HSUS Helps City Improve Pound

The HSUS Great Lakes Regional Office and the Indianapolis Humane Society have been instrumental in bringing about major improvements in the Greenfield, Ind., pound.

On three visits to the pound between May 16 and Aug. 8, HSUS Regional Investigator Joe Gray found a common pen used for all dogs, whether sick or healthy, male or female. Among them were several animals with symptoms of distemper and mange.

Untreated Materials

"The odor in the pound was practically unbearable, and it appeared that no attempt had been made to eliminate it," Gray reported after his first visit, when he was accompanied by Humane Officer Ernest Wright of the Indianapolis society. "All the wood and cement in the building were untreated, making it impossible to thoroughly disinfect."

On a later visit, Gray found the pound infested with flies.

No individual records were kept on the animals, and many of the unclaimed ones were sold to a nearby laboratory.

Distemper Epidemic

Although Gray and Wright met with city officials on the first visit, it was not until they met with Mayor William R. Blue in August that they obtained some action. On Aug. 10, it was determined that there was an epidemic of distemper at the pound, and, 56 dogs and 29 cats were euthanized.

Two new humane officers were appointed, the pens were partitioned into smaller ones, and screen doors were erected.

The Great Lakes Regional Office has offered its assistance to Greenfield residents in establishing a humane society that can maintain surveillance of the pound and continue to improve the entire animal control program.

Kept in one large pen, all the dogs at the Greenfield, Ind., pound contracted distemper. All animals were euthanized following an HSUS investigation.

Regional Meetings Planned

Great Lakes Regional Director John Inman has scheduled a series of Saturday "Quadrant Meetings" for local humane societies throughout Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana for the next 12 months.

The enthusiasm expressed after a meeting of the Washington, Athens, Meigs, and Hocking Counties humane societies in Ohio convinced Inman that joint meetings are productive. They will also permit Inman to meet with representatives of humane societies in those states much sooner than he would be able to on an individual basis.

Participating societies will select the topics to be discussed at the sessions, based on their own problems and experiences. Inman and Regional Field Representative Joe Gray will discuss pending state and federal legislation and pertinent HSUS projects.

Here is the meeting schedule:
- Northwestern Ohio, Findlay, Sept. 29.
- Southwestern Ohio, Dayton, Nov. 10.
- Southwestern Ill., Alton, Dec. 8.
- Southwestern Ind., Bloomington, Jan. 12.
- Southeastern Ill., Effingham, Feb. 9.
- Southeastern Ohio, Athens, March 16.
- Northeastern Ill., Joliet, April 13.
- Northeastern Ind., Fort Wayne, May 18.
- Northeastern Ohio, Akron, June 15.
- Southeastern Ind., Columbus, July 13.
- Northwestern Ind., Lafayette, Aug. 17.

Local societies will receive detailed information on meetings a few weeks before they are scheduled.

Spay Posters

"A Trip to the Spay Clinic Changed My Life" is the heading for full-color posters printed by HSUS to promote spaying of pets. Specify cat or dog. $1 each.

Stop Greased Pig Race

The HSUS Great Lakes Regional Office and the Indiana Federation of Humane Societies succeeded in stopping a greased pig contest slated for the Indiana State Fair last summer. The two organizations obtained the action by having their members protest to Gov. Otis Brown and their legislators.
WHAT CAN YOU LEARN HERE? The Humane Society of the United States believes the primary objective of any zoo must be education. But you can’t learn anything about the life style of wolves or lions when they’re housed in restrictive, unimaginative quarters such as these at the Michigan City, Ind., zoo. On a recent visit to the zoo, HSUS Great Lakes Field Representative Joe Gray found the zoo operating with only three full-time employees and lack of support from the community and surrounding LaPorte County. Gray has asked HSUS zoo expert Sue Pressman, based in Washington, D.C., to investigate further.

Volunteer Training Planned in Indiana

The HSUS Great Lakes Regional Office and the Indiana Federation of Humane Societies will conduct a convocation to train volunteers in animal welfare functions on Nov. 17 and 18 in Nashville, Ind.


HSUS President John A. Hoyt will speak at the opening session. Phyllis Wright, HSUS’s animal control specialist, will be one of the convocation leaders.

The state federation will hold its annual meeting on Nov. 18, at the conclusion of the convocation. Hoyt will be the featured speaker at that meeting, speaking on federal animal welfare legislation. State Sen. Joan Gubbins (R-Ind.) will discuss strategy for obtaining a statewide ban on the steel jaw trap, a measure that died in committee this year.

For further information, write: HSUS Great Lakes Regional Office, 927 S. Harrison St., Fort Wayne, Ind. 46802; or Indiana Federation of Humane Societies, 7929 Michigan Rd., N.W., Indianapolis, Ind. 46206.

Volunteer Training Planned in Indiana

HSUS Criticizes Fort Wayne Shrine Horse Show Practice on Soring

The Great Lakes Regional Office has criticized the sponsors of the Mizpah Shrine Horse Show in Fort Wayne, Ind., for refusing to examine Tennessee walking horses that an HSUS investigator suspected were sored.

Soring is the use of chemicals, chains, tacks, or any other agents or actions that cause pain in order to affect a horse’s gait. These actions are banned by the U.S. Horse Protection Act, which went into effect in 1972.

Regional investigator Joe Gray reported he observed several horses at the show that he suspected were sored and his suspicions were confirmed by Tennessee walking horse experts attending the show. Gray requested that show manager Ralph Latham have the horses in question examined, but Latham refused his request.

“What are they trying to hide?” asked Regional Director John Inman, who had written to Latham a month before the show urging him to make sure that no sored horses appear in the show.

Inman said he would request that federal officials observe the show next year.

Film on HSUS

Prints of a film on the activities of HSUS are now available for showing to society meetings, civic organizations, and on TV. The 16mm, color, sound film “Why Protect Animals?” rents for $5.

HSUS Great Lakes Regional Office
927 S. Harrison St., Fort Wayne, Ind. 46802

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