a matter of office policy, she will suggest a letter with pertinent information from you so we may effectively respond to your need. Ginnie's background and concern for the rights of animals has effectively prepared her for this position in The HSUS Regional Office.

Bernie Weller, is our Field Representative/Cruelty Investigator. Bernie has many years of experience in the animal welfare field. His time as a police officer and early association with local humane societies, and later as a California State Cruelty Officer, provided credentials necessary for his present position. The HSUS recently transferred Bernie from our Gulf States' Regional Office, where he served for six years in the same capacity, as he will in this region.

Don Coburn, Regional Director, is responsible for the management of the regional programs. Don's background, as a United Methodist Minister, supplies him with qualifications and skills that enhance his roles of public relations, membership association, group meetings, administration and the varied roles, for which this position is responsible.

The entire staff at the Southeast Regional Office has pledged themselves to the welfare of animals, and promoting the humane ethic and philosophy through our regional programs.
called our office for guidance. The story has a simple plot: a society needed assistance and The HSUS responded with concern and guidance. Bernie Weller, our Representative Supervisor, was requested to fly to the island to work directly with the Ponce Society in some needed training for the program.

Dorothy Rodriguez agreed to take a working vacation and accompany Mr. Weller to Puerto Rico to share in several workshops with board members, as well as the mayor, to solve the financial difficulties.

The city officials responded to The HSUS’ concern and presence, and to Ms. Rodriguez’s knowledge of the society’s needs, with a positive action, restoring contracted money with an increase.

The response by The HSUS to the Ponce call for help is in keeping with the stated basic concern TO RELIEVE AND PREVENT SUFFERING AND CRUELTY TO ANIMALS! When this is accomplished there is reward in the knowledge that the efforts expended did indeed bring that goal to realization.

Animal Rights & Human Ethic

Animal Rights and Human Ethics is the theme of The HSUS Annual Conference, to be held in Dearborn, Michigan, October 12, 13, 14, 1978.

Register: [$40.00] HSUS Conference 2100 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND

HSUS RESPONDS TO PUERTO RICO

In June, a call came to the Southeast Regional Office asking if The HSUS could help the Ponce, Puerto Rico Humane Society. The city of Ponce contracts the animal control program to the humane society. The society’s funds are depleted and communications with the city officials had deteriorated to the detriment of the program. Ponce first contacted the founder of the society, Dorothy Rodriguez, who is presently the executive for the Orlando Humane Society. She in turn

Animal Rights and Human Ethic

Birds have a social consciousness. They recognize themselves in a mirror. They recognize their owners. They recognize their own off-spring. They know that they have ‘left’ the service of the Creator.’

What is the meaning of real? The dictionary defines real: “actual; true; not merely seeming. ‘Sometimes,’ said the Skin Horse for he was always truthful. ‘When you are Real you don’t have to ex­plain,’ he said. ‘It’s a thing that happens to you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with, but REALLY loves you, then you become Real.’

‘Does it happen all at once,’ asked the Rabbit, ‘or bit by bit?’

‘Does it happen all at once,’ said the Skin Horse, ‘or bit by bit?’

‘It doesn’t happen all at once,’ said the Skin Horse. ‘Sometimes you don’t notice it happen at all, because you’re too busy being happy.’

‘If you lose your hair, it isn’t because you don’t love someone, is it?’ asked the little Rabbit.

‘No, no, it isn’t that,’ said the Skin Horse. ‘When you love somebody, they live inside your heart, and you can’t take them out.

Your Concern Can Continue Through Your Will

Your concern can continue -- through your will.

Your love and concern can continue by a loving res­ponsibility, a will. Make a will and provide for animals in it.

The HSUS will send you, without obligation, an in­formation packet describing the best use of your animal welfare bequest. There is information outlining procedures on how to write your will.

Write in complete confidence to:

Mr. Robert Curly, Field Representative
Vice President/General Counsel
The Humane Society of the United States
2100 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

FROM THE DIRECTORS DESK

Recently I completed a class in supervision at a divinity school. This group of ministers at Boston University School of Theology, was interested in my decision to leave the pastorate and become a regional director for The HSUS. We discussed the decision process, the difference in careers, the similarities and differences of our roles.

Late that same week a note from a young minister, in that Boston University Class, came to my desk. He began by writing:

"Thank you so much for your assistance in defeat­ing, imagined, anticipated ... " Another part of this note was, ‘when we are Real we don’t have to explain,’ he said. ‘It’s a thing that happens to you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with, but REALLY loves you, then you become Real.’

Does it happen all at once, like being wound up,’ he asked, ‘or bit by bit?’

‘It doesn’t happen all at once,’ said the Skin Horse. ‘Sometimes you don’t notice it happen at all, because you’re too busy being happy.’

Your Gifts Will Work

Activities of The HSUS Regional Office are de­pendent on your support. With concerned response from the membership of the Southeast Region, The HSUS is enabled to work effectively. Your gifts assist in preventing animal cruelty and suffering and in the promotion of humane education.

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BERNIE WELLER SAVES FRED TURTLE

Driving South on Route 41, through Bradenton, on our way to a meeting with county commissioners, a voice from the rear seat brought me to a controlled stop - “don’t hit him!”

The Field Representative of The HSUS stepped quickly from the car and waved traffic to a halt. Threading his way between cars, Bernie deftly retrieved the street crossing from the congested road and placed him safely on a nearby lawn. Upon Bernie’s return to the car, he was asked, “did he say thanks?” “No,” responded Bernie, “but his name was Fred”.

Fred is a turtle. Apparently Fred was not experienced in the ways of modern traffic patterns. He had not crossed at a light or cross walk, and his meandering style left him vulnerable to the ceaseless, careless machines of man. Even though Fred was well equipped for his own domain, he had almost made the fatal mistake of invading civilization. Had there not been a seeing eye and a sensitive hand, Fred’s family would have experienced the loss of husband and father.

Fred’s experience is all too often the experience of many of our animal friends. And without the concern and protection of a caring humanity, we can lose these friends, many who are irreplaceable.