Personal PERSPECTIVES

THE BEST KIND OF TRAINING

I can hear you already. “Animal Care Expo ’92” you ask. “Didn’t HSUS just host Expo ’92 in Las Vegas?”

Well, yes, we did. And, yes, we are already planning ahead for next year’s event. (It’ll be held March 17-20, 1993, in Orlando. Lest you think this planning is premature, though, please bear with me for a moment.

If you’re reading this, chances are you’re involved in some way with protecting animals at the community level. Maybe you’re a shelter manager. Or a shelter volunteer. Or perhaps a humane educator, animal control officer, board member, veterinarian, or kennel cleaner.

Whatever your job is, you recognize the value of being trained to do it right and the importance of receiving timely information that will keep you up to date. How were you trained to do your job? Chances are, you’ve been learning since the first day you entered this demanding field. How do you keep up on what’s happening in the field? You probably read Shelter Sense, ShopTalk, NACA News, and maybe a few other publications. Perhaps you attend a workshop from time to time. Maybe you network semi-regularly with colleagues through visits, phone calls, and letters.

With Animal Care Expo ’92, The HSUS introduced a new kind of learning experience. For the nearly 1,300 animal-care, -sheltering, and -control professionals who attended, the Expo provided a perfect forum for learning about up-to-date products, services, and information available to make their jobs easier and their work more efficient. But don’t just take my word for it; listen to some of the kudos we heard from participants: “The best companion-animal-related program I have attended.” “I never knew many of these products existed.” “Hard to believe it was your first… do it again!”

So we are doing it again, next March in Orlando. Yes, there were a few bugs in the first Expo we’re planning to work out. As one attendant put it, “You were the victims of your own success… I had to stand for three seminars and sit on the floor for two.” This time we’re booking bigger conference rooms, planning longer seminars, attracting more exhibitors, and making several other refinements.

As you’ll see on the back cover, you can register by phone now for the special advance registration fee of $18. Sure, you’ll have to convince your agency to pay for the airfare (if you can’t drive to Orlando), hotel (we’ve got discounted room rates), and food (we may provide a few meals). But believe there is no better way for you to take a break, learn, motivate yourself, and improve the way you work.

—Marc Paulhus, HSUS Vice President for Companion Animals

OVER 1,000 CONVERGE IN LAS VEGAS FOR ANIMAL CARE EXPO ’92

By Rachel Lamb

Imagine a spacious hall filled with animal-care products, materials, and information. Imagine the opportunity to network with hundreds of people whose common concern is humane animal sheltering and control. Imagine choosing from over forty educational seminars on subjects such as “Bite Prevention Training for Voil,” “The Shelter Community” and “Nutritional Concerns in the Shelter/Humane Society Environment.”

Last February, Animal Care Expo ’92 made these visions a reality for nearly 1,500 individuals involved in every aspect of animal care, control, and sheltering from across the country and from places as far afield as New Zealand. Over 100 exhibitors displayed products as diverse as computer programs, animal-control vehicles, flooring for shelters, and wildlife rehabilitation equipment (see the exhibitor directory, pages 4-6).

The Expo opened on the evening of February 2 with a reception, giving participants the opportunity not only to view the myriad of exhibits, but also to meet the other attendees. The next morning, Paul G. Irwin, President of The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), highlighted the goals of the Expo: “to offer you, individuals and organizations involved in all facets of animal care, control, and sheltering, an opportunity that will not only be educational in a long-term sense, but directly applicable to your day-to-day experiences … from finding the most effective and environmentally-friendly techniques for keeping your kennels clean and pleasant to working with individuals to support cat licensing, from designing your new sheltering facility to be both energy-efficient and economical to learning the latest in high-tech animal identification.”

Participants were then invited to attend the wide variety of educational seminars offered over the course of the three-day event and to explore the variety of exhibits in the hall.

Because of the large number of participants, nearly every seminar was filled to capacity. Favorite seminars included “Large-Animal Rescue Methods,” “Creature Comforts—the Extras That Make the Difference,” “Animal Capture and Handling,” and “Overview of Humane and Efficient Shelter Design.” In addition to attending seminars, participants spent time browsing through the exhibit hall.

They took time to ask questions, test equipment, grab free samples, place orders, and gather information to take home with them. “Everyone seemed serious and focused,” noted one participant. Another commented that “it was a wonderful opportunity for animal-care professionals and volunteers to discuss issues of mutual interest.”

Next Expo, to be held March 17-20 at the Twin Towers Hotel & Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, promises to be even more enlightening. For those individuals who were not able to get in to a seminar, who missed one because of scheduling conflicts, or who were not able to attend Expo ’92, audio tapes of most of the seminars are available by mail (see page 15).

The more than 1,300 animal-care, -sheltering, and -control professionals who attended Animal Care Expo ’92 were able to meet with representatives of some 100 companies and organizations. Exhibitors ranged from suppliers of animal-control vehicles to direct mail marketing agencies.
ANIMAL FIRST-AID AND CPR TRAINING CAN BE HELPFUL FOR SHELTER STAFF

By Rhonda Lucas Donald

If a person collapses from cardiac arrest or some other cause, someone nearby is likely to know rescue breathing and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to aid the person until professional help arrives. CPR courses are widely taught and readily available to people wishing to become certified in saving the lives of others. But what if someone’s companion animal collapses and is no longer breathing? Every now and then, situations arise when it would be helpful for animal shelter and field personnel to know animal CPR techniques and simple first-aid practices.

Humane personnel can look to numerous books on the subject, but a perusal of these books quickly shows that the information varies from one source to another. After a while, it is difficult to know the most effective procedures, especially when there is no way to practice before an actual emergency occurs. In one of the most popular seminars at Expo ’92, participants learned how to obtain this much-needed training. The Philadelphia-based Animal Health Foundation (AHF) discussed its animal CPR and first-aid training program, which includes instruction on techniques guaranteed to save animal lives and the opportunity to practice these techniques on ‘petkins’ (animal-like manikins). AHF’s one-day certification course offers lectures, skills and written testing, resources, and supplies for both animal CPR and first aid.

AHF chairperson and founder Cecilia Skinner realized a need for such training while giving human CPR courses. Firefighters, paramedics, and police officers frequently asked her about the availability of training for animal medical emergencies. Many of these professionals were called upon to aid injured pets, but they weren’t trained to provide such help. So Skinner founded AHF and, with the help of veterinarians, developed the course and began teaching it in 1987.

The one-day course is divided into two sections, one for first aid and the other for CPR:

The First-Aid Section

• Responsible pet ownership and prevention of injury
• Assessment of an animal’s condition
• Shock
• Bleeding
• Bodily injuries (including head, eye, chest, abdomen, tooth, and paw injuries) plus nosebleeds and rectal discharge emergencies
• Bone, joint, and muscle injuries
• Poisoning
• Burns
• Electrocuting

AHF instructors use “petkins” – animal versions of the manikins used in human CPR courses.
AHF's courses cover rescue breathing techniques and more.

The CPR Section
• Cardiac arrest and sudden death
• History of CPR
• Risks and complications of performing CPR (including when you should and should not attempt resuscitation)
• Surveying the injury scene for the safety of the animal and yourself
• CPR procedures for mammals, based on the size of the animal:
  - Toy and small animals (20 pounds or less)
  - Medium to large animals (21-125 pounds)
  - Giant animals (125-225 pounds)

The CPR procedures work for all mammals up to 225 pounds. Animals larger than this have a lung capacity greater than that of a person's and need special equipment to be resuscitated.

After learning about the procedures, students take a written test followed by practice and testing on the pets in.

Training for Your Agency

Of special interest to those working in animal control or cruelty investigations is the discussion of the origins of an injury. Instructors help students learn how to distinguish between an accidental and an intentionally inflicted injury.

Along with the training, each participant receives a course program and notebook, a CPR and emergency-care booklet, a certification card and certificate, and a complete pet first-aid kit, which contains 24 items necessary to aid animals in an emergency.

AHF has over 40 instructors who present pet-first and CPR courses across the United States and Canada. Certified training agencies are located in California, Connecticut, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Winnipeg, Canada. AHF instructors can also train individuals locally as certified instructors.

To find out the locations of upcoming AHF courses, or to schedule one in your area, contact AHF at P.O. Box 1527, Philadelphia, PA 19105; (215) 521-5981.

Red Cross Chapter Offers Course in Pittsburgh Area

The Pittsburgh/Allegheny County Chapter of the American Red Cross also offers training in animal first aid and CPR. Red Cross employee Joyce Brinkley realized the need for this type of training after conducting a survey of participants in Red Cross classes. Emergency aid for animals was second on the list of subjects in which people desired training. Brinkley set out to establish such a course.

The three-hour-long Red Cross course includes lectures by Brinkley and a veterinarian, as well as a video illustrating the procedures. The instructors' own dogs accompany them for simple demonstrations such as pulse-taking. Participants take home a 32-page booklet, which details the procedures in a readily accessible form. The fee for the course is $10 per person.

Since Brinkley began teaching the class last year, she has only taught it in the Pittsburgh area. However, she is willing to give the course in other areas of the country, provided that her expenses are paid by the agency requesting it. Shelters or humane societies that wish to host the course for their employees or members of the community should contact Brinkley at P.O. Box 1769, 225 Boulevard of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA 15230; (412) 263-3100.

Wolf Hybrids: Some Facts About a Growing Problem

By Dr. Randall Lockwood, HSUS Vice President for Field Services

Wolf-dog hybrids are becoming increasingly popular and causing problems for many shelters (see account of wolf hybrid attack case in Shelter Sense, February 1991). Here, presented in question-and-answer format, are facts about wolf-dog hybrids every shelter staff and potential hybrid owner should know.

1. What is a wolf hybrid? A wolf hybrid is any animal resulting from the breeding of a wolf with a domestic dog. The most common wolf-dog hybrids result from breeding wolves with various dog breeds, including collies, standard poodles, rottweilers, and pit bulls. Hybrids can be bred to other hybrids, pure dogs, or pure wolves to produce offspring whose genetic contribution from wolves will vary widely.

2. Why do people want them? For most people it is simply the "prestige" of owning something different or exotic. For others it is a desire to see themselves as somehow in touch with the wild nature of the wolf. Some mistakenly think that they are getting an animal that will be a good watchdog or guard dog, when in fact most hybrids are extremely timid and unpredictable. For an increasing number of people these animals are simply a "cash crop." A few hybrid owners mistakenly feel that they are helping wolves or dogs by raising hybrids.

3. How do people get such animals? Wolf-dog hybrid breeders and even large-scale wolf-hybrid puppy mills exist throughout the United States. Animals may sell for as little as $100 or as much as $1,500. Many of these breeders advertise in local and national magazines and newspapers and routinely ship animals as young as one or two weeks old around the country. In addition, many owners, burdened by the expense of keeping these animals, begin to breed and sell them to support their own animals.

4. How many wolf-dog hybrids are there? Although no definitive census exists, various wolf-hybrid organizations have estimated that there are at least 100,000 to 500,000 such animals in the United States. Based on reports from animal-control agencies around the country, the number of hybrids is growing.

5. What's wrong with keeping wolf hybrids as pets? More than 12,000 years of domestication have transformed the wild wolf into the dog. Like many hybrids in nature, the wolf-dog hybrid cannot adapt well to the environments of either parent. They cannot live as wild animals, and their size, strength, and often unstable temperament make them generally unsuitable for life as companion animals. Wolf-dog hybrids are frequently unpredictable, destructive, rarely trainable, and
very adept at escaping from confinement. Many are hit by cars or killed while attacking livestock or pets. Many others are forced to live out their lives chained outdoors or confined in basements or small cages.

6. Are these animals dangerous to people? Too often the answer is “yes.” For thousands of years humans have bred dogs to be far more aggressive than wild wolves. Many people use dogs for purposes other than companionship, including attack, protection, and dogfighting. The canine potential for aggressiveness, when combined with the wild wolf’s general timidity, can make wolf-dog hybrids unpredictably aggressive.

In addition, hybrids living in close proximity to people sometimes fail to make the distinction between people and prey, responding to children as they might respond to small animals. Severe and fatal attacks by wolf-dog hybrids, in fact, have been disturbingly common. At least seven children have been killed by pet wolf-dog hybrids since 1986. Several severe mau­lings in 1991 have led many communities to seek restrictions on these animals.

7. Are there other public health problems associated with pet wolves and wolf hybrids? Currently there is no rabies vaccine approved for use in wild canids or hybrids. Even though vaccinated hybrids might be protected from rabies, any animal involved in a bite incident is assumed to be unvac­cinated. As a result, bite victims must undergo rabies treatment, or biting animals must be destroyed for rabies testing.咬受害者必须接受狂犬病治疗，或攻击动物必须被杀死以进行狂犬病检测。

8. What happens when animal-control agencies or humane societies receive wolf hybrids? Nearly all local humane societies and animal-control agencies have policies against placing any wolf hybrids for adoption. The few organizations that have the space, finances, and expertise to safely and humanely keep hybrids are already harboring all the animals they can. Recently some of these sanctuaries have reported receiving thousands of calls every month from hybrid owners seeking to get rid of prob­lem animals. Thus many hybrids are euthanized or abandoned when their owners can no longer keep them.

9. What is the impact of wolf-dog hybrids on wild wolf populations? Contrary to the claims of hybrid owners, wolf biologists and wolf conservation advocates agree that the proliferation of wolf-dog hybrids has actually hurt wild wolf populations. Attacks on humans by Wolf hybrids only serve to perpetuate that notion.

Despite popular misconceptions, there are no documented ac­counts of fatal attacks by healthy wild wolves on people in North America. Wolf hybrids only serve to perpetuate that notion. (Continued on page 12)

IDENTIFYING WOLF-DOG HYBRIDS: GUIDELINES FOR SHELTERS

States vary widely in their legal definitions of wolf hybrids, ranging from those that define any animal with more than 1% wolf blood in a hybrid e.g. Rhode Island enacts that require more than 75% wolf ancestry to be defined as a hybrid (e.g. Florida, Indiana and Tennessee).

At present there is no blood or tissue test that can clearly identify the extent of wolf genes in a specific animal, although work is underway to identify unique genetic markers that might make such tests possible, even if such tests become available.

The problem is more complex. The fact that wolf hybrids are often plagued by fear. In some cases, animals represented to buyers as wolf hybrids are simply mixed breed mutts or block. In other cases, the breeding of true hybrids is often misrepresented as a way to avoid restrictive laws.

Given these problems, how can shelters make informed decisions about the identity of animals that are suspected of being wolf-dog hybrids? There are currently two separate approaches.

1. Identify a hybrid by an animal that is shown to be a mixture of wolf and dog. There are currently two separate approaches.

- Identify a hybrid as an animal that is shown to be a mixture of wolf and dog. There are currently two separate approaches.

- Weight: Wolf-dog hybrids tend to be smaller than purebred wolf or dog. hybrid owners often weigh their animals, hybrid owners often weigh their animals, but this practice is not widespread.

- Size: Hybrid owners often weigh their animals, but this practice is not widespread. Hybrid owners often weigh their animals, but this practice is not widespread. It is important to keep in mind that the extent to which hybrid animals show any of these traits varies, depending on the degree of wolf ancestry.

- Behavior: Hybrid behavior is also highly variable. Most hybrids appear inquisitive but are quite shy and cautious around strangers. More aggressive behavior appears to be more common in hybrid dogs than in pure breeds. Hybrid owners often weigh their animals, but this practice is not widespread. Hybrid owners often weigh their animals, but this practice is not widespread.
hybrid serve to perpetuate mistaken notions of wolf aggression despite the fact that there are no documented accounts of fatal attacks by healthy wild wolves on people in North America. In addition, the release of hybrids and subsequent attacks on pets and livestock have seriously undermined projects aimed at reintroducing wild wolves into habitats they once occupied. The genetic integrity of recovering wild wolf populations is also threatened by the potential for breeding with wolf hybrids that escape or are released into the wild.

10. Doesn’t federal law restrict the ownership of wolves?
Yes. However, these federal laws do not apply to hybrid animals that result from any breeding with domestic dogs.

11. What other restrictions already exist?
A growing number of states and local governments are restricting ownership of wolf-dog hybrids (see chart, page 15). Measures range from outright bans to permit systems. In the past, enforcement of such restrictions has been lax, but public-health and animal-control agencies are now taking the problem more seriously.

12. Isn’t it difficult to distinguish between wolf-dog hybrids and other mixed-breed dogs?
While there are no definitive biological tests that can completely distinguish between wolves, dogs, and wolf-dog hybrids, there are a number of characteristics such as size, conformation, and behavior that can be used to help identify hybrids. Since a major cause of recent problems with hybrids has been the rampant breeding and sale of these animals, it is also useful, for the purposes of legislation, to define hybrids as “any animal that is represented as a wolf hybrid by its owner” (see sidebar, page 11).

13. What steps can be taken to deal with wolf-dog hybrids?
The HSUS believes the ownership of wolf hybrids should be strongly discouraged and, through attrition, eliminated. This can be accomplished by restricting the sale, trade, release, import, or export of animals across state or local boundaries. Owners of animals already in the state or locality should be required to house animals in humane ways that meet the animals’ physical and behavioral needs and that also protect public health and safety. Governments should impose licensing fees adequate to cover the costs of inspecting containment facilities and other expenses associated with implementing regulations. Existing animals should be spayed or neutered. Owners of wolf hybrid should also be held civilly liable for damages or injuries caused by their animals.

(Continued from page 10)

Children and wolf-dog hybrids can make deadly combinations because hybrids can show both the aggressiveness of dogs and the instinctive predatory behavior of wild wolves. It is the canine element in hybrids that causes their unpredictability, and the result has been at least seven fatal attacks on children since 1986.

SUMMARY OF STATE REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO WOLVES AND WOLF HYBRIDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>WOLVES AS PETS</th>
<th>CLASSIFICATION OF HYBRIDS</th>
<th>HYBRIDS AS PETS</th>
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<td>not regulated</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARKANSAS</td>
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<td>not regulated</td>
<td>F, are wolves</td>
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<tr>
<td>CALIFORNIA</td>
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<td>required</td>
<td>F, are wolves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLORADO</td>
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<td>not regulated</td>
<td>considered wild</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>permit pending</td>
<td>not regulated</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>pending</td>
</tr>
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<td>DIST. OF COLUMBIA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&gt; 75% wolf is wolf</td>
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<td>up to authorities</td>
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<td>not regulated</td>
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<tr>
<td>OHIO</td>
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<tr>
<td>OKLAHOMA</td>
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<td>&gt; 1% wolf is wolf</td>
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<tr>
<td>OREGON</td>
<td>requires permit</td>
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<td>not regulated</td>
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<tr>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA</td>
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<td>not regulated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHODE ISLAND</td>
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<td>&gt; 75% wolf is wolf</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SOUTHDAKOTA</td>
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<tr>
<td>TENNESSEY</td>
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<td>UTAH</td>
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<tr>
<td>VERMONT</td>
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<tr>
<td>VIRGINIA</td>
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<td>WASHINGTON</td>
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<td>WISCONSIN</td>
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<tr>
<td>WYOMING</td>
<td>prohibited</td>
<td></td>
<td>not regulated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Scientific or educational permits may be issued
2 F refers to first generation hybrids
3 Breeders’ license required for more than one animal
4 Animals without approved rabies vaccination prohibited
5 Possession of wolves (except Mexican wolf) and hybrids from within state is permitted
6 Wolves and hybrids less than three generations removed from wild are prohibited

Local ordinances may be more restrictive.
A small California company may have the answer for humane groups searching for that small, easy-to-use, light weight, machine-washable, and attractive countertop display. For more information, contact Don Kennedy, Ripz Computer Extras, 8000 N. Forest Highway, Badger, WI 53105. (414) 568-2904.

plastic closure and can be easily trimmed to fit any feline.

Through a special introductory offer, the company will supply humane cats with a carton of 24 Surkatz collars at the below-wholesale price of $1.38 each ($53 total, including shipping). Suggested retail price is $3.99 per collar. The carton doubles as an attractive countertop display. For details, contact Don Kennedy, Ripz Marketing, 21511 Kinsale, Eto, CA 92630; 1-800-395-1969.

Job ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Humane Society of the United States
Animal Care Expo ’92

Sr. BHSUs-1 What Can I Do and Can’t Do For You Story Guidelines
Sr. BHSUs-2 The Kid’s Kill Controversy
Sr. BHSUs-3 Introduction to Direct Mail Fundraising: Glow, Signs You Win, CFRE
Sr. BHSUs-4 Non-Traditional Careers in the Shelter: Ed Keue, PhD.
Sr. BHSUs-5 Animal ID: (Non-Electronic Approaches)
Sr. BHSUs-6 Resources for Training in Animal First Aid: Cecilia Skinner, RN
Sr. BHSUs-7 Animal ID: Blotter Printouts
Sr. BHSUs-8 Animal Grooming: How They Work: John Max Neill
Sr. BHSUs-9 Improve and Control Effective Spay/Neuter
Sr. BHSUs-10 Making the Commitment to Contract Tom Johnson
Sr. BHSUs-11 Large Animal Rescue Methods
Sr. BHSUs-12 Computer Software for Shelter Management Panel
Sr. BHSUs-13 Helping People, Improving Their Lives: Review of 25 Million Lives Saved
Sr. BHSUs-14 Introduction to Shelter Design
Sr. BHSUs-15 Choosing the Right Vehicle: Paul Miller
Sr. BHSUs-16 Humane Education: What’s Out There and Why You Should Be There
Sr. BHSUs-17 How They Work: Joanne Palmin
 Sr. BHSUs-18 Fundraising, Effective FUNDRAISING
Sr. BHSUs-19 Keep ’n Clear Effective Spay/Neuter Panel
Sr. BHSUs-20 Keeping It Clean! Effective Management:
Sr. BHSUs-21 Using the Media: Some Success Stories
Sr. BHSUs-22 Computer Software for Shelter Management Panel
Sr. BHSUs-23 Setting Up Training and Volunteer Programs
Sr. BHSUs-24 Solving Urban Wildlife Problems: John MacNeil
Sr. BHSUs-25 “Greening” Your Animal Shelter: Diane Quisenberry
Sr. BHSUs-26 New Thoughts on Old Problems:
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