Last February, Shelter Sense featured an article by Willow Soltow, formerly of the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAAHE) (a division of The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)), titled "Humane Education Programs That Work." Soltow suggested that humane education specialists should attempt to reach teachers and students in their communities by "adopting" a school. The article featured the continued on next page.
Cheyenne Animal Shelter in Wyoming and the Ozaukee County Humane Society in Wisconsin, both of which provided classrooms in their area with free subscriptions to two NAAHE publications through unique "adoption" programs.

Since February, NAAHE has joined forces with the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) to develop a highly ambitious teacher adoption program. The new Adopt-A-Teacher program, part of a larger NAAHE/GFWC effort called "Kids and Kindness," represents a special opportunity for local humane societies and shelters to expand humane education throughout their communities.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

The NAAHE/GFWC Adopt-A-Teacher program was begun as part of a plan to help the GFWC (there are approximately 11,000 GFWC clubs in the United States) carry out its two-year programming emphasis on animals and the environment. To participate in the new program, GFWC clubs contact NAAHE which, in turn, provides them with information on program procedures. The clubs then begin to adopt the first- through sixth-grade teacher(s) of their choice. Adopters pay only $17.95 per teacher. Each adopted teacher receives an adoption certificate and joint subscriptions to NAAHE's Kind News and Children & Animals. Children & Animals is a monthly magazine, and Kind News five times during the school year. The adoption certificate is designed to be presented to the adopted teacher and displayed in the classroom as a daily reminder of the gift of humane education and caring.

THE ROLE OF YOUR SHELTER

Your shelter or humane society can play an instrumental role in spreading the humane education message through the Adopt-A-Teacher program. By working together, the benefits to GFWC clubs, the program, the teachers, your shelter, and the humane education of youth can be significant. To become involved as a co-sponsor in the Adopt-A-Teacher program, contact Rena Pitts, GFWC School Issues Coordinator, Education Center, a division of The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L St. N.W., Washington, DC 20037, (202) 452-1100.

Fall Pet Alert: Some Pets Still Plagued by Hot Weather!
by Yuri Kusuda

As cold weather approaches some areas of the nation, other areas continue to contend with hot weather and its related problems for pets. One humane society's volunteer program, for example, has reduced the annual number of pets locked in hot cars in its desert environment. Another society is working to prevent children and animals from riding in the open backs of trucks.

During the summer, particularly, volunteers for the Humane Society of the Desert (P.O. Box 44, Palm Springs, CA 92263) work to educate surrounding communities about the dangers of leaving pets in cars by distributing The Humane Society of the United States' "Hot Car" warning flyers (see the May 1986 Shelter Sense for mention of the HSUS "Hot Car" campaign on page 11). According to Marilyn Baker, a society board member, volunteers are responsible for distributing the flyers and posters at locations near their homes such as shopping centers, hotels, rental car agencies, airports, post offices, and restaurants. Many keep a supply of flyers in their cars. Baker estimated that approximately 50 volunteers work each week. Since the volunteer program began nearly four years ago, Baker said police have recorded fewer incidents of pets in hot cars. She added that it is rare to hear one complaint a month.

Baker said most merchants are very receptive to the campaign, and hotels, in particular, have cooperated immensely. "Most hotels are very good about warning guests not to leave pets in their cars," said Baker. "Ones that don't allow pets will recommend hotels that do. If tourists can't find lodgings that allow pets, the humane society will arrange for pets to be boarded at local kennels." Baker added, "Palm Springs is a tourist town, but tourists don't understand this desert heat. Dry heat is very deceiving and often does not feel as hot as it is."

According to Baker, the police department has been very cooperative and will respond readily to "pets in hot car" distress calls. They will take necessary measures to rescue animals in danger of heatstroke if the pets' owners cannot be reached immediately.

In addition to the fliers, the humane society places warnings in newspapers and on local radio PSAs, and it advertises a 24-hour hotline for emergencies. Baker said, "Even if all the windows in a car are rolled down, there is still a danger to a pet left inside. We tell people to give their pets the entire day off, to leave them at home with the air conditioning on."

A Florida SPCA is distributing a poster and a postcard to warn citizens about the dangers to pets and children allowed to ride in the backs of trucks. The postcard includes a "pets in hot cars" warning on the back.

The SPCA of St. Petersburg, Fla. (9099 130th Ave. N., Largo, FL 33773), produced the poster and postcard, designed by the SPCA's ambulance driver, Richard Levi. The poster says "Stop the DEATH Ride" and depicts a skull-and-crossbones standing behind a child sitting in the back of a truck. The two-color poster is 15 inches by 10 inches large. The black and white postcard contains the same message and illustration.
Evelyn Burton, an SPCA volunteer who is concerned about the safety of children and pets riding in the backs of trucks, proposed the idea to the board. They only are animals and children killed and injured in falling from the backs of trucks, they cause accidents when drivers attempt to avoid hitting them. Betty Allen, the SPCA's president, said the cost to produce 500 copies of each announcement distributed is approximately $225. So far, Allen said, the posters have been placed at cash registers and in waiting rooms in four or five car dealerships, in veterinarians' offices, gas stations, and any other place that will accept them. People have been very receptive to the messages. She believes the skeleton really attracts their attention. Glen Lockwood, shelter director, said, "Many people seem thankful for being educated. Many have said it simply never occurred to them that riding in the back of a truck could be dangerous."

Pets left in cars can suffer even when the weather does not seem hot, as a man in South Carolina recently discovered. Animal-welfare organizations must continue to educate citizens about the hazards of leaving pets in cars during any time of the year.

Last spring, a boxer died after being left inside a rental car parked at a shopping mall lot in Spartanburg, S.C. Another dog, a poodle mix, survived in the car. Although the outside temperature reportedly was in the low seventies, with low humidity, witnesses reported that the dogs looked extremely distressed, and the car windows were fogged and dripping. The dogs' owner, Franklin Hodges Jr., a 75-year-old Spartanburg resident, was charged with ill-treatment of animals, according to Bunny Howell, director of Spartanburg City Animal Control (155 Williams St., Spartanburg, SC 29301), who took the case to court.

According to Howell, Hodges was convicted of ill-treatment to animals during a June court hearing and was sentenced to a brief jail term. Judge Edward H. Overcash reportedly said at the time that cruelty to animals need not be active, but also can be passive, and that by leaving the dogs in the closed automobile, Hodges had caused them to suffer. An official from the car rental agency reportedly testified that there were claw and chew marks on the car's interior, and the gear shift knob had been chewed off by the animals.

Dr. Douglas Paul Seif, D.V.M., of the Greenville Humane Society in South Carolina testified that dogs with heatstroke suffer and can have a period of frantic behavior before lapsing into a coma, according to Howell. In addition, Seif said heatstroke can occur in animals left in cars even when snow is on the ground! Literature from The HSUS explains that on a warm day, the temperature in a parked car can reach 160 °F in a matter of minutes. Howell said the dogs were in the car for at least 45 minutes with the windows shut.

This is the first hot car fatality in several years in the Spartanburg area, said Howell. She added that animal-control officials usually reach owners of pets locked in cars and/or get the pets out in time to prevent heatstroke. Howell has been distributing HSUS "pets in hot cars" warning fliers and posters to car dealers and local shopping malls in an effort to educate pet owners about this danger.
BEWARE! Protect Your Pet!

A miniposter can help educate pet owners about some dangers to pets that are left outside unattended. The poster replaces a similar card that currently is listed in the Publications List of The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

The new, 8-1/2-inch by 11-inch poster, titled "BEWARE: Protect Your Pet!", is designed to be used alone or with The HSUS' Close-Up Report, "The Animal Slave Trade -- Brutality on the Road to Research." The slick red, blue, and black poster describes the dangers of allowing pets outside unattended or advertising pets in "free to good home" columns. The poster offers recommendations for protecting pets from unscrupulous animal dealers and explains what citizens can do to protect pets nationwide.

One miniposter is included free with each order of The HSUS' Close-Up Report on the animal slave trade (the Close-Up Report costs 30 cents). Additional miniposters can be purchased in lots of 12 for 75 cents or 50 for $1.50. To order, specify the number of posters you would like to purchase, or explain that you would like one free poster with your order of the above-mentioned Close-Up Report. Specify order number PH0074 for poster purchases and GM3095 for a Close-Up Report and free miniposter. Address orders to The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L St. N.W., Washington, DC 20037.

Educational Display Tempts the Curious!

A Florida humane society built an intriguing educational display for children and adults that can be transported easily to school presentations and public areas.

Using an idea presented in Humane Education, a magazine formerly published by the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAAHE) (a division of The Humane Society of the United States), now titled Children and Animals, the Jacksonville Humane Society (8464 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32216) constructed a three-section display out of wall paneling and hinged it so that it could be folded and moved easily. The 50-pound structure contains small "doors" fronted by a picture and a trivia question that open to reveal another picture and the answer. The four-foot-by-eight-foot display explains what the humane society does, proper pet care, and facts about companion animals and wildlife. According to Barbara R. Vittitow, the society's executive director, the display was "a big hit with kids, and the parents liked it, too. The kids really got involved in it."

Before long, you'll be wishing "Happy Holidays" to friends, loved ones, and members of your organization. The Humane Society of the United States' 1986 greeting card is the perfect way to do this!
antique shops draw
affluent supporters

Scott seized 22 cats, 16 rabbits, six dogs, and one goose, which were taken to the Fauquier SPCA (Route 2, Box 805, Warrenton, VA 22186). Thirteen dogs, 17 horses, and one donkey, believed to be in unacceptable condition, were left at the residence. Three cats had to be euthanized, and the rest of the animals were housed at the shelter or in foster homes. The following day, Scott issued a summons for Sweeney to appear in court.

Sharon Maloney, board member for the SPCA, said that a friend of Sweeney's, Dr. Brickner, a breeder from Texas, sent a driver and truck from Texas to claim the six dogs and two of the cats. A court order for the society to release the animals to Brickner subsequently was granted. Maloney said court officials felt that sending someone all the way from Texas was sufficient proof of ownership (Sweeney originally had claimed that all the animals were hers). The SPCA asked court officials not to order the release of any more animals unless adequate proof of ownership was presented (for example, a license).

On January 30, Sweeney was convicted of animal cruelty and sentenced to pay a $750 fine and spend six months in jail. All but 30 days of the jail term were suspended. Sweeney appealed the court's decision and did not serve his jail sentence. Three additional hearings followed. (Nenada traveled from Ohio to testify at two of them.) At the final hearing last May, Sweeney was convicted of cruelty to animals again and was given a six-month suspended sentence and two $1,000 fines, one to be paid to the Commonwealth of Virginia and one to the SPCA.

In addition, Sweeney relinquished his claim of ownership to the remaining animals. The animals at the shelter were spayed or neutered and adopted out, and Maloney said the animals that were not confiscated are in fine condition. She said the Commonwealth of Virginia will have to pay most of the animals' veterinary fees. According to Robert Enger, assistant Commonwealth attorney for Virginia at the time this case took place, Sweeney has paid his fines and is undergoing psychiatric care in Florida in lieu of time in jail. Nevertheless, the Ohio cruelty case is still pending, according to A. M. Psenicka, police prosecutor for Geauga County, Ohio. Psenicka reported that there is no statute of limitations on Sweeney's two arrest warrants. Psenicka added that if Sweeney should ever return to Ohio, police can arrest him, and the cruelty case again can be opened for prosecution.

SpokAnimal C.A.R.E. (K. 107 Park Road, Spokane, WA 99212) needed an additional source of revenue to support its programs and activities. In late 1983, the organization acquired a building in downtown Spokane for its thrift shop. By 1985, it became apparent that poor location, inadequate size, and shabby surroundings were hindering the Thrift Shop's success. After months of searching for a property that accommodated the organization's needs and resources, and after reevaluating the type of store needed, the group's efforts finally were rewarded.

In two and one-half months, SpokAnimal's newly created Antique Emporium broke even, and the group expects to raise between $80,000 and $140,000 within the next year to support its humane

ITEMS

Of Animal Cruelty

Man Convicted

of Animal Cruelty

A man was convicted of animal cruelty in Virginia in a case that involved approximately 50 animals. Arrest warrants have been issued for the same man for a similar incident in another state.

Early this year, responding to complaints from county residents, Carol Scott, former animal warden for Fauquier County, Va., obtained a search warrant and discovered over 50 purebred cats, dogs, horses, donkeys, geese, and rabbits in the residence of Daniel Sweeney. Many were in poor physical condition, with little access to food and water. Some reportedly were dead. In a similar incident in Ohio, Sweeney was charged with cruelty to animals but failed to appear in court, according to Betty Nenada, chief humane officer of the Geauga County Humane Society Inc. (P.O. Box 342, Chardon, OH 44024). Two arrest warrants have been sworn out in Ohio for Sweeney. In both cases, Sweeney has claimed he owned the animals and was holding them for training and show purposes.

Continued on next page

society's volunteer coordinator, "People can't resist looking under every door!" The display also contains a locked donation box with a drop door for easy retrieval of donations, which have been plentiful.

The educational unit has been used during grade- and high-school presentations and left unattended for several days in the local public library, at various shopping centers, and at a spring children's music festival. It was built by Vittitow's husband for $200 which was donated by the Jacksonville Veterinary Medical Society. "We have a super relationship with them," said Vittitow.

According to Vittitow, the display could have been built for less than $200, but the society preferred to use brass hinges, attractive knobs for the small doors, and other features. To create pockets for the front and inside of the doors, Vittitow purchased a photograph album and cut out the plastic pockets. Photographs and questions easily can be slipped in and out of the pockets to accommodate adult presentations, children, or special events. Vittitow plans to add wheels to the display to ease transportation.

Continued on next page
Aids and Tools in Selecting Hardware, Software, and Services
A two-part series
by Kay Smart

If your organization is considering purchasing its first computer, tying its existing computer into a mainframe or mini-computer, or only planning to increase the capabilities of its computer system, several standard management and planning tools can greatly help your analysis.

YOUR FIRST STEP

The first, most basic step to take is to determine the needs of the organization. If your shelter is planning its first computer acquisition, it is not necessary, at this point, to worry about disk and memory size or different types of computers. Rather, you should begin by identifying the shelter activities that you might want to computerize. This can be done simply by listing goals and objectives.

After outlining these needs, try to determine an approximate budget. Don't let the budgetary figure confine you, however. Remember, initial, lower hardware and software costs could be offset later by the need to add additional memory, disk, or other applications. Remain flexible but within your business' boundaries with regard to a budget. You can narrow prices at a much later planning stage.

Last, think about your organization's peripheral needs: things that would be nice to do but are not absolutely necessary. Include these on the list of plans and objectives.

RESEARCH YOUR COMPUTER NEEDS

Next, begin some research. There are many sources of information about computers and computer applications. If you know nothing about computers, review a couple of simple, brief books that make sense to you (introductions to data processing for dummies). If you have some general knowledge already, skip to more specific information such as different types of computers currently on the market. Your local library and bookstores should stock many choices. Don't bother about learning programming languages or running database applications. These specifics should come later, if needed, when you know what hardware and software components you wish to purchase.


As part of your research, pinpoint colleagues and similar organizations that are in the process of computerizing or have done so already. Interview these contacts. Ask them what they're doing, why they are doing it that way, how it's working, and what they'd recommend if they were to computerize again. Ask any of your contacts are located nearby, visit them to see their operation. If you cannot find similar organizations to approach for interviews, visit computer dealerships. Ask dealers what they think might work for your setup, and collect information from as many dealers as possible. Ask them to show you the basics of how microcomputers and printers work. Ask for demos of popular database programs such as RBASE 5000 and DBASE III.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

At this point you should have an idea of the configuration of hardware and software that might work for your organization. If you have time, write a Request for Proposal (RFP), which is a document that states the needs of your organization and requests that vendors submit a bid and a proposal for the job. The RFP should begin by identifying the shelter activities that you might want to computerize. This can be done simply by listing goals and objectives.

After outlining these needs, try to determine an approximate budget. Don't let the budgetary figure confine you, however. Remember, initial, lower hardware and software costs could be offset later by the need to add additional memory, disk, or other applications. Remain flexible but within your business' boundaries with regard to a budget. You can narrow prices at a much later planning stage.

Last, think about your organization's peripheral needs: things that would be nice to do but are not absolutely necessary. Include these on the list of plans and objectives.
serves several important purposes. Primarily, it helps you, the user, to more accurately define the needs of the organization. It also serves as a guideline for vendors when writing or presenting their ideas about what they can provide and at what cost. If you give the RFP to computer-established vendors, and if you are spending a substantial amount of money ($10,000+), salespeople will make a presentation to you concerning how your needs can be met. This is extremely helpful because you can use their ideas about what they can provide and at what cost. If you are spending a substantial amount of money ($10,000+), salespeople will make a presentation to you concerning how your needs can be met. This is extremely helpful because you can use their ideas about what they can provide and at what cost. If you...
Animals Program, designed to sensitize and educate the public to the needs of pets, the problem of pet overpopulation, and the need for responsible pet ownership.

As you can see, there are many reasons to become involved with your local GFWC club. The Kids & Kindness program can be the beginning of a cooperative relationship that will greatly benefit the teachers, students, and, of course, the animals in your community.

Editor's note: If no participating GFWC club exists in your area, or if you simply wish to participate in the Adopt-A-Teacher program on your own, contact NAAHE, Box 362, East Haddam, CT 06423. NAAHE will provide you with all the information and materials you need!

Bill DeRosa is assistant director of NAAHE.

Executive director for humane society, including animal-control activities. Staff of 18; $440,000 budget. Must manage and operate total program. Salary, $18,000 plus credit for experience and training. Paid medical insurance. Send resume, salary requirements to John Graham, 1600 Old Frankfort Pike, Lexington, KY 40504. EEO.

Humane education director for county humane society, including animal-control programs. Requires education degree; certification and experience preferred. Newsletter experience useful. Initiative and resourcefulness important. Salary base, $13,000 plus credit for experience and training. Paid medical insurance. Send resume, salary requirements to John Graham, 1600 Old Frankfort Pike, Lexington, KY 40504. EEO.

Kennel manager (or qualified, motivated trainee!) wanted for progressive boarding kennel operated as a funding source for animal-charity. Duties involve operation of facility under direction of owner. Excellent salary and benefits available. Please contact Betsy Lewis, Creature Comforts Inc., Blanchard Road, Stony Point, NY 10980; (914) 429-8249. Please send personal letter and/or resume first.

Animal-protection officers sought for a developing roster of job candidates. Those listed must be high school graduates; experience in animal care/handling, public relations, enforcement preferred. Opportunity to contribute to growth and progress of animal-control division. Contact Cathy English, Director, Leon County Animal Control, 2965 Municipal Way, Tallahassee, FL 32304; telephone, (904) 487-3172.

Animal-control officer needed for progressive department. Previous experience or law enforcement or veterinary technician background preferred. Base salary, $13,000 plus numerous benefits. Send resume to Art Evans, Director, Greene County Animal Control, 641 Dayton-Xenia Road, Xenia, OH 45385. EEO.

WHEN YOU SEE A STRAY DOG OR CAT, WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Cold weather can make life worse for stray dogs and cats. If you find a stray animal, here’s what you should do:

• Be certain that the animal really is a homeless stray. If it is shabby, thin, and has no collar, it probably has no owner. Even if it has a collar and a tag, and obviously belongs to someone, it should not be running loose. Carefully check for a collar and tag. If possible, call the owners to tell them you have found their pet.

• Remember, we can help stray animals by picking them up, caring for them, and attempting to find them responsible homes. You can help us if you will bring stray animals to our shelter, located at the address below. If you can’t, please call us, and, while you are waiting for us to arrive, confine the animal(s) in your garage or on your porch.

• Continue to report stray animals in your area to us. These animals need your help! As a responsible citizen, you can be proud that you are helping to reduce animal suffering by helping stray animals.

Provided by The Humane Society of the United States

This message can be clipped out and reproduced in quantity by your local printer for distribution at schools, shopping centers, libraries and other community locations. Credit must be given to The Humane Society of the United States. Remember to add your organization’s name, address, and telephone number in the space by typing, typesetting or affixing your group’s letterhead. You can also purchase advertising space for it in your local newspaper or use it in your organization’s newsletter.
As September leads us into another school year, it may seem that public education about responsible pet ownership has become a never-ending process! Effective humane education programs do require stamina, creativity, and commitment. Nevertheless, by cooperating with other organizations and individuals in your community, your organization can achieve its goals more quickly and easily.

This issue features an article by Bill DeRosa about the new "Adopt-A-Teacher" program, a joint project of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) and the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAAHE). This type of program enables your organization to cooperate with another service organization in your community and to reach teachers and students with your humane message. Many animal-welfare organizations would be surprised to discover the many interested, talented organizations and individuals within their communities that are willing to work hard to reduce animal suffering.

Begin immediately to advertise, ask questions, write letters, and make telephone calls, to locate these important sources of community support. Contact them, and plan with them additional humane education activities while this school year is still young. By doing so you can gain new contacts, supporters, and members while reducing the number of animals that suffer each day in your community.

You should also review The HSUS's current Publications List, a complete catalog of publications, specialty items, and audio/visual materials for your organization to purchase at reasonable prices. For a free copy of this list, write to The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L St. N.W., Washington, DC 20037.

Don't forget to register for The Humane Society of the United States' Annual Conference, October 22-25, in Miami Beach, Fla. For further registration information, telephone (202) 452-1100, or write "Annual Conference," The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L St. N.W., Washington, DC 20037.