I begin by explaining that "animal control" is not a familiar term in Britain. Most Britishers, if they heard it, would not know what it meant.

Nevertheless, the need for some form of animal control in Britain has never been greater. Stray dog and cat numbers are increasing each year. Euthanasia figures are appalling. Dog fouling, nuisance barking, free-roaming animals, and surplus litters are everywhere. Humane groups across the nation struggle with the problem, but voluntary workers, however dedicated, cannot fulfill the function of full-time professionals who operate animal-control programs.

Continued on next page
A few dog wardens work in some of Britain's big cities. Not all work full time or are in uniform. Some are part-time pest-control officers (rat-catchers). There is no vocational training provided currently for dog wardens, and there are no professional standards for animal control as in the United States.

Until recently, the British emphasized the role of the humane anti-cruelty investigator. The largest society, the Royal SPCA, employs 250 full-time uniformed inspectors, each fully trained, to enforce national anti-cruelty legislation. There are too few of them, however, to enforce local government bylaws. Where these exist, there is no one to enforce them except the police, who are too busy with other issues.

The Royal SPCA has campaigned for years for a national dog warden service. Successive British governments, fearing electoral backlash, have withheld from local government the power to levy local dog license fees. There is a national license fee of 60 cents, which has remained, unaltered, for 112 years. Therefore, only general taxes are available to fund dog warden schemes to which non-dog owners strongly object and must be won over by argument and persuasion.

Sharing the common frustration of animal workers, by chance in 1982, I read a copy of Shelter Sense, which the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) mails to Royal SPCA headquarters in England. This was how I heard of U.S. animal control. Could American organization and practice be adapted for British conditions? I decided that animal control, American-style, was something I had to go and see for myself.

It costs a lot of money to send someone from the Birmingham airport in England to the Birmingham airport in Alabama and to provide the fees and living expenses for two weeks at the HSUS' Animal Control Academy. I chose the Academy as the center of my "research" because I knew from the Royal SPCA of the preeminence of the HSUS in the field of advanced humane education. But from where was the money to come?

My supervisor was sympathetic, but my humane society could not help. The year 1982 was a lean one, and there was no reserve in the budget. I later found that this had been a problem not only

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Editorial Assistant Yuri Kusuda

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Continued on next page

A cruelty case resulted in a conviction and a strong sentence due to the willingness of witnesses to testify and the efforts of the local deputy city attorney.

In June, Charles Skippen, a Los Angeles, Calif., resident was convicted of animal cruelty and discharging a firearm within city limits, both misdemeanors. According to Norman Wegener, Los Angeles deputy city attorney, in late 1985, witness Skippen shot a stray dog that was rummaging through his garbage. Skippen reportedly prodded the wounded dog with a shovel from beneath a car and beat it to death. Neighbors summoned the police, who arrested Skippen.

Wegener reported that at the time of the arrest, Skippen gave a written statement that before shooting the dog, he told his family to remain inside their house, that he had heard a number of dog attacks on people in the area. Wegener said he believed Skippen was trying to show that he was acting out of concern for his family. According to Wegener, Skippen said in court that he shot the dog because it had been snarling at one of his children and had lunged at Skippen; however, witnesses testified that Skippen's children were inside, and the dog was running away, not attacking.

In June, Skippen was tried in Los Angeles County Municipal Court and convicted. Later, Skippen received a 90-day jail sentence and was ordered to pay $250 to the city of Los Angeles and $250 each to three local animal-welfare groups: the Fund for Animals, Actors and Others for Animals, and the Doris Day Foundation. Members from these organizations were present during the courtroom sentencing.

Skippen served approximately two-thirds of his jail sentence and is on probation for three years, during which he is not to possess animals or firearms or to harass neighbors or witnesses. If he does, he could face another nine months in jail.

"The strong sentence was a result of having witnesses testify during the trial," said Wegener. "Animal-cruelty cases often get lost in the shuffle, but they can lead to conviction if someone is willing to take them on. I think this case sends a strong message to potential offenders that animal cruelty will be taken seriously."

When a Pet Adopter Can't Read...

Occasionally, someone who cannot read an adoption contract will apply to adopt a cat or dog from an animal shelter. According to Elaine Garrison, director of the Missouri Bootheel Humane Society Inc. (P.O. Box 261, Kennett, MO 63857), there are a number of low-income people living in her area who cannot read or sign their names. Garrison believes that some have adequate incomes and would be caring, responsible pet owners. Nevertheless, she said they often seem too embarrassed to ask about the terms of the shelter's adoption contract or spay/neuter requirements. Garrison asks others who are faced with this problem to write to her at the above address with their suggestions for handling such situations.

Continued on next page
An animal-control officer's thorough investigation of a dog's death prompted a jail sentence for the animal's owner, the second time in approximately 15 years that a jail term has been the penalty for animal cruelty in that area, according to a local official.

According to Nancy Butler, animal-control supervisor for the city of Fort Wayne Animal Control Department (2225 Dwenger Ave., Ft. Wayne, IN 46803), Animal-Control Officer John McBride, responding to a December 1985 call from a boy, found a female pit bull terrier chained to a car and frozen in the snow. McBride located the dog's body in return for the animal-control department's $5 pickup fee. Clark permitted McBride to remove the body from his property which allowed McBride the opportunity to note evidence of cruelty and to take pictures.

A veterinarian examined the dog and concluded that it had been in general poor health and, therefore, unable to survive the low temperature (the low 20s). McBride reportedly found no food or water near the dog, which Clark had positively identified as his. Therefore, Butler said, the department believed it had a very strong case of animal cruelty.

The case was tried on the state court level, where a conviction most likely would lead to a jail sentence. At a June 1986 hearing, two of Clark's neighbors testified that the dog was left outside most of the time. Clark was convicted of animal cruelty and sentenced to a 10-day jail term and a $50 fine plus court costs. "Judge Moellering, who presided over the case, is a dog lover and reportedly was very upset at Clark," said Butler. "However, we had a strong case because of McBride's work."

A

Tennessee humane organization uses animal-shaped banks and cardboard cannisters to collect funds. The banks are available for use by other organizations, too!

The Animal Rights Association of Jackson, Tenn., and Madison County developed its cat- and dog-shaped banks and small cannisters to raise funds. According to Dale Jamieson, director, the association's Sad Doggie Bank and the 5-inch by 9-inch Sad Kitty Bank have collected over $60,000 for the association since it first began using them in 1980. Jamieson said that over 1,000 animal programs include the banks.

The association sells two types of cannisters: multiple-use and single-use. Single-use cannisters can't be opened without being destroyed. These cannisters cost $15 per dozen or $1.25 each. Multiple-use cannisters cost $18 per dozen or $1.50 each and are discounted for larger orders. The cannisters' message says, "Please help the HUMANE SOCIETY put an end to senseless slaughter of unwanted animals." Organizations can order blank cannisters of either type for $3 less per dozen and can make their own message labels.

For further information about ordering the banks and cannisters, contact Dale Jamieson, Director, Animal Rights Association of Jackson, Tenn., and Madison County, P.O. Box 3195, Jackson, TN 38303; telephone, (901) 427-0456.

Humane organizations can use colorful buttons as fund-raisers.

Courtney Enterprises produces a brightly colored button that is 2-1/4 inch in diameter and says "I (heart) animals" amid caricatures of a bird, sheep, mouse, and dog. The button is available at bulk order prices for resale by humane organizations at a price of their choosing.

Buttons cost 39 cents each in quantities of 500 or more, 50 cents each for 50 to 499, and $1 each for fewer than 50. Allow 30 days for shipping. Postage is included in the cost of the buttons.

For more information and to order buttons, contact Antonia Puzerski, Courtney Enterprises, P.O. Box 10343, Detroit, MI 48210.

A new booklet can help animal shelters promote responsible puppy care, serve as a fund-raiser, and provide adopters with a memento of their new pets.

Puppy owners of all ages can record their pets' vital statistics in a 16-page booklet called My Puppy Book. The booklet includes spaces for recording the date of an animal's arrival; keeping track of its measurements, immunizations, illnesses, accidents, and new tricks; and displaying photographs. Throughout are tips...
Protect Pets from Winter's Woes....To order a supply of 100 of this winter pet-care flier, send a $2.75 check or money order (order #PM 2071) to The HSUS, 2100 L St. N.W., Washington, DC 20037. ●

Protect Pets From Winter's Woes

Like you, dogs and cats cannot withstand harsh winds, frigid temperatures or numbing wetness. Short-haired pets can't withstand frostbite. Help pets remain happy and healthy during winter's bitter cold.

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G r a d u a t e s o f T h e H u m a n e S o c i e t y o f t h e U n i t e d S t a t e s ' ( H S U S ) A n i m a l C o n t r o l A c a d e m y a r e i n t e r e s t i n g p e o p l e ! O n e g r a d u a t e w a s f e a t u r e d i n a l o c a l n e w s p a p e r . A n o t h e r h a s b e e n i n v i t e d t o s p e a k a t w o r k s h o p s a r o u n d t h e n a t i o n .

S e p t e m b e r 1 9 8 4 A c a d e m y g r a d u a t e J a m e s C. T e d f o r d , s h e l t e r m a n a g e r f o r t h e K n o x C o u n t y H u m a n e S o c i e t y ( P.O. Box 9479, Knoxville, TN 37940-0479), recently was featured in the Knoxville News-Sentinel in a weekly column titled "People to Watch." For this column, the newspaper selected someone whom readers have suggested and printed his or her personal and professional profile. Unknown to Tedford at the time, his secretary suggested his name. A week later, he was selected. Tedford's column was called "Learning a lot from the animals." It included information about his profession.

C o n t i n u e d o n n e x t p a g e
NAAHE Begins Pet Licensing Program in February

by Bill DeRosa

Short on staff? Short on volunteers? You soon may have lots of new ambassadors to spread the word about responsible pet care. The National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAAHE, a division of The Humane Society of the United States) has designed a new nationwide educational program, "Playing TAG for Real," which begins in February.

Though humane education often is thought of in terms of long-term results, NAAHE believes humane education also can help children realize their potential to benefit immediately and directly the animals in their communities! "Playing TAG for Real" is designed to involve students in learning about and communicating the need for pet licensing. Key participants in the program are teachers, students, and area animal-control or similar agencies.

The program catalyst and link among participants is a letter, soon to be sent by teachers across the nation to their local pet-licensing facilities: animal-control agencies, humane societies, or municipal health departments. In it, teachers will explain that their students are encouraging pet owners to license their animals by distributing large paper license TAGs throughout their communities (a sample TAG will be enclosed with each letter). The TAGS will say "Ms./Mr. ____'s Class Believes That A TAG IS A LOST PET'S TICKET HOME" and will ask recipients to fill out license applications for their pets right away! The TAGs then will instruct recipients to attach a TAG to a license application when they fill one out.

Animal-control or other pet-licensing agencies can play an important role in ensuring the effectiveness of the "Playing TAG for Real" program. As will be suggested in the letter of explanation sent by teachers, licensing agencies should keep a record of the number of license applications they receive with TAGs attached. In this way, students can measure the effectiveness of their efforts to convince citizens of an important community need.

In addition, animal-welfare organizations and agencies can contribute to the success of "Playing TAG for Real" by helping to promote the program throughout their communities. The program and related teaching activities will be introduced and explained in the February issue of *Children & Animals*, NAAHE's magazine for teachers. Animal-control and similar agencies can order copies of this issue to distribute to teachers in their area. Agencies also can order a single copy of the magazine and photocopy the TAGs article to distribute to teachers. Requests for one or more copies of this *Children & Animals* should be sent, along with $2 per magazine, to NAAHE, P.O. Box 362, East Haddam, CT 06423.

If your animal-control or pet-licensing agency receives a letter from a teacher introducing you to the "Playing TAG for Real" program, NAAHE encourages you to participate. Your help can provide young people with a sense of the value of community involvement and good citizenship. Moreover, your participation may result in a significant increase in the number of pets licensed in your area. That is a valuable service to your agency, to pets, and to their owners!

Bill DeRosa is assistant director of the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAAHE) and can be reached at the address above or by calling (203) 434-8666.

Bill DeRosa

SHelter SensE 

February Pet Licensing

NAAHE Begins

by Bill DeRosa

Program in

that A TAG IS A LOST PET'S TICKET HOME.

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In order to help new and prospective computer users find systems appropriate to their needs, we want to hear from Shelter Sense readers who use computers in their animal-control departments or humane societies, even if these readers responded to our March 1985 survey. Please fill out this form, using extra paper if necessary, and return it or a photocopy of the form, completed, by Feb. 1, 1987, to Computer Survey, The HSUS, 2100 L St. N.W., Washington, DC 20037.

1. Briefly describe the hardware you use currently:

2. How long has your system been in operation?

3. Is the system used exclusively by your organization, or is use shared with other departments or agencies?

4. What is the approximate cost of the hardware to your group?

5. Circle each of the applications for which your system is used, and fill in the name of the software used for these applications and the approximate number of records handled per year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Software Used</th>
<th>Records</th>
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<td>A. licensing/rabies control</td>
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<td>B. shelter records (e.g. adoptions)</td>
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<td>C. memberships, donations, volunteers</td>
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<td>D. complaints, cruelty investigations</td>
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<td>E. lost and found</td>
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<td>G. word processing/desktop publishing</td>
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<td>I. other (please specify)</td>
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6. What is the approximate cost of software you use routinely?
7. If your software was customized for your needs (for example, writing DBase programs), who did this for you (staff, dealer, consultant, volunteer), and what was the approximate cost?

8. What has been the greatest problem encountered in making effective use of your system?

9. What has been the greatest benefit provided by your computer system?

Your name ____________________________
Title ________________________________
Organization __________________________
Address ______________________________
City __________ State __________ ZIP code __
Phone number __________________________

May we include this information in a Shelter Sense directory of shelter computer users?
yes _____ no _____

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One humane organization discovered that the key to its most recent fund-raising success was to enlist the help of its greatest resource -- its members!

Last May, the Mississippi Animal Rescue League (MARL) (4395 South Drive, Jackson, MS 39209) held an art auction called Masterpiece I that raised over $28,400 for the organization. Carolyn Stiglets and Katherine Allen, members of MARL's board of directors, co-chaired the event. Stiglets said the auction's success was due to the help and expertise of Mr. and Mrs. James Brown of Brown's Framing & Fine Arts who are longtime supporters of MARL and who guided the organizers through each step of the auction.

According to Stiglets, Mrs. Mary Katherine Loyocano McCravey, a local artist, offered to donate a painting to MARL several years ago as a fund-raising item for an art auction. At that time, MARL had no one with the expertise to run an art auction (the Browns were not yet league members). When the idea was presented again, last August, at a board meeting, the Browns were contacted and they agreed to help make Masterpiece I a reality.

Stiglets said the Browns, who were well-known to the local art community, enlisted the help of 13 artists, McCravey among them, who each donated a painting. Because these artists were animal lovers, they allowed all proceeds to go to MARL, unlike other charity events where the artists usually receive a percentage of profit from the sale of their work. In addition, the Browns held an advance showing of the paintings in their store. They invited interested clients to view the paintings and made certain that at least three potential buyers for each painting attended the auction. Eight or nine out of the 13 artists attended the event, which Stiglets said was very good.

"You'll often be able to get higher bids on paintings if the artists are present. The highest bid went for McCravey's painting titled 'Sunday Afternoon,' which sold for over $8,000!"

In order to attract wealthy clientele to the auction, the organizers decided to enlist the endorsement of some state officials for the event. They wrote letters and sent invitations to the Mississippi governor, the lieutenant governor, the state treasurer, the state auditor, the attorney general, and Jackson Mayor Dale Danks, asking if they would serve as honorary guest hosts. All but the state treasurer accepted the invitation, although most were unable to attend. Nevertheless, their names appeared on the invitations and posters as honorary hosts. Jackson Mayor Danks and District Attorney Ed Peters attended the auction.

Invitations were sent to the Brown's select list of area art lovers and collectors and to longtime MARL supporters. Approximately 3,000 people were invited, and approximately 200 attended. Tickets cost $12.50 for individuals or $25 for couples. People who couldn't attend the event were encouraged to make donations. Tickets were attached to each invitation along with a return envelope and reservation card, which interested parties returned to MARL with payment. At the door, tickets were matched with the attendants' reservation cards. "This cut down on our postage costs," said Stiglets, "since we didn't have to do an
MARL used the profits from Masterpiece I to make some much-needed improvements around the shelter and to purchase items for which it usually doesn't have funds, according to Debra Boswell, MARL's director. They purchased a Bioclimatic (air) Purification System which they read about in the November 1985 Shelter Sense. (Boswell said there already is a decrease in the number of upper respiratory infections in cats since the air purification system was installed.) In addition, MARL completely refenced their old kennel area, making it into a receiving area for incoming large dogs. They paid some outstanding debts, stocked up on educational materials, ordered new T-shirts, and printed 9,000 copies of several Shelter Sense reproducibles onto bright-colored, heavy paper.

The next art auction, called Masterpiece II, already is being planned for February 1987, said Stiglets. The Browns and several of this year's participants, including some artists and Larry McCool, have committed to help next year. "We never expected this to be as great as it was," said Boswell. "We're animal experts, not art experts, but the Browns sure made this all possible!"

Recently, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) published proposed regulations governing lobbying by public charities that have elected to come under the charitable lobbying provisions enacted by the Tax Reform Act of 1976, including humane societies.

The proposed regulations seek to make several changes in the law that may have the effect of restricting humane societies' ability to influence legislation at all levels of government. Perhaps most onerous is the proposal to make many of the regulations retroactively effective to Jan. 1, 1977, which may result in some electing charities having to pay retroactively assessed excise taxes for excess lobbying.

Organizations that have chosen, or are planning to choose, to come under the charitable lobbying provisions as mentioned above are urged to review the proposed regulations, determine whether or not and how the regulations would impact their lobbying activities, and submit written comments to the IRS arguing in favor of changes to the final regulations. Comments are due by Feb. 3, 1987.

The proposed regulations, as well as instructions for submitting comments, appear in the Nov. 5, 1986, Federal Register (Volume 51, pages 40211 - 40232). Organizations should consult their attorneys about this information.

Roger Kindler is associate general counsel for The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).
England. I immediately wrote to Bill Hurt Smith, director of the HSUS Animal Control Academy, and enrolled for the September 1982 session in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

When I arrived, the first thing the ACOs did was to swap ordinances, but I had none to swap. We don't have any in England. "What is an ordinance?" I asked Bill Smith. (This was the only time I saw Bill nonplussed. "An ordinance," he said slowly, "is an ordinance.")

So the ACOs gave me theirs. Ruthann Cumbo of Shelby County, Ala., Jacob Pitts of Lafayette, La., Sandy Newton of Pensacola, Fla., Gerald Braxton of Tuscaloosa, Ala., Paul Knot of Ozark, Ala., Daryl Chance of Dallas, Texas, and Kathy Adams of Nevada, Iowa, provided ordinances which I have used and shown to local government departments in the English Midlands. Bill Smith gave me a set of HSUS model animal-control ordinances. All these documents have been examined with interest by many British animal-welfare agencies, and I have supplied countless photocopies.

I accumulated nearly 400 slides. Some I took myself, some were supplied by the National Animal Control Association (NACA). Don Mudge, a fellow student who became a pal of mine, sent me some depicting his agency in Oconee County, S.C. I discovered how very generous Americans are towards someone genuinely seeking help.

Since returning to England, as part of my job and in my free time, I have given many talks on what I learned at the HSUS Animal Control Academy. I began by presenting some of my slides to the governing board of the Royal SPCA in London, England. This led to invitations to repeat my talk to humane societies, local government agencies, and elected representatives throughout my region.

For example, Herefordshire Environmental Health Department was interested, as were their counterparts in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Nottingham, and Dudley. These local government units serve populations totaling three million people and half a million dogs. All were investigating methods of tackling the stray dog problem. I discussed with them American methods of organization and practice I had learned at the Academy. Their interest was intense; the questions endless. (I also told them some of the ACO jokes I had picked up from the Americans, which had the English rolling in the aisles. Without a sense of humor, I don't think anyone could be an ACO.)

All the above local government areas currently operate a publicly funded dog warden service, which I hope may have benefited a little from what I explained and demonstrated.

So, was it all worth traveling four thousand miles for two weeks of school? They were the most concentrated two weeks of my life; we worked from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, including Saturday. Bill and 16 tutors urged us to learn, argue, and think "animal control." When we received our graduation certificates, we had something that money alone could not buy: confidence and a sense of professionalism. You bet it was worth it! We will benefit from it for the rest of our lives.

I like to think that some British animals, somewhere, somehow, have benefited also. Thank you, HSUS. Thank you, Bill Smith. Thank you, Winston Churchill Trust.


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SPCA education advocate — Dynamic, creative person needed to promote educational services and animal needs. Candidate should have excellent communication skills, the ability to develop educational programs, and the necessary leadership qualities to motivate people and be a self-starter. College degree in public relations or education preferred but not mandatory. Car necessary. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume to York County SPCA, R.D. 1, Thomasville, PA 17404.

Kennel assistant needed for five hours each day during weekdays. No experience necessary. Must love animals. Salary negotiable. Send correspondence and resume to Director, Rockland SPCA, 150 McNamara Road, Spring Valley, NY 10977, or call Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (914) 354-3124.

Administrative-level position available for two to four hours each week. Will substitute for regular staff members on sick/vacation days. Send correspondence and resume to Director, Rockland SPCA, 150 McNamara Road, Spring Valley, NY 10977, or call Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (914) 354-3124.

Continued on next page
In the November issue, I discussed the importance of handling various tax and fund-raising matters for your organization before the end of 1986. Since the new year has arrived, it is time to concentrate on what is important for 1987!

As in previous years, you must meet with your staff members to discuss your organization's accomplishments in 1986 and its objectives for 1987. Remember, your staff members could offer constructive feedback or new ideas that could benefit co-workers and the animals. List the objectives, and make certain staff members receive copies once that list is finalized.

Your community is unique; there is no other like it. Therefore, your organization's programs should be geared to the special needs of your community. For example, are most pet owners failing to license their pets? Perhaps you need to expand your pet licensing campaign. Is your spay/neuter program adequate? If not, try again to persuade area veterinarians and others to participate in this important program.

No matter how small your organization's budget, you can achieve your objectives by planning in advance; organizing your programs; communicating with staff members, volunteers, and members; and paying attention to what is and is not working. Do not forget business owners and others in your community, who may contribute their services if you approach them with well-timed and -developed proposals. This issue of Shelter Sense contains several examples of cooperation among community residents and animal-welfare professionals.

Every year, companion animals and citizens benefit from the new and improved programs you establish for them. Make 1987 the best year ever!