As you can see, Shelter Sense has gotten a face lift! We hope you will enjoy the new look and the new features you will see in upcoming issues.

These changes are partly a result of your input on the reader survey we included in last February’s issue. Thanks so much to those of you who took the time to provide us with your opinions.

The main intent of the survey was to determine how well Shelter Sense was meeting your needs. We’re pleased to report that the results were overwhelmingly favorable.

While many readers appreciated our emphasis on pet overpopulation and the sharing of materials and ideas that work (this will not change!), quite a few also expressed interest in seeing particular subjects covered in the future. Especially popular among these were shelter disease control, adoptions, ACO duties, volunteer programs, and fundraising/development.

As always, readers clamored for more Reproducibles. “We need more Reproducibles that could be understood by illiterates.”

These changes are partly a result of your input. So please keep sending us your feedback. We will always do our best to heed your advice.

Personal PERSPECTIVES

ON THE LOSS OF A BELOVED COMPANION

By Gina Browning, Director of Public Relations, SPCA Serving Erie County, New York

Pets provide some of the happiest moments of our lives. They serve as devoted companions, giving us their unconditional love and acceptance. For many of us, pets are more than “just animals”; they are our best friends.

It is no wonder, then, that upon the death of a pet, many people may experience a grief so intense that it is difficult to carry on a daily routine for weeks, possibly months, afterwards. Unfortunately, as many grieving pet owners have found, it is not still not widely acceptable in today’s society to be devastated over an animal’s death. Those who have mourned the loss of a pet in the past may have met with harsh criticism from others, or, even worse, complete indifference.

In recent months, the SPCA of Erie County has received calls from bereaved pet owners who are looking for ways of obtaining some support during this difficult time. Just about every caller expresses embarrassment over needing to make the call and wonders whether we’ve ever heard of such a problem. That’s why every humane agency that serves as devoted companions, giving us their unconditional love and acceptance.

Pets give their owners so much. They serve as devoted companions, giving us their unconditional love and acceptance.

And, for some, a reason for living. All this suddenly disappears when that pet dies, but many pet owners choose to struggle through this painful period alone. When an adjustment cannot be made within a few days, griever may naturally feel there may be something wrong with them. According to Linda Ehlers, M.Ed., MS, a counselor in Atlanta, Georgia, “People mask their grief because society does not support the fact that they have the right to grieve over an animal. They feel isolated and embarrassed.” Ehlers adds that there are various reasons a pet owner experiences such grief. “A pet owner knows he or she is totally responsible for the animal. Pets give their owners so much that they may be the most loving creatures their owners ever have been exposed to. Any pain a pet may feel suddenly becomes the full responsibility of the owner.”

In his book, When Your Pet Dies: How To Cope with Your Feelings, Jamie Quackenbush, MSW, compares a pet owner’s reactions to a pet’s death to those experienced after a human being’s death. With slight variation, the responses are almost identical: guilt, denial, anger, depression, and, finally, acceptance.

During the guilt stage, the pet owner knows he was responsible for the pet’s well-being. The pet needs the owner to survive, and in turn, our best friends.

Because pets love unconditionally, the feelings people have for them can be extremely intense. Consequently, the feeling of loss at a pet’s death can be equally strong.
begins to soon after. The pet owner realizes part of his life is gone and wonders by finding someone or something to stage arrives, the pet owner may try but can't believe it and may put off prevented. He then may blame. The owner feels there was some way the death could have been the pet's death; he knows it happened, way of life structured around grieves differently. However, professionals agree that a pet owner's first death is harder to accept than the deaths of their mothers, fathers, siblings. "Animals are so ac­cepting than most of the people you know their beliefs are shared with insensitive people is that his feelings are taken as a personal attack, the griever could perceive those who view their pets simply as be­longings or possessions rather than companions. Affection, trust, sup­port him at this crucial time of grief. Whatever the reason, statements that are harsh, striking the owner hard at this vulnerable time.

"He may turn into a 'closet mourner,' hiding his feelings from the world, his life is com­pletely changed, and he's not getting any support from others, much less sympathy. If he tries to talk to others immediately go on with their lives.''

"Why Don't You Just Get Another One?"

"Another One?"

"Another Pet?"

The consideration of whether to adopt another pet after the loss of a pet implies that they never loved the owner can decide when is the right time to bring a new animal into his or her life. A pet, an owner is faced with what the owner can decrease those at-risk pets. The owner can determine when the time is right for another pet.

"It Was Only A Dog!"

"It Was Only A Dog!"

Gloria Roettger, MS, a counselor in Depew, New York, the effect of the owner's first death will be much harder to accept. "Why Don't You Just Get Another Pet?"

"Other Pet?"

"Other Pet?"

"Why Don't You Just Get Another Pet?"

"Why Don't You Just Get Another Pet?"

"Other Pet?"

"Other Pet?"

"Why Don't You Just Get Another Pet?"

"Other Pet?"

"Other Pet?"

"Why Don't You Just Get Another Pet?"

"Other Pet?"

"Other Pet?"

"Why Don't You Just Get Another Pet?"

"Other Pet?"

"Other Pet?"

"Why Don't You Just Get Another Pet?"
group, he has found someone who not only will listen, but who can offer educated suggestions for overcoming the grief.

Ehlers adds, 'It is essential to deal with every aspect of a pet owner's grief, whether counseling one on, or in a group. If one issue is left uncovered, the pet owner may try to hide it and forget about it, rather than deal with it. Just being there for him or her and listening is the most significant thing a counselor can do.'

A Brighter Horizon

Mourning the loss of a beloved pet is still not totally acceptable in today's society. Thankfully, this trend is changing. As more and more grieving pet owners express a need for support, professionals (including many animal shelters and humane organizations), friends, and family are responding to the cries for help.

RESOURCES THAT CAN HELP

The Delta Society has many resources to help people deal with pet loss and help others support them. They have a national directory of pet loss counselors to direct grievers to a professional in their area. In addition, they have lists of resources including books, pamphlets, articles, videos, and taped television programs on the subject. You may write to the Delta Society at P.O. Box 1080, Renton, WA 98057-1080.

Veterinary students trained in pet loss counseling at the University of California at Davis also man a hotline to help callers who've lost a pet. Their number is (916) 752-4200 and is in operation between 6:30 and 9:30 pm, PST, Monday through Friday. See also the materials section for a series of videos that are designed not only to help the grieving pet owner, but to train workers in helping clients who lose a pet. Perhaps your organization could join the many other humane groups that offer pet loss sessions to the public.

FIVE SIMPLE TIPS FOR BETTER CUSTOMER SERVICE

By Kathi Prevost

There is no mystery to providing customer service in any organization. It can only begin with you. The way you treat others will be reflected in the way they treat you. Try doing one thing on the following list every day. You'll be surprised how much friendlier your customers are—and how much more open they will be to your message of responsible animal care.

1. Play the name game. Introduce yourself, either by wearing a name tag, telling them your first name, or both. Listen when they tell you their name. Write it down if you need to, but remember it. This is not only common courtesy, but more importantly, it sets the tone for the communication. You'll be surprised how many people remember your name. Use their name preceding important information. People retain three times more of what you say when it is preceded by their names. ("Yes, Joan, you must have her spayed!") Names are powerful tools—use them!

2. Let the sun shine in. Some shelters look like places of gloom and death, and the employees seem overwhelmed and depressed. No wonder many people don't like to visit the shelter. Make sure your shelter hasn't fallen into this trap. It doesn't have to be fancy, just clean, bright, and welcoming. Everyone should dress in bright colors. You can clean up your desk, buy yourself flowers (or better yet, buy someone else flowers!), or hang a poster. A clean, pleasant environment filled with happy, enthusiastic people can't help but make a difference. Remember, if it looks like a dump, people will treat it like a dump.

3. Stamp their ticket. Validate the person's concern. Find something—anything—you can agree with in their request. Make them understand that you care about them and their problem. ("I can understand why you feel that neutering may be cruel.") If you don't understand their concerns, ask them why. Maybe their childhood pet died while being neutered. Give them the benefit of the doubt.

4. Do the Can-Can. Tell people what you can do, not what you can't. There should always be something you can do to help someone. If possible, give them options—two or more choices—and let them make the decision. Instead of "We can't pick up stray cats unless they are confined," say: "We can pick up the cat if you are able to confine it," or "We can lend you a humane trap."

5. Be a natural resource. Provide a variety of learning experiences in the shelter environment, including posters, graphics, signs, videos, recorded messages, music, guided tours, counseling, hotlines, and intervention. Vary the tone and presentation of the messages, combining some "warm fuzzies" with dynamic graphics, in-depth explanations, and checklists. Every person learns differently. If you want people to get the message, deliver it in a form they can understand. Communication is not what you say, it's what they hear. Make it easy for them to listen.

Kathi Prevost offers human resource development for humane organizations through her company Only Human, 915 S 281 St., Redondo Beach, WA 98054; (206) 940-2831.

VETERINARIANS HELP FOUR SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAMS

By Geoffrey L. Handy

Every humane agency in the country can tell a different story about its struggles to involve veterinarians in efforts to combat the nation's horrible surplus of dogs and cats. Fortunately, humane groups and veterinarians are proving more and more that avenues of cooperation do exist, so long as each recognizes the needs and wishes of the other.

During the fourth annual "Prevent A Litter" Month last April, hundreds of individuals, humane societies, and animal control agencies continued to educate their communities about the surplus of dogs and cats and promote spaying and neutering. Veterinarian cooperation and participation were hallmarks of many of these effective programs. The four programs profiled here show that cooperation between vets
and shelters can be a strong force for getting pets neutered.

The Fido Fund Saves Lives in WV

Pat Thomas, director of the Huntington-Cabell/Wayne Animal Control Shelter (1901 James River Rd., Huntington, WV 25701), always wanted to help adopters pay for the sterilization of their new pets. So when she began receiving donations to the rural public shelter a few years back, she decided to open up a special bank account.

Dubbred the Fido Fund, the account had grown to $52,000 by 1988, and Thomas managed to persuade one maverick local veterinarian to reduce his spay/neuter fees significantly for animals adopted from the facility. The veterinarian would be reimbursed for each surgery using money from the Fund. That way, from the adopter's perspective, his or her new companion would be sterilized for free.

As the program progressed, the entire Huntington Veterinary Association (HVA) decided to join the lone veterinarian and participate. The vets would be reimbursed $45 from the Fund for each dog or cay spay, and $35 for each neuter. The association's eleven clinics had already been providing free veterinary exams for adopted animals.

Adopters began receiving free spays and neuters in July 1988, and well over 900 pets had been sterilized for free by the end of last year, when the Fund ran dry. Another $7,000 was raised through Christmas donations and the agency's Pitch In For Pets program, through which the shelter collects aluminum, glass, and plastic recyclables to sell to manufacturers of recycled products. Free surgeries using that money were again offered during May, and an additional 150 adopters benefited during the month.

Even when Thomas can't help adopters pay for the spay/neuter surgeries, she makes sure they sign a special sterilization contract and does extensive follow-up. But she knows the value of the Fund in guaranteeing the sterilization of adopted pets, especially for low-income adopters. "The Fido Fund is really for people who don't even know what 'spay' means when they first come into the shelter," says Thomas. "It's for people who wouldn't spend their money on spaying and neutering even if they did have it."

Adopters Get Free Surgeries in Oregon

Adopters in Oregon's Marion and Polk Counties have a deal similar to their West Virginia counterparts. When they adopt a cat or dog from the Humane Society of the Willamette Valley (HSWV, P.O. Box 13005, Salem, OR 97309), a free spay or neuter is part of the package. These new pet owners are the beneficiaries of a cooperative adoptation program between the society and the Marion-Polk Veterinary Association (MPVA). "We wanted to increase our spay/neuter compliance rate as well as promote adoptions," says Marti Staprans, the society's community programs coordinator. "And what better way to do that than to make it more feasible for a person to come to us instead of a pet store and ensure that the pet will be altered."

Since February 1, the association's 26 clinics have accepted the spay/neuter certificate adopters receive at the time they adopt as full payment for a spay or neuter surgery. The humane society reimburses vets for only part of the cost—an amount that averages about 70 percent of the agency's adoption fee, which is $60 for dogs and $55 for cats. For the adoption fee, adopters also get free veterinary exam, vaccinations, a leash, collar, and ID tag, a car carrier (for adopters of cats), and pet care information.

One of six print PSAs, this ad was produced at cost for Forsyth County Animal Control by Horn & Stroanch, a Winston-Salem public relations firm. The agency also secured newspaper space for the ads.

Included in that pet care information are two brochures funded by the MPVA. One describes the adoption program and discusses facts about spaying and neutering, and the other provides a list of all MPVA veterinarians.

Staprans also marked the beginning of a five-month spay/neuter education campaign run in collaboration with the Oregon Humane Society in Portland. The slogan, "OK. Which one lives?" was blazoned across 14 billboards in Portland and 6 news segments on television stations in the area. Radio PSAs and television news segments—including a half hour news special—also educated the public about the crisis. Cooperation between the MPVA and HSWV is helped by the formation of a permanent liaison committee made up of society representatives and veterinarians. Meeting once a month, the committee will keep the lines of communication open. Says Staprans: "The veterinarians in our community are now taking responsibility for all the animals who are thrown upon the humane society—the ones that nobody wants."

Animal Control Department Funds Print Ads

In Forsyth County, North Carolina, veterinarians have cooperated in a different way. They've helped the Forsyth County Animal Control Department (1200 Fairchild Dr., Winston-Salem, NC 27105) promote responsible pet ownership.

Using over $7,000 of public funds, and with the support of the county manager, the department contracted with a public relations agency to come up with a series of print ads aimed at educating the public about being responsible pet owners. The agency, Horn & Stroanch, produced six hard-hitting print PSAs dealing with spay/neuter, pet restraint, and pet registration. The firm, which did the project at cost, also secured an agreement with five area newspapers to run the PSAs on a regular basis. The county's 110 veterinarians did their part by hanging up poster versions of the PSAs in their offices and clinics. In all, 250 copies of each poster were produced. Last January 28, the county board of commissioners issued a proclamation recognizing the part the newspapers and the Forsyth Veterinary Medical Association played in promoting responsible pet ownership.

Aims to Educate the Public about Responsible Pet Ownership

Each ad consists of an attention-grabbing photograph and slogan, along with factual copy that highlights the animal shelter's role in resolving the problem of pet owners' irresponsibility. Three of the print ads have won regional awards for excellence from the advertising industry. "The posters emphasize what happens when pet owners fail to be responsible for their animals," says Jerry Canady, director of animal control.

Program Aims Pets Before Adoption

If a resident of Island County, Washington, adopts an animal from either of Whidbey Island's two animal shelters, their new pet is guaranteed not to produce a litter. "People don't have a choice now," says Dr. Robert Bishop, a local veterinarian. "If they want to adopt an animal in Island County, it's going to be neutered."

That's because every animal available for adoption on the island has already been surgically sterilized. Both the county shelter and the city of Oak Harbor shelter are cooperating in Stop the Unwanted Breeding by Strays (STUBBS), a pre-adoption sterilization program conceived by Dr. Bishop and implemented with the help of the un­sheltered Whidbey Animal Improvement Foundation (WAIF, 1254 W. Pioneer Way, Ste. 238, Oak Harbor, WA 98277).

Since last September, some 250 animals have been altered free-of-charge by Dr. Bishop or one of four other volunteer veterinarians on the island. At pre-arranged times each week, ACOs from the Oak Harbor city shelter and the county shelter
Island's other veterinarians Dr. Robert Bishop, shown here have since contributed to the cause. His colleagues last March began delivering adoptable animals to the mature shelter animals, Bishop and sterilizing animals as young as eight operative procedures. Originally begun by Bishop with behaviorally sound animals are made available for adoption and hence sterilization. The program has worked to cover the costs of spaying or neutering animals at local animal control agencies and at animal shelters. Bishop began STUBBS after growing up in Oak Harbor and dealing with clients who refused to have their pets altered for between impounded animals and adoptions; recently, there has been no need to euthanize healthy, behaviorally sound animals. STUBBS. The other vets on the island Association, and decided to devote several hours a week to charitable endeavors, and put to sleep some animals that Bishop knows the negatives of doing animal control out of business, and that's why we're doing as many you've put through surgery," he acknowledges. "But our goal is to put animal control out of business, and that's why we're doing as many early spay/neuter programs. This protocol should include 1) tests for special needs and problems, The HSUS strongly recommends that a strict protocol become part of any early spay/neuter program. This manae Association."
COCKFIGHTING'S "SUPERBOWL" BUSTED

Sandy Rowland and Robin Weiss of the HSUS Great Lakes Regional Office (745 Haskins St., Bowling Green, OH 43402-1696), along with HSUS investigators Bob Baker and Jim Tedford, joined the Ohio Department of Agriculture, four Ohio Sheriff's Departments, the Internal Revenue Service, and other federal and state officials on May 11 in a raid of cockfighting's "superbowl." The 16-month investigation involved over one hundred cockfighters, involving over one hundred of the nation's premiere illegal tournaments, engaging in practices that organized animal abuse for entertainment is inhumane." This bust sends a clear message to cockfighters that organizing animal abuse, inhumane treatment of birds' legs with two-to-four-inch spurs, battles in the sand, with guns, booze, and the guns at cockfights confirm that animal abuse isn't an isolated activity," says Rowland. "It's part of a cycle of violence. We're also concerned about the number of children present at cockfights. What kind of sick lessons are they learning by witnessing these events?" The cockfighting was expected to generate thousands of dollars in wagering. In addition to the main arena, the operators created two "dug" pits, where dying birds were thrown to continue their vain battles. "The United Gamefowl Breeders Association defends this 'sport' by saying that Washington and Jefferson were cockfighters, but there isn't a shred of evidence to support that claim," says Rowland. "Cockfighting is an embarrassing relic that doesn't belong in a civilized society." As a result of this raid, attention has been focused on upgrading the current Ohio cockfighting law from a misdemeanor to a felony. As cockfighting is only a misdemeanor, the events are likely to continue once the publicity dies down. Cockfighting is a money-making event. Fines imposed for a misdemeanor offense do little to hinder the continuation of the sport. Fighters, promoters, and spectators (who wager large sums) merely factor in such small fines as a cost of doing business. A felony law would mean stiffer penalties, increased law enforcement efforts, and a stronger deterrent to participants, who do not want to become felons. If you live in Ohio, contact your state legislator at the State House, Columbus, OH 43215, (614) 466-2000.

Cockfighting involves fitting the birds' legs with two-to-four-inch-long, needle-sharp gaffs and pitting the birds against each other in a fight to the death. Cockfighting is currently a misdemeanor in Ohio, but as a result of this bust, a bill is pending before state lawmakers are considering making it a felony crime. Federal officials are seeking to file charges for gambling and nonpayment of income taxes. Sheriff's deputies were on hand to handle firearms violations, and Ohio liquor agents were present to enforce state liquor laws. "The gambling, the drugs, the booze, and the guns at cockfights confirm that animal abuse isn't an isolated activity," says Rowland. "It's part of a cycle of violence. We're also concerned about the number of children present at cockfights. What kind of sick lessons are they learning by witnessing these events?" The cockfighting was expected to generate thousands of dollars in wagering. In addition to the main arena, the operators created two "dug" pits, where dying birds were thrown to continue their vain battles.

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After the wrap-up of the symposium, The HSUS's annual membership meeting will convene and will be followed by the awards banquet. Slated to be honored this year are Dr. Russell Train, chairman of World Wildlife Fund, and ABC News Correspondent Roger Caras. Make plans now to attend this year's symposium and membership meeting. Room reservations ($110 per night, single or double occupancy) should be made directly with the Embassy Row Hotel at (202) 265-1600. For more information about the symposium and meeting, please write The HSUS at 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

ANOTHER ARGUMENT FOR DOG TAGS

Identification tags, as any shelter staffer knows, are a lost dog's ticket home. A family recently learned that they could be a lost boy's ticket home as well.

Last April 2, two-year-old Justin Fanning wandered off with a 150-pound sheep dog owned by the family he and his parents were staying with near Dayton, Ohio. About a quarter mile from the house, a neighbor discovered the pair and called the Montgomery County (OH) Sheriff's Department. After learning that the boy did not know his address, a deputy contacted the Montgomery County Animal Shelter for help. Using the dog's ID tags, shelter workers were able to locate Justin's parents in minutes. "We knew dog tags worked," said Shelter Director Stephanie Smith. "We just didn't know how well they worked."

"Many people today are working hard to expand the 'rights' of animals," he said. "Yet, the same people are not concerned about the millions of unborn babies that are slaughtered each year, many of whom, like these puppies, are tossed into dumpsters after being killed." The man, who had pleaded guilty to animal abandonment, a misdemeanor, said the puppies' mother rejected them. He said he left them to freeze to death because he didn't have the heart to kill them actively or the money to pay for euthanasia. According to Cathy Perry, vice president of the Mankato Humane Society (517 Madison Ave., Mankato, MN 56001), the man never contacted the humane society.

The puppies were rescued from the dumpster and taken to the society, which asked a local newspaper to run a short story on the incident. The paper complied, and someone who knew of the litter revealed the identity of the man. After charging him with animal abandonment, police seized the mother dog and five additional puppies as evidence. All eleven dogs have since been adopted out to new homes.

JUDGE ISSUES $1 FINE FOR ABANDONMENT

In a case that attracted national attention, a St. Peter, Minnesota, judge fined a local man $1 last March 25 for abandoning five puppies in a dumpster on a freezing January day.

Nicollet County District Judge Warren Litynski said he found nothing criminal in the man's actions, and justified the sentence by saying that "God ordained the killing of animals." He cited several biblical instances of animal sacrifice, then proceeded to compare animal protection to the abortion issue.
Videos Offer Help With Pet Loss, Counseling

A series of three videos produced by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) can help shelter staff and members of the public deal with pet loss.

One of the videos, The Loss of Your Pet, is directed to the pet owner. By showing various scenarios and interviewing people who’ve lost pets, the video helps the griever realize that he or she is going through a normal experience that is healthy, necessary, and very legitimate. Seeing the scenarios will help people who have lost a pet make some of the choices they will face. The video makes it clear that there are different ways of dealing with the death of a pet and that each person must do what is right for him or her. Accompanying the video are ten copies of a booklet to give to clients who experience pet loss. The booklet discusses the grieving process, covers decisions to be made, and lists resources for additional information.

The other two videos in the series are actually made for veterinarians and clinic staff. Understanding Client Pet Loss and Counselling Clients prepares staff to handle the grief, anger, and confusion of people who have lost their companions. Although designed for veterinarians and their staffs, the information provided would be very helpful for shelter staff who deal with members of the public trying to cope with euthanasia or accept the reality that their lost pet isn’t coming home. Practical advice on how to support the griever, techniques to make the griever feel comfortable, and information on the manifestations of the grieving process will help staff members be comforting and helpful when a client loses a pet. A workbook accompanying each of these two videos reinforces the concepts presented.

Each video is approximately 45 minutes long and costs $35. The entire three-tape set costs $95. Additional workbooks may be purchased for $7.50 each, and ten additional client booklets are available for $8.

To place an order or to get more information, call AAHA toll-free at (800) 252-2242 (USA only) or (303) 279-2500 (international calls—toll charged). Ask for their member services center.

Job Announcements

Advertisements are free and limited to job openings in humane organizations or animal control departments. Ads must be submitted on your organization’s letterhead no later than five weeks before the month of the issue in which you want your ad to appear. Please limit announcements to 50 words (including address). Sorry, Shelter Sense cannot print “position wanted” ads.

Executive Director—For humane society in Florida that handles 12,000 animals yearly, has a staff of 16, and has a $550,000 budget. Will supervise all phases of operations. Strong fundraising ability and management skills required. Salary negotiable. Send resume to Search Committee, Humane Society of Tampa Bay, 5607 N. Armenia Ave., Tampa, FL 33607.

Field Supervisor—Will supervise and coordinate animal control and investigations department for humane agency. Three to five years’ experience with same. Must have familiarity with animal control and management experience, completion of California State Humane Academy preferred. Send resume, references to Operations Manager, Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA, 361 S. Raymond Ave., Pasadena, CA 91105.

Investigator’s Video Available

With the help of a new video, beginning investigators can benefit from the experience of several of The HSUS’s seasoned field investigators.

Produced by The HSUS, An Introduction to Animal Cruelty Investigation gives an overview of how to deal with people in the field, how to collect evidence, what tools an investigator needs, and how to best help the animals who are victims of neglect and abuse. One of the main thrusts of the video is that education is the primary responsibility of the investigator and that prosecution should generally be a last resort. In addition to general information, the video provides advice on when to Mirandize a suspect, tips on testifying in court, and suggestions for using photographs as evidence.

This 25-minute, 1/2” VHS video costs $20 and can be ordered from The HSUS, 2200 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

What Will You Say When His Best Friend Doesn’t Come Home

You hear the tail start thumping against the floor when the school bus stops at the corner. Then your front door opens and you get a “Hi Mom, I’m home.” And they’re off. A kid and his dog. It’s a daily ritual. Except today. Because last night his best friend didn’t come home. You let him out like always. But this time he wasn’t there when you went to get him. You’ve tried to find him. But he’s gone. And what’s worse, anyone who may find him can’t contact you because you never got around to having him registered and tagged.

Losing a pet can be devastating. Yet in our area, the majority of pet owners never register their pets. Most think it’s not important. Their pet will never get lost. But the fact is, most lost pets never come home again. Many end up at the animal shelter. And while we keep them as long as we can, most of the time we have no choice but to put them to sleep. You see, without proper tags there’s no way for us to find their owners.

You can help us by registering your pet. It’s easy. And it will increase the likelihood that his best friend will come home again. For more information about pet registration, please contact us.
Plan Now For Animal Care Expo '92
The Trade Show Designed for the Animal Care Professional.

The Humane Society of the United States is pleased to announce the first international showcase of the latest equipment, products, technology, and services for animal sheltering and control programs.

Educational seminars will include up-to-the-minute developments in energy-efficient and environmentally safe products and their applications.

WRITE OR CALL FOR DETAILS:
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Crestline, CA 92325
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1 (714) 338–1192 (international)

Bally's Casino Resort
3645 Las Vegas Blvd., S.
Las Vegas, NV 89109
(800) 634–3434

Shelter Sense
The Humane Society of the United States
5430 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 100
Bethesda, MD 20814

Address Correction Requested