Inside:

Should Feral Cats Be Euthanized?...3

How To Humanely Trap Cats and Other Animals.........................8

A Pet Supply Retailer with a Difference.................................10

Be Aware of Pending Federal Pet Theft Regulations...................12

New Hard-hitting Video .....................14
It is essential for each of us to keep an open mind; life is learning, and old problems often demand new solutions. As George Bernard Shaw said, “Progress is impossible without change; and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.”

With these thoughts, I have been pondering some of the new ideas put forth by individuals and groups concerned about the plight of feral cats. Could the traditional approach of capturing and subsequently euthanizing these animals be unnecessary or wrong? Should we let them live in alleys, fields, or garbage sites, sterilized but homeless, for as long as their wits preserve them? Is it better they live short and desperate lives at the fringe of society rather than die by our hands? My answers to these questions are still, and will always be, the same; no, no, and absolutely.

Neuter-and-release programs are misguided. They don’t prevent the suffering of feral cats, but instead extend and perpetuate it. They are half-hearted gestures that ensure, for all feral cats, terrifying lives and tragic deaths—by traffic, exposure, abuse, disease, or dog attacks.

Sure, there are some feral cats who can scrape by for months, or even years, with little or no human intervention. Part of us admires the tough and independent qualities of feral cats, their courage in the face of terrible odds. But if we look a little closer, we will see that for each survivor there are hundreds of small mammals and birds that die in the jaws of these self-sufficient feline predators. Aren’t these unnecessary victims just as worthy of our humane consideration?

The solution to the feral cat problem must be approached both realistically and compassionately. Those who have provided care for cats in any situation cannot deny that all cats need more than once-in-a-lifetime veterinary care and sporadic supplemental feeding. They need protection from cruelty, from danger, and from privation. Feral cats should be brought in from the elements, tamed and adopted, if possible, or humanely euthanized if they cannot be placed. For feral cats, this traditional approach, although not undone overnight,” Berkeley says. “We may say that the feral cat has ‘gone wild’ or ‘returned to the wild,’ but this is not the same as being a wild animal.”

Not completely wild then, the feral cat, in fact, seeks out humans to aid in survival. Unlike most wild animals, feral cats locate themselves close to ‘piles.

Feral cats do benefit from humans. Many people feed feral cats and some even go so far as to neuter them and provide veterinary care when needed.

Even so, these cats are largely unapproachable. They must be trapped in order to be handled, and once trapped, often will not go near a trap again.

Some scientists argue that because feral cats live fairly successfully in the wild, they should be considered wild animals and treated accordingly. Dr. Andrew Rowan, director of the Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy, says, “A cat that’s never been handled by a human is not a pet.” This leads him to the question that is at the heart of the debate over the fate of feral cats: “Are these animals really our responsibility?”

For the most part, people have treated feral cats as if we are responsible for them. Sometimes this sense of responsibility comes as a result of the problems the cats can cause. Some people attempt to stop the nuisance by eradicating the cats. Others feel obliged to feed these fringy cats and ease their struggles somewhat. Still others see the
What About the Cats?

In theory, the sterilization of feral cat populations could be acceptable under the right circumstances. But finding the right circumstances can be problematic. Ingrid Newkirk, national director of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), says this method is acceptable as long as the cats are 1) isolated from roads, people, and other animals who could harm them; 2) constantly temperate. As Newkirk says, “You are doing the right thing. And a lot of people think you are. I wouldn’t have believed that life for cats is as hard as it is if I hadn’t seen it for myself. Life is more than food.”

The Malevolent Public

Ellen Kowalski, a Maryland resident, recently wrote to Cat Fancy magazine describing how the feral cats she rescues in Baltimore are used for “target practice” by kids with “BB guns, firearms, and even bows and arrows. The cats in the area are well fed,” she says, “but they have eye infections, absences, sores, and deformed limbs.” Kowalski has very strong opinions regarding the neuter-and-release method: “This practice should be called the neuter-and-abandon method because that’s what the advocates are really doing. These people congratulate themselves for neutering feral cats and saving unborn kittens from lives of misery. Then they return the neutered cats to the same lives of misery.”

The concerns of the people living near feral cat colonies also need to be addressed. Neutering cats does not keep them from digging up gardens, fighting, getting into garbage, or causing any of the many other problems. “People may say especially disturbed if, as in most of the cases studied thus far, the numbers of cats in the colony increase. “We applauded the efforts of people who care for ferals,” says Marc Paulhus, HSUS vice president for companion animals. “But they can’t up their caring at stopping reproduction; they need to go on to taming and finding proper homes for these animals.”

The Inevitable Immigrants

Ironically, the clearest picture of what happens in the colony may not be an appropriate solution to the problem of feral cats comes from UFAW’s own report on the feral colonies they monitored.

For example, one colony had 19 cats living in “semi-disturbed garages.” During four subsequent inspections, the researchers found that “two entire [unsterilated] immigrants and one kitten” joined the colony and were neutered. “Two dead cats were found and one cat disappeared, thus leaving a colony of 19 neutered cats and one untrappable male. The next inspection...revealed that one cat had died in a car accident, and three others had been killed by two uncontrolled stray dogs. The dogs were soon removed from the area. Seven immigrants had taken up residence in the garages: six males and a female who soon produced a litter of four kittens, all of whom were successfully homed [adopted]. One of the males was diseased and was humanely destroyed (as was another of the original old males), but the other six adults were neutered. During 1987, three more entire immigrants joined the colony.”

The Fallacy of Territorial Defense

Many experts agree—and UFAW’s report indicates—that cats do not defend their territory to the degree that they prevent new cats from entering it. Dr. Carol Haspel, associate professor at LaGuardia Community College in New York, has studied urban feral cats for years and written many articles on the subject. She says cats occupying a certain area “absolutely do not” keep others out, “particularly if there is a feeder.” She describes feral cats as opportunistic consumers who “easily coexist and tolerate others well.” In fact, recent studies have shown that rather than living an isolated, independent existence as traditionally thought, feral cats tend to form social groups similar to the way lions do.

One of the main reasons, then, for maintaining feral cat colonies to prevent the influx of more cats—is actually a fallacy. Neither does the neuter-and-release method save the cats from injury and disease, or people from the unpleasant associations with free-roaming cats. Of UFAW’s 14 reasons for controlling feral cats, their neuter-and-release method actually seems to eliminate just one: “the profusion of kittens.”

A Question of Legality

Under interpretations of some state anti-cruelty laws, neuter-and-release programs can even be considered illegal. In Florida, for example, a person who assumes care of any animal is deemed its legal custodian. Florida
Statute 828.13 (3) specifically states: "Any person who . . . has charge or custody of any animal and who abandons any animal in a street, road, or public place without providing for the care, sustenance, protection, and shelter of such animal is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree . . . ."

In addition to criminal violations, local ordinances may also require those defined as legal caretakers to license, tag, and confine cats.

Finding the Best Solutions

The most important step to solving the feral cat problem is education. People need to understand that, although it seems the most directly helpful, feeding stray or feral cats—like any animal care—can create more problems than solutions. Feeding city pigeons perpetuates a problem. Where there is a food source, there will be feral cats and the suffering and discomfort that accompanies them. People need to be taught to use humane traps and to know that the most helpful thing they can do is catch feral cats, if they can, and take them to a shelter to be adopted, if possible, or euthanized. Finally, the connection between spaying and neutering and the feral cat problem needs to be emphasized.

Many will argue that life for the cats, no matter how brief, traumatic, or difficult, is preferable to humane death. To this, Ellen Kowalski comments: "Those who believe euthanasia is cruel should consider that the only difference between euthanasia and abandoning (what she calls the neuter-and-release method) is that euthanasia is merciful and quick, and abandonment is slow and painful. The end result is the same—death."

Cats do not belong on the fringe. They belong inside the circle of humans, who have domesticated them. Human companionship and care are as essential to them as food and water. It may be too late for the many feral cats who already lead lives masquerading as wild animals. But it is the responsibility of all involved in community animal protection to help ensure that no others have to endure this tragic life on the outskirts.

The solution to the feral cat problem lies in taking responsibility for these animals. Responsibility means rescuing the cats and either taming them and placing them in homes, or humanely ending their lives, but nothing short of either.

UPSETTING THE BALANCE—THE CAT AS PREDATOR

As most owners of outdoor cats know, one pet cat can kill a fair number of wild animals during his or her lifetime. Several recent studies, however, reveal startling statistics about the actual impact cats have on small mammal and bird populations.

• Using a Bedfordshire, England, village as a test site, Peter B. Churcher and John H. Lawton asked resident cat owners to save the remains of animals their pet cats brought home. All but one cat owner participated. Based on their findings, Churcher and Lawton estimated that between one third and one half of all house sparrow deaths can be attributed to cats, and birds aren’t even the majority of what cats catch—small mammals are. They extrapolated their figures for the whole of England and determined that cats kill about 70 million animals a year, 30-50 percent of whom are birds.

• In Virginia, Dr. Joseph C. Mitchell, an ecologist at the University of Richmond, and his colleague, Dr. Kurt Beck, conducted a study using their own pet cats. During the 11 months of the test, their five cats killed at least 187 animals, mostly small mammals. Of special interest to the team was the number of songbirds killed, as these birds are in decline in the state. They estimated that Virginia’s one million cats kill up to three million birds yearly.

• In another study, Dr. Stanley Temple, professor of wildlife ecology at the University of Wisconsin, concluded that “house cats are probably the principal predator of birds and small mammals in many areas of rural America.” Using figures from Wisconsin and Illinois, he found that outdoor cats kill 47 million rabbits a year—“more than human hunters kill with guns.” Temple points out that “cats may also be the chief threat to some bird populations, especially grassland birds living near farms.”

• Dr. William George, professor of zoology at Southern Illinois University, believes that cats may be the primary threat to hawks, not because they prey on the hawks, but because they compete with them for food.

• In the shire of Sherbrooke, Australia, it is now illegal for pet cats to be outside between 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. The cats are blamed for dwindling numbers of the rare lyrebird, who lives in the shire’s forests. Cat owners will be fined $100 each time their cats are caught outside at the wrong time.

• In the shire of Sherbrooke, Australia, it is now illegal for pet cats to be outside between 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. The cats are blamed for dwindling numbers of the rare lyrebird, who lives in the shire’s forests. Cat owners will be fined $100 each time their cats are caught outside at the wrong time.

Although many of the predation studies focus on pet cats—well-fed and cared-for cats who live in homes—experts suggest that feral cats are even more efficient hunters. Unowned felines, therefore, may contribute even more than pet cats to the declining numbers of small mammals and birds in urban and suburban locales.

Some say that this is natural—cats are merely predators doing what they are supposed to do. However, domestic cats are not natural to the environment. They have been introduced to it in vast numbers and at high densities. The small mammals and birds living in any given area evolved with other predators, but not cats. Adding cats to the equation upsets the balance, with disastrous effects on the animals and the ecosystem.
GUIDELINES FOR THE
HUMANE LIVE TRAPPING OF ANIMALS

By Guy R. Hodge, HSUS Director of Data and Information Services, and Dave Pauli, Director of the HSUS Northern Rockies Regional Office

These basic guidelines governing the humane use of live traps should be helpful for field personnel and can be modified to provide to members of the community who borrow a live trap from the shelter.

When considering purchasing or borrowing a live trap, it is important to remember that a trap is only as humane as its operator. Improper conditions, poor design, insufficient preparation, or improper baiting can cause a live trap to become a death trap. Animal control officers called on to rescue or trap animals, as well as members of the public who wish to trap animals for transport to the shelter, need to be certain they can rely on the trap and that their trapping methods cause as little stress for the animal as possible.

Time of Year
One of the most basic, but most often overlooked, factors to consider before trapping is the time of year. The air temperature may determine whether or not an animal's capture and transport will be humane. Live traps, although relatively simple in design, vary greatly in quality, effectiveness, and safety. Several elements need to be checked before buying or using a trap.

Many things can be done to make trapping easier on the cat. Always keep in mind the well-being of the animal when trapping. This includes taking into consideration whether the animal may be nursing a litter.

Design
A poorly designed trap could mean either unsuccessful trapping or humane transport. Live traps, although relatively simple in design, vary greatly in quality, effectiveness, and safety. Several elements need to be checked before buying or using a trap.

The trap pan/door release mechanism should operate smoothly. An internal door release wire running directly from the trap pan to the door is preferable. The trap pan should be located at least two thirds of the way toward the rear of the trap. If the trap pan is too close to the door, the door may injure an animal backing out of the trap.

Traps should be examined not only for safety but for durability. The first raccoon caught in a shoddy bargain trap could cause sufficient damage to may cut the animal. All wires, door springs, o-rings, and ferrules should be tightly crimped, and all corners should be smooth.

The trap pan/door release mechanism should operate smoothly. An internal door release wire running directly from the trap pan to the door is preferable. The trap pan should be located at least two thirds of the way toward the rear of the trap. If the trap pan is too close to the door, the door may injure an animal backing out of the trap.

Traps should be examined not only for safety but for durability. The first raccoon caught in a shoddy bargain trap could cause sufficient damage to

USEFUL HANDBOOK PROMOTES HUMANE WILDLIFE CONTROL

Does your agency ever respond to questions from local residents about small wildlife problems? If the answer is yes, then pull out the poster on the next two pages and display it in the shelter lobby or elsewhere to promote the helpful Pocket Guide to the Humane Control of Wildlife in Cities & Towns. The guide can now be sold directly by your agency as a fundraiser.

At one time or another, almost everyone has to deal with difficult wildlife situations. Whether as a humane agent or animal control officer or as a private citizen, the answers to these tricky problems can sometimes be elusive. Pocket Guide to the Humane Control of Wildlife in Cities & Towns was created to provide those answers.

This handy reference guide is filled with useful information and tips on how to effectively and humanely remove or deter problem wildlife without extermination. It provides clear, straightforward instructions for handling various species and recommends the best methods for individual situations.

Humane agencies can direct people to local bookstores that carry the guide, ask them to contact Falcon Press directly, or become retailers themselves and buy handbooks at a minimum of 40% off the regular price (six-book minimum). They can then sell the book for the suggested retail price of $6.95. For more information, or to order a supply of books, contact Falcon Press, P.O. Box 1718, Helena, MT 59624; 1-800-582-2665.
Raccoons in your chimney?

Rabbits in your garden?

Bats in your belfry?

POCKET GUIDE TO
The Humane Control of Wildlife
in Cities & Towns
Edited by Guy R. Hodge
Avoid conflicts between people and our furry and feathered friends with this handy guidebook published in cooperation with The Humane Society of the United States.
Humane Control of Wildlife provides you with clear, straightforward information on how to control wildlife problems without causing animals harm. Learn how to keep birds from hitting your windows, keep deer away from shrubs, and many other useful techniques.
Get your copy today! Ask shelter staff if this book is available through the shelter, check your local bookstore, or contact the publisher directly: Falcon Press, P.O. Box 1718, Helena, MT 59624, 1-800-582-2665.

124 pp., 4 3/4 x 7 1/2", $6.95, softcover.
make the trap unusable for the next. Name brands are usually the safest bet, but, failing that, a live trap that is sturdy and constructed with “galvanized after welded” wire and smooth welding on the framework joints will suffice.

Preparation and Preventative Care
Before a trap’s first official use, a tag should be attached to identify the trap’s origin and purpose. The trap may be cleaned of factory grease and oil with a high-water-pressure cleaning. If the trap mechanism is sticky, a drop of oil, fingernail polish, or floor wax may help reduce metal friction. Some traps will also require painting before use to prevent rusting.

Improving Efficiency
To increase the speed and improve the operation of gravity-drop trap doors, consider bolting or wiring additional weight (washers, nuts, or fishing weights) to the door. This can also increase pan tension, allowing smaller animals to cross the trap pan without tripping the trap. The weight, of course, should be attached carefully so as not to endanger captured animals.

Overcoming Trap Shyness
Animals who are reluctant to enter a trap can be enticed in several ways. It helps, first of all, to cover the wire floor with boards, dirt, leaves, grass, straw, or blankets. This also prevents damage to the animal’s paws and helps absorb animal feces.

The size of the trap should also be considered: large spaces may intimidate animals. Don’t use a trap that is too small for the target species, however; the longer the distance between the trigger pan and the door, the less chance the animal has of escaping.

“Bedding” the trap on steady ground, so that it will not wobble or shake when the animal enters, will help allay shyness in many animals.

When trapping large numbers of cats or wildlife, pre-baiting is a good practice. The doors of the traps should be wired open, allowing the animals to eat freely. After several meals, the animal will associate the trap with positive rewards.

Appropriate Baiting
Bait used in traps should be fresh, tasty, and attractive to the particular species being trapped. Whole chicken eggs will attract skunks but, obviously, not many cats. A small amount of the bait should be placed at the front door of the trap to let the animal sample it before entering.

Sometimes a stable water container or a rabbit watering bottle is the only answer “rodent calls” by recommending routes to allow the rodent to eat freely. The rodent can be released outside, and the place where he enters the home should be sealed to keep him out.

Preventing Trapping Needs
As animal control officers know, live trapping wild animals in residential neighborhoods is often an irritating and avoidable practice. Educating residents of an area about animal-proofing, a process described in the Pocket Guide to the Humane Control of Wildlife in Cities & Towns, edited by Guy R. Hodge (see enclosed poster), will help cut down on these demands. If residents are aware that they can modify the situation so that problem animals are not attracted to begin with, the need for some trapping can be altogether eliminated. If live trapping is necessary, however, taking a careful look at the trap and evaluating the particular situation beforehand will help promote successful and humane transport.

Avoiding Unnecessary Trips
Shelters and humane societies can answer “rodent calls” by recommending homemade traps. Any small plastic or metal waste basket or bin at least 10 inches deep will make a perfect humane “pit trap.” The container can be laid on its side near the rodent’s active routes to allow the rodent to eat freely a few times. Then the container can be placed upright, and boxes or boards can be arranged to allow the animal to climb inside. Quality food placed at the bottom of the container will attract the rodent, who will drop down and be unable to escape. The rodent can be released outside, and the place where he enters the home should be sealed to keep him out.

Traps with animals inside should be carried very carefully to avoid injury to the carrier and the animal. Covering the trap will also help keep the animal calm.
PET SUPPLY RETAILER PROMOTES SHELTER ANIMALS

By Geoffrey L. Handy

There are too many homeless animals already in shelters,” said Cozette Pifer, a company spokesperson for a pet food and supply retail chain called PETSMART. “That’s why we prefer to work with humane pet supply retailer. PETsMART, with nary a business/non-profit relationship.

It helps that PETSMART caters to the sizable pet-keeping public without contributing to the pet overpopulation problem. The company does not sell dogs and cats and has a corporate philosophy that explicitly states birds and fish are kept in habitats.

Besides appealing to pet owners’ sensibilities, the retailer also actively promotes shelter animals. In PETSMART’s annual “Luv-A-Pet” promotion, customers receive a rebate certificate good for 25 percent off an adoption fee at participating animal shelters. They also receive free IAMS brand dog and cat food.

PETSMART’s “Kindest Cuts” program helps adoptions, too, by utilizing the groom shop on the premises of each store. Kindest Cuts offers selected animal shelters two free grooms per week at nearby stores. “We offer this service because a nicely groomed animal has a better chance of getting adopted,” said Sara Dogan, PETSMART’s regional marketing manager.

The preponderance of pet supply stores throughout the country is testament to the fact that pet retailers can survive—and indeed thrive—without feeding pet overpopulation through the sale of dogs and cats. Aggressive marketing and promotion of shelters and their animals is helping PETSMART take that idea one step further.

PETSMART doesn’t stop there, though. For instance, readers of the Arizona Republic last November 5 saw a full-page ad in the newspaper about pet overpopulation. The ad wasn’t a PSA from a humane organization. It was a paid advertisement by PETSMART intended to get people to visit their stores.

“In Arizona, We’ve Found Over 326,000 Reasons Not To Sell Dogs Or Cats At PETSMART,” said the ad, referring to the number of dogs and cats euthanized in the state’s shelters each year. The ad also appeared in Texas and Colorado.

In Arizona, We’ve Found Over 326,000 Reasons Not To Sell Dogs Or Cats At PETSMART.

 prototype of each store. Kindest Cuts offers selected animal shelters two free grooms per week at nearby stores.

Here Are Just A Couple.

In Arizona, We’ve Found Over 326,000 Reasons Not To Sell Dogs Or Cats At PETSMART.

Better Than Sex (Almost), And Safer, Too!

PETSMART's annual “Luv-A-Pet” promotion, customers receive a rebate certificate good for 25 percent off an adoption fee at participating animal shelters. They also receive free IAMS brand dog and cat food.

PETSMART’s “Kindest Cuts” program helps adoptions, too, by utilizing the groom shop on the premises of each store. Kindest Cuts offers selected animal shelters two free grooms per week at nearby stores.

In Arizona, We’ve Found Over 326,000 Reasons Not To Sell Dogs Or Cats At PETSMART.

Here Are Just A Couple.

You Thought You’d Heard It All Therapy

Problems With the Board of Directors Therapy

Take one if they say:
• He’s a husky. Of course he can’t come in the house.
• Cockers spaniels are good with kids.
• He’s been spayed.
• You tell my daughter why you won’t give us a pet.
• We have plenty of time for a puppy; I’m unemployed and my boyfriend’s on welfare.
• We want a cat to live in the garage because we’re both allergic to cats.
• The pet shop assured us they were both females.

Take two if they say:
• She can’t get pregnant, we keep her tied up.
• I love this dog. He’s the greatest pet I ever had. You find him a home.
• She’s been tested for female leukemia!
• You have to take my cats now. I’m moving to Florida in an hour.
• He needs to live on a farm.
• She’s a purebred A-K-Poo.

Take three if they say:
• You’d rather kill him!!
• Of course I’ll let her have one litter. It will make her a better pet.
• I paid $500 for this dog and you want me to give you money?
• Euthanasia! OK, but you won’t kill him, will you?
• I want your name!
• You don’t know them, do you?
• You won’t have any trouble finding homes for these kittens. They’re beautiful.
• You’ll hear from my lawyer.
• This dog is worth a lot of money.
• You mean you don’t work here for free?

Better Than Sex (Almost), And Safer, Too!

BETTER THAN SEX (ALMOST), AND SAFER, TOO!

Please print this page and keep it handy for quick reference.

You Thought You’d Heard It All Therapy

Problems With the Board of Directors Therapy

Take one if:
• The board of directors get a letter of resignation.
• The board of directors get a letter of resignation.
• The board of directors get a letter of resignation.
• The board of directors get a letter of resignation.
• The board of directors get a letter of resignation.

Take two if:
• A board member can’t stand to come to the shelter.
• The treasurer of the board forges to sign checks on payday.
• A board member brings a friend to the shelter to adopt an animal and the friend is in your “Do Not Place” list—twice!
• A new board member wants to volunteer at the shelter seven days a week.

Take three if:
• The board of directors wants to save money so they install the new roof themselves. The roof blows off in the first windstorm.
• A board member looks at the monthly statistics and asks, “Why were so many pets put to sleep?”
• The board of directors get a letter of complaint in which they are prominently named. They bring you in for questioning.
• The board of directors get a letter praising your efforts to the sky. The board forgets to say anything about it.

Better Than Sex (Almost), And Safer, Too!

You Thought You’d Heard It All Therapy

Problems With the Board of Directors Therapy

Take one if:
• He’s a husky. Of course he can’t come in the house.
• Cockers spaniels are good with kids.
• He’s been spayed.
• You tell my daughter why you won’t give us a pet.
• We have plenty of time for a puppy; I’m unemployed and my boyfriend’s on welfare.
• We want a cat to live in the garage because we’re both allergic to cats.
• The pet shop assured us they were both females.

Take two if they say:
• She can’t get pregnant, we keep her tied up.
• I love this dog. He’s the greatest pet I ever had. You find him a home.
• She’s been tested for female leukemia!
• You have to take my cats now. I’m moving to Florida in an hour.
• He needs to live on a farm.
• She’s a purebred A-K-Poo.

Take three if they say:
• You’d rather kill him!!
• Of course I’ll let her have one litter. It will make her a better pet.
• I paid $500 for this dog and you want me to give you money?
• Euthanasia! OK, but you won’t kill him, will you?
• I want your name!
• You don’t know them, do you?
• You won’t have any trouble finding homes for these kittens. They’re beautiful.
• You’ll hear from my lawyer.
• This dog is worth a lot of money.
• You mean you don’t work here for free?

BETTER THAN SEX (ALMOST), AND SAFER, TOO!

You Thought You’d Heard It All Therapy

Problems With the Board of Directors Therapy

Take one if:
• The board of directors get a letter of resignation.
• The board of directors get a letter of resignation.
• The board of directors get a letter of resignation.
• The board of directors get a letter of resignation.
• The board of directors get a letter of resignation.

Take two if:
• A board member can’t stand to come to the shelter.
• The treasurer of the board forges to sign checks on payday.
• A board member brings a friend to the shelter to adopt an animal and the friend is in your “Do Not Place” list—twice!
• A new board member wants to volunteer at the shelter seven days a week.

Take three if:
• The board of directors wants to save money so they install the new roof themselves. The roof blows off in the first windstorm.
• A board member looks at the monthly statistics and asks, “Why were so many pets put to sleep?”
• The board of directors get a letter of complaint in which they are prominently named. They bring you in for questioning.
• The board of directors get a letter praising your efforts to the sky. The board forgets to say anything about it.
**Pet Theft Regulations Apply to Some Shelters**

If your shelter is one of the few that still releases dogs and cats to dealers for eventual research or medical education purposes, either voluntarily or by legal mandate, your agency should be aware of pending federal regulations. Congress amended the federal Animal Welfare Act in 1990 to discourage traffic in stolen pets. Although the final version of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) or by legal mandate, your agency regulations. Congress amended the federal Animal Welfare Act in 1990 to discourage traffic in stolen pets. Although the final version of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)...

**IT IS NOT OUR FAULT!**

During last summer’s busy months, shelter personnel at the Animal Welfare Association (AWA, 509 Gibbstboro-Marlton Rd., Voorhees, NJ 08043) adopted the following credo to help them cope with the stress and guilt they often feel as part of their jobs. It was written after a particularly bad day by AWA euthanasia technician Patti Judd:

As animal shelter personnel, with various duties and responsibilities, we underwrite make the following promises and declarations:

- We hereby promise to love and to care for the pets brought into this shelter to the best of our ability.
- We promise to make them as comfortable as possible in an impossible situation.
- We promise to do our best to find them new homes.
- When all else fails, we promise to end their lives humanely in order to make room for the endless supply of animals to follow.

However, we also stand firm with the following:

- We did not cause these animals to be born into this overpopulated world.
- We did not cause these pets to become a problem or inconvenient to their owners.
- We did not cause their owners to move, to have kids, to become allergic to them, or to become ill. We still do not accept, nor allow to be placed on us, the guilt that belongs to the owners of these pets. It is not our fault!

**Plans for Animal Care Expo '93 Underway**

Animal Care Expo ‘93, scheduled for March 17-20, 1993, at the Twin Towers Hotel and Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, is shaping up to be even better than last year’s event. Here’s an update of what’s new so far:

- Computerized registration;
- Complimentary registration for organizations that publicize Expo ‘93 in their advertising, newsletters, and magazines;
- Improved workshops with beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels, longer sessions, ger rooms, more hands-on, and more solution-oriented topics; and
- Pre- and post-Expo workshops, including an all-day animal first-aid and CPR class.

Keep an eye out for additional updates on Expo ‘93 in upcoming issues of Shelter Sense, or call 1800-248-EXPO for more information.

**Shelter Shorts**

The HSUS’s “Until There Are None, Adopt One” campaign is in full swing, with animal shelters across the country participating. The HSUS has a number of materials to help shelters promote adoptions. The “Choose a Pal for Life” brochure answers questions about adopting shelter animals, and who can resist the promise and declarations, we also stand firm with the following:

- We did not cause these animals to be born into this overpopulated world.
- We did not cause these pets to become a problem or inconvenient to their owners.
- We did not cause their owners to move, to have kids, to become allergic to them, or to become ill. We still do not accept, nor allow to be placed on us, the guilt that belongs to the owners of these pets. It is not our fault!

**Shelter Shop**

"Adopt One" Campaign in Full Swing

The HSUS’s "Until There Are None, Adopt One" campaign is in full swing, with animal shelters across the country participating. The HSUS has a number of materials to help shelters promote adoptions. The "Choose a Pal for Life" brochure answers questions about adopting shelter animals, and who can resist the promise and declarations, we also stand firm with the following:

- We did not cause these animals to be born into this overpopulated world.
- We did not cause these pets to become a problem or inconvenient to their owners.
- We did not cause their owners to move, to have kids, to become allergic to them, or to become ill. We still do not accept, nor allow to be placed on us, the guilt that belongs to the owners of these pets. It is not our fault!

**Shelter Shop**

"Adopt One" Information Kit, created to help animal activists put an end to this practice, is available for $5 from HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20037.
NEW DOCUMENTARY CONFRONTS THE TRUTH

The Animal Rights Information Service, Inc. (ARIS) has created a haunting and uncompromising documentary perfect for shelters to use in their high school and adult education programs. Born to Be Betrayed boldly presents the facts, unrelentingly reveals the images, and courageously presents the facts, unrelentingly in their high school and adult education programs.

28-minute video carefully combines disturbing footage of abuse and neglect with solid arguments on the causes of such cruelty. Viewers who continue. The film makes a convincing argument against “animal lovers” who are uneducated or unwilling to see the horrible consequences of their actions.

The documentary targets the uninformed attitude of the public toward euthanasia as one of the driving forces perpetuating the problem. Says Susan C. McDonough of the New York State Humane Association: “Virtually nothing has been written or, more convincingly, shown of the ‘alternatives’ to euthanasia. Born to Be Betrayed depicts the attitudes and opinions that allow suffering to continue. The film makes a convincing accusation against ‘animal lovers’ who are uneducated or unwilling to see the whole truth.

The documentary targets the uninformed attitude of the public toward euthanasia as one of the driving forces perpetuating the problem. Says Susan C. McDonough of the New York State Humane Association: “Virtually nothing has been written or, more convincingly, shown of the ‘alternatives’ to euthanasia. Born to Be Betrayed fills this gap.” For those who believe that death is the ultimate cruelty, this video presents the paradoxical results of no-kill organizations and animal control departments. It 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.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS—For the Humane Society of Austin and Travis County. Looking for progressive, experienced individual to direct operations of shelter handling 40,000 animals yearly. Requires experience in kennel management, budget management, and staff supervision. Must have strong, computer skills. Salary commensurate with experience. Send detailed resume to Sally Bates, Box 1386, Austin, TX 78757.

FUNDRAISER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR—For the California horse adoption and protection society. Seeking experienced in administration, fund raising, organization, staff supervision, and public speaking. Existing challenges required experience in professional. Send resume to CHAPS, P.O. Box 982, Carmel, CA 93921.

OPERATIONS MANAGER—For the new Humane Society of Utah. Will be responsible for leadership and direction in adoptions, reception, grooming, maintenance, and janitorial divisions. Bachelor’s degree in business or commensurate experience in related field required. Send resume, salary requirements to Gene Balteschmidt, HSU, P.O. Box 70222, Salt Lake City, UT 84170.


VOLUNTEERS—For hearing- and service-dog training organization. Non-profit organization, New England Assistance Dog Service, Inc. (NAEDS), seeks regional office workers who feel they would work well with dogs and deaf, disabled people. For more information contact, NAEDS, P.O. Box 213, West Boylston, MA 01583; (508) 835-3304.

Every day is the same. The doors open. Strangers slowly walk past the holding pens, stopping to look briefly at each animal. Dozens of eyes return their glance. Confused, frightened eyes, all begging for a moment of attention. A few poke their noses through the stainless steel gates. A sniff of a hand. A friendly lick of a finger. Anything to beat the odds and find a home.

This year, thousands of puppies and kittens will end up at our animal shelter. Some are lost and have no tags to identify them. Some are strays, picked up from the streets. Most are the result of unplanned litters. And the odds are, the majority of them will never find homes and will have to be put to sleep.

These statistics are alarming. But the real tragedy is that most of this could be avoided if all pet owners would do two things.

First, register your pet. Without tags there’s no way to locate you if your pet is found. Second, spay or neuter your pet. You’ll not only help to reduce the thousands of pets put to sleep each year, but you will help your pet have a healthier life.

For more information, please contact us or your veterinarian. Thousands of pets are dying for the chance to come home. With your help, they won’t need to.

For more information, please contact us or your veterinarian.
It’s Working!

The HSUS Adopt-A-Teacher Program is working for hundreds of shelters around the country. Here’s what one shelter employee told us after visiting a classroom:

“I complimented the teacher on her students’ sensitivity and asked if they were a “high” group. (They really stood out from the other classes.) She seemed surprised and assured me that they weren’t. Then I saw a KIND News on the corner of her desk. You guessed it! She’d been ‘adopted’ and had been using Adopt-A-Teacher materials all semester. It’s working! Congratulations on an effective program!…”

Houston, TX.

The Adopt-A-Teacher program can work for your shelter too, improving your image—and your funding base. The materials go home with students to help teach family members about responsible treatment of animals. And, the low $18 per year cost does not have to come from shelter funds, but rather from outside funding sources. Let us show you how to get started.

Clip below and send to HSUS Adopt-A-Teacher Program, P.O. Box 362, East Haddam, CT 06423-0362.

Yes! Send free information on how to make the HSUS Adopt-A-Teacher Program work for us!

Name: __________________________________________ Organization: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________

The Humane Society of the United States
2100 L Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20037

Address Correction Requested