Dian Fossey—A Remembrance

Few of us shall ever know the experience of becoming a companion to animals, especially to ani-
mals as unique as the 240 mountain gorillas that adopted Dian Fossey as their very own special
companion. For, in most cases, it is we who cause animals to become our “companions” and, in so doing,
oblige them to orient their existence to our life-styles, our schedules, our desires. But not so Dian
Fossey. For her, companionship with animals meant living on their terms, in their environment,
and for the sake of their well-being and survival. And toward that end, she both lived and died.

Her adoption by these remarkable creatures of the Virunga Mountains located in Rwanda began
almost eighteen years ago. Chosen by the eminent anthropologist Dr. Louis S.B. Leakey to be
come his “gorilla girl,” Dian Fossey never turned aside from her single-minded commitment to
become the defender of these magnificent creatures, believed to be humanity’s closest relative.

In 1981, she wrote, “These powerful but shy and gentle animals accepted and responded to my
acting when I acted like a gorilla. So I learned to scratch and groom and beat my chest. I
imitated their vocalizations, munched the foliage they ate, kept low to the ground and deliberate
in movement.”

Living an existence that virtually isolated her from other humans and civilization as she had
known it, Dian Fossey became as one with the gorillas she was meant to study. And as this,
her extended family, increasingly came under attack from poachers, she herself became increasingly
resentful and fearful of the intrusion of members of the human species into their domain.

Writing of her experience with these gorillas in a 1983 book Gorillas in the Mist, she described
them as affectionate, brave, tolerant, loving and nurturing as parents, and stable as family
members. In reading this book, one could not escape the conclusion that she had, perhaps, come
to prefer them to humans.

Dian Fossey was killed in late December of this past year at her home and research camp in the
mountain habitat of her gorilla companions, climaxing a dedication to these animals that has caused
some conservationists to declare that she had ceased to be effective. Not so. For those of us who
had the opportunity of seeing and hearing her at the 1984 HSUS annual conference in San Diego,
California, she will attest to her unique effectiveness! In one brief moment—of several hours dura-
tion—she made it possible for us to walk with her across the Virunga Mountains. We watched,
listened and, yes, experienced, as we peered through the bush at an unsuspecting gorilla family.
Lifted from our breath as we crept closer, knowing that even the slightest movement might
cause them to flee. And then, finally, we met them all—Uncle Bert, Effie, Marchessa, Kweli,
Quince, Frito, Dude, and Digit.

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WSPA Aids Sheep

In an inspection undertaken by The HSUS and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the staff of The World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) recently observed live-sheep transport methods from New Zealand to Mexico. This investigation was undertaken in response to the New Zealand government’s decision to lift a ban on live-sheep exports. This ban was undertaken in response to the recent observation of live-sheep handling in the Middle East. This ban had received a great deal of publicity in New Zealand, and the WSPA was determined to drive the Royal New Zealand government to continue to work to improve the live-animal trade worldwide.

The HSUS News editor Deborah Salem accepted Special-Interest Magazine of the Year award from Hall Sundstrom, president of the Dog Writers’ Association of America.

Magazine of the Year

In February, The HSUS News was honored by the Dog Writers’ Association of America as special-interest magazine of the year for 1985. The News was a finalist in this category in 1984. Thirty-one awards categories attracted hundreds of entries from all over the country for the ’85 contest. HSUS News editor Deborah Salem accepted the award on behalf of The HSUS at the association’s banquet in New York.

Cold Weather Comfort

Severe winter weather in Idaho this past winter threatened several wildlife species with massive starvation. In January, The HSUS contributed a substantial donation to the Idaho Fish and Game Department’s corral feeding program for deer, elk, and pronghorn antelope. Although The HSUS doesn’t routinely recommend feeding as a solution to wildlife problems, it is sometimes necessary to help with the increased survival rate of these animals. The HSUS hopes to make The HSUS News a more valuable read in the future, and is considering adding more news stories about wildlife protection and related issues.

Grants for Good

The Charlotte and William Parks Trust, which commemorates two pioneering pet-facilitated therapy organizations, announces that it has available a free spay/neuter program for the first time in twenty years, according to Dr. Marty Foster. “More veterinarians are taking a leading role in the world’s battle against animal overpopulation, and The HSUS is pleased to be able to support their efforts.”

One Small Step for Animals

Dr. Foster and his two partners, Drs. Marty Smith and David Fox, have recently initiated a free spay/neuter program for the first time in twenty years. According to Dr. Foster, “The pressure to increase production of animal shelters is mounting, and The HSUS is pleased to be able to support their efforts.”

HSUS News editor Deborah Salem accepts Special-Interest Magazine of the Year award from Hall Sundstrom, president of the Dog Writers’ Association of America.

For more information on The Arts Council, write to:

Conference Organizer, WSPA
P.O. Box 190, Boston MA 02130

WSPA’s 1986 Biennial Meeting and Conference at the European Centre, Luxembourg, 27-31 May 1986

In May 1986, the World Society for the Protection of Animals will be holding its Biennial Meeting, under the patronage of the Town of Luxembourg and the Minister of Agriculture. The Conference will bring together professionals in the field of animal protection, with the emphasis being on European progress and problems. Issues to be discussed include Fears of the Future, Fears of Returning, Fears of Experiments, Dog Management and Transportation & International Trade in Livestock. There will be simultaneous translation in English, French and German.
Pet-Facilitated Therapy Grows Up

Many Humane Organizations Are Reevaluating Their Role in PFT
by Randall Lockwood, Ph.D.

Over the last twenty years, the common sense realization that contact with animals can enrich our lives has received enormous attention from the scientific, veterinary, and human health-care communities. The result has been the rapid growth of programs aimed at integrating pets and other animals into the care and treatment of many different groups, including the institutionalized and home-bound elderly as well as the physically, mentally, or emotionally handicapped. These activities have been given a wide variety of labels including “animal-assisted therapy,” “people-pet partnership,” and, most commonly, “pet-facilitated therapy” or simply “PFT.”

Although scientific and media attention to the therapeutic value of pets has been relatively recent, the idea goes back a long way. England’s York Retreat, founded in 1792, used the rewards of caring for animals as a way of shaping the behavior of the mentally ill. This came at a time when most asylums used brutal physical punishment to control behavior. In West Germany, the Bethel treatment facility was started in 1867. From the very beginning, this community integrated pets, farm animals, and wildlife into the treatment programs that now reach over 5,000 patients. American use of animals in therapeutic settings began at the Pawling Army Air Force Convalescent Hospital in New York in 1942. Here, physically and emotionally scarred patients cared for farm animals and were encouraged to study reptiles, amphibians, and other local wildlife.

Current interest in the role of pets in improving health care can be directly traced to the pioneering work of the late Dr. Boris Levinson and psychologists Sam and Elizabeth O’Leary Corson. Levinson began to use his shaggy dog, Jingles, as a “co-therapist” in 1953. In two classic books, he provided dozens of anecdotes of how the dog aided him in diagnosing and treating a variety of emotional problems, especially in children and elderly patients. The Corsons entered the field in the early 1970s while researching dog behavior at Ohio State University. Adolescent patients who heard the dogs barking asked permission to play with them. The Corsons agreed and then found that many of these young patients showed impressive improvement. Encouraged by this result, the researchers introduced dogs into an Ohio nursing home and documented important improvements in motivation and self-reliance among many of the residents.

Although animal-facilitated programs have been aimed at a variety of audiences, projects involving the elderly have been particularly popular with community groups and local humane organizations. The elderly are often especially responsive to contact with animals. Sometimes, such experiences produce smiles, laughter, and even conversation in patients who have long been withdrawn and unresponsive. Occasionally, this has opened the door for long-term improvements.

Three different kinds of programs have evolved. The most popular involves bringing suitable pets or shelter animals to nursing homes or other facilities for a few hours on a regular basis. A second type of project provides appropriate permanent animals to hospitals and nursing homes or other facilities for a few hours on a regular basis. A second type of project provides appropriate permanent animals to hospitals and nursing homes. The third approach attempts to provide extra care and assistance to healthy elderly people wishing to adopt pets into their own homes.

Many animal-oriented groups have been attracted to pet-therapy programs for the elderly because of the new opportunities they provide. Animal
mal-assisted activities allow these groups involved in the euthanasia of unwanted animals with a chance to be seen in a positive light in the community and can offer new avenues for publicity and perhaps some additional funding. Finally, doing something that clearly makes people happy can provide a boost in morale for staff in a business that has more than its share of setbacks and disappointments.

In 1972, only about fifteen humane societies were involved in pet-therapy programs. By 1982, there were more than seventy-five. Despite this rapid expansion, we are now seeing some new trends as the field matures. The growth has slowed, and some of the largest and most influential humane organizations are revising or even abandoning their pet-therapy programs, including the Massachusetts SPCA, the Pennsylvania SPCA, Philadelphia's Women's SPCA, and New York's Bide-A-Wee Home Association. Elsewhere, "spur-of-the-moment" therapy programs are giving way to carefully planned and supervised activities that rely less on humane societies and more on a wide range of volunteer groups.

What has prompted this turn-around? Phil Arkow, education and publicity director for the Humane Society of the Pikes' Peak Region in Colorado, a leading advocate of responsible PFT programs, has identified three sources of criticism of such activities—the animal-rights movement, humane societies, and the scientific community.

First, a number of animal-rights and animal-welfare activists have questioned the utilitarian emphasis of pet therapy, using animals as tools for producing short-lived, brief changes in people's health or happiness. Philosopher Bernard Rollin, for example, has commented that "nothing in the PFT movement promotes the intrinsic value of animals," adding that "Humane societies that deplore the depersonalization of animals should not be treating them as disposable psychological tools even for people in need."

In the early days of PFT, the smiles on the faces of elderly and handicapped people holding puppies and kittens seemed to outweigh consideration of the fear or stress that the animals might be experiencing. Today, many people involved in PFT express concern over the welfare of these furry "therapists." Dr. John New of the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine, associated with Knoxville's highly praised Pet Placement Program for the elderly, has noted that "The main reason many pet-therapy programs fail is the lack of appreciation of the animal's needs. These are not bottles of medicine that can be placed on a shelf only to be taken down three or four times a day for a dose."

Elaine Newton of the Pennsylvania SPCA reports that her group stopped its nursing home programs after repeatedly facing the sight of the animals returning to the shelter exhausted and having missed an opportunity to be adopted. She adds, "The benefits never balanced the time and effort."

A second group expressing reservations about the explosive growth of pet therapy is humane societies and animal shelters, including many involved in PFT programs, which question whether therapy activities really fit in with their primary mission to promote animal welfare. In some cases, shelters had added nursing home programs and other therapy projects to the responsibility of already strained humane education departments. Bide-A-Wee's Director of Education, Sherry Trainer, says: "PFT should never have been considered part of education to begin with. It took resources from other needed programs." Patty Finch, director of the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education, agrees: "A good humane education effort aimed at present and future pet owners can go a lot further in preventing animal suffering than equivalent time spent on therapy programs."

In addition, many excellent humane educators lack the special training that the PFT movement has had to offer, making it difficult to coordinate a responsible and effective PFT program.

The Massachusetts SPCA is fairly typical of several groups that have changed their orientation in recent years. The organization launched one of the first structured programs for bringing pets to the elderly in 1976. Working with Junior League volunteers, it sought out nursing homes interested in having resident animals and initiated a program involving careful selection of appropriate animals, coupled with the extensive education of nursing home patients and staff. Over the next few years, forty-five animals were placed in these facilities. According to MSPCA Director of Education Judy Golden, problems started to turn up about 1980. There was a high demand for animals from nursing home visits, and careful screening of both animals and nursing homes began to suffer. In several cases, there were staff changes in the homes and animals found themselves in places where they were no longer appreciated. The program was discontinued in 1983. Golden notes, "Our mandate is to help the animals. If we can also help people, that's nice, but our therapy programs are sapping us."

The Massachusetts SPCA's PFT activities have been replaced by a less demanding program of supervision of volunteers who visit homes with their own carefully screened adult dogs.

A third group that has raised questions about the therapy boom consists of scientists involved in the study of PFT and other aspects of the human-animal bond. Although there is little question that the vast majority of people exposed to PFT programs have a valuable and richly enjoyable experience, a number of researchers and health-care professionals feel that such an experience is better seen as "recreation" rather than "therapy."

In a 1984 article in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, Drs. Alan Beck and Aaron Katcher reviewed a large number of studies of PFT and concluded that the case for long-term therapeutic effects remains to be proven. Even PFT pioneer Sam Corson has spoken of the continuing need for well-documented and controlled research into the benefits of animal-assisted therapy.

The experiences and concerns raised by more than ten years of animal-assisted programs are having profound effects on the PFT movement. What was largely a fad a few years ago is now showing promising signs of maturing into a true profession. The important changes that have come about include:

Widespread Adoption of Careful Guidelines—The key to any successful project is good planning. Any PFT project should be preceded by a thorough assessment of the needs of the intended recipients and the resources available to the agency that will provide the services. In addition, careful consideration of the needs and benefits of the animals involved is essential, and a thorough assessment of staff needs is also required. Finally, the program should be carefully monitored and evaluated to ensure that it is meeting the needs of both the animals and the recipients.
fertility of the animals involved must be a primary consideration.

Recognizing the need for careful preparation, many organizations have developed excellent guidelines for planning, implementing, and evaluating animal-related programs. These guidelines include the Delta Society, the Latham Foundation, the American Veterinary Medical Association, the California Veterinary Medical Association, and the American College of Veterinary Practitioners. The Latham Foundation, the American Veterinary Medical Association, the Council on Pet Assisted Therapy, and Pennsylvania State University's PACT (People and Animals Coming Together) program have all contributed to the development of these guidelines. Planning and assessment of responsible pet programs are now covered in detail in two recent publications: Dynamic Relationships in Practice: Animals in the Helping Professions, edited by Phil Arkow (Alameda, CA: The Latham Foundation, 1984) and Pets and the Elderly: The Therapeutic Bond by Odeen Cusack and Elaine Smith (New York: Haworth Press, 1984).

Improved Training of Pet Therapists—Many of the people who were carried away with their enthusiasm for pets have found that the training of working with animals is a complex and demanding endeavor. One of the first programs designed specifically to address this need was the Pennsylvania State University's PACT program. This program has provided a variety of services that help older adults adopt and care for dogs and cats, and it is the focus of the following article.

In late December, the world was shocked to learn of the murder of Dian Fossey, who dedicated her life to the study of gorillas. Her passing has left a void in the lives of many people, including those of the hundreds of gorillas she devoted her life to save. In this article, we will explore the life and work of Dian Fossey, her contributions to the conservation of gorillas, and the legacy she leaves behind.

Dian Fossey Was HIP

When I nominated Dian Fossey for the HSUS Krutch medal, I knew her only through a brief meeting years earlier and subsequent compelling reports about her work on behalf of gorillas. During several days with Dian Fossey when she came to accept the medal in 1984, I noted a few things. She was an excellent and decisive listener, and her communication skills were impressive. She was also a hard worker, always willing to go above and beyond to help others. She was a real leader who could inspire others to do their best.

In honor of Dian Fossey, let us take a moment to reflect on her life and work. Dian Fossey was a woman of immense courage, determination, and compassion. She dedicated her life to the conservation of gorillas, and her efforts had a profound impact on the lives of millions of people.

A Tribute: Dian Fossey

In the heart of the Virungas, a place that is a message that no one can kill. She worked tirelessly, in ill health, up until her final moments on behalf of her beloved charges. Dian Fossey was the most HIP person I've ever known. She lived her life with humility, integrity, perseverance. Her life may be over but her legacy lives on.

Dr. Randall Lockwood is the HSUS's director of higher education programs.

Penn State's PACT program provides a variety of services that help older adults adopt and care for dogs and cats.
timed efforts of the Karisoke Research Centre are paramount in importance for our understanding of gorilla behavior and conservation. Anyone truly dedicated to conservation and behavioral research and those interested in mountain gorillas are the ultimate partners. Concerted support on their behalf is critical at this time and has been for many years.

I only knew Dian through letters, phone conversations, meetings in the U.S., and publications. We spoke often, her dry wit and deep-seated interest in my family and welfare and continued efforts to learn and contribute more about Africa and gorillas were constant sources of stimulation and encouragement. The isolation of our family on that mountain we all felt. Anyone who has actively studied gorillas in the wild for any period of time or been involved in any pioneering effort that involves a closely related species, in particular, has few sympathetic people with whom to share common experiences. There are many who seek fame and fortune, who have a shadow of a species with King Kong and its evolutionary cousin, and who dies to protect mountain gorillas in Virunga National Park. Nothing less can be a truly fitting way to commemorate her life and her work.

Dian Fossey chatted with well-wishers at the 1984 HSUS annual conference.

The Road Taken
I want to talk about Dian, the person, Dian, the scientist, and Dian, the conservationist. I first knew Dian in 1966. She visited Gombe briefly and then she spent Christmas with Hugo and me. Dian was a very beautiful woman. And I’ve known Dian through the years, not that we spent much time together, but the times that we did spend together were very meaningful. I know Dian as a warm person, someone with a good sense of humor.

Remembrance
The death of a friend has no measure because it is forever, and we are not equipped to deal with it. The death of a great, dedicated conservationist has no measure because we will not live long enough to know just how much she will be missed and what the consequences of the loss of his strength will mean. The death of Dian Fossey must be evaluated because we do not really understand yet what it could mean to live in a kind and gentle world. The death of Dian Fossey is without sense or reason. We will have had the time to love her, to know her, to love her as she loved the mountain gorillas to whom she gave her life.

I am Dian Fossey, the scientist; she dedicated her life to learning about the gorillas.

And I think it’s quite safe to say that had Dian not blazed this trail, we might not have stayed there, and kept the research going by whatever means she could. We would not have had the information covering a number of life spans, we shall never get a really good picture of the behavior of the mountain gorillas.

Finally, Dian, the conservationist: it is likely that in the absence of a person who had not been so preoccupied with fighting the poachers, with trying to save her gorillas from the ever-present threats that were meted out to some of them, her scientific output would have been even greater, her accomplishments, her fame and her fortune, and into bringing the gorillas to as wide an audience as she could and through her example and aims and her scientific accomplishments, her worth. We could try to put right the terrible wrongs that she saw being done. And who are we to blame her? We are in this world. We all have sins to bear. I don’t know how I would react if someone were to come and try to save the chimps at Gombe. All we can say is—and I think it is not too much to say—that the enemies of these apes have probably not been any mountain gorillas in Rwanda today.
MOVING NATURE OFF ITS COURSE

Commercially Manufactured Hormone Threatens Welfare of Dairy Cattle

For the last several years, animal welfare proponents have watched with increasing concern the efforts of modern animal scientists to create farm animal species that produce the most product in the shortest time span and tolerate the man-made, controlled environments of intensive farming systems (see the Spring 1984 HSUS News).

The use of bGH can't help but intensify the cruelty to which factory farmed dairy cows are subjected today. Not only will they succumb to production-related diseases, but their resistance to infectious and contagious diseases will also be lowered. This will increase the probability of sickness and suffering among these animals.

Bovine growth-stimulating hormone is a product that the U.S. does not need. It will not make the industry significantly more efficient, since cows will need more feed to make more milk, but it will mean that fewer cows will carry the burden of satisfying the nation's need for milk and dairy products. This is the source of its appeal to those who are imposing the value of industrial efficiency on the dairy industry regardless of its adverse consequences to the individual farmer and the individual animal "machine."

Ironically, bGH will not benefit consumers by bringing the price of milk down. Farmers' production costs won't decrease. The dairy price-support system nurtured by Congress, which pays the dairy industry billions of dollars, is not likely to disappear regardless of genetically engineered "advances." There is already such a glut of dairy products on the market that, if no more cows were milked today, we would still have enough stored product to supply every person in the U.S. with powdered milk for two years and cheese for four months! Clearly, we don't need a biotechnological product that will benefit only its manufacturers and the larger dairy farms that are on their way to becoming the industry monopolists of tomorrow! Unless our society decides to oppose technological innovations that do not contribute to the long-term general good, we are destined to witness the gradual disappearance of traditional humane animal-husbandry methods.

The HSUS is at the forefront of this opposition. We have agreed in principle to join the Foundation on Economic Trends in preparing a lawsuit to block the marketing of genetically engineered bGH. Such strategies are crucial to our efforts to halt more, even more mischievous tampering with the genetic legacy of the species that share our planet.

Michael W. Fox is The HSUS's scientific director.

by Dr. Michael W. Fox
This spring, The HSUS will publish A Layman's Guide to Alternatives to Animals in Research, Safety Testing, and Education. Prepared by our Laboratory Animals department, this guide will be most useful to legislators, animal activists, journalists, and others who want a detailed, comprehensive discussion of the complicated, ever-expanding options available as alternatives to the use of animals in biomedical research and testing. Below is an excerpt from this unique book.

Overview

Animals are used extensively in laboratory procedures, especially in biomedical research, toxicity testing, and education. Estimates of current usage range from about twenty to seventy million animals per year in the United States alone. Many of these animals suffer; some are deliberately sickened, injured, or killed. Others suffer from neglect, ignorance, indifference, or outright cruelty. No one wants to see animals suffer, regardless of one's opinion of the value of animal research. For that reason alone, alternative methods should be developed to replace the use of animals in laboratory procedures, to reduce animal use, or to refine procedures so that pain or suffering is reduced, replaced, or even eliminated. The ultimate goal of this approach to research is the complete replacement of labora­tory animals with non-animal methods. The enormous toll in animal suffering is only one reason why the scientific and lay communities should make every effort to explore research alternatives. Others are the high cost and long duration of animal studies; potential inaccuracies in extrapolating from animals to humans; the questionable value of animal-based toxicity tests; and limitations on what can be learned from conventional animal studies. Scientists are recognizing that alternatives can be more effective and practical than animal studies. Five major types of alternatives have been developed:

1. Human studies include clinical, epidemiological, and postmortem investigations. For example, most substances known to cause cancer in humans have been identified by epidemiological studies, not animal tests.

2. In vitro techniques are used to study living biological components in the controlled environment of laboratory containers. Samples can be obtained from humans or animals. Even though animals may be used, one animal usually provides enough data for many in use, poles or a tissue can be propagated indefinitely, serving study after study. In vitro techniques have been used in research on AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) to isolate, identify, and concentrate the AIDS virus and are now being used to screen drugs rapidly for anti-AIDS virus activity.

3. Mathematical models describe a biological system under study in mathematical terms in order to predict novel features of that system. Existing information about the system is used to design the model and make predictions. For example, a model has been designed as a potential replacement for the animal-based LD50 test, which estimates the dose of a substance needed to kill fifty percent of the test animals. The model is designed to predict the lethal dose of untreated chemicals by comparing them to tested chemicals on the basis of their structure and properties. Modeling can also identify the most fruitful avenue to pursue in an ongoing study and thereby preclude fruitless experimentation.

4. Less sentient organisms are used on the premise that some organisms have less capacity for pain and suffering than do others. In general, invertebrates, microorganisms, and plants are less sentient than vertebrates, and vertebrate embryos are less sentient than the adults.

5. Physical/chemical techniques exploit instruments and chemical procedures, not animals, to analyze the physical and chemical properties of drugs, body chemicals, and other compounds. For example, diagnostic kits made of simple materials and chemicals have replaced the use of rabbits in diagnosing pregnancy. Physical/chemical techniques can also reduce animal use if they perform their tasks better than crude methods and thereby require fewer animals per test.

Several other alternative techniques are available. These include mechanical models, which can be used in crash studies; clinical studies of animals, which can have carry-over effects in human medicine; and computer-aided drug design, which avoids the animal-based trial-and-error process of drug discovery so prominent today.

Two noteworthy targets for alternatives are the LD50 test and the Draize test, both of which have been widely criticized on scientific and humane grounds. The LD50 test provides an assessment of a compound's potential. In its most common form, the test involves force-feeding the compound to from ten to sixty animals. Several modifications that require fewer than twenty animals have been developed and, in some cases, have already been substituted for the traditional test. Several promising alternatives do not involve LD50 testing at all; instead, they involve techniques such as in vitro methods, mathematical modeling, and the use of less sentient species. The Draize test assesses a chemical's potential to damage the eye. Recently developed modifications have the potential to refine the test (which now is performed on rabbits) by providing anesthetics or to reduce the number of animals used per test from six to eighteen to fewer than six. Several substitute tests are being developed using in vitro techniques and less sentient organisms (e.g., chicken embryos).

Despite these promising efforts, the traditional forms of the Draize and LD50 tests stay in use, partly as a defense by industry against product-liability claims; partly as the result of regulators' bureaucratic inertia; partly through fear of consumer backlash; and partly because of inconsistencies among international guidelines.

Alternatives can play a major role in education. Here are a few examples of how they can be put to use:

1. The British system for training surgeons can replace the American system, which relies heavily on animal surgery. The former is an apprentice­ship that stresses clinical experience with humans (for medical students) or animals (for veterinary students). In microsurgery, whose small scale makes apprenticeship difficult, humans can replace animals.

2. Computer-assisted mannequins that simulate the workings of the human or animal body can demonstrate medical procedures, normal physiology, and drug effects.

3. Computer programs can simulate surgical procedures, drug effects, and metabolic functions.

4. Human cadavers can be used in virtually all aspects of medical training. Progress in developing alternatives in all areas of laboratory animal use has been encouraging, especially given the limited financial investment that has, so far, been forthcoming. Much of this progress has come within the last ten years, as public concern for animals has increased. Scientific innovations are making the direct study of humans (as opposed to the study of "animal models" of humans) increasingly practical and rewarding. Conventional clinical studies are being supplemented with in vitro studies of human tissues or modeling studies using human data. Sophisti­cated new imaging techniques, which can generate visual images of the body's interior without the need for...
Invasive procedures, are being used to study the human brain in animal models for anti-AIDS virus activity. The direct study of humans obviates the need to draw conclusions about human mortality from potentially misleading animal studies.

In toxicity testing, recent emphasis on alternative approaches is being brought out of the Dark Ages. Unfortunately, despite clear evidence that the results or their statistical validity would not have been compromised. In toxicity testing, the practice of seeking replacements, reductions, and refinements to animal experimentation is the "alternatives approach." This approach is designed to replace, reduce, and refine the use of animals in animal research. Some scientists are using the results of some of these studies to support the view that the number of animals to be used in animal research should be reduced, and that the use of animals in research should be minimized as much as possible.

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Reductions and refinements can be viewed as interim steps toward the achievement of complete replacement. The practice of seeking replacements, replacements, and reductions will take many years. Reductions and refinements can be viewed as interim steps toward the achievement of complete replacement.

A Closer Look at Replacements, Reductions, and Refinements

Let us look at the concepts of replacement, reduction, and refinement as they can be applied in biomedical research, toxicity testing, and education.

Replacement

Biomedical research, an alternative technique known as tissue culture has been explored in recent years, the use of animals in research on viruses, which cause a variety of diseases. Tissue culture involves the sampling of living cells or tissue from the body in laboratory containers. Scientists are able to manipulate these laboratory samples to concentrate the virus and to screen drugs for anti-AIDS virus activity. The direct study of humans obviates the need to draw conclusions about human mortality from potentially misleading animal studies.

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Promotion of the Alternatives
Concept: History

The definitions above of replacement, reduction, and refinement are slight modifications of original definitions proposed by W.M.S. Russell and B.L. Burch in 1959.11 Russell and Burch labeled these principles the three Rs of humane experimental technique. They also introduced the notions of fidelity and discrimination, which are important in assessing the relative merits of using animals and alternatives. In the context of biomedical research and testing, animals and alternatives are used as surrogates or models for humans. A surrogate is a high fidelity model to the extent that it resembles humans. In general, chimpanzees are high fidelity models; bacteria are low fidelity models. Models can have low fidelity but nevertheless be more useful than high fidelity models in certain cases. This is because low fidelity models can be better discriminators of the response under study. For example, horsehoe crabs in the LAL test are replacing rabbits in the Pyrogen test. Horsehoe crabs happen to be better than rabbits in discriminating the human fever response, despite the fact that horseshoe crabs are lower fidelity models of humans.

A failure to consider a model’s discrimination or sensitivity can lead to what Russell and Burch labeled the “high fidelity fallacy.” This fallacy ignores discrimination by stating that, in general, models should have high fidelity. In practice, this fallacy leads to excessive use of mammals, given their relatively high fidelity to humans. The high fidelity fallacy must be successfully repudiated before alternatives will gain widespread acceptance. Since publication of Russell and Burch’s book in 1959, several developments in the promotion of the alternatives concept have occurred. Animal protectionists have established several organizations to finance the development of alternatives. Perhaps the most prominent of these has been FRAME, which recently began a coordinated effort to develop an alternative to the LD50 test. Other organizations are promoting alternatives by offering cash prizes. Since the 1970s, scientific conferences have been addressing the alternatives concept, with mixed results. In Canada, a gathering of toxicologists recommended that the government and organizations supporting toxicological research “initiate and fund research programs with the specific objective of developing and validating non–animal models for use in the safety assessment process.”12

Government action on alternatives began in Europe. In 1971, the Council of Europe called for the establishment of a documentation and information center for alternatives and a facility to store tissue material to use in alternative research. Unfortunately, progress on this initiative has been slow.13 However, Holland, Sweden, and West Germany have animal–research laws that favorably mention alternatives. Sweden has even earmarked a small amount of money for alternative research.14 Centers for alternative research now exist in Switzerland, West Germany, Canada, and the United States. The centers are funded by industry, animal–protection groups, and/or governments.

In the United States, several legislative initiatives on alternatives have been advanced since 1980. The one that would have been the most far–reaching, if it had passed, was the Research Modernization Act. Introduced in Congress in 1980, it would have established a national center for alternative research, redirected a certain percentage of funds originally earmarked for live animal research into alternative research, and coordinated training programs in alternative methods.

A legislative breakthrough came in 1985 with passage of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) reauthorization bill, which contained provisions on alternatives. Sponsored by Representative Doug Walgren, these provisions call for NIH to establish a plan for research into replacements, reductions, and refinements. The plan must also include the development of such methods as have been found to be valid and reliable, and for the training of scientists in their use. Similar provisions are contained in amendments to the Animal Welfare Act.
Getting to Know The HSUS


In addition to our extensive informational, legislative, investigative, and legal work, The HSUS also operates a separate educational division, The National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAAHE), and a scientific division, The Institute for the Study of Animal Problems (ISAP).

The HSUS is supported solely by contributions. Voting membership is extended to those paying the $10 annual dues. Members receive the quarterly HSUS News magazine as well as periodic Close-Up Reports on issues of importance to the animal-welfare community.

Public demand for concise descriptions of our ongoing programs has led to the development of the “Introductory Animal Pamphlet Series.” Each pamphlet introduces you to a separate problem, tells you what The HSUS is doing, and what you can do to help.

Introductory Animal Pamphlet Series

Up to two copies of the introductory pamphlet, "Animals...It's Their World, Too!" are free. A set of one of each of the pamphlets is $1.50. Single copies are 15¢ each.

Animals...It’s Their World, Too!
An introduction to The HSUS and our programs
GR3025
15¢

Companion Animals*
What it means to be a responsible pet owner
GR3024
15¢

Unwanted Animals*
How we can all help curb the pet population explosion
GR3025
15¢

Farm Animals*
How much do you know about intensive farming methods?
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15¢

Hunted Wildlife*
Killing wild animals for sport — can it be justified?
GR3048
15¢

Laboratory Animals*
What are the alternatives for ending painful experimentation?
GR3030
15¢

Captive Wildlife*
Do you know the difference between a good zoo and an animal prison?
GR3032
15¢

Trapped Animals*
The tragic fate of wildlife and pet animals caught in traps
GR3031
15¢

Rodeo*
Crudely disguised as sport
GR3041
15¢

Animal Rights*
Explains what is meant by “animal rights”
GR3060
15¢

Participants

Other Introductory Materials

Twentieth-Five Years of Growth and Achievement
The history of The HSUS from its founding in 1965, told in words and pictures
PM2017
$2.00

HSUS Statements of Policy
Individual policy statements in a loose-leaf binder
PM2015
$3.50
5 sets/$8.50
(with binder covers)

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*See p. 12 for quantity prices

Note Cards

Exclusive HSUS Note Cards
Colorful cat portrait note cards by popular artist Thaddaus Krumeich. Package of twelve note cards is comprised of three cards each of four different illustrations from the artist’s “Little Favorites” series. Card size is 4¼” x 6¼”. Twelve note cards and twelve white envelopes in each package
HS0001
1 package/$5.00 each
3 or more packages/$4.50 each

Animal Activist Alert
Available for free only to HSUS voting members who join the Action Alert Team. Provides latest information on federal and state legislation and gives suggestions on how the activist reader can make a difference on many issues affecting animals
HS0004
Animal Activist Alert sample copy: free

Periodicals

HSUS News
(quarterly magazine)
Available only to HSUS members
(minimum annual dues: $10)
HS0003
News sample copy: free

Shelter Sense
(10 issues/year)
For animal-control and animal-shelter personnel.
Annual cost: $8 per year for one subscription; $2 per year at half price. Additional subscriptions to the same name and address: $6
HS0005
Sample Sense sample copy: free

Children & Animals
A magazine for teachers that includes worksheets, ready-to-use activities, teaching posters, games, and learning centers—all about animals. Published four times during the school year in October, December, February, and April

Kind News
A newsletter for students that includes articles, games, and puzzles about animals and makes reading fun. Kind News I is for grades 1 and 2; Kind News II is for grades 3 through 6. Available only in bulk subscription of 35 copies per classroom pocket. Published five times during the school year in alternate months from Children & Animals
HS0006
Children & Animals and Kind News (receive one or the other every month during the school year) for $20 per year. Specify Kind News level
HS0007
Children & Animals only — available for $10 per year. (Includes membership in NAAHE)
HS0008
Kind News only — available for $15 per year. Specify level
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Children & Animals sample copy: $3 each
HS0010
Kind News sample copy: send SASE

For the Pet Owner

Companion Animals Pamphlet* See p. 2
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15¢

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Puppy Mills*
GR3005
30¢

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GR3046
25¢
5 or more/10¢ each

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Handy
PM2033
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Fur Coats: Where Do They Come From? (flier series)
How animals are tortured to make fur coats.
Reprint: Don't Buy Fur*
and 1984 New Jersey Trapping Law
L6003
Awareness Kit on the anti-trapping campaigns.
Each kit includes decals, repro photos, public service posters, newspaper ads with close-up reports, Handout cards about the fishery, Handout cards on Rodeo Cruelty, Handout cards on Rodeo Cruelty, and more.

Marine Mammals
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The HSUS fights to end seal cruelty in Alaska (includes petition)
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See p. 2
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Rodeo Fact Sheet*
Exploding rodeo myths
PM2061
10¢
Rodeo Model Ordinance
Three ways to end rodeo cruelty in your community
PM2062
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Guaranteed fun or tragedy?
These handouts show it in words and pictures
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The HSUS fights to end seal cruelty in Alaska (includes petition)
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Captive Wildlife Pamphlet*
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The HSUS's efforts to improve zoos and how that effort is gaining momentum
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Animals, Nature, and Albert Schweitzer
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ISBN 0-87779-125-1
$25.00
100 or more/$20.00 each plus postage (organizations wishing to purchase bulk quantities for fund-raising should contact The HSUS for costs)

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People & Animals: A Humane Education Curriculum Guide (complete guide sets)

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*See p. 12 for quantity prices

Membership Application Form

The HSUS members receive a quarterly magazine and special reports.

VOTING MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

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2 Family Membership (a family members residing at same address) . $18

3 Donor . $25

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PLEASE BE CERTAIN TO ALSO COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM • THANK YOU

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FOR YOUR NOTATIONS

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Act that became law in December of 1985. The amendments were designated the "Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act" and formally constituted the Dole/Brown bill, named for its sponsors, Senator Robert Dole and Representative George E. Brown, Jr. The amendments mandate training for researchers and technicians in alternative methods for research and testing. The amendments also call for the creation of an information service at the National Agricultural Library in cooperation with the National Library of Medicine. The service would provide information on alternative research methods, including refinements such as the increased use of anesthetics and analgesics, and methods to prevent unintended duplication of animal experiments.

Alternatives in toxicity testing have been promoted by public campaigns against the use of animals in the Draize test and the LD50 test. These campaigns are spearheaded by large coalitions of animal-protection groups. The Draize test is used extensively by the cosmetics industry. The anti-Draize campaign singled out a major cosmetic company, Revlon, which, under pressure, donated $750,000 in 1980 to Rockefeller University to develop an alternative to the Draize test. The rest of the cosmetics industry, also under pressure, contributed one million dollars in 1981 to establish the Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing at the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health. The industry, through its representative, the Cosmetics, Toiletries, and Fragrance Association, continues to support the center and similar efforts at eight other institutions.

The target of the other campaign, the LD50 test, provides a rough estimate of the toxicity of household products and other chemicals. Several federal agencies, including the Food and Drug Administration, the Consumer Products Safety Commission, and the Environmental Protection Agency, recently announced that they no longer require the test for regulatory purposes. These agencies, however, continue to accept LD50 results, and industry has been slow to discontinue the test in the absence of an outright ban. A bill introduced in the 1985 Congress would have required each federal agency actively to discourage use of the LD50 and to recommend alternatives. (The bill may be reconsidered in the future.)

Other noteworthy events in the history of the alternatives approach were the recent establishment of a fund for alternatives to animal use in research and teaching at Texas A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine and the establishment of the United States' first professorship in humane ethics and animal welfare in 1985 at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. One of the goals of the position will be to investigate alternatives to animal experimentation in medical research.

References
3. Ibid.
18. Ibid.
20. OTA, Alternatives to Animal Use.
by Patty Finch

Patty Finch, director of The HSUS's National Equal Protection for the Advancement of Humane Education, shares below her personal response to humane educators who may at one time or another be faced with a difficult question. Her message speaks, however, to all who work to alleviate suffering not only through education but also through other endeavors.

"Why do you care so much about animals? Why don't you care about people?" Every humane educator probably has been asked these questions, even when we have a people-oriented occupation such as teaching. My answer is always, "S.I.S."

I learned about S.I.S. on a trip to India fifteen years ago. I had been warned about the poverty in India and had seen pictures in books, but nothing had prepared me for the realities that I saw and smelled immediately upon arrival. I was traumatized by the experience and overwhelmed by guilt, empathy, and—probably—a savior complex. I wanted desperately to help but, over and over, I was told there was nothing I could do.

Finally, I met a wise, old holy man who said I could help. "Yes, there is something you can do. Work where you will be most effective," he said.

"Go home. Work on alleviating the suffering you will find in your own backyard. That will help us." I protested: no suffering in the United States could possibly compare to this! I wanted to work where I was most needed—in India. He shook his head sadly and answered me slowly, addressing me as if I were a two-year-old.

"Child," he said, "Suffering is suffering." Those words didn't mean much to me until two years later. I had come back to the United States to teach on the Navajo reservation. There, I did find many instances of poverty. Through the Save the Children Fund and some of my relatives, I helped provide school clothing for many of my students. These children taught me much about the simple joys of their lives despite the poverty around them. My teaching and work with the children was soon motivated not by guilt, but by love and appreciation—a more sound basis for giving.

While on the Navajo reservation, I also discovered extreme suffering. Ironically, I found it literally in my backyard: dogs with distemper, dogs half skinned alive by the undercarriages of cars, starving dogs, motherless puppies, and dogs with broken legs all appeared in my yard at one time or another. Looking at those animals, I didn't need to be reminded that "suffering is suffering." And so I began my work in animal welfare.

When anyone from the city asked me why I was devoting so much time to the animals in the midst of needy people, I would answer, "S.I.S.—suffering is suffering." Can an empathetic person who is moved by the suffering of people remain unmoved by the suffering of an animal? I think not, especially when that animal is literally at his feet. Suffering is, indeed, suffering.

One of our main roles as humane educators is to expand children's capacity to care, to teach them of empathy. That lesson does not begin and end with animals. One would hope that the educator does not exist who teaches kindness to animals while ignoring children's cruelty toward one another. Lessons in compassion and respect know no such boundaries.

In expanding our capacity to care, we also expand our capacity for sorrow. Previous sources of pleasure, such as circuses and rodeos, become painful. As humane educators, we have an awesome responsibility when we ask children to trust us while we teach them of suffering, so that they may learn of caring and love. We ask children to feel for a moment what it would be like to be a dog that no one ever pets or to feel for a moment what it is like when someone steals from you. These lessons in empathy that involve feeling the hurt and learning to care.

Part of our responsibility is to make sure students are never overwhelmed by sorrow or instilled with a sense of hopelessness or despair. We lead our students in recognizing gradual progress, in seeking solutions, and in knowing that no act of kindness is ever futile.

We also expand our students' capacity to care by expanding their capacity to appreciate. We open their eyes to the beauty of all the life forms around them. We teach them to look with new eyes at the curiosity of a pig, the parenting of a coyote, or the needs of a predator. Out of such awarenesses can grow love and appreciation, the same firm basis for caring that I discovered on the Navajo reservation with my students.

The person who does not love and appreciate, who cannot feel another's pain, can murder, steal, ignore suffering, and feel no remorse. Whether one first learns to care for animals and then learns also to care for people, or vice versa, makes no difference. Suffering is suffering.

Reflect for a moment...
how can I help animals even when I no longer share their world...?

By your request 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 which will assist in planning a will.

Please send: Will Information

Name ____________________________

Address _________________________

City __________ State__________ Zip______

Mail in confidence to: Murdaugh S. Madden, Vice President/General Counsel, The Humane Society of the United States, 2000 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037.
by Ann Church

Many of you are probably affiliated in some way with a local humane society or animal-control facility and, in that capacity, work to eliminate animal suffering. Yet, aside from daily duties as humane advocates, we all wear many other hats that enhance our ability to help animals. We’re consumers, taxpayers, club members, parents, television viewers, magazine subscribers—with each of these roles offering us innovative ways to end animal suffering. By broadening our associations with these groups, we are forever increasing our ability to speak out for animals.

1. As a consumer, let your buying power do the talking. For example, if you patronize a department store that sells fur coats, when paying your bill, object loudly. Speak out if any of your civic groups, such as chambers of commerce or JayCees, propose to hold donkey-basketball games or invite traveling animal exhibitors to town as a means to raise funds. Make members aware of the cruelties inherent in such events and explain that their participation may send the wrong signals about their feelings regarding animals. If, after joining an organization, you learn that group participation may send the wrong signals about their feelings regarding animals. Use your consumer clout to let business owners know what you do and don’t want. Ask local grocers if they carry humanely raised beef or if the eggs they sell are from battery-caged chickens. Tell hardware store managers that you don’t wish to patronize shops that sell glueboard rodent traps. Several HSUS members did just that and were surprised when store owners pulled the devices from their shelves!

2. As an organization member, work to ensure that group activities don’t encourage animal exploitation. For example, if your church group, garden club, or women’s club plans to attend a rodeo, circus, or race track, object loudly. Speak out if any of your civic groups, such as chambers of commerce or JayCees, propose to hold donkey-basketball games or invite traveling animal exhibitors to town as a means to raise funds. Make members aware of the cruelties inherent in such events and explain that their participation may send the wrong signals about their feelings regarding animals. If, after joining an organization, you learn that group participation may send the wrong signals about their feelings regarding animals. Use your consumer clout to let business owners know what you do and don’t want. Ask local grocers if they carry humanely raised beef or if the eggs they sell are from battery-caged chickens. Tell hardware store managers that you don’t wish to patronize shops that sell glueboard rodent traps. Several HSUS members did just that and were surprised when store owners pulled the devices from their shelves!

3. As a parent, object if your child’s school allows live animals to be used in science projects, sponsors a class trip to a circus or a disreputable petting zoo, or awards goldfish or other animals as prizes at school festivities. Make sure fund-raising efforts do not include fur coat raffles, donkey-baseball games, or rodeos. “Squawk!” if the school allows students to miss class during the first day of hunting or trapping season. Alert teachers to the biases in Project WILD. (Materials regarding this curriculum are available from the HSUS.) Attend parent-teacher association meetings and discuss the need to teach children about kindness to all living creatures.

4. As a taxpayer, if you learn that humane activities are scheduled on public property or with tax dollars, speak out. Don’t let town officials sponsor an Easter event where baby animals are awarded as prizes. Protest loudly if rodeos or horse- or dog-pulling contests are to be held on local fairgrounds. Northern Virginia residents voiced objections to a rodeo being held in a local park and successfully canceled the event. If your local law-enforcement officials are supposed to enforce specific animal-cruelty laws, demand that they carry out their duties. Let your elected officials hear from you!

5. As a reader, when renewing subscriptions to magazines and newspapers, enclose notes objecting to ads that promote items causing cruelty to animals, such as exotic leathers, cosmetics tested on animals, fur coats, and glueboards. Write to editors expressing your dismay over articles that glamorize hunting, unnecessary research, and other animal abuse. If you subscribe to fashion magazines, let editors know that many people find fur coats repulsive. If you come across a sweepstakes promotion in which fur coats are being awarded, voice your outrage to the corporation sponsoring the giveaway. When you see newspaper ads or bulletin-board messages offering dogs or cats free to good homes, contact the owners and warn them that they may be setting their animals up to become research subjects.

6. As a university alumni, use your clout to influence school policies. Let administrators know of your concerns over the use of laboratory animals and of your support for alternatives to lab animals. Upro veterinary and medical school officials to offer courses that teach animal-welfare ethics. Insist that live animals not be paraded around as mascots at football games and pep rallies. Threaten to withdraw your financial support if policies do not change. Finally, if you live near the university, help organize a student group dedicated to animal-welfare activities.

7. As a television viewer, keep the addresses of the three television networks and your Public Broadcasting System station handy. If a show explores an animal-welfare issue favorably, write and thank the network or producers. Get the phone numbers of your local stations and call them as necessary. Object if local sports announcers glorify rodeo or other objectionable sports. Contact sponsors of offensive shows to voice your concerns.

8. As a shopper, if you’re in the vicinity of a pet store that sells “puppy-mill” animals, does not provide humane treatment, or sells exotic animals as pets, bring your concerns to the attention of those who frequent the shop. Contact whoever should be inspecting the facility; if that does not bring results, be creative. Call the health department (if sanitation problems exist), a local politician, or the Better Business Bureau. These suggestions apply to discount stores that sell small animals as well. Contact the management of the mall and object to the store’s presence. A California mall reportedly did not renew a pet shop’s lease because a number of complaints had been received. Be reasonable: if you merely object to the shop’s presence without a good reason, you may be labeled a “nut.”

9. As a traveler, let chambers of commerce and/or tourism boards know that you will not vacation in states where there are roadside zoos or in countries that allow bullfighting or seal and whale hunting. Alert your travel agents to specific animal abuses. One HSUS member provided her travel agent with information about the cruelties of dog and horse racing, rodeos, and circuses. So shocked was the agent that she discontinued all group trips to these events.

10. As an observant person, always take note of cruelty and report it to your local humane society. Get times, dates, locations, and photos, if possible. Carry informational materials, such as HSUS warm and cold weather pet-care flyers, “No Veal This Meal” cards, and “Every Fur Coat Hurts” stickers (see the Publication List in this issue).

Remember, being an animal activist is not only a full-time job, but a way of life!

Ann Church is coordinator of state legislation for The HSUS.
One Person Can Make a Difference

Although we have always known that a single determined person can accomplish miracles, far too many people still doubt the contribution to be made by individuals. Recent changes in federal laws and regulations have provided the ideal opportunity for supporters of the animal-welfare movement to get involved in significant changes at the local level.

In response to pressure from Congress and the animal-welfare movement and to the continued exposure of problems at federally supported research laboratories, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) recently revised their policies on the care and use of laboratory animals. One significant change was increased emphasis on the role of the local animal-care-and-use committee (ACUC) and its members. The ACUC has traditionally included veterinarians and researchers. Now, it is also required to have at least one member who is a non-scientist and another who is unaffiliated with the institution. Each of these two people could be an animal-welfare advocate.

In late 1985, passage of additional federal legislation made the NIH policies legal changes, the extent of abuse and suffering of animals in research laboratories was relatively unknown. Bio-medical research was a closed, privileged society accountable to the lay public. This will change as animal-welfare advocates become involved in their local ACUCs.

Such lay involvement can have potential positive effects, including exposure of the university and research communities to the philosophical positions and concerns of the humane movement. The outside member can act as an ombudsman for the interests and needs of laboratory animals at local institutions. He or she can influence student attitudes toward laboratory animals by representing the uses of animals in teaching and the training of research scientists and students. Such positive activities have the potential to counteract the insensitivity and overemphasis on objectivity that characterizes much of our biological, educational, and research establishments.

Animal-care-and-use committees should meet to review all institutional programs for the care and use of animals in research and teaching; to inspect animal facilities; and to examine, either for approval or rejection, all research and teaching proposals involving the use of laboratory animals. The ACUC can stop or significantly change questionable projects and procedures but should not be involved in lobbying for legislation or promoting either side of the vivisection/anti-vivisection debate.

ACUCs consist of at least five individuals, each representing a different constituency with its own biases and perceptions. Researchers and veterinarians will probably be strongly pro-research and defend the status quo. Non-scientific members may include clergy, lawyers, and specialists in the humanities or in philosophy. Those individuals having the most familiarity with local conditions and use of animals—the animal-care technicians—are generally excluded from the ACUCs in the United States. In Sweden's review system, however, the lay members and animal caretakers comprise a majority of the committee.

Although having only token representation on the ACUC, the key persons are the outside members, from the viewpoint of animal welfare. They alone have the specific responsibility to represent the interests of the animals rather than those of the researchers in the institution.

Appointing members of the ACUC is the responsibility of either a dean or a president of the university or the director of a private laboratory. To apply for appointment as the outside member, you should first identify the local registered research facilities, then contact the responsible official at each institution expressing your interest and qualifications. If you don't wish to serve yourself, you can contact your local humane society offering to express your support for a candidate it regards as qualified for the position.

The revised NIH policies already require two-thirds of registered research facilities to have functioning ACUCs with outside members. Since these positions rotate regularly, you should submit an application even if the outside member position is presently filled. You can also contact the existing community/outside member to discuss your concerns about the use of laboratory animals and to determine how committed that individual is to animal-welfare issues.

In general, the experiences of institutions in the United States and Sweden with outside lay members have been positive. Such individuals have been widely acknowledged as providing a valuable and needed perspective to the activities of the ACUC. For several years, for example, the University of Southern California has had an Animal Ethics Review Board, with significant input from its community and non-scientist members.

There have, however, been some problems. Individual researchers often resent the ACUC as an intrusion into their personal domain or even as the intrusive perception that the committee is just another bureaucratic obstacle between grant application and funding decisions. They may even invoke that most sacred and abused concept, that of academic and scientific freedom, as an excuse for resistance to the new regulations.

It is too soon to judge the impact and success of the newly revised ACUCs. Responses: The HSUS has received from lay members range from entirely positive to accounts of retaliation to reports of committees that still function as a rubber stamp for science, either ignoring or belittling the concerns of the non-scientist members. One outside member on the West Coast was told the university "wanted [him or her] on the committee to deflect criticism by animal-rights groups." Another in the Midwest is "troubled by the emphasis of committee members on using the committee as a public relations tool, to diffuse and mitigate public concern from a posture of self-preservation and denial, instead of trying to understand the basis of this concern in a more self-examining light."

It is important to realize that, by participating on such a committee, you may directly and immediately influence the uses of laboratory animals and the attitudes of the researchers and students involved in biomedical research, testing, and education. You can do this without supporting what is being done or directly contributing to the use of the animals. Without your participation, the biomedical community will remain closed and unaccountable to the public and the growing animal-welfare movement.

If you decide to pursue membership on an ACUC, The HSUS can help. We have prepared a comprehensive guide to inspecting animal-research facilities and evaluating experimental proposals. Write to us at 2100 L Street NW, Washington, DC 20037 and we will send you a copy.
Racing on Indian Lands
Legislation now pending before the House and Senate would allow dog and horse racing to open up on state reservations and trust lands. H.R. 24, 1986, introduced by Rep. Morris K. Udall, and S. 902, 100th, introduced by Sen. Dennis DeConcini, both of Arizona, while intended to protect Native Americans from exploitation by the gambling industry, could have the negative effect of opening up Indian lands to dog and horse racing and all the cruelties inherent in these activities.

In all state jurisdictions, horse and dog racing are overseen by state racing commissions. Because Indian lands are exempt from state laws, dogs and horses racing on reservations would not have even the minimal oversight afforded by racing commission regulations. Reservation racing would not only generate additional revenues for the industry in states where racing is prohibited, but it would also lead to tracks operated completely outside state supervision.

The racing industry formally allocates a portion of its revenues for policing its own sport but, since responsibility for racing on Indian reservations and trust lands is underway, taxpayers would foot the tire bill for enforcement of any applicable rules. Just think how much this taxpayer applicable rules. Just think how much this taxpayer

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Two Laws, Good News

After the House and Senate voted overwhelmingly to override President Reagan’s veto of the authorization for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in November (see the Winter 1986 HSUS News), Congress followed up with another good deed by passing the Dole/Brown amendments attached to the senate version of the “farm bill,” which directs the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) on agricultural policy.

The NIH authorization and Dole/Brown amendments are similar in many ways. The NIH authorization contained language to require recipients of federally funded facilities to make training in humane care, treatment, and alternatives available to lab personnel. Painkillers, tranquilizers, and appropriate means of euthanasia must be used on laboratory animals. Each facility must have a functioning animal-care committee that includes a veterinarian and an outside member whose sole concern is the welfare of the laboratory animals; the committee must inspect the facility at least twice a year and notify NIH of any violations. If violations are not corrected, NIH has the authority to revoke funding.

Already, animal research has been halted at Columbia University in the city of New York because of violations of these new guidelines. Columbia was cited for deficiencies in the number of veterinarians available, the sterility of post-surgery recovery areas, the housing of dogs under quarantine, and the techniques used to minimize health risks to lab personnel. The university estimates its loss at “several million dollars.”

Since USDA administers the AWA, the “farm bill” was a logical vehicle to carry the strong language of the Dole/Brown amendments, which also require appropriate painkillers, anesthetia, and euthanasia for lab animals. In Dole/Brown, researchers are required to consider alternatives for any procedure that produces pain or distress.

The AWA amendments, which were introduced by Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas and Rep. George E. Brown, Jr. of California, also require standards for exercise for dogs and for a physical environment to promote the psychological well-being of primates. These special animals are referred to as “narcotics” in animal-protection law.

Like the NIH authorization, the “farm bill” amendments offer each facility to have an animal-care committee with a veterinarian and an outside member (see the article on page 24). Training in humane care, treatment, and alternatives is required for lab personnel.

Congratulations and Appreciation

Congratulations to Rep. John G. Rowland of Connecticut for being named to the steering committee to Help Abolish the Leghold Trap (HALT). A project of the Connecticut Council for Humane Education, HALT is actively working to ban use of the steel-jaw leghold trap in Connecticut. Mr. Rowland’s support of legislation to ban the trap on the state and federal levels has led him to submit his views on the steel-jaw leghold trap to the Connecticut Assembly on the first day of hunting and cosponsor H.R. 1019 and S. 808, sponsored by Rep. Sam Gibbons of Florida and Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas respectively, would encourage Russian fur imports and an escalation in the killing of fur-bearing animals in the Soviet Union.

From Russia, With Fur

Unless animal activists intervene, the Soviet Union will soon attempt to flood the United States with the furs of seven species whose importation has either been banned or is scheduled for the last thirty-four years. H.R. 1019 and S. 808, sponsored by Rep. Sam Gibbons of Florida and Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas respectively, would amend the law to encourage Russian fur imports and an escalation in the killing of fur-bearing animals in the Soviet Union.

These bills have been referred to the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade and the Senate Finance Committee on International Trade. This legislation, introduced at the request of the Reagan administration, is part of the president’s cultural and trade exchange with the Soviet Union.

Write your senators and congressmen and let them know you oppose these bills. Ask for their help in blocking new fur imports.

FWs Alert

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is now undertaking a critically important project for national wildlife refuges. This spring and summer, FWS will be preparing an environmental impact statement on the operation of the National Wildlife Refuge System. A draft will be released in June or July. Called a “programmatic” environmental impact statement because it addresses the whole refuge system, this document could be extremely important in exposing abuses and problems of the refuges.

The Fight for “Standing”

The Rose-Chandler team is back together again. Reps. Charlie Rose of North Carolina and Rod Chandler of Washington have drafted legislation in the House to allow individuals and animal-protection groups to sue USDA to enforce provisions of the AWA. Millions of animals are affected by the AWA, which requires standards of care for animals in laboratories, zoos, circuses, puppy mills, and aquariums. Horrified, individual and groups have encountered some difficulty in attempting to sue USDA when inspectors charged with enforcing this law have failed to report violations of care or failed to enforce the law’s animal-fighting provisions.

The Rose-Chandler bill would give concerned groups or persons standing “i.e., the legal status to bring suits against USDA) before courts of law. Reps. Rose and Chandler have drafted this bill. Please tell them you want to see in the draft legislation. Write your congressmen and women and ask them to cosponsor the Rose-Chandler legislation.

Any member of the Senate may be reached c/o The U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. Any representative may be reached c/o The House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.
This winter, The HSUS's wildlife and environment department responded to several federal government proposals concerning wildlife. We regularly respond to such proposals, environmental impact statements, and regulations that involve hunting and trapping; management of migratory birds (primarily ducks, geese, and doves); endangered species protection; predator control; and management of National Wildlife Refuges. This process is called "submitting comments"—by law, the government must allow the public—including The HSUS and other interested parties—an opportunity to express an opinion on many of its actions.

We comment for several reasons: to change or influence a policy or course of action; to receive notice that we intend to sue if the course of action is not changed to protect animals and their habitats; and to expose abuses and get better information before the public. We ask our members to write to the government agencies about particular actions when we feel that input from a number of people would have more impact than a single letter from The HSUS.

Commenting also serves another important function. That is, on favorable bills and legislation, we can send letters to our representatives asking them to vote for the bills. On unfavorable bills and legislation, we can file lawsuits against agencies to stop them from undertaking actions we believe to be wrong. The law requires that anyone unhappy with a particular government policy or action must attempt to change it by working through the agency responsible for it. This means that an interested organization, such as The HSUS, must submit comments on an issue if it is concerned about it. Only after we have submitted comments to an agency in an attempt to resolve our concerns can we file a lawsuit as part of our strategy for change. Urging that our members write is a way of increasing the greater effort on our part to resolve the issue.

Several sets of comments have already been submitted this winter. In November, we strongly objected to trapping at the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey in letters written to the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Not only did we object to the suffering inflicted by trapping, but we also pointed out that the proposal was illegal: It violated the refuge's basic purpose of protecting wildlife and considered economic and management issues as well.

In February, we objected to a proposal to kill large numbers of feral raccoons, and other animals, supposedly to allow more young waterfowl to survive, on Horizon National Wildlife Refuge in Wisconsin. We pointed out that such programs, besides inflicting great suffering on animals, do not solve the problem of poor survival of young. We told the agency that it had to investigate other and more likely causes of the problem, something it had failed to do. We also said it was ridiculous to blame low waterfowl numbers on predators, then rete fused to stop waterfowl hunting either on or off refuges.

In February, we commented on the draft Environmental Impact Statement and Master Plan for Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey. We objected both to the continuation of the deer hunt at the refuge and to plans for trapping, which supposedly were designed to protect predator and muskrat control. Our concerns were similar to those expressed at Edwin B. Forsythe and Horizon. In addition, the Great Swamp statement expressed none of the coherent, comprehensive guidelines philosophers needed for managing a refuge. It was biased and failed to provide the information on costs, benefits, and impact of refuge activities necessary to judge their effects on the refuge and its wildlife.

Working in conjunction with the World Society for the Protection of Animals, the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Animal Protection Institute in America, and the Fund for Animals, we put out a strong statement on the draft North American Waterfowl Management Plan, written by the FWS and presumably intended to guide future federal management of ducks, geese, and swans. We said that the plan "is myopically focused on providing a greater number of ducks for hunters to pursue... It further misleads... by assuming that..."...towards the interests of hunters that no consideration was given to the detrimental effects of the public, to whom these animals also belong. We called for a complete revision of the draft plus preparation of an accompanying environmental impact statement.

Submitting comments on federal agency plans or reports is not an activity that usually merits banner headlines in the nation's press, but it does provide a valuable foundation for discussions of the public. For example, the public, to whom these animals also belong. We called for a complete revision of the draft plus preparation of an accompanying environmental impact statement.

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Humane Societies scored a huge victory in November when Ohio governor Richard Celeste vetoed a bill that would have established a bounty on the coyote in that state. The Great Lakes Regional Office staff testified against passage of the bill in both chambers of the legislature. Director Sandy Rowland issued action alerts and press releases and wrote letters to the rules committee members of the state senate attempting to halt passage of this bill. When the bill did pass, our last hope was to convince the governor that the coyote bounty would be costly, ineffective, and cruel. With the help of the Great Lakes Regional Office's Action Alert Team and the Ohio Humane Society's Action Team, the governor saw fit to veto this bill.

On another front, Ohio and Oklahoma are at odds over rodeo. The Longhorn Championship Rodeo of Oklahoma is upset over an Ohio Supreme Court decision upholding a law outlawing the bucking strap on rodeo and other performing animals. The law has been on the books in Ohio since 1965 and has been flagrantly disregarded by rodeo companies. Apparently not satisfied with the way Ohio lawmakers run their state, the Oklahoma rodeo company is now trying to change the law to legalize the use of the bucked backing strap. It has hired a lobbyist who, in turn, found a veterinarian who is also a state representative to sponsor the bill. The Great Lakes Regional Office is determined to do its all to halt passage of the bucked strap bill. We believe the bucking strap causes discomfort to the animal whether it is padded or not. It appears that, unless the legislative calendar runs out, an Ohio bill including provisions for licensing and inspecting pet stores, kennels, and animal shelters will become law. Initiated by the Great Lakes Office and sponsored by Rep. Dan Troy, the bill was on its way to the state senate at press time.
Bill, as has been referred to the house Criminal Justice Committee. Drafted by the Alabama Federation for Animal Welfare and sponsored by State Representative Spencer Stem, H.B. 474 would allow qualified individuals to take protective custody of animals found suffering and in distress. Presently, anyone charged with animal cruelty and abuse may keep the animal until found guilty in court. HSUS Alabama members are asked to contact their state legislators and ask for their support for H.B. 474 or companion legislation in the state senate.

In Florida, H.B. 14, prohibiting pound seizure statewide, has been referred to the house Criminal Justice Committee. Sponsored by Rep. Ray Liberti, the bill has been temporarily put aside. In order to ensure a favorable recommendation, concerned citizens must let the committee know of the necessity for such legislation. Thus far, committee members have been cool to the pound seizure ban.

H.B. 349, amending the “Animal Fighting Act,” has been referred to the same committee. Rep. Winston Gardner is sponsoring this bill, which would extend protection to all animals forced to fight, not just “any bull, bear, or dog.” (State Senator Malcolm Beard filed S.B. 327 as a companion bill in late February.) Since these bills will be opposed by both greyhound trainers and cock-fighters, letters and calls to your elected officials are necessary if we are to close all loopholes Florida’s animal-fighting legislation.

In Georgia, after years of effort by the Atlanta Humane Society, the “Animal Protection Act” has become a reality! Sponsored by Rep. Chesney Morton, H.B. 1446 will regulate and license pet dealers and operators of kennels, stables, and animal shelters. Each licensee will be required to provide humane care and treatment for all animals possessed, among other stipulations. The Georgia Department of Agriculture will be responsible for monitoring and enforcing the regulations to be promulgated under this act.

In South Carolina, of three animal-welfare bills sponsored by Rep. Harvin, only H.B. 2356, which increases the penalties for ill treatment of animals, has cleared its house review committee. Although the bill has been substantially rewritten and amended in ways not completely to our liking, animals would be better protected if the bill passed. HSUS South Carolina members are urged to write their representatives and senators to support this bill. H.B. 2354, to authorize fines and require persons to purchase pets free of barbitals, is stalled in its committee, largely as a result of opposition from the Department of Health and Environmental Control. Rep. Daniel Winstead is currently holding H.B. 2953, to prohibit animal fighting, for possible further amendments. Since Rep. David Hawkins, the committee chairman, met with cock-fighters and read their magazine, Grit and Steel to assist them in confronting unfavorable legislation, we are especially concerned. Calls and letters are urgently needed if South Carolina residents want to keep their state free of that particular evil.

Spring Training—And Beyond

The Southeast Regional Office will provide an in-service training seminar in Tallahassee, Fla., on May 15–16. One day will be devoted to humane education programming and materials; the other to the PETs program offered by The HSUS to shelter-management and executive staff members. For more information, contact the Southeast Regional Office.

The Southeastern Animal Control Association will hold its twelfth annual seminar at Columbus College, Columbus, Ga., June 19–21. Those wanting additional information should contact Jim Carnmichael, Columbus College, Continuing Education Division, Columbus, GA 31901.

In South Carolina, the HSUS Animal Control Corporation will hold its annual seminar at Columbus College in Columbia, with registration due June 12.

As warmer weather approaches, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office is asking members to help monitor zoo attractions in the area. Last summer, Ms. Austenberg found a giant Kodiak bear at New Jersey’s Space Game Farm in a shadeless enclosure on a day that saw temperatures climb into the high nineties. She termed the filth and smell at the facility “disgusting.” The USDA’s inspector found the facility “a good zoo.” This kind of variation in standards between what The HSUS feels is acceptable in zoo conditions and what the federal government tolerates is a constant source of frustration, as HSUS members are all too well aware. We urge members who see zoo conditions that seem inhumane or uncomfortable for the animals to question zoo officials and contact us with any complaints.

Mid-Atlantic (continued)

Stern Treatment

On December 29, 1985, New Jersey pet dealer Marc Stern was permanently enjoined from directly or indirectly owning, managing, or being engaged in any business involved, for commercial purposes, in keeping or caring for, breeding, selling, importing, or displaying any animal within the state of New Jersey or in any contiguous state where he would have ready access to New Jersey consumers.

The Morris County (New Jersey) Office of Consumer Affairs had filed suit seeking to have the pet dealer, who was convicted of animal-neglect and cruelty charges, forfeit his right to do business in New Jersey because of fraudulent business practices.

The suit charged that Marc Stern, operator of the Pet Gallery in the August at Short Hills, willfully refused to comply with provisions of several state statutes governing the sale of animals and regulations requiring pet dealers to notify consumers of various rights. According to the legal documents, Mr. Stern may face consumer fraud complaints concerning the sale of 600,000 dogs and cats from businesses he had operated in New Jersey since 1982.

Mid-Atlantic (continued)

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The Great Swamp deer hunt began in 1974, and protesters have demonstrated against the hunt ever since.

“The annual hunts are portrayed [by wildlife officials] as something to help the deer. There’s a lot of pain and suffering involved. Many of the deer are only wounded and die days or weeks later,” said Mid-Atlantic Regional Director Nina Austenberg, coordinator of the protest.

Zoo Watch

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Signs reading “Stop the Hunt” and “This is Their World, Too,” forty to fifty members of animal-protection groups gathered at the refuge to show their opposition to sport hunting in federal wildlife refuges.

John Grandy, The HSUS’s vice president for wildlife and environment, told the protesters that wildlife refuges are intended as “inviolate sanctuaries” for birds and animals. “This is an icon,” Dr. Grandy said, of the protest against hunting on 250 refuges where 600,000 wild animals were killed in 1985.

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The Humane Society News • Spring 1986

A giant Kodiak bear suffers through a ninety-degree day at the Space Game Farm.
California County Bans Trap

In a major victory for animals and the Santa Cruz SPCA's Citizens Task Force for Animal Care and Control (CTFACC), on February 4, 1986, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors voted to make Santa Cruz the first California agricultural county to ban the steel-jaw leghold trap. The device has been widely used by ranchers to protect livestock from predators, mainly free-ranging dogs. The City and County of San Francisco have had a similar ban in place since 1976. The February 4 public hearing will be held September 15-26, 1986, at the Martin Humane Society in Novato, Calif. Instructors will include Bill Hurt Smith, academy director; other HSUS staff; and leaders of the animal laws at the fields of law enforcement, small- and large-animal handling, communications, and shelter management. Cost for the eleven-day program is $275. Contact the West Coast Regional Office for details.

USDAs File Complaint

In January, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) filed a formal complaint against James W. Hickey, owner of S & S Farms, of Lebanon, Ore. (see the Fall 1985 HSUS News). According to the USDA's Office of General Counsel, Mr. Hickey has been charged with a number of violations of the Animal Welfare Act. The complaint reportedly alleges that Mr. Hickey failed to keep records in accordance with the law and that animals were not cared for properly at the kennel. A major supplier of animals to research laboratories, Mr. Hickey could face fines of $1,000 for each violation and suspension of his license. Mr. Hickey was reprimanded by the USDA in 1984 for failing properly to identify dogs he had purchased and failing to provide lighting and ventilation in his cat kennels. That investigation stemmed from complaints that Mr. Hickey had purchased dogs that had been taken from their owners under false pretenses. Another investigation was conducted in 1984 by the USDA through information obtained during the much-publicized case against Henry "Bud" Kraden, a California research-animal dealer (see the Winter and Summer 1985 HSUS News). Mr. Hickey recently pled no contest to a reduced charge of receiving stolen animals. He was fined $200 plus court costs.

Gulf States

Rodeo Opposed

The HSUS Gulf States Office and enlightened Texas state officials are attempting to end the annual Huntsville, Tex., prison rodeo. After discovering that almost a million dollars in profits from the rodeo were being diverted for the benefit of state employees, State Representative Richard Whittington introduced a bill through a law to end state support of the rodeo. The HSUS has urged Corrections Board Secretary Harry Whittington to halt the event permanently. However, the board is considering the fledgling rodeo spokesmen for an agent, and Texas Governor Mark White issued an order to hold the rodeo board.

Gulf States Regional Director Bill Meade told state officials the rodeo is counterproductive to the desired goal of rehabilitation: "The only thing prisoners are learning [through rodeo] is that exploitation and harassment of animals can make them a few bucks." Unfortunately, misguided prison officials have steadfastly supported the rodeo, trying to influence the "tradition" with new life. The prisoners themselves have no real interest in the rodeo; out of 37,000 inmates, only 200 asked to take part.

The HSUS is asking its Texas members to write their representatives and ask that the Huntsville rodeo be ended for the safety and benefit of both prisoners and animals.

Getting Together

All humane societies and animal-control agencies in Oklahoma have been invited by The HSUS's Gulf States Regional Office to attend a meeting on the status of the animal raiding industry for a newly proposed state lobbying committee. Nearly thirty groups so far have responded to form the Oklahoma Humane Legislative Committee. The group has voted to sponsor a mandatory spay/neuter bill for adopted shelter animals and an anti-cockfighting bill in 1986.

For more information, contact The HSUS Gulf States Office (6262 Weber Road, Ste. 305, Corpus Christi, TX 78413).

North Central

Gaining Momentum

In 1949, Minnesota became the first state to endorse pound seizure as a method of obtaining animals for medical research. Now, some thirty-seven years later, and after eight years of hard work, efforts to repeal the law are beginning to bear fruit. The bills, H.F. 1016 and S.F. 1090, would prohibit this method of obtaining animals for research in Minnesota. The measures would halt the use of random-source animals, particularly those from other states such as neighboring Iowa, whose laws also allow pound-seized animals to be used for biomedical experiments. Last year, the bills failed to pass after the legislature added amendments that rendered the bill useless. This year, efforts by PALS, Inc. and other groups have resulted in an opportunity for the bills to pass into law. In February, HSUS Regional Director of Laboratory Animal Welfare John McAdams testified for H.F. 1016 in the committee for general legislation, which later passed it favorably. The HSUS is hopeful that combined efforts by Minnesota legislators will finally bring an end to pound seizure in the state.

New Territory

North Dakota and South Dakota have been added to the North Central Regional Office as of January 1, 1986. North Central Regional Director Franz Dantzlzer said he was "delighted that the expansion of the regional office system will enable us to include additional states that need our help."
Virginia Supreme Court
Rules in Vets’ Favor

The Supreme Court of Virginia recently wrote the final chapter in a 1982 lawsuit. In 1981, the Virginia Beach SPCA opened a full-service veterinary clinic, employing a veterinarian under contract for this purpose. The opening was promptly challenged in court by local veterinarians and the SPCA, following a hearing, the trial court found that the SPCA’s operation of a clinic fell outside its proper charitable activities and constituted the unlawful practice of veterinary medicine under state law. The court granted an injunction permanently enjoining the SPCA from continuing to operate the clinic.

After the injunction was issued, the SPCA ceased operation of the clinic as part of its corporate structure. Instead, it rented out the facility to the veterinarian involved for his private practice rather than employ him under contract as was the original arrangement. In the meantime, the SPCA pursued an appeal of the legal issues decided at trial to the Virginia supreme court.

Unfortunately, the supreme court upheld the trial court’s findings, finding that the SPCA’s operation of the clinic fell outside its charitable activities and constituted the unlawful practice of veterinary medicine. The court granted the injunction against the SPCA’s operation of a veterinary clinic.

Recommended reading for animal-cruelty investigators, as well as local society officials who have occasion to deal with prosecuting attorneys, is the article, “Animal Wrongs,” by Tony Agbayani, in the Spring 1985 issue of Prosecutor’s Brief. Mr. Agbayani is the deputy assistant attorney for San Joaquin County, Calif., who prosecuted the infamous Kidnusen Animal Kennels cruelty case on behalf of the state of California.

In “Animal Wrongs,” Mr. Agbayani describes his efforts in preparing the Kidnusen case for trial and, in doing so, has created a concise primer on the investigation and preparation of animal-cruelty cases. Among the topics considered are the need to marshal a broad range of information sources; the collection and preservation of evidence; the use of veterinarians, animal nutritionists, and other experts; coordination with federal authorities; and the preparation of pretrial motions to determine the standard of proof to be used at trial.

Copies of Mr. Agbayani’s article can be obtained without cost through the Humane Society General Counsel’s office. Write to the attention of Roger A. Kindler, Associate General Counsel, at HSUS headquarters.

Liability Insurance for Humane Societies

Local societies frequently inquire about the availability of liability insurance protecting them in the event of lawsuits for libel, malicious prosecution, false arrest, and business torts. The following national insurance carriers commonly offer such insurance through their own offices or through independent agents: Royal Insurance Company, The Travelers Insurance Companies, Aetna Life and Casualty, Hartford Insurance Company, and St. Paul Insurance Company. The HSUS does not endorse or recommend any particular insurance company for liability insurance. Any insurance policy must be carefully examined to ensure that it meets your organization’s needs.

Veal Lawsuit Dismissed

The HSUS-supported lawsuit filed in Massachusetts by the Boston chapter of the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF), which sought to stop veal sales in that state by the Provimi Veal Corporation, was recently dismissed. The lawsuit, charging Provimi with cruelty to animals in the raising of confined, intensively raised veal calves, also alleged that the major white veal producer raises the calves on a diet rendering the meat unwholesome and dangerous for human consumption and that Provimi does not disclose to consumers the manner in which the calves were procured or raised. These actions, to ALDF, constitute unfair and deceptive practices. The suit called for a permanent injunction against Provimi, to prevent it from raising or distributing its veal in the state of Massachusetts.

The court dismissed the cruelty-to-animals charge on the grounds that a court will not issue a civil injunction against alleged criminal activity, the interdiction of which is a matter for the state’s powers of prosecution.

In regard to the count charging Provimi with unfair and deceptive practices in the feeding of its calves and in the nondisclosure of its methods, the court held that the Federal Meat Inspection Act preempts Massachusetts law in this area. ALDF is pursuing an appeal of this decision.

The HSUS has prepared a handsome, professionally produced poster series as an informational tool for anyone interested in promoting the concept of alternatives to animal research. Each poster set includes a banner poster (16” x 40”), a central poster (22” x 28”), and four satellite posters (each 12” x 15”). Each element in the set deals with a different aspect of alternatives research.

The six-part series is printed on heavyweight glossy stock in blue, black, and white. It is perfect for library bulletin boards, information days, demonstrations, or as a mounted visual aid for lecturers or humane educators. Each set is $7.50. Two or more sets ordered at the same time are $6.75 each. All sets are mailed rolled in a cardboard tube for safety.

POSTERS WITH A PURPOSE

Please send me ____ sets of the alternatives poster series.

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A spectacular setting, a provocative theme—both are part of the 1986 annual conference.

Against the backdrop of one of the world’s premier vacation destinations, we will offer a stimulating mixture of the expected and pleasantly unexpected activities that have become synonymous with the HSUS conference.

We are already well into our planning for Miami Beach—and we hope you are, too. Circle October 22-25 on your calendar and plan to join us.