WCRO March 1983
MOBILIZING FOR ANIMALS

In October 1981, Mobilization for Animals announced that mass protest rallies against primate centers would be held simultaneously on April 24, 1983, World Day for Laboratory Animals. The West Coast site of one of these demonstrations will be at the University of California in Davis, which itself receives public funding of over $4,000,000 annually. Three other demonstrations are planned in other parts of the United States—the Yerkes Primate Center in Atlanta, Georgia; the Wisconsin Regional Primate Center in Madison; and the New England Regional Primate Center in Southboro, Massachusetts.

The Humane Society of the United States is one of the major organizations supporting the Mobilization for Animals with funding, staff support, and publications.

(continued page 2)

ATROCITY IN ABERDEEN

“Out of sight - out of mind.” That was the conclusion of WCRO Investigator Eric Sakach in summing up his feelings after investigating citizens’ complaints over the totally inadequate animal control program in Aberdeen, Idaho. “Fortunately for the animals and the public, what was wrong with the operation in Aberdeen wasn’t altogether invisible,” said Sakach, who traveled to the small, agriculturally-dependent community in Southeast Idaho in mid-November to check the complaints. “Thankfully, there were citizens who cared enough to complain about the inhumane conditions for the animals and the apparent lack of concern for the public’s health and safety.”

(continued page 2)
Mobilizing...

Participation in the mobilization takes on an international flavor with leaders from around the world. In New York, the five largest cities in the state will host major events to build public awareness and support for animal rights. In Europe, a conference will be held in Paris to discuss the latest developments in animal rights legislation. The mobilization will continue throughout April and May, with events planned in cities around the world.

Goals of Mobilization include setting human standards for housing, nutrition, and care. The HSUS will work to ensure that all primate centers provide adequate living conditions and humane treatment for the animals. The organization will also work to establish humane standards for laboratory animal facilities, and to educate the public about the importance of animal rights.

The support of legislators is crucial in achieving these goals. In Ohio, the Ohio General Assembly has been working on legislation to improve conditions for animals in laboratories. The HSUS is working closely with representatives to ensure that the legislation will be effective. In California, the state assembly is considering a bill to restrict the use of animals in research. The HSUS will continue to work with legislators to ensure that the bill is passed.

The mobilization is not just about the animals. It is about the people who care about them. The HSUS is working to build a movement of concerned citizens who will stand up for animal rights. The organization will provide resources and tools to help individuals and groups take action in their communities.

Contact the HSUS at 1-800-327-3227 to learn more about how you can get involved in the mobilization.

Aberdeen...

The conditions that Sakach encountered in his investigation were shocking. An old, dilapidated railroad building was situated in a rural area of the state. The building served as a dog shelter, but it was in disrepair. The conditions were unsanitary, and the dogs were neglected.

The investigators found that the dogs were kept in small, dark cages, with little space to move. Many of the dogs were sick, and some were dead. The shelter was closed due to the unsanitary conditions. The dogs were later relocated to a new shelter where they received better care.

The HSUS is working to improve conditions for animals in shelters across the country. The organization is providing resources and training to help shelters become more effective in caring for animals. The HSUS is also working to increase public awareness of the importance of providing adequate care for animals in shelters.

Contact the HSUS at 1-800-327-3227 to learn more about how you can get involved in improving animal welfare in your community.

Director's Desk

Eric Sakach and I attended the Mobilization for Animals (MFA) planning meeting in Davis, California on January 28. About 75 interested activists from the public and various groups were there. MFA's Richard Morgan spoke and made the point that, unless the tours are large at the mass demonstrations on April 24, we will be sending a message to the research community - not of public outrage, but of apathy. We encourage you and me to see which you believe is the case. We will observe. (See page 1.) Please fill out and mail the coupon on page 3.

This will be a busy legislative year and, therefore, there will be a number of bills introduced in the legislatures of the West Coast states. We will be doing an entire issue devoted to legislation. All members on our computer list, not just those on our special legislative list, will be sent a copy.

Congratulations, Graduates

Last year's Academy (see article in the Spring/Summer 1982 WCRP Report) was so successful that we will be bringing it back to the West Coast in 1983. The 8-hour, accredited training program for human officers and animal control officers was held February 7-18 at Peninsula Humane Society's Education Building in San Mateo, California.

The Animal Control Academy is an ongoing program of the HSUS. It provides the finest training available anywhere. In addition to the standard course of study taught by recognized authorities, this year's registrants attended a seminar given by noted animal behaviorist Dr. Michael Fox, in which major areas of animal exploitation were reviewed. Not surprisingly, students were concerned with average treatment and inhumane examinations and came away with a deeper understanding of their responsibilities and ways to deal with today's animal problems.

Workshops Scheduled for '83

The Humane Society of the United States will hold a two-day Leadership Workshop on May 13 & 14 in Fresno, CA at the Fresno Hilton Hotel. This will be the first Leadership Workshop held by The HSUS on the West Coast since 1979. Workshop attendees will include HSUS members John Hoyt, President; Phyllis Wright, Vice President for Companion Animals; Frantz Dantzel, Director of Investigations; and Kathy Savescy, Director of the National Animal Testing Advocacy Center.

This workshop is a MUST for anyone working with animals.

Please fill out coupon, clip and send to: HSUS/WCRP Mobilization, 1713 1 St., #250, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

☐ I support the objectives of the Mobilization for Animals.
☐ I will write a letter to the editor of my local newspaper.
☐ I will distribute more information about the Mobilization for Animals.
☐ I plan to attend the Prime Mass Mobilization at the National Primate Research Center on April 24, 2983.

Name ____________________________
Street ____________________________
City State Zip ______________________

Assistance to Local Agencies Benefits Animals and People

The HSUS gives assistance to local humane society and governmental animal control operations through many programs and services. By working to upgrade local programs, the WCRP has not only come to be known as a valuable resource in helping to solve problems, but also as a resource to today's communities, but also helped to improve conditions for millions of animals.

Support the HSUS's efforts and evaluations of sheltering facilities, reporting findings with recommendations for improvements to officials, have proved to be a successful means of improving standards of care for animals and providing quality service for the public. Studies of local operations by the HSUS have led to increased funding for the local agency, better training for personnel modern equipment, rewritten animal control ordinances, and new pay scales.

Based on the premise that there will always be a need to improve, the only prerequisite for local agencies to receive our assistance is to indicate that of requesting it. We still receive requests from citizens' groups (see Aberdeen - cover article) and grand juries to conduct investigations or inspections of agencies with questionable records. Of the first few investigations I have done, the request for service was made because of a documented problem. The WCRP has received one request for assistance from a local group, which we are pleased to have received.

One reason for the HSUS's success is that we are in a position to provide a wide range of services to local agencies. We have been able to provide a wide range of services to local agencies, including: legal assistance, training, equipment, and other resources.

The HSUS is committed to improving the quality of care for animals in local shelters and pounds. We are working to upgrade the quality of care in local shelters and pounds by providing training, equipment, and other resources to local agencies. We are also working to improve the quality of care in local shelters and pounds by providing training, equipment, and other resources to local agencies.
Companion Animals for the Elderly and HSUS Assistance to Agencies are Topics in Arizona and Utah

The Arizona Department of Economic Security, Aging and Adult Administration joined with other groups in sponsoring a conference on companion animals for the elderly in Phoenix. Char Drennon was a featured speaker. She spoke on "Regulatory Action Affecting Companion Animals in Housing for the Elderly."

Drennon met with Senator Greg Lunn of Arizona after the program. Senator Lunn had promised the conference attendees he would introduce legislation to help elderly keep their pets. Drennon made several suggestions to the senator on how to strengthen the bill and make it more effective by incorporating language from a New York bill. She also offered to contact HSUS Arizona members with the information and to seek their help in passing this important legislation.

In January, Erick Sakach was a guest speaker at the Winter Conference of the Utah Animal Control Officers Association in Salt Lake City. He spoke on HSUS programs and services and described how HSUS advises on cruelty cases and works with local officials to upgrade animal control operations.

Workshops . . .

(continued from page 3)

The Leadership Workshop will be preceded by a one-day (May 12) Western Humane Educators' Association Workshop. Central California SPCA will co-host the WHEA Workshop with The HSUS West Coast Regional Office. The workshop program will be varied to offer segments of interest to beginning and advanced educators.

For more information on these workshops, contact The HSUS West Coast Regional Office.

The Humane Society of the United States
West Coast Regional Office
1713 J Street, Suite 305
Sacramento, CA 95814