WHAT'S IN A NAME?

One of the manufacturers that were cited in the Winter 1991 HSUS News as "The Beautiful Twenty-Six," Genesis, has changed its name to Beauty Without Cruelty Cosmetics, Inc.

Two other manufacturers found that extra letters had crept into their names during editing; the correct spellings are Rachel Perry and Smith & Vandiver. All twenty-six manufacturers are part of the HSUS "Beautiful Choice" campaign.

NEW CONFERENCE FORMAT FOR '91

The 1991 HSUS conference will mark the introduction of a format designed to reduce both the increasing expense of conducting such conferences and the extraordinary demands placed on the HSUS staff in preparing for them. The program will feature a one-and-a-half-day symposium beginning on Friday, October 11, followed by the annual membership meeting and the annual awards banquet, both to be held on Saturday, October 12.

The shorter programs will alternate with the traditional ones and will be held every other year—if feasible, in the Washington, D.C., area. The traditional three-day conferences, each preceded by a one-day symposium, will continue to be held in different parts of the country; the next one is scheduled for October 29–31, 1992, in Boulder, Colorado.

Holding shorter programs not only saves both money and staff time but also permits the scheduling of smaller meetings sponsored by our regional offices. The first of those will be held on April 25–27, 1991, in Morristown, New Jersey, and will be jointly sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic and New England regional offices.

The theme of 1991’s symposium is "Animals in Research: Challenging the Status Quo" (see the announcement on the inside back cover of this issue). Noted guest speakers and HSUS staff members will address critical issues involving the use of animals in research and testing. Plan now to attend this informative and provocative session. More information and a registration form will appear in the Summer 1991 HSUS News.

USA WEEKEND PET-CARE GUIDE

May 5 is Humane Sunday and the beginning of Be Kind to Animals Week. To help celebrate those important occasions and encourage pet owners to be more responsible, USA Weekend, the supplemental magazine of USA Today, will feature a colorful pet-care guide in cooperation with The HSUS to assist readers in making certain that their pets have a safe, healthy summer.

Written by a veterinarian, the pet-care guide will focus on summertime health problems such as ticks, fleas, and heartworm; traveling with pets; boarding pets safely; and protecting pets from overexposure to hot weather. A pet-themed crossword puzzle that challenges readers to test their knowledge of their pets' needs will be included in the guide.

Readers can help to support the work of The HSUS by mailing back a pet-care-guide coupon, including their answers to several survey questions asked by USA Weekend. For each coupon returned, USA Weekend will donate $1 to The HSUS. Every twentieth respondent who mails back the completed coupon will receive a complimentary colorful HSUS canvas shopping bag with "Animals . . . It's Their World Too" on the front and the USA Weekend logo on the back.

To help veterinarians promote responsible pet ownership, USA Weekend will provide 25,000 copies of the supplement containing the pet-care guide to veterinarians across the nation.

Dr. Stephen M. Kritsick, HSUS staff veterinarian, well known as the host of PBS's "The Gentle Doctor," has contributed his advice during the planning of the pet-care guide and will be promoting it in the coming months.

Be sure to purchase a copy of the USA Today issue containing USA Weekend and the new pet-care guide. Mail in the coupon and share the guide with your friends and family.

A RODEO WIN IN PITTSBURGH

The efforts of Animal Advocates of Pittsburgh, working with Councilman Michael Coyne, have withstood a mayoral veto to give Pittsburgh a humane and progressive new ordinance regulating rodeos.
Some who respond to the USA Weekend offer will get a bag.

The ordinance, which features language found in The HSUS's model bill regulating rodeos, prohibits the use of electric prods, wire tie-downs, flank or bucking straps, and sharpened or fixed spurs or rowels.

The ordinance also states, “No rodeo-related event shall be permitted in which animals are induced or encouraged to perform through the use of any practice or technique, or any chemical, mechanical, electrical, or manual device that will cause, or is likely to cause physical injury, torment, or suffering.” That language serves to prohibit both calf roping and bulldoggling.

The ordinance requires that a licensed veterinarian be present during all rodeo events.

The effort to pass the legislation gained momentum after a bull broke its leg at a Pittsburgh rodeo in September and had to suffer for more than an hour before a veterinarian arrived to euthanize it.

HSUS Vice President for Investigations David K. Wills was among the more than twenty witnesses that testified in favor of the ordinance.

“This [ordinance] is about what kinds of people we are and whether or not we... will allow this type of spectacle—not unlike the old Roman circus—to harm creatures for amusement,” said Mr. Wills.

The city council passed the ordinance on November 7, but Mayor Sophie Masloff then vetoed it. On November 27 the council overrode the mayor’s veto by a vote of six to three.

More than 2,300 people signed petitions in support of the antirodeo legislation, according to Deborah Chielli, vice president of Animal Advocates of Pittsburgh.

**REBIRTH IN THE SOVIET UNION**

After seventy years of virtually no organized animal-protection activities, a renewed effort to make animal welfare part of the social and political fabric of the Soviet Union was launched with an international meeting commemorating the 125th anniversary of the formation of the Russian Emperor Animal Protection Society. Disbanded in 1917, the society was re-formed in 1988 as the All-Union Animal Protection Society and is currently seeking to establish itself as an effective and influential force in promoting animal-welfare activities throughout the nation.

Representing The HSUS, President John A. Hoyt and Executive Vice President Paul G. Irwin participated in ceremonies celebrating the Soviet group’s revival held in the Chekhov Theater in Moscow on December 17, 1990. The event was attended by only three other representatives from outside the Soviet Union: Richard Steiner of Switzerland, president of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA); Gordon Walwyn of England, director-general of WSPA; and Hannele Lunkkainen, representing the Humane Society in Helsinki, Finland. Approximately 300 people, including representatives of organizations in Siberia, the Urals, Sverdlovsk, Georgia, the Ukraine, Byelorussia, and many other regions, demonstrated their enthusiastic support for the rebirth of an organized animal-protection movement in their nation.

Headed by its president, Prof. Oleg S. Kolbasov, who serves as the deputy director of the Institute of State Law, USSR Academy of Sciences, and its first vice president, Vera Maximova, the emerging federation of generally poorly structured organizations is facing the enormous challenge of establishing effective and cohesive animal-protection programs throughout the Soviet Union. Though it produces a weekly newspaper, the Call, funded in large measure by the state and having a circulation of 120,000, the All-Union Animal Protection Society has no office other than its first vice president’s home and operates only one animal facility, the equivalent of a boarding kennel, which houses owned animals at a cost of three to five rubles a day. There is currently no facility for strays or unwanted animals, and the few veterinary centers that exist are, by Western standards, extremely substandard. They lack even basic medicines, surgical instruments, and professional know-how.

The HSUS, in cooperation with WSPA, is currently exploring ways in which we can be as effective as possible in assisting the Soviet group as it attempts to address the needs of animals in a nation that is embroiled in economic and political turmoil. Although almost any such attempt may seem negligible in the face of the immense need and the virtual obliteration of an animal-welfare consciousness, which stems from years of abject neglect, that a few courageous people are seeking better ways to protect animals behooves us to support their determined efforts. We hope to provide assistance, training, and encouragement.
A HEARTFELT "THANKS!"

The National Association for Humane and Environmental Education (NAHEE), The HSUS's youth-education division, sincerely thanks the thousands of organizations, businesses, and individuals that have participated in the Adopt-A-Teacher program. We extend a special "thanks" to the list of donors (below) who adopted 20 or more teachers in 1990, each enabling 600 or more children to receive Kind News monthly. (The organizations that adopted more than 1,000 teachers appear in bold type.) For information on how you or your organization can participate in this exciting and worthwhile program, contact NAHEE, 67 Salem Road, East Haddam, CT 06423, (203) 434-8666. We'll be happy to give you details.

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