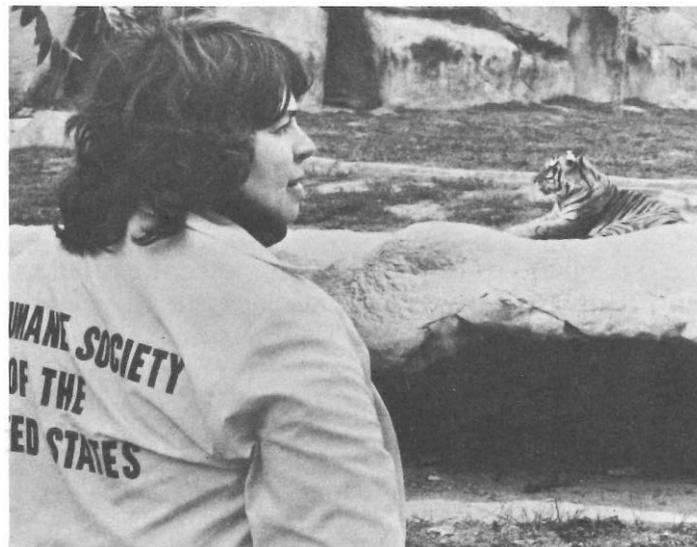


for elementary grades focusing on careers in the care and training of animals was produced, written and photographed by HSUS staff. This unit, too, was well received and orders continue to be received.

Wildlife Protection

No animal welfare organization has carried forward as intensive a program for cleaning up bad conditions in zoos as has HSUS. The Society's zoo specialist and field investigators have visited several hundred zoos, especially during the period 1971-1979. No zoo has remained the same after such a visit. Many improvements have been made in changing these facilities into a positive learning experience for visitors. Some of the work has been done in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture under the Animal Welfare Act but for the most part it has been HSUS efforts that have produced improved results. The professional quality of the Society's work in this area has earned the respect of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums and, in fact, many zoos now seek advice from HSUS. Roadside zoos are, of course, a particular problem and, with untrained owners and totally inadequate facilities, they should be closed down.



Sue Pressman during one of hundreds of zoo inspections she conducted over the past several years.

— HSUS

The Society has had to fight ignorant and ill-advised zoo owners. It has had to contend with USDA agents who are not properly trained and often seem disinterested. It has had to cope with vague regulations, or regulations calling only for minimum standards. But nevertheless the campaign to clean up zoos will continue regardless of the difficulties experienced heretofore.

The Society also has long been involved with the plight of marine mammals, especially the annual seal slaughter on the Pribilof Islands, on ice floes off Newfoundland and in South Africa, the tuna/porpoise problem, and the cruel killing of whales. Chief Investigator Frank McMahon had investigated the Pribilof hunt in the years 1968 through 1971. He participated in the investigatory work of an advisory committee seeking a humane method of killing the seals instead of clubbing them. Although the methods tested produced unsatisfactory results, the HSUS investigator was able to make recommendations for closer supervision of clubbing activities and improving herding procedures. The recommendations were followed and improvements made.



Frank McMahon (right) discusses cruel seal clubbing during one of his visits to Pribilof Islands.

— HSUS

The clubbing of seals remains a problem, however, and it should be eliminated. The Society now plans to continue working in Congress for legislation to stop the Pribilof hunt. It feels there is no need for this massive and inhumane slaughter.

A similar situation has existed for years on the ice floes off Newfoundland. Conditions there are even worse than on the Pribilof Islands. The HSUS has repeatedly and publicly protested this hunt and other humane groups and individuals have created a public outcry against it. The Canadian Government

has refused to cancel the slaughter and has worked consistently to keep adverse publicity to a minimum. The HSUS had an observer at the hunt — in fact, one of the last observers permitted on the ice — in 1978. That investigator found that the hunt was cruel. It now seems that public indignation and protest is the only way to stop the clubbing of baby harp seals in Canada and an intensive HSUS campaign is being mounted to attain this objective.

Sue Pressman holds baby harp seal during trip to Newfoundland ice floes as observer of seal hunt.
— HSUS



Seal clubbing is also an annual event on South African shores. It has been witnessed by a HSUS observer who is one of the few humane workers who has witnessed all three seal hunts. In this case, however, the Marine Mammal Protection Act calls for a moratorium on the importation of any part of marine mammals until a state or government can prove the population is at optimum level, seals are not nursing, and the killing methods are "humane." Thus, when the fur industry tried to import 70,000 pelts, The HSUS sent an investigator to South Africa where it was quickly determined that the clubbing of the seals was not humane. Upon return to the United States, the investigator testified before government officials and South African sealskins have not been imported since 1974.

Keen interest and concern by animal welfare and conservation groups prompted the organization of a consortium called Monitor, HSUS being one of the charter members. It was formed to ensure the government was enforcing both the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

The HSUS has worked to solve the tuna/porpoise problem. Although protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act large numbers of porpoises were being drowned in the netting of tuna. Congress gave the tuna industry adequate time to rede-

sign their equipment so that fewer porpoises would be killed. After two years, the industry still had done little to reduce the killing. It was then that the issue of killing porpoises was taken to court and, after a two year battle, the tuna industry was told it had to stop killing porpoises.

Congressional hearings were then held at which HSUS testified. As a result, the tuna industry is now under regulations that require them to reduce substantially their kill of porpoises over a three year period.

The HSUS instituted a boycott of tuna and tuna products to put pressure on the industry to reduce the killing. Based on a poll of the members, the boycott will remain in effect until a determination is made of the success of the industry in approaching "near zero porpoise mortality."

In another part of our program to protect marine mammals the Society has fought for a moratorium on all commercial taking of whales. About seventeen other groups have worked with HSUS in this effort. The World Federation for the Protection of Animals (of which HSUS is a member) has been an important participant in meetings of the International Whaling Commission. The HSUS has pressed for legislation here at home to prohibit fishing in U.S. waters by nations that do not observe the quotas established by the International Whaling Commission. This year a partial moratorium was finally achieved. No whales are to be taken in the Indian Ocean and taking whales with factory ships is forbidden except for Minke whales. This will effectively reduce the amount of whaling.



Vice President Patricia Forkan with whale model used in demonstration at International Whaling Commission meeting in Australia.
— HSUS