

Disaster Relief for Animals Nearly a Reality

HSUS President John Hoyt has announced the establishment of a disaster relief program for animals. Plans for the program were formalized in July. The program will provide a response to both natural disasters such as hurricanes and earthquakes, and catastrophes caused by human activities such as oil spills.

The new HSUS disaster program is multifaceted. In the event of major disasters the Society will attempt to provide immediate temporary assistance to animals and will support rescue and relocation efforts until such time as community services are restored and local humanitarians or humane societies can assume control of the effort. The HSUS will also provide field coordination of disaster rescue operations as may be required. The HSUS is planning to develop emergency preparedness plans for use by local agencies and training manuals which would outline animal rescue and animal care routines which should be employed during emergencies.

The HSUS staff members who will primarily be involved with the new disaster program are Director of Research and Data Services Guy Hodge who has experience serving as a coordinator for several major spills and Director of Investigations Frantz Dantzler who has directed rescue programs following major floods. During the summer, HSUS consulted with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on the revision of their pollution contingency plan which is intended to provide an effective response in the event of a discharge of pollutants such as oil which may significantly impact wildlife. Both Hodge and Dantzler are listed in the new federal plan as contacts who will be working with FWS field personnel during future disasters.

HSUS President Hoyt noted during his announcement that, "the new HSUS disaster program is an ambitious project. The successful implementation of all aspects of this program will require a significant financial commitment. The Society is establishing a revolving fund and our ability to provide aid to animals during disasters will be measured by the public response to appeals for financial support."

Washington, D.C. Restaurateur Takes Tuna Off the Menu

Receives HSUS Award

Karen and Ken Miller operate a restaurant about one block from The HSUS headquarters in the District of Columbia. Some of The HSUS staff occasionally eat lunch at the Bagel Den.

One day, some of The HSUS staffers were surprised to find a small card on their table. It read: "*Due to the outrageous destruction of porpoises by tuna fishermen, we will no longer be serving tuna fish. If in our opinion, this situation abates, the Bagel Den will resume purchasing tuna fish. In the meantime, chicken salad may be substituted for dishes containing tuna.*"

The Millers were not familiar with The HSUS position on tuna fishing, nor had they seen any HSUS literature on the matter. At the time they began their one restaurant boycott of tuna, the Millers were spending about \$150 per week for canned tuna at the wholesale price.

The *News* asked Ken Miller, "Why would a restaurateur in a town with a lot of competition stop serving a popular food?" Mr. Miller explained that while he had never formally been identified with the humane movement, he had always liked animals—of all kinds. As a youngster, he had had horses and dogs. Today, he and his wife are always picking up stray dogs and taking them to the shelter. As a matter of fact, they now have 5 dogs because they find the thought of "putting the dogs to sleep" something they cannot bear. On the day we talked with Mr. Miller, Mrs. Miller was at the vets getting shots for the 5 lucky strays.

Mr. Miller studied oceanography and marine biology at the University of Hawaii. While at the university, he worked with porpoises on the Navy's *Man Under the Sea* project and *Mohole* project. He learned to respect these highly intelligent creatures. An avid marksman and scuba diver, Mr. Miller finds killing animals highly distasteful.

Perhaps the Miller's story will encourage other restaurant owners to take a stand for porpoises. We've said "thanks" for all the members of The HSUS by giving the Millers a Certificate of Appreciation at the recent annual conference.

CHUNKY CHICKEN



Replaces Charlie Tuna

 Porpoises love people