s compared to 1954, the year that Larry Andrews, Marcia Glaser, Helen Jones and Fred Myers founded The HSUS in Washington, D.C., we confront a very different landscape for animal protection today. We live in an era of global trade and commerce and communications, rising incomes throughout the world and enhanced human longevity; the industrialization of many forms of animal use, particularly agriculture; and a much keener understanding of animal cognition and behavior. These changes and others that have transformed society during the last 60 years present both challenges and opportunities for our organization.

Since most of the industries and interests that we confront have expanded to operate on a global scale, we must meet them there. That’s why we’ve created Humane Society International, with staff in 17 nations and growing. You’ll see in this report that we are making gains internationally on the major issues that we also confront domestically—shark finning, needless killing of companion animals, factory farming, dogfighting and many more.

The intensity of some forms of animal use has become more acute through the decades. Within The HSUS’s lifetime, for example, factory farming has not only emerged but has overtake pastured-based agriculture throughout much of the developed world. Animals raised for food have been moved from outdoor settings where they could experience a decent life into warehouses and sometimes into crates where they can barely move. With rising incomes, increased meat consumption has swallowed the number of animals raised in the U.S. and globally by billions, with disastrous implications for creatures born into a world. Animals raised for food have been moved from outdoor settings where they could

saturate fat or hormones. And we’ve even developed plant-based proteins that look and taste like meat but without the need for cruel confinement. We’ve also found ways to make some forms of animal use obsolete. We can create facsimiles of for that are stylish and functional, obviating the need to kill animals for their pelts. And we’ve even developed plant-based proteins that look and taste like meat but without saturated fats or hormones. In this report, you’ll read about how we’ve responded to these challenges and opportu-

nities. Cracking down on puppy mills and promoting adoption of homeless animals. Saving sharks and seals from harm. Battling horse slaughter and horse sorring and reminding people of the historical significance of these creatures in our society. Moving chimpanzees from laboratories and into sanctuaries. Speaking up for farm animals and urging people to eat with conscience. Ending cosmetics testing on animals and promoting 21st century science.

Just one year after The HSUS’s founding, at its first annual meeting, our first president, Robert Chenoweth, said that the spirit that animated the fledgling society was clear: “Driving us to organize (The HSUS), beyond all other considerations, was the feeling that the American humane movement needed a national society that would stand, absolutely, on humane moral principles—an organization that would unequivocally, vigorously, adamantly oppose any and every kind of cruelty, no matter by whom committed and without concern for who might be offended or alienated. … Everyone who took part in organizing this Society agreed on that principle.”

Within just a decade and a half, The HSUS had helped secure two landmark animal protection laws, the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act and the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act. More importantly, the organization had assumed its decisive role as one that would take to the entire nation a full-throttle program of “helping all animals—everywhere,” while doing all that it could to strengthen the work of the local societies through which most of The HSUS’s founders had first entered the field.

In the ensuing half century, The HSUS and its affiliates have been at the center of the national and now the global debate about how humans treat animals. We’ve normalized thinking about spay/neuter and animal adoption, worked to make malicious cruelty and animal fighting a crime and driven the discussion about alternatives to animal testing.

Today, the values espoused by our early leaders are infused in all that we do. We hope that this overview of our 2013 work will inspire you to become more engaged with The HSUS, as a volunteer, donor and citizen activist, and draw your support for the anniversary campaign’s key initiatives. Cracking down on puppy mills and promoting adoption of homeless animals. Saving sharks and seals from harm. Battling horse slaughter and horse sorring and reminding people of the historical significance of these creatures in our society. Moving chimpanzees from laboratories and into sanctuaries. Speaking up for farm animals and urging people to eat with conscience. Ending cosmetics testing on animals and promoting 21st century science.

From the President

Wayne Pacelle, President & CEO
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