

WE'RE RUNNING UP to the official 60th anniversary of The HSUS, founded in 1954 on November 22nd. In the six decades since, our leaders have been unerring in their belief that humane work must encompass a concern for all animals, and unrelenting in their view that the greatest antidote to cruelty is human agency.

In the post-World War II era, we took on national issues ranging from inhumane slaughter with the poleax to the dealing of stolen dogs for invasive experiments. All the while, we were working to unite and upgrade the local organizations that constituted the outposts of our slowly building movement.

Today, The HSUS and its affiliates are the dominant voice of the animal protection movement, and our campaigns and programs are too numerous to catalog even in an entire issue of *All Animals*. Instead, the magazine highlights dispatches from our campaigns to end puppy mills, gas chambers for euthanasia, horse slaughter and much more. It's also published, as a tool for our members, to provide an examination of our relationship with animals, whether that's celebrating the human-animal bond or exposing abuses and charting a better course for society.

This issue's feature stories focus on wildlife, and with the November elections looming, there's much at stake. In Maine, Amendment 1 will give voters an opportunity to stop bear baiting, hounding and trapping. Maine is the only state to allow all three of these unsporting and inhumane bear hunting tactics, and out-of-state hunters take advantage of these lax hunting rules to kill 60 percent of the 3,000 bears shot in the north woods.

In Michigan, we are pushing multiple ballot measures to restore a long-standing ban on the trophy hunting of wolves, who number fewer than 650. Nobody eats wolves, but as with bears, a small number of people shoot them for trophies or bragging rights—wreaking havoc within these animal communities. In this issue's cover story, you'll learn about these animals' family lives and the impact of their predation up and down the food chain.

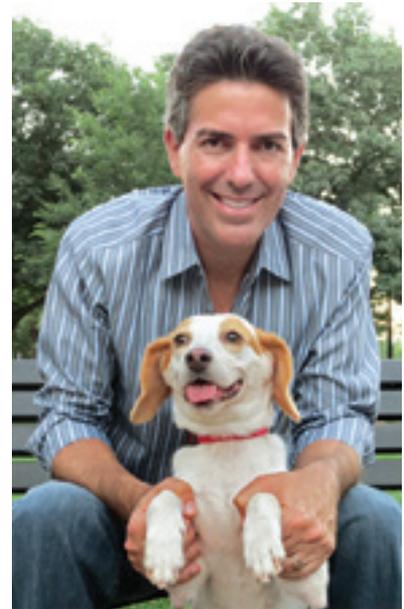
We recently joined other groups in petitioning the U.S. Department of the Interior to require sport hunters to use only non-lead ammunition on 160 million acres of federal land. With copper and steel ammunition available, there's no good reason for hunters to discharge thousands of tons of lead into the environment, poisoning millions of nontarget animals.

We helped pass bans on the ivory and rhino horn trade in New York and New Jersey, states whose surprisingly widespread ivory sales help drive the killing of elephants thousands of miles away. In Vietnam, we are educating thousands of children about rhinos and the lives they lead, choking off future demand for their horns. We also recently added Massachusetts as the ninth state to ban the trade in shark fins.

Throughout the year, HSUS staff and volunteers are in the field and the forest, taking action to help wild creatures. Starting on p. 16 in this issue, you'll read how we dug up and relocated thousands of Florida gopher tortoises, who would have otherwise been entombed by development. Meanwhile, our three wildlife care centers take in about 20,000 animals a year, like the two coyote pups orphaned in the wake of California wildfires (see p. 14). And every day our staff works to solve conflicts between people and wildlife—whether deer, geese, raccoons or other creatures. All of these animals deserve the benefit of human ingenuity and problem solving, not guns, body-gripping traps or poisons.

Cruelty won't end by itself. It must be pulled out by the roots, and that's what we work to do every day—not just in the U.S., but across the planet. We leave no form of abuse unchallenged. It's an impossibly immense task, but it's our duty to charge ahead.

Our organization is a community of people of conscience. You are an indispensable part of that community, and we depend on your ongoing support and fortitude in the face of the challenges and opportunities we confront.



Wayne Pacelle with his adopted dog, Lily.

Wayne Pacelle

Wayne Pacelle, President & CEO
The Humane Society of the United States