An Unprecedented Year

SINCE 1954, THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES (HSUS) has worked to create a more humane world through our programs and campaigns, regional offices, and global affiliates. We made an unprecedented leap forward in 2005 by joining with The Fund for Animals, which was founded by the legendary Cleveland Amory in 1967. Combining forces with The Fund represented a significant step toward uniting the entire humane movement in one powerful voice and streamlined our operations, freeing more resources for action on behalf of animals. This historic union also produced the youngest member of our family of organizations—the Humane Society Legislative Fund—and a new section devoted to major campaigns against factory farming, animal fighting and cruelty, the fur industry, and inhumane hunting practices, as well as the nation’s largest in-house animal protection litigation department. The year also saw unprecedented action—a massive mobilization to rescue animals left in the wake of natural disaster—and our staff and members rose to the challenge with unprecedented dedication and generosity.

Helping Pets and Their People

Our Pets for Life® program continued to provide a wealth of resources to help caregivers solve the problems that too often separate them from their pets. We also produced new billboards, flyers, and print advertisements to raise awareness about the abuses inherent in the commercial mass dog breeding industry for our Stop Puppy Mills campaign and launched a special fund to help place these materials.

We worked with Pets Incredible to develop the Training Your Adopted Dog DVD to assist families with new pets. To help animal shelters across the country distribute the DVD, we provided funding for 7,000 free sample copies and helped offset costs to allow the sale of more than 100,000 copies for only 99 cents each.

In close cooperation with several Massachusetts organizations, we put our weight heavily behind an initiative to ban greyhound racing, prevent cruelty to service dogs, and provide stronger penalties for dogfighters in the state. Our staff was instrumental in collecting more than 115,000 signatures, the first step to get the measure on the November ballot.

And five years after passage of the Safe Air Travel for Animals Act—which required airlines to report the loss, injury, and death of pets during travel—we were successful in our efforts to pass a final rule. Airlines now must report any complaints to the Department of Transportation’s Aviation Consumer Protection Division.
Supporting the Animal Sheltering Community

We began working with the Humane Alliance Spay/Neuter Clinic of Asheville, North Carolina, to create a nationwide network of 27 new spay/neuter clinics. And through an ongoing partnership with the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, we developed the Shelter Diagnostic Survey to help animal shelters operate more effectively. We also launched a new partnership with New York-based Neighborhood Cats to support feral cat colony management with an online course and outreach to local trap-neuter-return programs. We worked with Energize, Inc., to develop Everyone Ready™, a free online program offering training and resources in volunteer management that has reached more than 600 participants from 11 countries. And our Animal Services Consultation program completed seven shelter evaluations in 2005 and launched an internship program.

Humane Society University (HSU) provided training for nearly 3,300 animal care and control personnel during the year, conducting more than 30 workshops, adding 10 online courses, and launching both an online graduate certificate in organizational leadership program with Duquesne University’s School of Leadership and Professional Advancement and our Pets for Life behavior certificate program with the support of the Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust.

Our youth education affiliate, the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education (NAHEE), developed the seventh workshop in our Teach Kids to Care professional development series for sheltering professionals, and during the year this series reached more than 800 participants.

Almost 1,400 people attended our Animal Care Expo 2005 in Atlanta, Georgia. More than 40 educational workshops and a sold-out exhibit hall continue to make Expo the largest animal care and control conference in the country. As part of our Safe Cats™ campaign to keep cats safely confined, we also organized a conference for sheltering professionals in Montana.

Our tenth annual National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week in November again highlighted the work of local shelters, and we held a Super Shelter Stories contest with prizes from sponsors including Patrick McDonnell of Mutts® comics, King Features Syndicate; Banfield, The Pet Hospital®; Southwest Airlines®, and Hill’s® Science Diet®.


Animal Sheltering® magazine introduced the first full-color issue, and we expanded the magazine to 52 pages of informative articles. We also produced the year’s Shelter Pages® directory of products and services for sheltering professionals.

Protecting Wildlife at Home and Abroad

Our Protect Seals campaign to stop Canada’s annual commercial seal hunt continued to build momentum during the year, with more than 400 restaurants and several distributors—including Publix, the largest employee-owned U.S. supermarket chain—joining our boycott of Canadian seafood until the slaughter ends for good. Greenland barred all imports of Canadian seal pelts in early 2006, closing a major market to Canada, and we led demonstrations at Canadian embassies and consulates around the world. We also kept pressure on Red Lobster—a major purchaser of Canadian
The HSUS

Our Protect Seals campaign against Canada’s commercial seal hunt gained momentum with demonstrations around the world.

seafood—to stand with us against the hunt and sent new outreach materials to 10,000 producers, directors, and film professionals, among others, to generate support.

We arranged a partnership with vintage clothing chain Buffalo Exchange to promote our Coats for Cubs program, which distributes donated fur garments to wildlife rehabilitators for use comforting the animals in their care. We also directed People magazine readers to our Fur-Free Pledge with several full-page anti-fur ads. We took our message of compassion directly to designers, stylists, and celebrity trendsetters at New York City’s Fashion Week. To reach the next generation of fashion designers, we launched the first annual Cool vs. Cruel student fashion design contest promoting fur-free couture with the Art Institutes of America. And we organized the second Design Against Fur competition for art design students.

We focused our Hunting Issues campaign on canned and Internet hunting—in which paying customers shoot confined animals for a fee—with new print materials and public policy action. Our investigators exposed a tax scam through which trophy hunters wrote off their trips by donating mounted kills to pseudo-museums. And in Michigan, our volunteers secured a spot on the state ballot after collecting more than 275,000 signatures—116,000

I GREW UP IN A SMALL NEWFOUNDLAND FISHING VILLAGE, my house bordered on one side by a deep bay leading into the Atlantic and on the others by mountains and forest. In that wild landscape, animals were part of my daily life—the comical sheep who would spend the night in our yard, the friendly moose who lived among our cherry trees, the families of whales who swam through the bay.

But my most powerful early memory of an animal is of a seal. I was five years old. I’d turned on our television, and staring out at me was a fluffy white pup with luminous black eyes. My initial thrill turned quickly to horror as a sealer strode onscreen and brutally began clubbing her. I remember sobbing as I asked my mother what it was. She answered, “It’s the seal hunt, and we’re against it.” I didn’t know then how significant that moment really was for me.

Twenty years ago, most people thought the commercial seal hunt had been ended for good. But in the mid-1990s, the Canadian government subsidized its return, paying fishermen per pound of seal they killed. As the death toll skyrocketed, I swore I would do everything in my power to stop the hunt. Over the past decade, it has become my life’s work.

I’ve observed the hunt for seven years, documenting horrific acts of cruelty and exposing the images to the world. It’s almost unbearably hard to do. The pups, most less than a month old, are completely trusting and defenseless. The seals’ cries as they are beaten haunt listeners long after they have left the ice. Canadian law renders us powerless to intervene. We stand on the floes with the only weapons we can legally carry—our cameras. I take some comfort in knowing that, for the sealing industry, cameras are the most dangerous weapons we could have.

Last year I was honored to join The HSUS, and a few months later I stood in the midst of the hunt with my new colleagues. I remember their courage facing sealers armed with knives and clubs. I remember how we moved forward, filming the dead and dying seals the sealers left behind. And I remember one injured pup, only three weeks old, raising her battered head. She had huddled next to a dead seal, trying to find protection in that small cold body. Her bewildered, agonized cries—which continued for the 90 minutes the sealers left her in agony—illustrated far better than I ever could why this terrible slaughter must end.

Experiences like these compel me to continue in this struggle. And even as I prepare to leave once again for ice soon to be stained with blood, I know we are winning. The HSUS is closing markets around the world for seal products, and our global boycott of Canadian seafood has already achieved the support of hundreds of distributors and restaurants and hundreds of thousands of individuals. And with the dedication of members like you, we will stop this hunt.

—Rebecca Aldworth, Director, Canadian Wildlife Issues, Wildlife and Habitat Protection

Bearing Witness

We took our anti-fur message to the next generation of designers with our Cool vs. Cruel student fashion design contest.

Stop Hunting Bugs

THE HSUS/KATHY MILANI

THE HSUS/STUART MEYER

THE HSUS/KATHY MILANI

THE HSUS/KATHY MILANI
more than were needed—for a measure to stop the shooting of hundreds of thousands of doves for two seasons until voters decide the issue in November 2006.

Our Urban Wildlife Program worked to help people resolve conflicts with their wild neighbors, and we continued to produce our colorful Wild Neighbors™ newsletter for Urban Wildlife Sanctuary Program members, as well as a special Wild Neighbors 2006 Engagement Calendar with full-page wildlife images for every week of the year. We also worked on local and regional projects to protect mountain lions in Oregon, box turtles in Maryland, gopher tortoises in Florida, and white-tailed deer in Massachusetts.

We continued our Canada goose management program in cities across the country, and our Goose Tracks newsletter kept local volunteers updated on the latest developments. As part of our Reptiles as Pets campaign, we worked with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on joint materials to educate the public about risks posed by the pet reptile trade.

And with new sanctuaries and protective agreements established during the year, The HSUS Wildlife Land Trust is involved in the...
**A Broader Scale**

I REMEMBER WORKING AS A DOCTOR ON AN AIDS WARD, watching people disintegrate before my eyes and wondering where this disease originated. I was surprised to learn that the AIDS virus may have begun in chimpanzees before being transferred into the human population through the butchering of primates for bush meat in Africa.

In fact, most of humanity’s greatest killers—including smallpox, tuberculosis, and measles—seem to have originally come from domesticated animals raised for slaughter. And with the intensification of animal agriculture over the past few decades, new diseases have emerged from the animal world at an unprecedented rate. We have no cure for many of them—such as AIDS, mad cow disease, and antibiotic-resistant superbugs—but we know with certainty that we need to stop them from emerging in the first place by targeting the source: the human-animal interface. That’s why I came to work for The HSUS.

Much of the blame for these emerging diseases can be laid at the doorstep of industrial animal agriculture, which in the United States alone confines 10 billion animals inside filthy factory farms or degraded feedlots to live atop their own waste, a veritable breeding ground for disease. Before factory farming, our grandparents as children could eat raw cookie dough with little fear of *Salmonella*. Before factory farming, people could cook sunny-side up eggs with runny yolks without much worry over contracting a multidrug-resistant infection. There used to be no such thing as *E. coli* 0157:H7, and our burgers could be as pink inside as we wanted without fear that our children would wind up in the hospital.

What’s best for animal health is often best for human health. When birds are crammed into cages so small they can’t even spread their wings, when mother pigs are locked into metal crates so narrow they can’t even turn around, when calves are forced to live chained by their necks in the darkness of veal farms—the stress of prolonged confinement compromises their welfare as well as their immune systems, making them more susceptible to pathogens they can then transfer to consumers. Some of these animals live in such squalor that they are routinely fed antibiotics to assist them to slaughter weight, a practice that may leave antibiotic residues that foster resistance among human germs, making it more difficult for us to treat patients. No wonder the American Public Health Association is calling for a moratorium on the building of any more factory farms in the United States.

Now, with avian flu threatening to trigger a pandemic that could potentially touch millions of Americans, never before has it been more important to look critically at modern intensive animal agriculture. And that’s what I work toward every day. I’m still practicing medicine at The HSUS—just on a broader scale.

—Michael Greger, M.D., Director, Public Health and Animal Agriculture, Farm Animal Welfare

**Combating Animal Fighting and Cruelty**

Several important animal fighting busts occurred during the year thanks in large part to our help. We participated in the raid of the Louisiana “Godfather” of dogfighting, Floyd Boudreaux, with the Louisiana SPCA and law enforcement officials that resulted in the seizure of 59 dogs and 57 counts of cruelty filed against Boudreaux and his son.

Our staff also helped the FBI, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) raid one of the country’s largest illegal cockfighting pits; 144 participants were arrested, and more than 300 birds were seized. And a second large pit in Tennessee closed when the FBI announced it was going to seize the property. We helped police in an Iowa municipality raid two suspected cockfighting properties; 40 birds were seized and one suspect was convicted of felony cockfighting and narcotics violations. We also joined a sheriff’s office in the state in a cockfighting raid during which two suspects were arrested and 13 birds
seized. And we helped the sheriff’s department in a California county with a cockfighting raid in which California Game Farm owner Richard Bohn and 28 others were arrested and 58 birds, hundreds of fighting implements, thousands of dollars, weapons, and drugs were seized.

We helped local law enforcement and humane agencies in Iowa seize 200 animals from a property—including 60 horses and 59 dogs and cats—because of animal neglect. The sheriff of a county in Arkansas’s Ozark Mountains deputized our staff to help develop a case against hoarders Tammy and William Hanson. We arranged care for more than 470 dogs, two cats, and three goats found in deplorable conditions, and—as a result of our investigation—the Hansons were convicted on 20 counts of misdemeanor animal cruelty. We also assisted the sheriff’s office of a Tennessee county in an investigation of a hoarder with almost 40 animals on her property.

Our staff helped investigate the “Waggin Tails” facility in Woods County, Oklahoma, resulting in the rescue of 57 breeding dogs housed in livestock trailers. And we provided important information to a Reno, Nevada, investigative reporter who broke the story about neglectful care for farm and research animals at the University of Nevada. The USDA subsequently fined the school for several Animal Welfare Act (AWA) violations.

We also helped train officials to combat illegal animal fighting, offering intensive courses at the California Humane Law Enforcement Academy and in Sioux Falls, Idaho, and San Diego, California. Animal cruelty is now part of the regular curriculum at the Vermont Police Academy, thanks to our efforts. We also were members of the steering committee of the newly formed State of Massachusetts Animal Response Team and participated in its first training summit for 300 participants. And our First Strike® program to expose the connection between animal cruelty and human violence facilitated 25 workshops here and abroad for more than 1,500 attendees.

Responding to Disaster

Hurricane Katrina was not the only disaster affecting animals and people around the world during the year. (See page 12 for a special report on our Katrina efforts.) When Hurricane Dennis threatened the Gulf Coast, we helped evacuate animals from a Mississippi humane society. We were also instrumental in the Hurricane Rita response in Texas, helping run evacuation sites in Nacogdoches and Lufkin where all but three of 457 animals were reunited with their owners. Hurricane Wilma battered southern Florida and the Keys, and we directed animal relief efforts from the state animal emergency operations center and assisted with the evacuation of animals. And following our response to the tsunami that hit Southeast Asia late in 2004, Humane Society
International (HSI)—our global arm—supported relief and rebuilding efforts following heavy flooding in India, a devastating earthquake in Pakistan, and hurricanes in Mexico, Jamaica, the Cayman Islands, and the Bahamas.

Protecting Farm Animals

Our Factory Farming campaign launched a major effort condemning the use of inhumane “battery cages” in egg production that led to an extraordinary number of important victories for farm animals. Because of our work, Wild Oats® Natural Marketplace, Jimbo’s, Naturally!, and Earth Fare™ all discontinued sales of eggs from caged birds.

And after four months of direct negotiation and grassroots action, Trader Joe’s® agreed to use only cage-free eggs for its corporate brand, which has sales of more than 100 million eggs per year. After working with us, food service provider Bon Appétit—which purchases eight million shell eggs annually—announced a phase-in for cage-free eggs, and grocery chain New Seasons dramatically reduced the number of battery eggs it offers. And we persuaded many dining services to enact cage-free egg policies—by year’s end more than 70 colleges and universities had either ended or curtailed their use of battery eggs.

We spearheaded a coalition collecting signatures in Arizona to place a measure on the November ballot prohibiting the use of gestation and veal crates. We provided input to the South Dakota Agriculture Department on beef production standards, the Food and Drug Administration on cloning risks, the Environmental Protection Agency on factory farm emissions, the National Organic Standards Board, and the USDA on livestock branding. We also participated in several committees developing farm animal welfare standards, including the American Veterinary Medical Association’s Task Force, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) International Coalition for Farm Animal Welfare, the Whole Foods Market® Animal Compassionate program, and the Food Alliance.

Our staff also collaborated with town councils and local residents to fight factory farm expansions and made presentations on humane farming policies at venues from the New Jersey State Bar Association’s annual meeting to the Harvard University Divinity School. And we created The HSUS Guide to Vegetarian Eating to provide everyone practical help with adopting a more humane diet.

Ending the Suffering of Research Animals

Our work to alleviate animal suffering in laboratories and to support humane biology classrooms continued during the year. We provided advice on standards of care for the national sanctuary system for chimpanzees retired from research and continued our campaign against the Lethal Dose 50 Percent test in Botox® Cosmetic production. We sent information to thousands of teachers and students in Oregon about the state’s student dissection choice bill and our Humane Education Loan Program, which provides the free use of dissection alternatives, and created a guide for student choice policy activists.

We also served on the planning committee of the Fifth World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences in Berlin; participated in meetings of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science, the International Council for...
Laboratory Animal Science, and the National Academy of Sciences; and continued producing our quarterly Pain & Distress Report newsletter for the research community, as well as a new electronic newsletter on animal research developments.

Providing Hands-On Care

The Fund for Animals operates direct care programs from coast to coast in partnership with The HSUS. In 2005, with the generous support of the Renner Foundation, construction of a new 20,000 square foot chimp yard at the Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch in Texas was completed. During the year, the ranch provided sanctuary for more than 1,300 animals, as well as sheltering 500 of 1,000 broiler chicks we rescued from a factory farm destroyed by Hurricane Katrina; 300 of the birds were later placed in other sanctuaries, and the rest will live at Black Beauty in a new chicken house and yard.

In Massachusetts, the Cape Wildlife Center admitted 1,495 injured, ill, and orphaned animals in 2005 and provided training for more than 20 veterinary and college students from the United States and abroad. We also continued our support of the Cape Cod Rabies Taskforce and the

continued on page 14

A large new chimp yard was completed at the Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch in Texas.

Nearly 1,500 injured, ill, and orphaned wild animals were admitted to the Cape Wildlife Center in Massachusetts during the year.
Hurricane Katrina had a massive impact on our work in the last months of 2005—an impact that will continue long into the future. When the disaster struck in late August, we turned out in force to cooperatively operate large-scale temporary emergency sheltering facilities at Gonzales, Louisiana, and Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and to outfit and staff an innovative overflow shelter at the Dixon Correctional Institute in Jackson, Louisiana.

Thousands of volunteers and professionals traveled to the stricken areas, and we helped coordinate their efforts and cover their field expenses. Our logistical support brought millions of dollars worth of essential supplies and services to the afflicted zones. We paid for the facilities and refrigerated transport vehicles that supported operations and carried animals out of the area. We even chartered planes to fly rescued animals to local shelter facilities in other states to make room for more brought in from the field. In the end we helped rescue and provide care for more than 10,000 lost and abandoned animals on the Gulf Coast.

Our staff also spent countless hours during the workweek, in the evenings, and over weekends at our national reunion center answering calls from desperate evacuees and working to help them track down the location of their displaced pets. We eventually helped reunite some 2,500 animals with their families, and our efforts working with animal shelters around the country helped ensure that many other dogs and cats found new loving homes.

At press time, we have awarded more than $2.7 million in reimbursement grants to more than 75 local humane societies, animal control agencies, and rescue groups across the country that assisted in Katrina relief efforts by sending staff members to the stricken zones, accepting rescued animals, and working to reunite pets with their families.

And to date we have committed more than $7 million in reconstruction grants to organizations affected by Katrina. This includes a $4.5 million grant-and-aid package to the Louisiana SPCA and $665,000 to the Humane Society of South Mississippi—two major organizations whose facilities were destroyed or severely damaged by the storm—and $250,000 to build a new animal shelter in Hancock County, Mississippi. (For a complete list of the grants our family of organizations awarded in 2005, see page 20.)

On Capitol Hill we are also working to secure federal funds for rebuilding all of the animal care and control agencies and shelters in the devastated zones—and we are strongly supporting the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act, which would require state and local authorities to include pets and service animals in their disaster evacuation plans. (See the box for more on the PETS Act.)
We sent teams to conduct large-scale humane trapping to deal with homeless dogs and cats in the affected areas of Louisiana and Mississippi and supported field operations for these programs, purchasing and distributing hundreds of humane traps. And we are devoting our resources and $3 million in funding to address the problem of pet overpopulation in the Gulf Coast states by launching a series of aggressive, low-cost spay/neuter initiatives with local and regional humane organizations, veterinary schools, and other partners. These efforts include grants we awarded to support the Southern Animal Foundation’s spay/neuter work and the Humane Alliance’s “Big Fix Rig” spay/neuter program, our joint venture with the ASPCA and PetSmart Charities to provide spay/neuter vouchers and a high-volume clinic in Mississippi, and a partnership with Louisiana State University to develop a program modeled after our own Rural Area Veterinary Services program.

As our direct relief efforts wound down, we began working to rebuild sheltering capacity in affected communities along the Gulf. Rescuing stranded animals and providing for their care was perhaps the most high profile of our disaster response efforts, but the long road to recovery will require rebuilding the ability of local sheltering and animal control organizations to effectively provide the services their communities need. And our work will not end until the humane infrastructure on the Gulf Coast is even stronger than it was before the storm hit.

moving forward

While our disaster teams toiled around-the-clock to meet the immediate needs of Hurricane Katrina’s animal victims, we also looked to the needs of pets and their caretakers during future disasters. We worked to build cosponsorship of the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act (H.R. 3858)—introduced by U.S. Reps. Tom Lantos (D-CA) and Christopher Shays (R-CT) in September, less than a month after Katrina made landfall—to ensure that people are never again forced to choose between their own safety and that of their pets when disaster strikes. The PETS Act requires local and state emergency preparedness authorities to include in their evacuation plans how they will accommodate household pets and service animals in the event of a major disaster. In order to qualify for grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), local and state authorities must submit these plans.

H.R. 3858 passed the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in April 2006 on the same day the Senate version of the bill (S. 2548) was introduced by Sens. Ted Stevens (R-AK) and Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ). We built on our success with the House bill to push through the introduction of S. 2548 in the Senate.

The Senate bill also grants FEMA the authority to assist in developing disaster plans to meet the needs of individuals with pets and service animals; allows financial help for states to create and operate emergency shelters for people with their animals; and requires the provision of essential assistance for individuals with household pets and service animals, and the animals themselves, following a major disaster.

As we learned too well in the aftermath of last year’s hurricanes, the bond between people and their pets is so great that it becomes nearly impossible to separate the human rescue and relief effort and the animal rescue effort during a disaster. Emergency preparedness plans need to reflect the fact that 63 percent of American households have pets, and most of these pets are considered part of the family. And we will continue working to ensure that they do.
A Promise Remembered

WHEN I BEGAN MY CAREER with The Fund for Animals in 1989, I worked on a campaign to stop the notorious Hegins pigeon shoot, a contest held in Pennsylvania every Labor Day in which thousands of birds were wounded and killed in a macabre carnival atmosphere. I worked on the issue for more than a decade. Progress often was frustratingly slow, and we received much well-intentioned advice from many quarters to “quit wasting our resources” and “find a more realistic target.”

One year, deep into the seemingly endless campaign, my colleagues and I went to the killing field the day after the shoot to collect the pigeons who had been left to die. We found more birds than I care to recall—wounded, frightened, in pain, and unable to fly. Picking up a pigeon from the ground, I was horrified to see that one of her legs was completely gone and the other was hanging by a shred of skin. Maimed as she was and peppered with birdshot, there was no hope for her survival. I will never forget holding this bird while she died; it was one of those moments that changed my life forever. As the breath left her small body, I made a silent promise: “I don’t care what it takes, or how long it takes, or how much money it takes—we will put an end to this.”

Thankfully, Cleveland Amory—The Fund’s founder and president at the time—and the rest of the staff were every bit as determined as I was. We did not give up. And after several more years of legislative efforts, court battles, public outreach, and economic pressure—just when I was questioning whether we would ever win this battle—the contest’s sponsors finally signed an agreement that shut the Hegins pigeon shoot down for good.

Now that The Fund and The HSUS have joined forces, my job is to supervise an amazing staff working on major campaigns against the fur trade, factory farming, inhumane hunting practices, and animal fighting and cruelty. I spend much of my time in the office concentrating on strategic planning, every day making tough decisions about where best to invest our resources to stop the greatest amount of animal suffering.

Despite the analytical nature of strategic planning, I find that it’s still an ethical dilemma and an emotional decision when weighing “practical” matters or “realistic” compromises, and I recall that dying pigeon on the field at Hegins. I couldn’t save her, but we did save tens of thousands of others from having to share her fate. And while I only rarely get to see the animals on whose behalf we are working these days, I will always remember my promise as we work to create a more humane world.

—Heidi Prescott, Senior Vice President, Campaigns
relief efforts around the world.

In Dallas, our Spay/Neuter Clinic and Animal Wellness Center staff saw 18,631 patients in 2005, and we provided 5,993 spay/neuter surgeries. We worked closely with the SPCA of Texas on several sterilization projects, including an immensely successful program with the Metroplex Animal Coalition and the city of Dallas to provide more than 1,300 free spay/neuter surgeries in targeted areas.

Working around the World

Humane Society International (HSI) worked on regional projects promoting humane livestock practices in Indonesia, China, and Central America. We also established the Global Livestock Working Group as a formal mechanism within the United Nations to address livestock policies and promoted humane and sustainable agriculture at the World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial in Hong Kong, convincing the U.S. Trade Representative to include animal welfare in materials on the WTO Agriculture Agreement. We were involved in several ongoing initiatives to humanely manage street dog populations across India and in Nepal, brought humane education programs to communities in Central and South America, and coordinated a simultaneous rally against animal fighting involving organizations in 22 countries on World Animal Day.

Our staff traveled to Guinea and Sierra Leone to assess wild chimpanzee protection with the Jane Goodall Institute in a U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) initiative. We also worked to protect wildlife from the illegal wildlife trade and habitat destruction in Southeast Asia and India, along the Tanzanian/Kenyan border, and throughout Central America. And we blocked attempts by Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) member countries to weaken the monitoring of tuna fishing vessels that set nets on dolphins and worked on successful IATTC resolutions to ban shark finning.

As the result of our five-year campaign, the European Commission (EC) announced its intent to ban the import, export, sale, and production of cat and dog fur in Europe. And using our research, the EC began infringement proceedings against Italy for its continued use of illegal driftnets.

HSI was also a major presence again at the annual International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting—this year in Korea—working to strengthen a plan for overseeing commercial whaling in the event that the current ban is lifted, fighting Japan’s proposals to undermine the ban, and keeping important whale protection measures on the agenda. HSI representatives again served on the IWC Scientific Committee and advised the Subcommittee on Whale Watching and the Standing Working Group on Environmental Protection.
System Failure

A FEDERAL JUDGE HERE IN OUR NATION’S CAPITAL once wrote that “cruel treatment of helpless animals at once arouses the sympathy and indignation of every person possessed of human instincts, sympathy for the helpless creature abused, and indignation towards the perpetrator of the act.” The court, like many others before it, recognized that our animal protection laws reflect a sort of instinctive or intuitive sense of justice we all possess, a hardwired ability to recognize those things around us that are wrong—not just awry, but horribly and self-evidently wrong.

Unlike probate or tax law, for example, animal cruelty law deals with this core normative intuition, and what I think is the most important part of our legal system. If our laws, customs, and daily practices permit things we all should know are undeniably wrong, then the whole legal system is failing—rotting at the core.

It’s a disturbing concept then, especially for lawyers, to think that in every state an incomprehensible number of animals suffer mistreatment and brutality on farms, in labs, and in entertainment. Such treatment is not only commonly practiced and customary, but in many cases is sanctioned by law and in some others by officials who choose to disregard the law. More often than not, the abusers go untouched.

I had to do a few pro bono animal cases while I was litigating with the Department of Justice to realize this—to peer under the veil of what is otherwise one of the most advanced and functional justice systems in the world, to see this crack at its core, to recognize the blatant watering-down and hidden lack of enforcement of our historic humane laws. And it was working these specific cases—cases involving millions of birds trapped in cages, primates slowly dying of induced disorders in experiments with no social utility, birds force-fed so that their livers expanded to 10 times their normal size—that brought me to The HSUS.

For me it made no sense to focus on ensuring justice at the edges of the system, the gray area of law, when there are cracks at its foundation, the baseline of right and wrong. At The HSUS, I work to find ways to ensure that laws meant to protect animals are actually applied, especially for the suffering animals hidden away in factory farms, in laboratories, and in roadside zoos. Whether most people see it or not, what we do will fix the system we all live by, a system we all want to work and would desperately need to work if we ourselves were experiencing the abuses so many animals suffer.

—Carter Dillard, Director, Farm Animal Litigation, Animal Protection Litigation

Concerns. We also collaborated with the Environmental Investigation Agency and Greenpeace on a campaign urging seafood giant Gorton’s parent company to cut its ties with a Japanese whaling company. We strengthened our efforts in the Caribbean opposing swim-with-the-dolphin facilities, helping pass laws prohibiting the captive display of dolphins and whales in Costa Rica and Chile.

Supporting Federal Legislation

On Capitol Hill, our work was instrumental in a vote for an Interior Appropriations amendment to protect wild horses from commercial slaughter. We then helped secure a landslide vote amending the House Agriculture Appropriations bill to prevent horse slaughter for human consumption and later backed a successful Senate Agriculture Appropriations amendment. When the amendment was threatened in conference, we worked to ensure it was retained. The passage of these amendments sets the stage for the passage of a permanent ban on horse slaughter to prevent the killing of more than 90,000 horses a year.

The Senate unanimously approved a bill we supported to create a felony penalty for animal fighting. We secured support from more than half of the House to join as cosponsors on the companion bill and helped the endorsement list to include more than 500 sheriffs, police departments, and other agencies, and we are poised to push the bill over the finish line in 2006.

In a tight budget climate, we succeeded in winning further funding for animal welfare law enforcement, including a $1.4 million increase for AWA enforcement, $800,000 for animal fighting law enforcement, and an additional $5 million for humane slaughter enforcement—plus $4 million to implement a new system for tracking humane slaughter law violations.

We helped draft, introduce, and build support for the Pet Animal Welfare Statute
We helped draft, introduce, and build support for legislation to crack down on the abuses of mass commercial pet breeding facilities.

(PAWS), which would close a loophole that allows large commercial puppy mill breeders to escape regulation by selling dogs and cats over the Internet and through newspaper ads and would ban imports of puppy mill dogs into the United States. We also provided guidance for the introduction of the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act to ensure planning for the evacuation of pets in disasters and for the recently introduced Senate bill.

We worked to secure language in the tax reconciliation bill closing the loophole that allows write-offs for trophy hunting donations at pseudo-museums and helped build cosponsorship of a resolution to censure the Canadian government for its role in promoting the commercial seal hunt. We aided in the introduction of a bill to protect primates from the pet trade and worked on language for a bill on captive big cats. We also worked closely with bipartisan authors of legislation on Internet hunting—a practice in which customers shoot confined animals with the click of a computer mouse—canned hunting, Yellowstone bison protection, and antifreeze poisoning and are working to build cosponsor lists for these bills.

E-mail action alerts we sent on urgent matters generated more than 600,000 calls, letters, and e-mails to law and policy makers, and we held 20 Lobby 101 workshops, training 806 new volunteers in 18 states. In cooperation with other leading animal protection organizations, we also held the first annual Taking Action for Animals conference in Washington, D.C., for more than 500 activists. Our award-winning Humane Activist bimonthly newsletter and Humane Scorecard continued to encourage grassroots action on a wealth of issues, aided by our revised Working for Animals citizen lobbyist handbook. And we produced dozens of newspaper advertisements to foster action on both federal and state measures.

Working with State Legislatures

During the year, 60 bills we supported were signed into law and eight we opposed were defeated. We helped pass legislation strengthening cruelty codes and animal fighting laws in 10 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands—and saw such legislation pass committees in eight other states. Our efforts to specifically protect service animals led to the passage of new laws in six states. We worked to pass new laws in nine states supporting spay/neuter programs and helped pass six new state laws allowing pet trusts.

We worked for improvement of farm animal laws, supporting committee-level approval for bills dealing with foie gras and antibiotics in four states. We also helped enact new student dissection choice laws in Oregon and New Jersey and new laws restricting the ownership of exotic pets in four states.

Our work aided in the introduction and passage of laws banning Internet hunting in 13 states during the year. We also helped defeat two bills allowing canned hunting in Indiana and a bill to expand the use of snare traps in Illinois, and we helped pass anti-trapping bills in Maryland’s and New York’s Senates.
Grants

Supporting the work of other humane organizations and agencies is an important part of our own work, and our family of organizations awarded grants to the following in 2005:

Committee to Restore the Dove Shooting Ban
Compact Cave Conservancy Trust, Inc.
Compassion in World Farming Trust
Connecticut Council for Humane Education
Connecticut Municipal Animal Control Officers Association
Conservation de Mamiferos Marineros de Mexico
Cumbia Wild Horse Fund, Inc.
Dandelion Dog Rescue Services
Days End Farm Horse Rescue
Denver Dumb Friends League
Doris Day Animal Foundation
Dubuque Humane Society
East Island Institute/WIC ECO
Earthroots
Earth/voice Russia
East Bay SPCA
Edmonton Humane Society
Elephant Conservation Program
El Salvador Animal Protection Society (SAPES)
Elisa Nature Conservancy
Equate Advocates, Inc.
Eworker's Hope Foundation
Expo 2006 Disaster Presentation Sri Lanka
Farm Sanctuary
Florida & Flora Preservation Society
Fayetteville Animal Services
Federated Humane Societies of Pennsylvania
Firefighters Fire & Rescue Company, Inc.
Fleathed Spay Neuter Task Force, Inc.
Florida Animal Friend, Inc.
Florida Animal Friends
Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida Institute Technology Office of Financial Aid
Franklin County Humane Society
Frederick County Humane Society
Friends of Dogs
Friends of Forest Park
Fundacion Dominican de Estudios Marinos, Inc.
Fundacion Parque Nacional Pico Bonito
Fundacion Pro-por
Fundacion Restauracion de la Naturaleza
Fundacion Vitadaniel—Cali Nicaragua
Fundacion Zoologica de El Salvador
Fundacion Zoologica de Nicaragua
GeesePeace, Inc.
Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation
Grand Canyon Trust, Inc.
Grenada Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Grey2k USA
Greyhound Welfare, Inc.
Happier Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary
Heart, Inc.
Honduran Pet Connection/Hartings Animal Shelter Association
Hickman Wildlife Rehabilitation Center
Help in Suffering
Henderson County Humane Society
Houston SPCA
HSI Australia
Humane Alliance of WNC, Inc.
Humane Association of Georgia, Inc.
Humane Farm Animal Care
Humane Research Council
Humane Society of Boulder Valley
Humane Society of Broward County, Inc.
Humane Society of Escambia County
Humane Society of Kent County
Humane Society of Knox County
Humane Society of Mississippi
Humane Society of North Texas
Humane Society of Pikes Peak Region
Humane Society of the Ozarks
Humane Society of Santa Clara Valley
Humane Society of Seattle/King County
Humane Society of Sebastian County
Humane Society of Southeast Texas
Humane Society of South Texas
Humane Society of Washington County
Illinois Animal Welfare Federation
Institute of Pesquisas e Consultoria de Gothenburg
International Conference on Ecology, and Transportation
International Institute for Humane Education
International Society for Anthrozoology
International Society for the Protection of Mustangs & Burros
International Society of Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology
International Wildlife Coalition, Inc.
Iowa Network for Community Agriculture
Island Resources Foundation
Jane Goodall Institute
John Ancrum SPCA SD Dogfighting Task Force
Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing
JS Leatherwood Memorial Award Fund
Kanthamala Animal Treatment Center
Kaui Humane Society
Kenya Society for Protection of Animals
Korin Foundation
Latayotte Animal Control
Land Trust Alliance
League of Humane Voters
Leeward Animal Control
Linda Blair Wildlife Foundation
Louisiana SPCA
Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine
Makalai Elephant Conservation Program
Margaret B. Mitchell Spay/Neuter Clinic
Maxwell Service
Marquette County Humane Society, Inc.
Marshall Legacy Institute
Maryland Environmental Trust
Massachusetts Animal Coalition
Meadow Creek, Inc.
Meow Rescue
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
Michigan Humane Society
Michigan State University—Animal Science Department
Midwest Organic & Sustainable Education Service
Minnesota Conference
Mississippi Board of Animal Health
Mississippi Animal Control Association
Monitor
Montgomery County Humane Society
Morgan County Humane Society
The National Arbor Day Foundation
National Council for Animal Protection
National Council for Sciences and the Environment
National Council of SPCA's
National Resources Council of America
Nebraska Humane Society
Neighborhood Cats
New England Animal Control Humane Academy
New England Federation of Humane Societies
New Hampshire Federation of Humane Organizations
New Jersey Certified Animal-Control Officer Association
New York State Humane Association
New York University
No Voice Unheard
Northeastern University
Northern Plains Sustainable Agriculture Society
The Norwegian School of Veterinary Science
Laboratory Animal Unit
Ocean Animal Institution
Ohio County Dog Wardens Association
Ohio SPCA
Oklahoma Humane Federation
Oregon Humane Society
Our Companions Domestic's Animal Sanctuary
Pala Animal Welfare Society
Pan African Sanctuaries Alliance
Panthandie Animal Welfare Society
Paw Print Publishing, Inc.
Paws in the City
Paw River County SPCA
Peartland Animal Shelter
Pebble Hill Grove
Peninsula Citizens for the Protection of Whales
Performing Animal Welfare Society
Pet Group United, Inc.
Pet Rescue Society, Inc.
Pet Safe Coalition, Inc.
Petfinder.com
Petavers Foundation Inc.
Petts-DC
Philippine Animal Welfare Society
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Plaques Parrish Animal Control
Poach Parade, Inc.
Pooch League for Animals
Progressive Animal Welfare Society—California
Progressive Animal Welfare Society—Louisiana
Progressive Animal Welfare Society—Washington
Puertas County Humane Society
PUPP South
Rabbit Sanctuary
The Raptor Trust
Refuge de Theriay
Respect for Animals
Return to Freedom, Inc.
The ROAR Foundation/Shambala Preserve
Romania Animal Rescue, Inc.
Rutland County Humane Society
Sacramento SPCA
Sadie Foundation
Sahabana
San Diego Humane Society and SPCA
The Sando San Shing-La Li Creatures
Santa Fe Animal Shelter
Save Our Friends Association
Save the Manates Club
Scoby
Showing Animals Respect and Kindness, Inc.
Sierra Club Foundation
Sisters of Charity
Society of Animal Welfare—Colorado
Somerset Regional Animal Shelter
Southern Animal Foundation
Southern Regional Spay/Neuter Leadership Conference
Soy Dog Home
Spay-Neuter Assistance Program
SPCA of Texas
SPCA Visalia—India
Species Survival Trust—India
St. Bernard Parish Animal Shelter
St. Charles Humane Society
Stafford Township—Animal Cruelty Account
State of Maine Animal Welfare Program
Stray Rescue of St. Louis, Inc.
Sullivan County SPCA, Inc.
The Summit for Animals
Summer DART Logistics
Sustainable Food for Siouxland
Tennessee Week for the Animals
Texas A&M University
Texas Animal Control Association
Texas Federation of Humane Societies
Texas Humane Legislation Network
Toronto Wildlife Center
Tsunami Memorial Animal Welfare Trust
Tufts University Wildlife Clinic
Uganda Society for the Protection and Care of Animals
United Pegasus Foundation
University for Peace
University of British Columbia—
The Sea Around Us Project
University of Illinois—
Department of Animal Services
University of Iowa
University of Pretoria—
Department of Reproduction
Upper Valley Humane Society
US Global Leadership Campaign
Van Zandt County Humane Society
Vancouver Aquarium Science Center
Villalobos Rescue Center
Virginia Animal Control Association
Virginia Federation of Humane Societies
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Vita (Russia)
The Vital Ground Foundation
Walter J. Ernst Jr. Veterinary Medical Foundation
Washington Animal Control Association
Washington Animal Rescue League
Washington Humane Society
Washington Parish Humane Society
Waterkeeper Alliance Sustainable Hog Summit
Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society
Alexander House
Whitewell Memorial Library
Where Angels Run Inc.
Whittingham Animal Care Foundation
Wilde Love Africa Trust/ARC
Wildlife Advocacy Project
Wildlife Clubs of Kenya
Wildlife Conservation
Wildlife Rehabilitation and Nature Preservation Society Inc.
Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation
Wildlife Trust
Winona Area Humane Society
Wisconsin Federation of Humane Society
Women's Edge Coalition
World Animal Net, Inc.
World Animal Protection
World Society for the Protection of Animals—UK
WSPA Costa Rica Association
Y'Arche Conservation Trust
Yayasan Pecinta Taman Nasional
Yayasan Yudhistira Svara
Yolo County Animal Services
York University
Youth for Conservation Kenya
Speaking Out in the Courts

Our new Animal Protection Litigation section has already scored 10 major victories for animals in the nation’s courts, and we now have more than three dozen pending legal actions. We won court orders halting the killing of wolves, protecting mountain lions from sport hunting, upholding a federal ban on the interstate commerce in fighting birds, striking down restrictions on the citizen initiative process, and requiring one of the country’s most notorious dogfighting kingpins to pay more than $100,000 for the care of dogs seized from his operation.

We also convinced a Missouri prosecutor to file first-of-their-kind animal cruelty charges against Moark Industries for disposing of live chickens in a dumpster. The charges were later dropped in exchange for a $100,000 donation to the local humane society and an agreement for the defendant to adopt more humane practices.

Our staff also initiated a record 14 new legal actions, working to block the canned hunting of endangered species, halt cockfighting in a Louisiana parish, end inhumane research on Steller sea lions, limit the transport of farm animals by truck, protect Atlantic right whales from ship collisions, and require that the nine billion chickens and turkeys killed for food each year in the United States be slaughtered humanely. We also launched a new animal law clinic with George Washington University’s Law School to improve enforcement of the nation’s animal protection laws by giving students experience representing the interests of animals in the courts.

Teaching the Next Generation

The National Association for Humane and Environmental Education (NAHEE) reached more than a million children with KIND News™, our monthly classroom newspaper, during the year. NAHEE also developed several new teaching aids—including colorful posters on responsible pet care—and published Into the Wild, a study and activity guide for high school students that explores wildlife issues. NAHEE released a second edition of The Biting Book to teach younger children to appreciate wild animals safely. And HSI inaugurated a program to support the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya’s efforts to increase appreciation of wildlife by children in rural communities.

Carrying Our Message

We reached tens of millions of people through e-mails and our website in 2005. During our Hurricane Katrina response, our special online Disaster Center served as the locus for information and donations. We also launched a newly designed HumaneLines e-newsletter for our Humane Action Network and continued to provide pet caregivers with practical information through our weekly Pets for Life e-newsletter.

Our Hollywood Office’s presentation of the star-studded Nineteenth Annual Genesis Awards ceremony recognizing the major media for raising public awareness of animal protection issues was broadcast on Animal Planet. We also developed Animal Content in Entertainment, a new program to proactively encourage writers, producers, and directors to incorporate animal issues in their projects.

We filmed Canada’s commerical seal hunt and produced videos promoting our boycott of Canadian seafood to distributors and restaurants and urging Canadian officials to stop the hunt. And our footage of rescue and shelter operations in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina was aired on CNN, Animal Planet, and television news stations across the country.

HSP produced four new books during the year, including Humane Wildlife Solutions and The State of the Animals III: 2005. And we continued to produce an ever-larger array of award-winning print publications—from brochures and flyers to display booths and airplane tow banners.
We depend upon the generous financial support of our members to continue our efforts each year, and Humane Legacy™ gifts help ensure that our work will continue long into the future. We gratefully acknowledge the following people—as well as those who wished to remain anonymous—who intend to name us as beneficiaries in their wills.

Farida Ahmed, M.D.
Jane August
Cindy Benner
Helen Benner
Stephanie Bennett
Bettina Bickel
Oriana Bielawski, in memory of her father, Colonel Stanislaw Bielawski, for his profound love of animals
Dr. and Mrs. A. D. Binder
Beverly Bryan, in honor of all her pets, past and present, who have shown such unconditional love
J. Michael Burry
Ralph V. Buscha
Jean Carhart
Nitsa Chios
Laura Coleman
Alyce M. Diaz, Esq.
Donna and James Duncan
Leo and Denise S. Dunham
Catherine M. Eggar
Cheryl V. Ebenshade
Linda Mae Frende-Ferro
William and Donna Dae Gilchrist

We also debuted new designs for All Animals®, our quarterly membership magazine, and for The Fund for Animals biannual donor magazine. Again this year, we were gratified by the public response to our publications—and by the 26 major new awards that recognized our work from independent organizations, including eight 2005 American Inhouse Design Awards and 10 Design Awards from Graphic Design USA, two 2005 Society of National Association Publications (SNAP) EXCEL Gold Awards, three 2005 APEX Awards of Excellence, and a Magnum Opus Gold and Silver Award and Special Recognition from Publications Management.

We also received three Pollie Awards from the American Association of Political Consultants for a television ad and two online animation pieces. For the fourth consecutive year, the Maryland Work-Life Alliance recognized The HSUS’s commitment to the well-being of our staff and the surrounding community with an Excellent Place to Work Award.

The year proved to be an extraordinary one for our organization and for the larger humane movement. And we will build on the many successes we achieved in 2005 during the years to come, moving ever closer to a truly humane society.

Our Partners

Diane Hanson
Robert Hewitt, in memory of his wife Louise Hewitt
Grace M. Holdén
Cheryl Huhn
Susan Huwaldt
Diane and Bob Keadle, in memory of their daughter Deborah Keadle Buelna and brother Sgt. Ralph E. Surber, USMC, killed in action in Korea
Carol Keith and John Higgins
Sandra L. King
Craig and Tracey Kleber
Lyndia Knutson
Denna Meidroth
Linda Miller
Mary P. Mitchell
Stanley Mitchell
Kelley D. Montgomery
Gary W. Morissette
Cindy Morrison
Heidi A. Myers
Vernon Nelson
Ronald Norat
Candice Elyse Paukus
Patricia Sue Payette
Margaret Liscio Peterson
Mary E. Powers
JoAnne McClure Raatz
Gerald L. and Claude H. Randels

Pamela Richard, D.V.M., and Michael L. McCammon, D.V.M.
Marilyn Richman
Bernard and Anne Romanello
Dr. and Mrs. Walter Rudisch
Stephanie Thomas Schweigart
Lisa Segal
Kay Sharer
James M. Shea
Frank N. Shepard
Jennifer Solari
Evangeline and Dennis Soter
Billie and Jean Stephenson
Kath Strange and Mark McGrath
Mrs. Gerald M. Strome
Mary B. Thompson
Cathy Tibbetts
Nancy Wintner
Lauren Wise

We also continue to work with respected companies to support our animal protection programs and promote the human-animal bond. In 2005, we developed a new initiative with several corporations to incorporate key programs into a multifaceted marketing effort. We gratefully acknowledge the support we receive from our corporate partners, including the more than 50 companies that provided significant assistance during our response to Hurricane Katrina. Thousands of animals were saved thanks to the generous support of these companies and our members.