



## *Special Report*

### **Killing the Crisis, Not the Animals**

*An International Symposium  
on Dog and Cat Overpopulation  
September 20 & 21, 1991  
Washington, DC*

Each year, in the United States alone, over 27 million dogs and cats are born. Up to 17 million of these animals are classified as unwanted or "surplus." They are killed.

On September 20 and 21, 1991, an international symposium was held in Washington, D.C. to offer sound, humane alternatives to managing dog and cat populations by killing. The conference was co-sponsored by ISAR and the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights (AVAR). Susan Regan, former AVAR Executive Director, was the Conference Coordinator. ISAR assumed responsibility for all conference costs.

ISAR President Helen Jones, who was responsible for the symposium's concept, explains the significance of this pioneering effort: "As far as ISAR is concerned, dog and cat overpopulation is the oldest animal rights issue on the books. Our success in helping to solve this age-old crisis will certainly come to bear on how successful we are in stopping other forms of animal neglect and abuse. Killing

animals to manage their population must be scrutinized continuously by those of us who are charged with the responsibility of caring for unwanted and homeless animals. The fact is that death is the worst thing that can happen to perfectly healthy animals and it must be considered an extreme 'solution.' This international conference was about new solutions, re-commitment to old solutions that are working, and creating networks between various groups and the public to, once and for all, help solve this shameful crisis."

New and controversial responses to dog and cat overpopulation, such as mandatory spaying and neutering, were covered in depth at the symposium — from getting legislators involved with mandatory spay and neuter initiatives, to whether or not these new laws impact civil liberties, to how each community can construct its own initiatives, to how to deal effectively with the media.

Ned Buyukmihci, VMD, President of AVAR and the symposium's moderator, reflected on the importance of

legislative initiatives: "Both AVAR and ISAR stand solidly behind the initiatives that will prevent millions of animals from being born only to be killed because they are unwanted. Our legislative process is a means by which to adopt societal mores. We see breeding bans and mandatory spaying and neutering the same way Mothers Against Drunk Driving sees stricter penalties for driving under the influence, or in the same light that the American Medical Association now sees smoking. Irresponsible or reckless behavior must sometimes be corrected or deterred legislatively."

On the following pages you will find highlights of this first-ever meeting, devoted exclusively to solving the tragic problem of dog and cat overpopulation. Please read carefully and reflect on what you and your community can do to help "kill the crisis." As nationally syndicated columnist and symposium participant Colman McCarthy pointed out, our choices are only two: *decrease the births ... or increase the killings.* ■





## President's Message

**Killing the Crisis, Not the Animals,** an international symposium on dog and cat overpopulation, has come and gone. But it was the **beginning** of an international commitment to ending the daily destruction of animals for whom there are no homes.

The tragic problem of unwanted animals is so vast that no one knows how many millions are killed each year in the United States alone. In country after country, the killing goes on. The killing is a repulsive method of "managing" the tragedy.

Millions of Americans, most well-informed about contemporary social justice issues, are not even aware that there is a problem. While the animal rights movement turns the spotlight on many forms of exploitation of animals — vivisection, fur, zoos, circuses, and more — the mass extermination of America's supposedly most popular animals, dogs and cats, goes unreported and unnoticed.

ISAR is committed to changing that. In the autumn of 1990, while working on program planning for 1991, I decided that an aggressive program to stop the overpopulation of dogs and cats had to be a priority for ISAR not only for 1991 but until the tragedy is ended. The Symposium was the beginning.

This is yet another example of what ISAR is all about, i.e., trailblazing.

I'm saying so because animal rights colleagues frequently say that ISAR is too self-effacing and should toot its own horn. Taking that advice, I will mention categories in which ISAR has blazed trails:

**LEGAL:** Working closely for two decades with Brooklyn Law Professor Henry Mark Holzer, ISAR has achieved notable "firsts" in using the law on behalf of animals.

- We were the first (and only) organization to challenge the religious exemption to the Federal Humane Slaughter Act;
- We were the first (and only) organization to attack New York City's shocking abuses in its three zoos;

- We were the first (and only) organization to argue, in one of those cases, that animals could sue on their own behalf, and to establish in both of those cases that humans could sue on behalf of animals;
- We were the first (and only) organization to fight an increase in the New York State dog license fee which was to be used for experimentation on animals;
- We were the first (and only) organization to take on the United States government, in an effort to stop its genocidal destruction of millions of blackbirds;
- We were the first (and only) organization to convene a national conference for lawyers interested in Animal Rights Law;
- We were the first (and only) organization to publish an Animal Rights Law Reporter;
- We were the first (and only) organization to recognize the danger of defamation lawsuits to the Animal Rights Movement;
- We were the first (and only) organization to provide a Workshop for Animal Rights Activists devoted exclusively to teaching them about the law of defamation;
- We were the first (and only) organization to address the important subject of "Good Intentions Gone Astray: Thwarted Gifts for the Benefit of Animals";
- We were the first (and only) organization to prevent an executor from disposing of some \$3,000,000 in a manner at odds with the way in which the decedent wished to benefit animals; and, in addition to still other legal activities;
- We were the first (and only) organization fully and unequivocally to support Professor Holzer's newly-created Institute for Animal Rights Law.

**EXPERIMENTATION:** ISAR collected data that exposed the suffering inflicted on animals in cosmetic testing which in turn led to the current campaign in this country and beyond against all product testing on animals.

ISAR led the movement to stop the use of pound and shelter animals for experimentation, resulting in success in New York State, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Los Angeles.

ISAR stopped the use of cats in intubation training programs in a major hospital. And we brought to an end a long-standing trauma program, which used dogs, at a major university.

**CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING:** Through action alerts, newsletters, fact sheets, brochures, demonstrations, and consumer protest, ISAR has raised and continues to raise the *consciousness* of the public on the ways in which animals are exploited, abused, and killed.

Stay tuned, ISAR is committed to a multi-faceted ongoing campaign against the tragic overpopulation of dogs and cats and the mass killing that results.

Everything that ISAR does and can hope to do is made possible by members and contributors. A heartfelt thank you to each of you.

Sincerely,

*Helen Jones*

Helen Jones  
President





# Dealing with the Media

## The Best and Worst of Them

Colman McCarthy

As a journalist for the past 22 years for *The Washington Post*, I want to offer a few thoughts on what are the problems with media and what kind of an aggressive media campaign can help bring about some solutions. It does little good merely to dump on the media—which is a vague term to begin with—without examining the pressure each of us and our organizations can exert to get editors, reporters and news executives to be more responsive to what is surely one of the major stories of our times, abuse to animals.

The problems are easily identified. In 1969 when I joined the *Post* to write editorials and columns, much of the press portrayed animal welfare organizations as groupings of little old ladies in sneakers. Today all those harmless old grandmas have become crazed animal rights terrorists. The phrase actually turned up the other night on the CNN evening news in a story about the threats of global terrorism. Included in the accounts of the Baeder Maenhoff gang of Europe and Abu Nidal's thugs in the Middle East was a mention of America's animal rights terrorists.

This is a standard technique among some editors and reporters. Instead of reporting the issue fairly, label those involved in it unfairly. World terrorism has caused thousands and thousands of deaths. If anyone in the animal rights movement has blown up a plane or assassinated anyone or been convicted in court of killing anyone, I'd like to know about it.

Much of the press are like crows, a bird that is intelligent, proud, and active. But it has one major flaw: it cannot resist pecking at the shiny. It flies over a field, sees a shiny object, and swoops in for a happy afternoon of pecking away. When the shine is gone, it flies off to find the next shiny object. Journalists like shiny stories, especially television journalists who rely on visual excitement to carry the story.

If you are working on the pet overpopulation problem, it's easy to get on television or on the front page of your hometown newspaper. Just do something shiny, i.e., do something bizarre, like dressing up in cat and dog costumes and picketing the mayor's office. Or disrupting the city council meeting by shouting "stop killing the animals." Or having a hundred gassed dog and cat corpses dumped on the town square.

Any of those capers or stunts will get you attention. You had the required shininess.

The problem is obvious. **Too many reporters, editors and news executives see animal welfare and animal rights organizations as fringe groups out of the mainstream.** I don't know of any major newspaper or any television station—network or local—that has a reporter assigned to the animal rights beat. Stories about animal abuse occasionally run, but much more common are the frothy stories about a lion escaping the zoo, or whether Ling-ling and Sing-sing are having a panda cub, or a bear on the loose on a city street.

As a bleak result, much of your work—the daily struggle to lobby for humane legislation, or the effort to raise money for poorly-funded programs, or the campaigns for spaying and neutering—goes *unreported, uncovered* and, for sure, *unappreciated*.

When the press isn't depicting you as violent crazies or disruptive nuisances, they are trivializing the issues you're involved in. This was on display two years ago when the dog of Senator Robert Dole and the dog of George Bush had puppies. Animal welfare groups protested to both politicians that it was time they had their animals spayed or neutered, considering the enormity of the pet overpopulation problem. The press, or much of it, reported the stories in a frothy way: Ain't it a riot what the animal rights loonies will do next. They'll make a federal case out of anything, including Millie.

Those are a few of the problems. I'm sure most of you have run up against them. Let me offer a few **ideas that might lead to solutions.**

**1. It's smarter to cultivate the press rather than try to seduce it.** This is done, for example, by setting up meetings with the editorial page staff of your local newspaper. Phone or write the editorial page editor for an appointment, explaining that you want the chance to present your views before a crisis erupts rather than risk being shut out after. Many editorials are written in response to breaking stories, with editorial writers depending on second-hand information found in the news pages. If you had had a meeting a month or two before a crisis occurs, chances increase that the editorial will at least be balanced and possibly be favorable to your position.

**2. Use the same approach with editors and reporters.** Trade associations, business groups, and politicians running for office know how to get into newsrooms to tell their stories. It should be the same with you. Approach by phone or letter the managing editor or the executive editor. These are often more important than an individual reporter. Editors assign reporters. In the meetings, lay off the rhetoric and preaching. Stick to the facts. A quality journalist respects facts. On pet overpopulation, most likely they know the proverbial "something" about the crisis but not the details and specifics. Present the information both orally and in writing. Fact sheets are fine. *You are only as good as your information.*

**3. Be aggressive in your letters to the editor.** More and more newspapers are expanding their letters section. Many are opening their op-ed pages to Voice of the People columns written by local citizens, not professional columnists. Keep on submitting letters and columns. If you get turned down, try again. Many of the best stories about pet overpopulation are found in letters to the editor. It's a powerful forum.

**4. If a reporter makes a mistake, it is sometimes smarter to complain to his immediate superior—an editor or editors—than to the individual offender.** Ask for a correction. Don't wait for a few days to pass, but **call or write the day the error appears.**

**5. If and when you are being interviewed by a journalist, remember that one of you will be controlling the interview.** Odds on, it

(continued on page 6)



# Making Overpopulation a Political Issue

Tom Nolan

President

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

The thrust of this presentation will be the political history of the landmark legislation in San Mateo County (California) and the political lessons that we learned and that are applicable in cities, counties, and states throughout the country.

Almost a year ago, representatives of the Peninsula Humane Society visited me to discuss the fact that San Mateo

in a two-fold fashion:

- 1) Newspaper inserts with the graphic depictions of euthanasia took place the first week.
- 2) The next week we held a press conference at the shelter. *The key to our success for this coverage was my willingness to watch the euthanasia which meant that the press had to watch, as well.*

On the night of the final hearing, the ordinance prevailed. The effective date was delayed to allow citizen task forces the opportunity to make recommenda-

## Unacceptable to Continue Killing

The assumption that I began with, and continue to hold today, is that *it is simply unacceptable to the vast majority of the people that we as a society kill perhaps a million cats and dogs a month in this country because they do not have a home.*

I believe, and continue to believe, that *people will respond generously and humanely when they understand the problem and a reasonable solution is presented to them.* I also believe that political leaders who embrace this cause and this mandatory spay and neuter ordinance will be strongly supported by the citizenry.

I offer my personal assistance to any community that seeks to adopt similar laws. My ultimate hope as an elected official is that if we learn how to live successfully in harmony with animals, we may some day learn to live in harmony with our total environment, and perhaps with each other. ■

The preceding article was excerpted from Mr. Nolan's statements presented at the symposium.

**A copy of the San Mateo Mandatory Spay and Neuter Ordinance is available from:**

**Tom Nolan, President  
San Mateo County Supervisors  
401 Marshall Street  
Redwood City, California 94063  
915/363-4570 ■**

## Helpful Guide

To receive a 40 page, how-to guide on initiating and passing a ban ordinance similar to San Mateo's, send a check or money order for \$5.00 to:

The Fund For Animals  
808 Alamo Drive Suite 306  
Vacaville, California 95688

This excellent handbook was written by Kim Sturla and directly draws on her experiences passing the San Mateo Mandatory Spay and Neuter Ordinance.

County was killing 10,000 cats and dogs each year. Efforts had been made in the past ten years to **educate the public** concerning this situation and to **increase adoptions**. An extensive and intensive **media campaign** had been conducted and yet the results remained tragically the same. In summary, voluntary efforts and goodwill have not worked!

The solution, proposed by Kim Sturla (then Executive Director of the Peninsula Humane Society and now West Coast Coordinator for the Fund for Animals), would be an ordinance that required spaying and neutering of all cats and dogs within the county until zero population growth was achieved.

In subsequent meetings with the Peninsula Humane Society, we discussed the intricate details of establishing an ordinance. **We anticipated questions and criticism; we sought expert witnesses; and, most of all, we demonstrated the problem and we proposed a solution that was reasonable and workable. We also found every single precedent we could.**

### Establishing the Problem

The first step was the establishment of the problem and that was accomplished

tions. The ordinance is to take effect on January 1, 1992.

### An applicable formula for use across the country is the following:

- A) Establish the problem of this dirty secret in the minds of the policymakers and the public.
- B) Find a political leader who has shown some willingness to take a risk in the public policy arena. Try to find an effective official who has a sense of perseverance and an ability to get something done.
- C) Present a draft ordinance to that elected official.
- D) Plan a campaign to heighten public awareness of the issue.
- E) Identify all potential supporters.
- F) Identify friendly or supportive media to help tell the story.
- G) Gather information on precedents throughout the country.
- H) Plan the public presentation carefully and wisely to make the case come across reasonably and responsibly.
- I) Anticipate objections and have responses ready.
- J) And finally, show flexibility in working with critics and opponents, but be firm on the principle involved.

## Thank You

A special thank you to the **Summerlee Foundation** for their generous grant to help underwrite this important symposium.

The success of this conference was due in large part to the hard work of our volunteers. A heartfelt thank you goes to **Sandra Etzel, Zira Akhtar, Evelyn Levenson, Olive Nash, Suzanne Cliver, Lee Meenin, and Carol Breinig.** And a special thank you to **Susan Regan** for so ably pulling together this landmark symposium.



# Now they're dead.

Buster and Tiffany  
couldn't wait for the  
ordinance to pass.



Do these photos shock you? Do they make you angry? They should. Animal shelters in King County—not counting Seattle—killed over 16,500 dogs and cats last year. Nearly all were healthy, friendly animals who would have made wonderful companions. Half were puppies and kittens. One-fourth of the dogs were purebreds. What can we do? It's simple. By cutting down on the number of animals born each year, we can cut down on the number of animals killed.

King County Councilmember Ron Sims has introduced an ordinance to lower the death toll. It would establish a six-month breeding moratorium. After that time, county residents could purchase special licenses if they wished to breed their animals. Otherwise, spaying and neutering would be required. This ordinance would help make every puppy or kitten born in King County wanted.

Many breeders, pet stores, and veterinarians oppose the ordinance. It's unnecessary, they say. It's unfair. It's extreme. Try telling that to Buster and Tiffany—and every other animal who will be killed this year.

According to Ron Sims, "In King County we don't have an animal welfare policy. We have an animal destruction policy."

Is death the best we have to offer man's best friends?



## King County Drafts A Hard-Hitting, Responsible Breeding Ordinance

The Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) in King County, Washington, had "bought into the euthanasia formula" for handling unwanted dogs and cats until they learned of the San Mateo Mandatory Spay and Neuter Ordinance. Immediately they drafted a Responsible Breeding Ordinance for their county and began working with the sponsor, King County Council member Ron Sims. This ordinance requires all dogs and cats over the age of nine months to be spayed or neutered unless their guardians obtain special breeding licenses.

An aggressive campaign of advertisements, press conferences, and educa-

tional materials was developed. According to PAWS spokesperson Mitchell Fox, "we had a message for every market." The brochures and advertisements were designed in-house at a modest cost. (See above example of PAWS's dramatic ads.)

Very quickly PAWS concluded that the public was their strongest ally. Breeders, pet stores, and some veterinarians were not! The campaign generated new donors and donations. Far more members were gained by this bold program, than were lost.

PAWS Executive Director Tim Greyhavens made the following important points during the PAWS workshop at the symposium.

- 1) Before beginning such a campaign, one's "house must be in order."
- 2) The process is an excellent educational tool for the public.
- 3) Overpopulation of dogs and cats is **not a complex issue**. It is a simple problem with a simple solution — spaying and neutering.

For a copy of PAWS's 40 page special report on overpopulation and for additional information on their ordinance, please contact:

Mitchell Fox  
PAWS  
Box 1037  
Lynnwood, Washington 98046  
206/742-4142 ■



# Symposium Videos Available

ISAR is pleased to offer video tapes of the symposium presentations. The video taping was done by Ron Scott of Argus Archives. For more information on each speaker, please see Page 8.

Each tape is \$20.00 plus \$2.75 for shipping and handling (shipping and handling for two tapes is \$3.75; and shipping and handling for three or more tapes is \$5.00). Please send orders to ISAR/Symposium Videos, 421 South State Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411. Phone (717/586-2200) and Fax (717/586-9580) orders accepted if billed to a VISA or Mastercard.

## VIDEO TAPE 1

Ingrid Newkirk/ *Dark Angels*

Michael Weeks/ *Recommitting to a Curative Process*

Dr. Arthur Baeder/ *New Jersey's State Subsidized Spay and Neuter Program*

## VIDEO TAPE 2

Robert Rush/ *Municipal Funding and Animals*

Eric Dunayer/ *AKC: Culpability and Capability*

## VIDEO TAPE 3

Menaka Gandhi/ *Chemical Sterilization Project in New Delhi, India*

Dr. Jenny Remfry/ *Feral Cat Population Control in England and North Africa*

Dr. Patricia Olson/ *Non-Surgical Sterilization Update*

## VIDEO TAPE 4

Dr. Mark Bloomberg/ *Early Spaying and Neutering*

## VIDEO TAPE 5

Henry Mark Holzer/ *Constitutional Rights and Caretaker Responsibilities*

Dr. Richard Bachman/ *Incorporating Overpopulation into Veterinary Curriculum*

Nina Natelson/ *Animal Overpopulation in Israel and Some Responses*

## VIDEO TAPE 6

Colman McCarthy/ *Overpopulation and the Media - Keeping the Issue in the News*

Tom Nolan/ *Making Overpopulation a Political Issue*

## VIDEO TAPE 7

Tim Greyhavens, Mitchell Fox, and Laurie Raymond/ *Aggressive Media Messages and Reaching Critical Masses*

Becky Robinson and Louise Holden/ *Reviewing Trap and Release Population Control — Pros, Cons, Considerations*

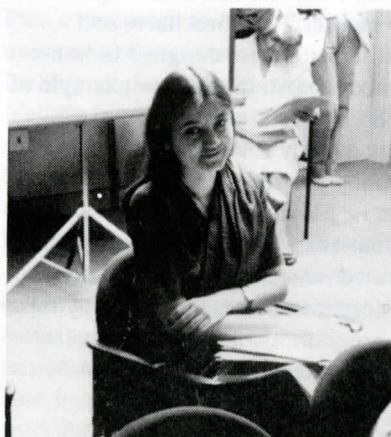
## VIDEO TAPE 8

Kim Sturla/ *Mandatory Spay and Neuter Initiatives*

Proceedings of the symposium will be available from ISAR. Please write for details. ■

**"I learned a great deal and you probably changed all of India as a result."**

Honorable Menaka Gandhi  
Former Minister of the  
Environment  
India



## Dealing ...

(continued from page 3)

will be the reporter. He is a full-time interviewer and you are a part-time interviewee. He'll talk to you, say, for half an hour and end up using a minute's worth of words, if that. Who chooses what minute's worth? Not you, for sure. The only defense is to **watch your words carefully**, say the same thing over and over in different words and be mindful as you talk as to how your language will appear in print or on the air. People who are interviewed a lot—politicians, for example—are masters of controlling the interview. They refuse to be baited by reporters but, instead, know how to get across their message artfully.

### 6. Stage events that dramatize an issue without lapsing into hype.

Reporters can smell a media hustle right away. The good ones will be turned off by it. The competition for newspaper space or airtime is usually fierce, especially in the larger cities. No reporter wants to be known as a patsy or a shill.

7. **When you or your organization makes a mistake, don't try to cover it up.** Look what happened to Nixon. You'll be more respected for acknowledging a mistake, however godawful, rather than going into contortions with alibis or denials.

And one final suggestion. **Don't live or die by the media.** Even if you or your work is rarely or never covered, have faith in yourself that it is important, humane, and noble. You aren't trying to be successful, you're trying to be faithful. Faithful to the original idealism that brought you into this kind of work.

As for me, I have written regularly in the past 20-odd years on animal issues. Some of the columns I am proudest of are those on the obscure citizens who keep plugging away, regardless of whether or not the press comes around. All that matters to these noble people is that the animals are served. If the readers of newspapers don't know about this humane work, or the viewers of television, well, that's too bad. But the animals know. What's more important, or more lasting and beautiful, than that? ■





# The AKC and Dog Overpopulation

Eric Dunayer, VMD

In the United States, purebreds are status symbols. Many "owners" of pedigrees possess a breed chauvinism, the belief that their breed is more worthy of love and respect than other dogs. Ironically, the scorned mixed-bred dog is generally more physically and emotionally fit than the purebred.

The self-appointed promoter of purebreds is the American Kennel Club (AKC). The AKC's literature states that, "Its purpose is to ... foster and encourage interest in and the health and welfare of purebred dogs."

*Yet, the very nature of breeding pedigrees is detrimental to the dogs themselves, and is irresponsible when millions of homeless dogs (both mixed-breds and purebreds) are being killed in shelters.*

Purebreds suffer from inherited diseases at a far greater rate than mixed-breds. Eye diseases plague purebreds — including cataracts, glaucoma, and retinal degeneration that ends in blindness. Congenital heart disease afflicts purebreds at over four times the rate found in mixed-breds. As a result of inbreeding to create and maintain their appearance, each breed harbors over a dozen genetic defects, and there are now close to 300 genetic disorders documented in the various breeds. These defects may undermine psychological as well as physical health.

## Sources of Purebred Dogs

Despite all these problems, purebreds are still desired. Many "owners" are ignorant of these diseases; others overlook them because their love for their breed is just too strong to be bothered by these problems. The resulting demand for purebreds sustains a multimillion-dollar industry.

**Having created the demand, now there must be suppliers. Purebred dogs generally come from one of three sources,**

- 1) backyard breeders,
- 2) "responsible" or dedicated breeders, or
- 3) pet stores, often supplied by "puppy mills."

While puppy mills have received a



*Perhaps the most afflicted of all purebreds is the English bulldog. Wrinkles and huge skin folds are sites of skin infections. The deep, set-back nose results in short and twisted air passages. And often an over-long palate and a narrowed trachea further obstruct breathing. This shortens the bulldog's life and reduces life to a ceaseless struggle against suffocation.*

lot of attention for adding to the overpopulation problem, it is the other two groups — the backyard breeder and the "responsible" breeder — who produce the majority of purebred births.

For the last four years, the AKC registered close to 1.2 million dogs annually. Of these, the AKC found that only 8 percent of the registrations were for puppies purchased through pet shops, and likely born in puppy mills. The remainder of the yearly registrations were for puppies bred by backyard breeders and "responsible" breeders.

## Purebreds are Abandoned

Purebreds are coming into shelters in alarming numbers. *Shelter workers report that 25 percent of the dogs handled each year are purebreds.* In one Chicago area shelter, purebreds account for about 50 percent of their animals. Incredibly, this number has occasionally reached 80 percent! Yet, in none of the AKC's publications does one find reference to the shelter as a place to find a dog. Instead, the AKC writes strictly about buying purebred dogs.

The AKC and its breeders can no longer hide from the problem of

companion animal overpopulation. They can take immediate steps to reduce the number of purebreds born and the suffering they endure, either in puppy mills or through genetic diseases they painfully live with. In the end, however, it is the height of hypocrisy to breed and buy afflicted purebreds while healthy mixed-breds (and purebreds) perish by the millions. ■

This article was excerpted from Dr. Dunayer's presentation at the symposium.

## Statistics

- 43 percent of U.S. households have companion animals (30 percent have a dog and 22 percent have a cat), while 38 percent of U.S. households have children.
- Estimates of the dogs in the U.S. range from 51 to 58 million.
- Estimates of the cats in the U.S. range from 49 to 60 million.
- There are approximately 75 U.S. animal protection organizations.
- There are approximately 5,000 animal shelters in the U.S.
- The estimated number of animals going through U.S. shelters each year ranges from 11 to 27 million. A little more than half are brought in as strays, the remainder are brought in by guardians.
- Only 15 percent of the stray dogs are reclaimed and just 2 percent of the cats.
- Only one animal in 10 is adopted from shelters.
- Cats are usually acquired free, from friends or as strays.
- The primary source of dogs is professional breeders (28 percent), followed by friends (26 percent).
- In the U.S., companion animals are a discretionary purchase that rises steadily with income.

**SOURCE:** *American Demographics*, May 1991



# Symposium Speakers and Their Topics

## **New Jersey's State Subsidized Spay/Neuter Program**

Arthur Baeder, III, DVM  
Rockaway Animal Clinic  
328 Route 46  
Rockaway, New Jersey 07866

Dr. Baeder, a private small animal practitioner, represented the New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association. He has been instrumental in the establishment of the only state-subsidized, low-cost spay and neuter program in the United States.

## **Incorporating Overpopulation into Veterinary Curriculum**

Richard Bachman, DVM  
Northtown Animal Hospital  
3881 Old Redwood Highway  
Santa Rosa, California 95403

Dr. Bachman is a small animal practitioner. Prior to earning his veterinary medical degree from the University of California, Dr. Bachman established Sonoma County Animal Regulation volunteer program. Currently, he is an advisor and contract veterinarian to the Sonoma Animal Regulation Department. He has 13 years of animal control experience.

## **Early Spaying and Neutering**

Mark Bloomberg, DVM, MS  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
University of Florida  
Box J-126 Health Science Center  
Gainesville, Florida 32610-0126

Dr. Bloomberg is a clinical professor at the University of Florida's Small Animal Clinical Sciences Department. He has participated in early neutering studies at this university and at Florida animal shelters. He will begin shortly an early neutering study with cats. This study will be funded, in part, by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

## **Symposium Moderator**

Ned Buyukmihci, VMD  
3448 Laguna Creek Trail  
Vacaville, California 95688

Dr. Buyukmihci is president and co-founder of the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights (AVAR), and associate professor at the University of California School of Veterinary Medicine. Recently, he won a First and Fourteenth Amendment discrimination lawsuit against the University of California. The university settled out of court, admitting guilt that it had discriminated against Dr. Buyukmihci because of his animal rights views.

## **American Kennel Club (AKC): Culpability and Capability**

Eric Dunayer, VMD  
7806 Fairborn Court  
Rockville, Maryland 20855

Dr. Dunayer is the executive director of the Center for Risk Assessment Alternatives in Washington, DC. Previously he practiced at People for Animals, a low-cost spay and neuter clinic in New Jersey, and was director of Research and Education for the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights.

## **Chemical Sterilization Project i New Delhi, India**

Honorable Menaka Gandhi  
A4 Mahareni Bagh  
New Delhi 110065 India

Mrs. Gandhi is the former Minister of the Environment and Forests in India. During her administration she initiated several measures to protect various animal species. Mrs. Gandhi is a staunch supporter of animal rights and is a representative of the Royal Society for the

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. She operates the Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care Centre which shelters and provides veterinary care for stray animals.

## **Aggressive Media Messages and Reaching Critical Masses**

Tim Greyhovens, Mitchell Fox, and Laurie Raymond  
Progressive Animal Welfare Society  
P.O. Box 1037  
Lynnwood, Washington 98046

The Progressive Animal Welfare Society was the second humane society in the United States to bring about the introduction of mandatory spay and neuter legislation.

## **Constitutional Rights and Caretaker Responsibilities**

Professor Henry Mark Holzer  
Brooklyn Law School  
250 Joralemon Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Professor Holzer is a law professor at Brooklyn Law School in New York. He is also the founder and president of the Institute for Animal Rights Law. He has served as legal consultant to International Society for Animal Rights for two decades.

## **Overpopulation and the Media — Keeping the Issue in the News**

Colman McCarthy  
*The Washington Post*  
1150 15th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20071

Mr. McCarthy is a nationally syndicated columnist for *The Washington Post*. He is a longtime supporter of animal rights.

## **Animal Overpopulation in Israel and Some Responses**

Nina Natelson, President  
CHAI  
3914 Brenda Lane  
Annendale, Virginia 22003

Ms. Natelson has worked with various groups on behalf of animals since 1980. She founded Concerned for Helping Animals in Israel (CHAI) after a 1984 trip to Israel during which she witnessed the condition and treatment of animals.

## **Dark Angels**

Ingrid Newkirk, National Director  
PETA  
PO Box 42516  
Washington, DC 20015

Ms. Newkirk is co-founder of the largest animal rights organization in the United States, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). She was a state humane officer and was previously director of a Washington, DC, shelter and animal control facility.

## **Making Overpopulation a Political Issue**

Tom Nolan, President  
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors  
401 Marshall Street  
Redwood City, California 94063

Mr. Nolan is the author of the landmark San Mateo County mandatory spay and neuter ordinance which he introduced in October 1990. He is currently a candidate for the Democratic nomination to the U.S. House of Representatives in California's 12th Congressional District.

## **Non-Surgical Sterilization Update**

Patricia Olson, DVM, PhD  
Department of Clinical and Population Sciences  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
1988 Fulton Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

Dr. Olson is a veterinary medical reproduction specialist and clinical professor. She was solely responsible for the coordination of the American Veterinary Medical Association's special edition (April 1991) of the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* devoted to dog and cat overpopulation.

## **Feral Cat Population Management in England and North Africa**

Jenny Remfrey, PhD, VET.MB, MRCVS  
19 Moxon Street  
Barnet  
Herts EN5 5TS  
Great Britain

Dr. Remfrey is a veterinarian and an animal protectionist. Since 1976 she has worked with the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare in Great Britain and with the Society for the Protection of Animals in North Africa on feral cat behavior and the impact of spaying and neutering programs.

## **Reviewing Trap and Release Population Control — Pros, Cons, Considerations**

Becky Robinson, Louise Holden  
Alley Cat Allies  
PO Box 397  
Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712

Ms. Robinson and Ms. Holden are founders of Alley Cat Allies, an organization that advocates humane and innovative feral cat control programs.

## **Municipal Funding and Animals**

Robert Rush, General Manager, City of Los Angeles  
Department of Animal Regulation  
City Hall East  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Mr. Rush has been general manager of the City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Regulation since 1968. This is the largest animal care and control program in the world.

## **Mandatory Spaying and Neutering Initiatives**

Kim Sturla, Western Director  
The Fund For Animals  
808 Alamo Drive, Suite 306  
Vacaville, California 95699

Ms. Sturla was executive director of the Peninsula Humane Society when the historic mandatory spay and neuter ordinance was passed into law. Since the successful passage of the San Mateo legislation, she has accepted a position with The Fund for Animals to help initiate similar measures across the country.

## **Recommitting to a Curative Process**

Michael Weeks, Executive Director  
British Columbia SPCA  
Vancouver Regional Branch  
1205 East Seventh Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5T 1R1  
Canada

The Vancouver Regional Branch of the British Columbia SPCA has operated an impressive low-cost spay and neuter program since 1976.

Future issues of the *ISAR Report* will cover symposium presentations not appearing in this newsletter. The next issue will examine the Los Angeles and Vancouver programs.