The Australian Cattle Dog
(cover story on page 12)

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* MPBA & IaPB Show Highlights
* Legislative Updates
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ACD Cover photo & article photos courtesy of Gina Burroughs.
Over the years, I have been asked to look into my crystal ball and predict the future of the Dog Industry. For many years I thought I was pretty good at accomplishing such a task. In fact, I was so right on in my predictions that I was considering myself a clairvoyant or at least an expert in this field. As a rule, I felt that you could count on a ten year cycle in the industry; with six good years, two bad, one on the rise and one on the fall.

Then came the surge around 1999 to 2007, whereas it seemed everyone and their brother was getting into the kennel business. What this did was create a tremendous breeder market where the breeders were selling to one another instead of selling to the retail public. This method of marketing gave us a false sense of demand and created extremely high prices for puppies. Once the breeder demand was met and so many females were held back or introduced into the breeding industry instead of the retail industry, prices began to fall due to over supply. Then came the era of the activist and the politician and new dog legislation. The perfect storm, as you will, for dog legislation and laws. Prices were falling, government was surging to satisfy the animal rights agenda and interest in the dog industry was slipping for agriculturists. It seemed no matter what we tried to do it was wrong. HSUS was against us joined by USDA and MODA along with Oklahoma legislation, and they were and are still trying to put us out of business or so it seems. Now, all of this along with a crippled market due to over supply, the biggest majority of our comrades have gone out of business.

Well guess what is happening now, we have once again created that ever so missed shortage of Puppies! I consulted, consoled and conveyed to many that it was my belief that if they could just hang in there, the market was bound to turn to our favor. The demand has always been there, we just over supplied it for a long time and a depressed economy was no help at all.

Many of you have attended our sales over the past 25 years, WOW 25 years, never thought I’d say that or hear someone call me ‘grandpa’ and mean it! Anyway, you have seen prices go up and down just like any other market, but for the last 5 or 6 years, dogs have really took a beating in price. Well, I think I have some good news for those of you that are still in the business and held on to have a sale. I am going to share with you some auction prices at our recent sales.

On Feb 11th, 2012 we sold around 330 dogs for $224,781.00. We had over 400 people in attendance at this sale.

Here are some of the average and high prices for the day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BREED</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Cattle Dog</td>
<td>$474.17</td>
<td>$1,100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston Terrier</td>
<td>$670.36</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KC Cavalier</td>
<td>$682.57</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chihuahua</td>
<td>$249.17</td>
<td>$345.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dachshund</td>
<td>$235.00</td>
<td>$525.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eng. Bulldog</td>
<td>$960.00</td>
<td>$2,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Bulldog</td>
<td>$924.29</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jap Chin</td>
<td>$474.17</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lhasa Apso</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toy/Min Poodle</td>
<td>$413.33</td>
<td>$650.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maltese</td>
<td>$448.13</td>
<td>$650.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shih Tzu</td>
<td>$545.71</td>
<td>$625.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire</td>
<td>$490.39</td>
<td>$1,900.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I am also including in this article the most recent sale which was in Northern Missouri at the close of March.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BREED</th>
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<th>High</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Eskimo</td>
<td>$646.43</td>
<td>$750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beagle</td>
<td>$358.75</td>
<td>$520.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bichon Frise</td>
<td>$612.00</td>
<td>$1,375.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boxer</td>
<td>$478.21</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocker Spaniel</td>
<td>$607.50</td>
<td>$810.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
French Bulldog $ 804.00 $1,600.00
German Shep $ 846.11 $2,250.00
Golden Ret. $1,501.92 $4,100.00
Goldendoodle $1,066.67 $1,350.00
Min Pin $ 191.25 $ 425.00
Old Eng.Sheepdog $1,183.33 $1,850.00
Papillon $ 152.00 $ 335.00
Pekingese $ 550.88 $1,100.00
Pomeranian $ 497.38 $1,300.00
Rottweiler $1,254.17 $2,650.00
Min Schnauzer $ 486.75 $ 1,700.00
Shiba Inu $ 458.00 $ 1,325.00
Siberian Husk $ 705.00 $ 2,000.00
Stand. Poodle $ 816.67 $ 1,200.00

These are just a few of the realized prices from these two sales. After visiting with the breeders who were in attendance, I found one common answer by all of them “We Don’t Have Enough Puppies To Fill Our Orders”. Most of them said “We have never seen it so good”.

I don’t know for sure if we are at our pivot point in the industry, but the bid is sure heading in the right direction.

We have only a few sales booked this spring, so if you’re waiting to attend, don’t wait too long. We have a great sale in Vail, Iowa booked for April 21st, 2012 and another booked on May 5th, 2012 in McAlester, OK.

If you would like to be added to our mailing or our email direct list, please send your address to: swkauction@swkennelauction.com or view our website at www.swkennelauction.com.

Hope to see you there!! Here we go $500 now 6 who’ll give me 7….SOLD!!

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Thank You to all of our advertisers in the Kennel Spotlight! We couldn’t make it without YOU!

(photo courtesy of Mary Johnson, McCune, KS)
Managing puppy nutrition is very different depending upon each breed and each litter even. We all know that parasites, weather changes, cage types (flooring especially), crowding, poorly cleaned cages, noise, etc., cause stress and can lead to a negative energy balance. A negative energy balance is nothing more than spending more energy than a puppy takes in - it can happen in any kennel. A negative energy balance is like a bank overdraft. One must have the funds available before you can spend them. A puppy must have enough energy (food intake) to meet all the demands put on its system. Obviously smaller puppies and “runts” of a litter are more susceptible. When a puppy's body reaches a negative energy balance, it begins to break down muscle tissue to meet the body's needs. Sometimes the negative energy balance becomes serious enough that a pup can lose up to 25% or more of its body weight in as little as 2 days. You can have a very thin puppy very quickly and it will take several days, if not weeks, to reverse this process. In addition, if a puppy isn't eating well; it most likely isn't drinking enough either. This in turn, leads to dehydration. These puppies become critical cases quickly and require a great deal more attention, special feed, and perhaps medications to turn them around. Remember it is imperative that the intestinal health of each puppy is at its best to be able to absorb the nutrients that you feed. Parasites rob the nutrients and damage the lining of the intestines, reducing the puppy's ability to absorb the much needed nutrients that pass through. If the cages are not kept clean, the puppy can pick up bacteria and re'infest' with parasites - both of which overwhelm the intestine, reducing the absorption of nutrients. If a puppy cannot absorb the nutrients that pass through its intestinal tract, you would get the same effect if you dump its food in the trash. Unabsorbed nutrients pass out in the feces.

Below is a list of foods you can try to help smaller pups or to reverse a negative energy balance case.

1. **Fruit loops (generic is fine)** - It will entice them to eat and hopefully from there they begin eating food with more substance to it. Fruit loops are almost pure sugar and therefore maintain blood sugar levels, but won't help put on weight.

2. **Cottage Cheese** - Offers protein, sugar, and a high fat content as well as containing probiotics. But realize that a pup in a negative energy balance may be lactose intolerant and vomit on cottage cheese.

3. **Probiotics** - Besides the immunity boost it offers, these gut bacteria will help to breakdown foods and provide more nutrients for absorption from a puppy's intestinal tract.

4. **Canned Cat Food** - Offers protein, a high fat content, water, and sugar. Puppies can add weight quickly due to its high fat content.

5. **Royal Canin Recovery, Science Diet A/D, Royal Canin Starter Mousse, and Purina EN products** offer highly digestible moist feed that is high in fat, carbohydrates, vitamins, mineral and protein. The puppy's body doesn't have to work as hard to digest these feeds as it does with dry kibble. Also, these feeds are very palatable (puppies like the taste of these feeds).

6. **Canned Dog Food** - Higher fat content than kibble, protein, sugars, and more water content. Cesar’s has been readily accepted by puppies we work with, but you may have a favorite too. It is also in a small container and not much is wasted. It always tastes better to puppies when a can is first opened than from a refrigerator and heated up.

7. **L-Carnitine** - An amino acid that assists breakdown of fatty acids into a usable energy source. It is to be given in addition to the above products, not as a substitute.

Remember, good nutrition not only helps a puppy avoid the negative energy balance; but also helps build a better immune system to prevent and fight infections. A well-nourished puppy will have brighter eyes, a healthier hair coat and more playful energy that we all know and love.

Should you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact a staff veterinarian at 800-735-5364.

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Lambriar Staff Veterinarian
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Babies and Milk Replacers

In the perfect world, our management of females is to remove the need for milk replacers! That is not always possible especially when moms are not keeping up with demand due to large litters. The best use of a milk replacer is to “top off” a fast growing litter to take the demand off mom and save those small puppies or kittens.

What to do about “Nipple Guarding”

Large litters often lose several puppies in the first two weeks. One of the issues is “nipple guarding” by the strongest puppies. Puppies guard the best milk producing nipple by hanging on to it even though they are not nursing. That eliminates the competition for the best milk. People often hand-feed the small puppy but the small puppy needs mom’s milk. Mom’s milk is the perfect food for a puppy.

Instead, pull the 3-4 largest puppies away from mom and feed them twice a day with a milk replacer. Place the large puppies in a box on a heating pad or with a hot water bottle. They will be content with the warmth and the tiny guys will benefit with mom. This works well in kittens also.

You may have to take the tiny puppy and gently rub their tiny face sideways on the nipple to get him to attach. On the first day you try this, rub mom’s mammary gland and tummy to encourage her to let the milk down if that is an issue. If the puppy is slow, I like to give a few drops of Forti Cal™ liquid and get them on a nipple. The sugar surge gets them drinking and the liquid or gel is easy to swallow. Stay away from pastes in the new born. Be sure the small puppy is getting milk and his tummy is full before returning the larger litter mates to mom. After a few days, you only have to pull the large puppy out and the little guys are ready to nurse without competition. Mom has plenty of milk by week two but breeders continue to pull the big puppy from mom to let the tiny guys eat. No need to feed the big puppies if mom has plenty of milk, just pull them to let tiny guys nurse.

Nurturing the Orphan

Orphans need a colostrum substitute like Nurture-Mate in the first week to replace the colostrum protection mom would give. Puppies are born with a sterile gut. Mom seeds the puppy’s gut with good bacteria while cleaning them. An orphan pup, after 48 hours of life, needs good bacteria, feed a probiotic. Probios® comes in a powder that you can add to the milk after it is mixed and heated. I like to use Probios® in the milk for the first week and any time a nursing puppy, orphan or not, have a loose stool. GI upset is common in nursing and hand-fed babies. Most diarrhea issues in the nursing puppy are from over eating but a few doses of kaolin/pectin and a probiotic will solve this problem.

Foster Moms Can Help

I hope you never get an orphan puppy to raise, but if you do, enlist a retired female to care for them. I have a friend with a schnauzer that takes any baby and mothers it when bottle feeding. We often use retired moms to help care for big litters or for babies with issues. The baby can be returned to birth mom, if the situation allows it, even after a week’s time. If you always put the retired mom in the same kennel she will soon learn she is getting a baby when that happens. Foster moms will ease your labor of caring for bottle-raised babies.

If necessary, you can help orphan puppies survive by fostering them on a mom. I do this quickly and with ease. Most dog and cat moms are amazing in their ability to know when a baby needs to be mothered and will take them without incident. The kindness these moms show to babies is overwhelming the first time you see it!

Controlling the “Sore Bottom”

Sore bottoms are common in bottle raised kittens or puppies. Bio-Mos® is a yeast type product and soothes the tummy as yogurt does. It also changes the stool pH so they do not get the diaper rash fanny we always fight when bottle feeding. Foster Care™ has the Bio-Mos® in it which controls sore fanny’s making the baby more comfortable with stimulation to urinate and defecate. Give it a try if you have not. Foster Care™ is great for supplementing or as a total diet and easy on the tummy.

Donald Bramlage, D.V.M.

The materials, information and answers provided through this article are not intended to replace the medical advice or services of a qualified veterinarian or other pet health care professional. Consult your own veterinarian for answers to specific medical questions, including diagnosis, treatment, therapy or medical attention. Not to be used without permission of Revival Animal Health.
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Australians owe a great debt to all the persons involved in the development of the Australian Cattle Dog, for without it the beef industry of Australia would undoubtedly have had great difficulty in developing into the important industry that it has become.

In the year 1840, George Elliott, in Queensland, was experimenting with Dingo-blue merle Collie crosses. Elliott's dogs produced some excellent workers. Cattle men were impressed with the working ability of these dogs, and purchased pups from them as they became available. Two brothers, Jack and Harry Bagust, of Canterbury in Sydney, purchased some of these dogs and set about improving on them. Their first step was to cross a bitch with a fine imported Dalmatian dog. This cross changed the merle to red or blue speckle. The Bagusts' purpose in this cross was to instill the love of horses and faithfulness to master into their dogs. These characteristics were obtained and made these Bagust dogs useful for minding the drover's horse and gear, but some of the working ability was lost. Admiring the working ability of the Black and Tan Kelpie, which is a sheepdog, the Bagusts experimented in crossing them with their speckle dogs.

The result was a compact active dog, identical in type and build to the Dingo, only thicker set and with peculiar markings found on no other dog in the world. The blue dogs had black patches around the eyes, with black ears and brown eyes, with a small white patch in the middle of the forehead. The body was dark blue, evenly speckled with a lighter blue, having the same tan markings on legs, chest, and head as the Black and Tan Kelpie. The red dogs had dark red markings instead of black, with an all-over even red speckle.

Only the pups closest to the ideal were kept, and these became the forebears of the present-day Australian Cattle Dog. The working ability of the Bagusts' dogs was outstanding, retaining the quiet heeling ability and stamina of the Dingo with the faithful protectiveness of the Dalmatian. As the word spread of the ability of these dogs to work cattle, they became keenly sought after by property owners and drovers. The blue-colored dogs proved to be more popular, and became known as Blue Heelers. These cattle dogs became indispensable to the owners of the huge cattle runs in Queensland, where they were given the name tag of Queensland Heelers or Queensland Blue Heelers.

After the Black and Tan Kelpie cross, no other infusion of breeds was practiced with any success. The breeders of the day concentrated on breeding for working ability, type, and color. In 1893, Robert Kaleski took up breeding the Blue Heelers, and started showing them in 1897.

Mr. Kaleski drew up his standard for the Cattle Dog and also for the Kelpie and Barb in 1902. He based the Cattle Dog standard around the Dingo type, believing that this was the type naturally evolved to suit the conditions of this country. Even today the resemblance to the Dingo is evident, except for the color of the blues and the speckle in the reds. After much opposition from careless breeders, Kaleski finally had his standard endorsed by them and all the leading breeders of the time. He then submitted his standard to the Cattle and Sheep Dog Club of Australia, and the original Kennel Club of New South Wales for their approval. The standard was approved in 1903.

The breed became known as the Australian Heeler, then later the Australian Cattle Dog, which is now accepted throughout Australia as the official name for this breed. However, even today, some people can be heard calling them Blue Heelers or Queensland Heelers. After a period as a Miscellaneous breed, the Australian Cattle Dog was accepted for registration by the American Kennel Club as of May 1, 1980, and became eligible to be shown in the Working Group as of September 1, 1980. It was transferred to the Herding Group when that was formed, effective January 1, 1983.

The Cattle Dog’s loyalty and protective instincts make it a self-appointed guardian to the Stockman, his herd and his property. He extremely intelligent and always alert, watchful and courageous with an implicit devotion to duty making it an ideal dog. The ACD does make an excellent family dog, however, they are best happiest when they are working along side their master.
As with dogs from other working breeds, the Australian Cattle Dog has a high level of energy, a quick intelligence, and an independent streak. It responds well to structured training, particularly if it is interesting and challenging. Although not aggressive it was bred to bite, and owing to the strong attachment it forms to its owners can be protective of them and their possessions. It is easy to groom and maintain, requiring little more than brushing during the shedding period. The most common health problems are deafness and progressive blindness (both hereditary conditions) and accidental injury; otherwise, it is a robust breed with a lifespan of 12 to 14 years. Australian Cattle Dogs now participate in a range of activities beyond the herding they were bred for, including competing with their owners in sporting events and working as assistance dogs.

Reference: www.akc.org; Australian Cattle Dog

Editor’s note: A very special ‘Thank You’ to Gina Burroughs, one of our longtime friends from California for providing us these wonderful photos of her beloved Cattle Dogs. Gina is an avid competitor in Agility Competitions on the west coast. We wish her continued success and hope to see more of her dogs in the future! Check out her story about ‘Buster’ on page 14.

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Buster is one of those "once in a lifetime" dogs. He came into my life on December 19, 1997, and literally changed my life. I was on my way to go Christmas shopping, and spotted him coming down the street. I was in a hurry and thought to myself "ah, it's a cattle dog... he knows where he's going. If not, maybe he'll see mine and stick with his own kind". (I had 3 blues at the time) When I got home that evening and went out to feed the horses, low and behold, there he was, happy to see me. And might I mention, he is not the type of dog that gets excited to see just anybody. He was happy to see ME. The only way into my yard was to scale a 6' chain link fence. He chose to be with me. At first, my husband was not happy about the idea of another dog, so I actually found him a home and placed him a few days later. When I informed my husband that I found him a home, he had told me that he was getting attached and actually wanted to keep him. I was excited and I got to go and get him back! Thank God I had a general idea of where the guy lived and saw Buster in his front yard! From that day forward, that little K9 angel changed my life.

I was introduced to the sport of Dog Agility and whole new world of friends, because of my little red dog. A couple of years into our agility career, my husband became ill. I started teaching agility at home, thanks to the confidence that Buster gave me in competition, to help compensate our income. Buster was my outlet through my husband's illness and eventually death.

He also inspired me to start drawing. A friend of mine took a wonderful picture of him and I just sat down one day, picked up a pencil and drew that picture. I found a talent in me that I had no idea I had! Again, thanks to my little red dog, I have won several awards with my drawings and have done numerous portraits of other people's dogs.

One month after my husband's death, I noticed that Buster didn't look quite right. His eyes were always dilated. I took him to my vet who sent me to an eye specialist. Turns out he had glaucoma and was already blind in one eye. I was told it probably wouldn't be long before the other eye went blind as well. He was only 7 1/2 years old. I was devastated! I had just lost my husband, and now I'm about to lose my agility partner! It was a hard blow. We immediately started treating his eyes with special drops twice a day (20 minutes to complete each round of drops) to try to prolong his vision. We managed to maintain his eyes for about a year and a half before he went totally blind. We were no longer able to maintain a comfortable pressure for him, so I opted to have his eyes removed. It was very noticeable that he was a LOT more comfortable without them. I also no longer had to worry about him running into anything and scratching his eyes, since he was still VERY active. To watch him, it was hard to tell that he couldn't see. He was/is amazing!

He is now 14 years old, and is still quite active. He still enjoys doing some of the agility obstacles and loves to play ball. Yes, he still plays ball! I get asked often if he can still see... I laugh every time and explain again that, no, he has no eyes, but I swear he has radar!

I know in my heart that an angel sent Buster to me for a reason. G.Burroughs
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The Missouri Pet Breeders Association had another successful show this year. And despite the economy and the negative legislation that has happened in our state this past year, Missourians proved once again that they are resilient. Overall, attendance was good and several of the exhibitors reported selling out of a lot of their products at the show.

There was a great line up of speakers and a good portion of the breeders even stayed late on Saturday afternoon to hear Dr. Bramlage from Revival Animal Health speak after 2 days of attending sessions.

Jason Smith, our State Representative from Jeff City spoke at the dinner on Friday night and talked about the ongoing fight against the animal rights movement and about some of the battles that have been won in Missouri recently. Following the dinner, was the annual benefit auction for MPBA which did a whopping $12,000! Many thanks to the vendors and breeders who contributed products and services to make the auction successful for MPBA!

Our MPBA President, Barb York, along with Myra Burrow (Correspondence Secretary) and Jane Sanderson, put together a wonderful Cookbook to raise money for the club. Several members contributed their favorite recipes and even included a few for the doggies as well! If you would like to order one of these Country Cookin’ Cookbooks, please contact Carolyn Jurewicz at (417) 924-8617 or Kathy Bettes at (417) 652-7219. Cost per cookbook is $10.00 plus $3.00 postage & handling.
Some photos of our wonderful advertisers in the Kennel Spotlight! Thank you for supporting MPBA!

“Shaw, is that you?”

Rep. Jason Smith speaking to a full room of breeders at the annual dinner.

Pictured left: Some of the auction items that were donated. I wanted that quilt, darn it!

Pictured right:
Bob Hughes of Southwest Auction & Publisher of the Kennel Spotlight!

Bob Hughes of Southwest Auction Service, who hosted the benefit auction, got quite a surprise when Terry Emmons, from the Hunte Corporation, gave him the MPBA belt buckle that he purchased for $900.00 that was donated from Wendy Hawley. The belt buckle was one of only two that were made for Wendy’s late husband, Tom Hawley, who was buried with his. Tom was a past president and long-time supporter and founding member of MPBA. Bob is going to frame and display the buckle at the SW Auction office in Wheaton, Mo.

Hope to see you all next year!!
www.mpbaonline.org
I want to continue my thoughts from last week’s article on the ballot petition initiative, Your Vote Counts Act. This act is sponsored by the radical animal-rights extremists HSUS (Humane Society of the United States), and is their attempt to handcuff the Missouri General Assembly. If passed, the Your Vote Counts Act would require a three-fourths vote of both the Missouri House and Senate in order to change any voter-approved initiative. This would make it extremely difficult for the General Assembly to repeal or amend any state law enacted through the initiative process.

Missouri is one of twenty-four states who gives its citizens the right and privilege to use the ballot petition initiative. HSUS is the out-of-state group that came to Missouri and used our ballot petition initiative process to advance their animal rights agenda. If passed, the Your Vote Counts Act will limit the ability of elected representatives to correct an unconstitutional initiative. This was the case with some of the language of the 2010 Proposition B, because it unconstitutionally restricted the rights of Missouri citizens to raise dogs by limiting the number of animals they could own. The Your Vote Counts Act of 2012 is an act of revenge by HSUS on Missouri’s General Assembly for correcting the unconstitutional parts of Prop B.

While I am a supporter of our state’s ballot initiative process, I find myself adamantly opposed to the Your Vote Counts Act. Not only is HSUS seeking to limit our state’s legislative process and push themselves into our state’s animal agriculture business, HSUS boasts of a $150 million budget to fund their agenda against animal agriculture in the entire United States. Their long-range goal nationwide is to cripple and then destroy all animal agriculture by placing unrealistic regulations and restrictions on meat, milk, and egg industries. HSUS got its foot in the door in Missouri by attacking pet breeders. They spent $4.85 million to get Prop B passed by fifty-one percent of the voters in our state. This amounts to over four dollars per vote. Missouri farm organizations mustered together $500,000 to counter the attack. This translates into fifty-four cents per vote. Several of Missouri’s representatives and senators have stepped up with the following pro-ag legislation that would insulate our state’s agriculture industry from these outside attacks.

HJR 61 – Right to Raise Livestock. This bill was heard by the House Committee on Agriculture Policy and was unanimously passed out of committee. It is now being debated on the floor of the House, and we will most likely be voting on it this week. HJR 61 is a proposed constitutional amendment that will give our voters the opportunity to affirm the right of farmers to raise their livestock in a manner that adheres to state and local laws. It states that no law affecting the manner in which animals are being raised can be enacted by a ballot petition initiative.

HJR 63 – Agriculture-Related Initiative Proposal. This is a proposed constitutional amendment that would require a four-sevenths voter majority to approve any initiative petition related to crop production, raising livestock, or other agriculturally related topics.

HB 1513 – Animal Rights. Some have said, and still maintain, that this bill is unnecessary. However, with the extremist group PETA suing Sea World on the grounds that killer whales are “enslaved,” we see the importance to protect Missouri from these animal rights radicals. HB 1513 prohibits any state law from providing an animal a right, privilege, or legal status that is equivalent to or exceeds that of a human being.

HB 1404 – Pet Breeders Appreciation Month. This bill designates the month of December as pet breeders appreciation month, honoring responsible breeders for their hard work and dedication to Missouri’s pet industry. The economic contribution of the pet industry to the state approaches $1 billion.

Agriculture is still the number one industry in our state. In the coming weeks I will highlight more legislation that is important to Missouri agriculture, farmers, and sportsmen.

If I can be of help to you with any state matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at one of the following:
Telephone: (573) 751-9781. Email: bill.reiboldt@house.mo.gov
On Monday, January 30th, 2012 American Canine Association’s (ACA) legislative team flew into Columbus, Ohio to begin lobbying the Ohio State Senate Agriculture Committee against Senate Bill 130. Animal activists were aggressively pushing the bill hoping to force Ohio’s professional breeders and pet stores out-of-business. The bill would have required commercial breeders to purchase bonds of up to $50,000.00 annually; any code infraction would carry a mandatory lifetime first-degree misdemeanor criminal charges; civil penalties up to three times the cost of the annual license; increase annual license fees; and give exemptions for all humane societies and rescue groups.

One of ACA’s Legislative Team’s first goals into the state capitol was to convince the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation to move their position from “Neutral” to “Against” Senate Bill 130. ACA has been a strong supporter of Farm Bureau for many years. By Monday afternoon the Ohio Farm Bureau was publicly “Against” Ohio SB 130. ACA’s and OFB’s teams worked closely to amend and correct the problematic areas of the bill.

We were successful in having all of the criminal penalties removed; fees removed, and civil penalties removed. However, Senate Bill 130 also establishes a “commercial dog breeding oversight board” consisting of animal activists groups, a veterinarian, and a member from the Department of Agriculture. But the representative of commercial dog breeders and pet stores read;

“(e) One member who is a member in good standing of a national breed parent club of the American Kennel Club;”

ACA informed the Senate Agriculture committee that for a member of a “national breed parent club of the American Kennel Club” to be in good standing they must agree to the club’s code of ethics stating:

“I will refuse to deal with dog wholesalers or to sell puppies to pet shops and I will include in all stud contracts an agreement to be signed by the owner of the bitch that no puppies resulting from the mating will be wholesaled, sold or given to pet shops or wholesale dog breeders or dealers.”

ACA distributed to lawmakers dozens of national breed parent club of the American Kennel Club code of ethics all having similar wording. The Senate Agriculture Committee unanimously agreed to remove the “national breed parent club of the American kennel club” seat and replacing it with:

“(e) One member who is a member of a professional dog breeding association in this state;”

ACA and Farm Bureau both testified that we were generally supportive of the bill with the changes but would be lobbying the House of Representatives for pet stores to have a seat on the board as well as additional changes.

ACA President Bob Yarnall thanking Senator Hite—Chairman of the Ohio Agriculture Committee.

Special thanks also to the Ohio Professional Pet Breeders Association Board and President Ervin Raber, Polly Britton, and ACA breeders that testified at the hearing and called Ohio lawmakers.
Bart Becomes Family
By Jim Hughes

Bart was not a happy camper! His brother was gone. A truck had come and taken him somewhere. Vi was alright as long as the feed dish was kept full, but Fred and the rest of those red neck clowns from the bar were always poking him to get him to come out of his house. Some of them wanted to wrestle with him. He knew if he would play the game it would result in a free beer. He liked beer. Any kind of beer.

He was growing larger and he was coming out the winner in more and more of these contest. It was fun for all concerned. The bear enjoyed it, the customers seemed to be having fun and Fred saw his business triple over the summer. It was a win, win, situation. Bart was getting a lot of half eaten sandwiches and much more beer than he should be getting. Vi was also teaching him some tricks to entertain the public. She taught him somersaults, rollovers, ball balancing, and giving a blood curdling bear roar on command. He was working his way into the hearts of the customers at Fred’s Bar & Grill.

There was a dance floor in Fred’s Bar & Grill and on Friday and Saturday nights it was well used. The only time there was any room on it was if they brought Bart in to do his dance. He would do all the things Vi had taught him to do, but he could do them in time with the music. He was a big hit and everybody wanted to dance with him. He could be very gentle on the dance floor and very aggressive in his pen when somebody wanted to wrestle.

Billie Hathaway was a miner who could push a coal car into a mine by himself. He had muscles on top of muscles. He liked to fight. He did not need an excuse to hit a man when he was drinking. He always won his fights. Partly because an opponent was defeated before he even knew he was in a fight, thanks to the surprise blow from Billie’s fist. Most people stayed clear of Billie. It was finally decided that if Billie was so tough, he could probably whip the bear. Billie was up for it; he thought he could best the bear.

The fight was scheduled for the following afternoon, after everybody in town was notified of the pending performance. Everybody gathered around the pen and Fred stayed busy selling sandwiches, pop and beer. Bart played roll over and everybody asked Billie if he could do that to. Billie gave Bart a beer and Bart stood erect to chug-a-lug the drink. Billie rushed in to do a take down on Bart but he was looking for another beer. Billie grabbed Bart in a bear hug, put his foot behind Bart and took him off his feet. Billie landed on top of Bart and according to the rules Fred had set up, he needed to stay on top of Bart for sixty seconds. If he could do that three times he was declared the winner. There was a lot of side betting going on and I suppose Billie would get a share of the winnings if he could beat Bart. The bear just rolled over and Billie was flipped to the side. Bart stood up and looked around to see who would offer him another beer.

Billie was not successful in any of the three attempts he made to keep Bart down. Everybody cheered for Bart and he got two half eaten hamburgers and several bottles of beer for his efforts. Billie laughed and joked with the crowd, but he was not happy inside. He did not like losing, even to a bear. He decided to practice some take downs on his friends and have them do the same maneuvers that the bear did when he got up. Billie thought that he cold keep that bear down the next time they would meet.

The following Saturday Billie was at the bear pen again. This time he had some moves up his sleeve. The crowd was all there again and the mood was festive. The beer was flowing at an advanced pace this Saturday. When Billie took the bear down, he tried some of the practice moves to keep him down. But the bear was to agile for Billie to hold and he was up in ten seconds. The crowd was getting a little braver as the beer flowed and the good natured insults grew louder and sharper as Billie was facing defeat for the second week in a row. Billie did not know how to accept defeat, even from a bear. As Billie advanced on the bear for his third attempt at a takedown, somebody yelled out, “looks like you can’t whip him if he is looking at you”. Billie heard the insult and a rage came over him. When he advanced on Bart, he became a bar room fighter instead of a bear wrestler. He hit Bart
with his fist right on the tip of his nose. It started to bleed. The crowd booed and Billie went nuts. He hit the bear three more times before Bart could respond. But the response sent Billie flying through the air like a rocket ship. When he hit the side of the bear house, he was unconscious. The bear looked at the crowd and everything became deathly quiet. The bear walked over to a man holding a beer and took it out of his hand. He drank the beer and then walked into his house and just left Billie laying there. They called for the ambulance and took Billie to the hospital for x-rays. He had two cracked ribs and a concussion.

The wildlife authorities came out the next day to check out the story. They wanted to know if Billie was going to press charges against Fred and the bear. Billie said no, he had been knocked out before, but never quite so soundly as he was this time. The officer told Billie that even a half grown cub like Bart had the strength of three men as strong as Billie. He also informed him that if the bear had been really mad, he would have opened his claws and Billie would have lost half his face. If that had happened, the bear would have been the only one willing to dance with someone as ugly as Billie would have been. Billie decided to make his peace with the bear and just stick to dancing. Bart was okay with that arrangement, as long as Billie kept the beer and hamburgers coming his way.

The city council wanted Bart sent to the zoo as a dangerous animal, but the wildlife authorities testified on behalf of Bart, and Fred refused to give him up. Besides, Fred’s Bar & Grill is located in the county. Fred offered the mayor a free hamburger if he would wrestle the bear, but the offer was rejected. But Black Bart became a local hero as the only thing to ever tame Billie down. There were some that thought Billie should go to the zoo.

Over the years that Black Bart lived with Fred and Vi, he became very well known around St. Albens, West Virginia. There are many instances in which he got into trouble but never did he do anything of a serious nature to cause the government to want him destroyed. He was a very well behaved bear.
ARE WE FUNDING OUR OWN DEMISE?

By Dustin Van Liew, Washington D.C. / Executive Director, Public Lands Council and Director of Federal Lands

Animal agriculture struggles to raise enough resources to battle well-funded activist groups working to put an end to farming and ranching. While many ranchers wonder where the extremist groups find the cash to fund their political agendas in the courtroom, it may be time to look in the mirror. Environmental extremist groups have been dipping into a bottomless, untraceable pit of money for years.

It may come as a surprise that you and I, as American taxpayers, are funding the endless money hole these groups are using to pay their army of lawyers of court. These groups are not at all ashamed of taking money from taxpayers to put cattlemen out of business. Nor do they pay any regard to the fact that they are taking food from consumer’s tables and driving up prices at the grocery store. How has this happened?

In 1980, Congress passed a little-known law called the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), which allowed people to be reimbursed by the federal government, via the taxpayer, for the costs of fighting the federal government in court. The legislation was passed with admirable intentions. The idea was to give individuals and small businesses who have limited funds protection from the heavy hand of the federal government allowing them to defend themselves against unjust federal action. EAJA reimburse attorney’s fees and costs when parties “prevail” in court against the government. Unfortunately, the good intentions of EAJA have been hijacked by extremists.

In fact, EAJA was a good idea and we support the intent to protect Americans from government wrongdoing. However, for more than 16 years, the program has existed without any oversight at all or any track record of how money has been spent. During this period of complete unaccountability, wealthy environmental organizations discovered a loophole in EAJA and began to manipulate it into a subsidy for lawsuits aimed at advancing their job-killing agendas. A study of open court documents and tax returns actually reveal that a handful of well-known environmental activists have sued the federal government more than 1,200 times in the past decade. These 12 multi-million dollar groups, such as the Center for Biological Diversity, the Humane Society of the United States, WildEarth Guardians and Defenders of Wildlife, walked away with more than $37 millions of hard-working Americans’ taxpayer dollars for their efforts. In the meantime, America’s farmers and ranchers have been paying out of pocket to defend themselves in these lawsuits—often based on petty, procedural complaints—even as their tax dollars go to help out the other side.

While the original intent of Congress was for EAJA to assist people with a once-in-a-lifetime need, these groups have hijacked the program into a means to perpetually fund a cottage industry based on suing the federal government over and over again. Federal agencies spend an untold amount of money and manpower to defend against these lawsuits. By the agencies’ own admission, these repeated lawsuits are a significant drain on resources at precisely the time when agencies are strapped for funds.

So, what are we doing about it? We are working with members of Congress to push back on this insanity. The Public
Lands Council, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, and all of our affiliates are fighting to put a stop to the radical environmental communities’ best-kept secret. We fully support the Government Litigation Savings Act of 2011 (GLSA), which was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R. 1996) by Cynthia Lummis (R-Wyo) and in the U.S. Senate (S.1061) by John Barrasso (R.Wyo). GLSA returns transparency to EAJA and relieves taxpayers of the burden of paying for the litigation machines of deep-pocketed environmental organizations. The legislation will allow EAJA to continue to work the way it was intended—veterans, ranchers, social security recipients and small businesses will not see EAJA change for them—but it will end the abuses that have led to such significant waste of resources and tax dollars.

Our efforts have been effective in urging members of Congress to support this commonsense legislation. The House Committee on the Judiciary passed H.R. 1996 in November by a vote of 19-14. We have to work together to rest assured this bill passes the full House and then moves to the Senate. While it seems like a no-brainer, the truth about GLSA can easily be skewed by its opponents. The power of grassroots activation should never be taken for granted. We encourage you to write letters and make calls to your lawmakers. Putting a stop to this endless litigation onslaught will save taxpayer dollars and will help save our economy by keeping America’s cattlemen and women in business.

I ask you to reach out to your members of Congress and urge them to support this commonsense legislation to shut down the subsidization of wealthy special interest groups intent on ending animal agriculture across our country. Reprinted by permission from the Nebraska Cattlemen Magazine, Feb 2012.
The 2012 IaPBA Seminar was held in Ottumwa, IA on March 16th & 17th. This was a new venue and city and it proved to be an excellent choice. First of all, the City of Ottumwa welcomed us with open arms and a financial grant to show their appreciation.

Attendance was very good and we had 45 Vendors manning 50 booths in the exhibition hall. Kudos to the Board of Directors of IaPBA for all of their work, time and effort that it takes to put on an Educational Seminar. There was an outstanding lineup of speakers for both days. Many longtime members as well as a large amount of new people attended from 6 states.

Dr. Bramlage and Dr. Kesler conducted a Joint roundtable discussion for breeders and special thanks go to Lambert Vet Supply and to Revival Animal Health for allowing these two great Kennel Vets to share a speaking platform. Live Training demonstrations were given as well as grooming demonstrations. As a special highlight at the end of the last session on Saturday Dr. Greer from Wisconsin conducted a “wet lab” to a limited number of attendees who had pre-registered. This lab was a teaching lab utilizing hands on demonstrations on Necropsies including healthy and diseased tissue and organs. This is the first time this type of lab has ever been offered at a Professional Pet Breeders Seminar and got rave reviews by those who attended.

One of the highlights of every IaPBA seminar is the fund raising auction or should we call it the ‘FUN’ raising auction. This year’s auction was absolutely the best one ever! Charlie Burkart and Spence Dwiggins conducted the auction and more than $12,000 was raised. The last auction item of the evening was the (3rd Annual) Rob Hurd’s (National Field Rep for APRI) beard. The beard went for a whopping $1910 this year and the money raised went to IaFed to be used for lobbying efforts.

Special thanks to J.A.K.S Puppies for putting up over half of the beard money. As is tradition, Rob’s beard was shaved off on the spot; now that, folks is “redneck entertainment” at its finest!! Thanks to Rob for being a good sport and it just goes to prove that people will pay good money to see Rob make a fool of himself! hee! hee!

A special event took place in the middle of this auction. An employee of Avenue Vet Clinic, Tara Hansen and her husband Mike, have a daughter who suffers from Huntington’s Disease. This disease is incurable. Three years ago when this young lady was diagnosed, her younger brother Landon decided he was going devote his spare time to raising money for Huntington’s research. He has been gathering cans, making jewelry to sell, and putting on walkathons etc. ever since. Tara had brought some of the bracelets to the seminar to raise some more funds.

IaPBA offered one of these in the auction and the most amazing and heartwarming event transpired. Avenue Vet Clinic, (Dr. Beukelman) and Hunte Corporation (Terry Emmons) bought and resold the little bracelet for a little over $4000; when it was resold a couple more times, the total money raised for the Huntington’s Disease Research was over $4200!!

(Additional contributors were Jak’s Puppies and Spence Dwiggins).

A lot of tears were shed in the room and the love and compassion from the folks in our Industry was almost beyond description. It made everyone proud to be a part of such a heartwarming event. It will be difficult to top this auction in the future. Thank You to everyone who attended the IaPBA seminar. See you all next year. Rob
SOME OF THE EXHIBITORS & ADVERTISERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT!
AKC Gathers Experts from 22 States To Exchange Strategies For Defending Responsible Breeders.

Some of the nation’s best minds in canine legislative policy met on January 28-29, 2012 in Raleigh, North Carolina, to network, share experiences from powerful citizen advocates, and learn more about how to effectively mobilize and address issues impacting responsible dog owners and breeders.

This first-ever AKC Legislative Conference brought together Legislative Liaisons and representatives of 22 AKC state federations – from California to Maine. For two days, attendees absorbed valuable educational presentations and panel discussions on current legislative and regulatory measures, emerging trends, and court actions. They were especially engaged while learning how to prepare for and respond to continuing threats to responsible dog ownership and breeding.

Because threats come from so many sources, only a coordinated response at the Federal, state and local levels delivers the stopping power breeders need. Last year the AKC was actively engaged in more than 1,300 separate pieces of legislation, and supported action by state federations across the country. As we heard from one leading legislator, elected representatives respond best to rational, reliable information provided by their constituents. This is one of the most important roles filled by AKC state federations and their member breeders.

AKC Leaders Host First National Legislative Summit

High-Profile Speakers

After being welcomed by AKC Chief Operating Officer John Lyons and AKC Director of Government Relations Sheila Goffe, the group toured the AKC’s Raleigh operations center before settling into meetings.

The AKC assembled a powerful series of speakers who brought diverse, yet incredibly valuable points of view on how to be most effective in protecting responsible breeders’ rights.

Patti Strand, National Director of the National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA) and former member of the AKC Board of Directors, led off the conference with a presentation on how state-level ballot initiatives are developed, requirements for establishing a ballot initiative, and recent trends in animal-related ballot initiatives, and how to effectively defeat a ballot initiative. She also provided an update on her recent work on the issue of humane relocation.

Suzanne Anglewicz, Manager of Political & Legislative Activities for the National Rifle Association - Institute for Legislative Action (NRA-ILA), spoke on working with volunteer advocates and inspiring grassroots action. She discussed the importance of motivating stakeholders to do more than just “make a point” by empowering them to “make a difference.” The NRA-ILA is nationally recognized for its ability to mobilize integrated support from local individuals up to Congress, and everyone was energized by Suzanne’s specific grassroots tips and strategies.
and her suggestions for growing the base. North Carolina Senator David Rouzer provided a legislator’s perspective and addressed the importance of reaching out to your elected representatives. He spoke about the value he and his colleagues place on reasonable and reliable information from voters within his district. Senator Rouzer encouraged citizens to get to know key legislative staff members, who often assist and advise lawmakers on issues surrounding proposed legislation.

Linda Hart of the Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs, Michele Kasten of the Illinois Federation of Dog Clubs and Owners, Gail LaBerge of the Georgia Canine Coalition, and Julian Prager of the Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs shared their experiences in a forum on state legislation and federation building. Topics included establishing credibility as dog experts and uniting dog clubs, owners and breeders behind a common message.

Lisa Peterson, AKC Communications Director, provided media training for dog advocates, which included a break-out session and mock interviews on current issues in canine legislation. Lisa played the role of a reporter interviewing federation members in practice sessions that underscored the importance of preparing for media opportunities.

AKC General Counsel Margaret Poindexter gave an overview of the AKC Inspections Program, which upholds standards of care and conditions for breeders of AKC registered dogs and demonstrates AKC’s long-standing commitment to animal welfare. Margaret charged attendees to bring AKC’s credibility on the topic of care and conditions into legislative debates regarding breeder and kennel regulation.

Attorneys Sheila Kessler and Marty Greer, DVM, of Animal Legal Resources, LLC, relayed a cautionary tale about a dog seizure case in Wisconsin. The case demonstrates that impounded dogs often may suffer from the stress of confinement and appropriate documentation and permanent identification are critical in facilitating their return.

Learn One, Do One, Teach One
“Train the trainers” sessions presented by AKC Government Relations staff provided information and resources that conference attendees could take home to educate and empower concerned dog owners and breeders in their states and communities.

Sheila Goffe provided an overview of AKC Government Relations resources and how to use them effectively to respond to continuing threats to responsible dog ownership and breeding.


AKC Legislative Analyst Sarah Sprouse presented “Advocacy 101,” which discussed how to organize and communicate effective messages to lawmakers.

Continued on pg. 28
AKC Senior Policy Analyst Phil Guidry discussed “Using Technical Language to Your Advantage,” which included an overview of the bill analysis process.

Networking... and More Networking
Conference participants stayed late into the night, skipped breaks, and cut the lunch hour short to continue networking and discussions.

“The energy that everyone brought to this conference was tremendous,” Goffe said. “Responsible dog owners and breeders from across the country are dealing with many of the same restrictive issues—and even some of the same bills. It’s exciting to be able to bring them together so they can share and learn from each other’s experiences. The best part is knowing they are developing relationships that will enable them to share ideas and work together in the future.”

The AKC Legislative Conference was made possible by financial support from the AKC Canine Legislative Support Fund (CLSF).

This article originally appeared in AKC’s ‘Taking Command’ Newsletter.
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866-973-8539
NAIA opposes the current draft of PUPS: Read our letter here.

Identical versions of the Puppy Uniform Protection and Safety Act, (PUPS) were introduced in the US Senate and House of Representatives in early 2011. The purpose of PUPS is to close a loophole in the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA) which allows breeders who sell more than 50 dogs a year and sell over the Internet, to do so without USDA regulation and oversight. The House version, H.R. 835, has been referred to the House Sub Committee on Livestock, Dairy and Poultry; the Senate version, S. 707, was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. Neither bill has been scheduled for a hearing.

NAIA supports amending the AWA to keep up with changes in the way dogs are delivered to the marketplace and consumer; but only if it is done in a way that stays within the original scope and purpose of the Act. The category of breeders regulated needs to be defined carefully so that it does not expand federal oversight to breeders who sell directly to the public from their homes, or breed and sell 50 dogs or fewer per year. Unfortunately, the PUPS bill does not stay within these parameters and it contains several other notable flaws.

Dog breeding was first regulated under the AWA at a time when most large scale commercial breeders sold their dogs through middlemen to pet stores. The regulations are designed to protect the welfare of dogs, and to provide consumer protection to purchasers of pet store puppies who are unable to see and judge the conditions under which their puppy was produced. The growing number of large scale commercial breeders who sell their dogs over the Internet meet the historical criteria for regulation because, like the pet store purchasers, their customers are generally unable to see the environment in which their puppy was bred. Instead of buying their puppy at the seller’s home or kennel, their puppy is generally shipped to them after an online sale is made.

It is this group that warrants modification of the AWA’s current definitions. Casting the net beyond this group as the PUPS bill does, would cause many small scale hobbyists, sporting dog enthusiasts and working dog breeders to throw in the towel. It would also stretch the resources of USDA beyond its budgetary and operating capacity, reducing coverage in the areas with the greatest risk, and unnecessarily duplicating efforts by state and local agencies, as well as dog registries like the AKC that conduct significant inspection programs.

As much as the Internet has changed the marketplace for dogs, it’s also important to keep in mind that most dog breeders today, whether small scale hobbyists, hunting dog enthusiasts or casual breeders who sell directly to the public from their homes, use the Internet to advertise their puppies. As a result, advertising dogs on the Internet - as important as it is - cannot be used as the sole criterion for determining who should be regulated under an updated version of the AWA. Instead several criteria need to be considered, combined and utilized to establish a profile of who should be regulated.

Hobbyists, casual breeders and some commercial breeders who sell directly to the public have never been considered appropriate targets for federal regulation. The reasons for excluding them from regulation as retail pet stores are sound, and were reaffirmed as recently as 2003 in the Doris Day Animal League vs. Veneman (USDA) decision, US Court of Appeals, DC Circuit.

Further, NAIA maintains that USDA has the subject matter knowledge, the history and statutory authority to regulate this group of breeders, and can do so by amending the Act so that large scale breeders who use indirect means such as the Internet to sell and distribute their puppies will no longer be exempt. NAIA would welcome a rulemaking proposal designed to make such a modification. The lack of updated regulations hurts dogs, consumers and prevents good breeders from being able to distinguish themselves from those who wish to fly under the radar.

Please write your Senators and Representatives and ask them to reject PUPS as currently drafted. Let them know you support its goals, but don’t believe it will achieve its objectives and could cause more problems than it solves. Use the Take Action link in the upper right hand of the NAIA website homepage to write your message. (www.naiaonline.org).

It will take you to a page with talking points which you can click on to use. PLEASE CHOOSE THE ONES YOU LIKE BEST AND THEN MODIFY THEM TO YOUR OWN WORDS. If you don’t modify our talking points, your note will look like a form letter. Finally, add something personal to your message. Let your lawmakers know about your dogs: how much they mean to you; how long you’ve been breeding; that you do agility, or do rescue or therapy work. Tell them what’s important to you. Protect your pets. JOIN NAIA Trust!
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Agriculture Strikes Back

February was a rough month for the animal rights camp.

First, a superior court judge in California sent a sharp reprimand to the People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) following the vegan organization’s aggressive use of subpoenas to seek detailed confidential animal care records from farmers across the state. PETA sought to use the information against farmers in a lawsuit alleging that dairy families do not adequately care for their animals. However, farmers resisted turning over their personal records (and rightly so), and the court ruled in their favor.

“Their goal is clearly not animal welfare,” Western United Dairyman CEO Michael Marsh said of PETA. “Their goal is to put dairies out of business and harass the farmers who care for their cows. And, let’s not forget that terrorists rarely let anything (such as truth and justice or the law) stand in their way.”

Meanwhile, in South Dakota, the state House and Senate adopted a concurrent resolution against the political activities of PETA, the Humane Society of the United States, and “other animal rights groups that would undermine the livelihood of agricultural producers”. The resolution was passed unanimously and highlights the impact of agriculture to the state (it contributes $21 billion to its economy) and South Dakotans’ rural heritage. This action signifies that the House and Senate are united in opposition to ballot initiatives or other actions taken by groups to negatively impact animal agriculture in the state.

Last year, we saw leaders at the local level in Nebraska take an active stance against animal rights groups, but to my knowledge this is the first state-level resolution of its kind. Could this be a sign of things to come?

Finally, just this past Friday, Iowa’s governor signed a hotly-debated bill into law that makes it a crime for individuals or organizations to fraudulently gain access to a farm with the intent to cause harm.

The law doesn’t specifically ban the “undercover videos” that animal rights groups use to promote their cause, but it could cause the activists who obtain employment on farms under false pretenses to think twice.

The new law specifies that “A person is guilty of agricultural production facility fraud if the person willfully does any of the following: a. Obtains access to an agricultural production facility by false pretenses. b. Makes a false statement or representation as part of an application or agreement to be employed at an agricultural production facility, if the person knows the statement to be false, and makes the statement with an intent to commit an act not authorized by the owner of the agricultural production facility, knowing that the act is not authorized.”

The sponsor of the bill, Representative Annette Sweeney, explained the rationale for the legislation as such: “Iowa’s family farmers by a vast majority take pride and care into their farm operations, House File 589, sends the signal that if you do commit fraud, it’s illegal. This bill will ensure everyone who works on farms is honest about animal care and has their best interest of in mind.”

Which of these developments do you most agree (or disagree) with? Bills similar to Iowa’s are being considered in a handful of other states including Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York and Utah. Do you think this is the right approach for agriculture to take?

It’s important that those of us in agriculture stay informed on the issues and urge our representatives to support initiatives that will protect the future of food production here in the U.S.

Reprinted from the Animal Activist Watch
Sarah Hubbart, Communications Director
Animal Agriculture Alliance
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HSUS SENIOR LEADERSHIP “BLINKED!” - - CALL TO ACTION BASED ON “NEW EVIDENCE” ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF THE LOBBYING DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1995 BY THE HSUS AND HSLF

In 2005 the HSUS was registered as a “Lobbying Organization” and it listed Wayne Pacelle as one of its “Lobbyists.” However, the HSUS apparently terminated its Registration at a later date. In contrast, the Humane Society Legislative Fund (HSLF) which oversees three PACs, and which was founded by Mr. Pacelle in 2004, had never registered itself as a “Lobbying Organization” - - UNTIL FEBRAURY 29, 2012!

That is when the HSLF and the Senior Leadership of the HSUS “BLINKED,” and they registered the HSLF as a “Lobbying Organization” - - a DELIQUENCY OF OVER 7 YEARS!!! Most significantly, when the HSLF filed its Registration with the Secretary of the Senate, it listed Mrs. Constance Harriman-Whitfield as one of its “Lobbyists.”

This further “taints” the HSUS for its failure to no longer be registered as a “Lobbying Organization” because Mrs. Harriman-Whitfield, according to her BIO that was posted on the HSUS Website, is a Paid Employee of the HSUS, and she serves as the “Senior Advisor” for “HSUS President and CEO Wayne Pacelle.” Thus, the recent HSLF Registration substantiates that the HSUS, which is no longer registered, is in violation of the Lobbying Disclosure Act. In this regard, Mr. Pacelle was previously listed, BY NAME, as a Lobbyist for the HSUS in 2005, and now his Senior Advisor, who is on the payroll of the HSUS, has been identified as a “Lobbyist.” If the HSUS were Pinocchio, its nose would be growing longer and longer with respect to how it has circumvented the Lobbying Disclosure Act.

Even if you have already sent an E-Mail to your Members of Congress, I urge you to send another E-Mail with the precise suggested text set out below. And if you have not sent an E-Mail, I urge you to do so. Do not add anything more than what is suggested. In short, don’t mention PUPS or any other Bill. Just limit your remarks to the Lobbying Disclosure Act. If the HSUS then “BLINKS,” as did the HSLF, and then re-registers, it is admitting to the IRS that it has been playing “fast and loose” - - AND THAT COULD RESULT IN THE HSUS LOSING ITS TAX-EXEMPT STATUS. And if it does not register, there will be mounting Congressional pressure to ask the Justice Department to investigate the HSUS.

Already, at least Six Members of Congress have asked the Justice Department to look into the documented allegations that it had previously received. And yet another submission, WITH “NEW EVIDENCE,” was received by the Justice Department on March 7, 2012. Let us build upon the potential “momentum changer” that was created when the HSLF “BLINKED” and registered as a “Lobbying Organization.”

1. To send an E-Mail to your U.S. Representative, Log onto www.house.gov/writerep/
2. Fill in your state and ZIP Code on the prompt that appears.
3. Add your name, address and E-Mail address on E-Mail Form for your U.S. Representative; and on the Subject Line add: LOBBYING DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1995. If that Subject Line will not allow you to use that Subject, use “OTHER.” Then add then add the message set out below.
4. To send an E-Mail to your Two Senators, Log onto: www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm
5. Click onto the E-Mail Address for each of your two U.S. Senators.
6. Add your name, address and E-Mail address on E-Mail Form for your U.S. Representative; and on the Subject Line add: LOBBYING DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1995. If that Subject Line will not allow you to use that Subject, use “OTHER.” Then add then add the message set out below.
7. Send a confirmation that the three E-Mails were sent from which State, and any Congressional Responses, to Frank Losey: <f.losey@insightbb.com>

Suggested Text of E-Mail Message

NOTE: Resist the temptation to mention your parochial “beef” with the HSUS. Otherwise, you may receive a “boilerplate” response that says nothing more than: “Thank You for bringing your issues of concern to my attention.” WE NEED MORE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO CALL THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT!

On February 29, 2012, the Leadership of the Humane Society of the U.S. (HSUS) made a monumental and self-incriminating admission as to the alleged and documented violations of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 by the HSUS and by the Humane Society Legislative Fund (HSLF) - - that was the day that the
HSLF registered itself as a “Lobbying Organization,” which it should have done in 2004.

The “HSUS Leadership” includes Mr. Wayne Pacelle, the President and CEO of the HSUS, who according to the HSLF Tax Return Documents, also serves as the Vice President of the (HSLF), which he founded in 2004. Additionally, the “HSUS Leadership” includes Mr. Markarian who serves as the COO of the HSUS, and who also serves as the President of the HSLF. According to prior year Tax Returns for the HSLF, both Mr. Pacelle and Mr. Markarian averaged 10 Hours a Week carrying out the HSUS lobbying agenda.

By way of further background, the Justice Department (Mr. Keith Morgan) received a documented Complaint about the alleged violations of the HSUS and the HSLF by letter dated August 1, 2011. That initial Complaint was supplemented by Addendums that were dated September 12, and October 4, 2011, as well as the most recent Addendum that was dated March 5, 2012, which documented that:

The HSLF registered itself as a “Lobbying Organization,” as defined by the Lobbying Act of 1995 on February 29, 2012, with an effective date January 1, 2011 - - a “delinquency” of at least 14 months by its own admission, and more than seven years by the documentation that is now in the possession of the Justice Department. Most significantly, the HSLF was established by Mr. Pacelle in 2004 when it aggressively began lobbying and assumed responsibility for the submission of the more than 2,300 pages of lobbying-related documents to the Federal Election Commission - - Millions of Dollars to Hundreds of Federal Candidates!!

1. The HSLF Registration Filing on February 29, 2012 listed Mrs. Constance Harriman-Whitfield as a Lobbyist for the HSLF, even though she is a paid employee of the HSUS. Most significantly, Mrs. Harriman-Whitfield, according to her BIO that was posted on the HSUS Website, states that she is the “Senior Advisor, Presidential Initiatives,” and that she “develops initiatives in the area of . . . legislation for HSUS President and CEO Wayne Pacelle.”

2. Since Ms. Harriman-Whitfield is a paid employee of the HSUS, and is OFFICIALLY LISTED AS A “LOBBYIST,” it logically follows that the HSUS employs a specifically identified “Lobbyist,” and as such, the HSUS should also have registered itself as a “Lobbying Organization.” Such a conclusion is validated when one considers that the HSUS was previously registered as a “Lobbying Organization” in 2005, and specifically, by name, listed Mr. Pacelle as one of its “Lobbyists!” This “FACT” raises the collateral question of “Why did the HSUS terminate its status as a “Lobbying Organization?”

Please let me know why the Justice Department apparently has not acted on the documented Complaint about the alleged violations of the Lobbying Disclosure Act as they relate to the HSUS and the HSLF. If the Justice Department is not the appropriate Federal Agency to investigate documented allegations of violations of the Lobbying Disclosure Act, please advise me as to which Federal Agency is so responsible for ensuring compliance and enforcement of the Lobbying Disclosure Act. Since at least Six Members of Congress have contacted representatives within the Justice Department concerning the documented allegations against the HSUS and the HSLF, I would appreciate if you would do the same.

Respectfully,
(your name here)
**THE VIRAL “THREAT” OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE U.S.**

“Once Upon a Time,” there was no Nazi Germany and no Humane Society of the U.S. Today, there is no Nazi Germany, but the New “Threat” to the American Way of Life, as perceived by a slowly awakening segment of the American Society, is the Humane Society of the U.S. (HSUS).

In this regard, the HSUS appears to have infiltrated our Schools with its “Vegan” Lunch Programs, and its Humane Action Guide for Kids, which, like a school yard predator, teaches children as young as 5-years-old how to contact their elected representatives and “lobby” on behalf of the HSUS Legislative Agenda; our Churches with its “Guide for Churches;” our Regulatory Agencies at the Local, State and Federal Level, to include such non-animal agencies as FEMA, the EPA and the IRS; our elected representatives at our Local, State and Federal Levels of Government; and the “hearts and minds” of Millions of unsuspecting citizens who are unaware of the Dark Side of the HSUS. Just as “Satan often masquerades as an angel of light to deceive us” (Corinthians), the same is being said by an increasing number of concerned citizens about the HSUS and its Senior Leadership.

“Once Upon a Time,” there was Jim and Tammy Faye Baker during the “Praise the Lord” TV-Shame-Scam. Millions of American were deceived into believing they were “so spiritually perfect.” Could History be repeating itself as a result of the more than “ONE BILLION DOLLARS” that the HSUS has expended in the last 10 years in an effort, like Satan, to deceive the American Public with misrepresentations that are not supported by the “Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing But the Truth?”

As you ponder that Question, ask yourself another Question: Was it a “coincidence” or a sign from “up above” that when the President and CEO of the HSUS first registered himself as a “lobbyist” in the State of Missouri, he was listed on the Website of the Missouri Ethics Commission as “Number 666?!?!?!?!?!”

During the last 40 Months I have submitted over 2,000 pages of incriminating documents to the IRS, the Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury and to the Justice Department in support of allegations that the HSUS has not complied with the IRS Limitations, as set out in the U.S. Tax Code, that prohibit a tax-exempt public charity from excessively engaging in “TOO MUCH LOBBYING;” and that the HSUS is not in compliance with the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 because it is not “registered” as a Lobbying Organization.

The IRS and the Treasury Department have assigned Case File Numbers to the allegations of non-compliance with the U.S. Tax Code by the HSUS; and the Justice Department must now address the allegations of non-compliance with the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 by the HSUS. Just one example of the alleged violation of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 by the HSUS includes the fact that the “Lobbying Arm” (Humane Society Legislative Fund) of the HSUS has submitted over 2,300 pages of lobbying-related documents to the Federal Elections Commission which details the Millions of Dollars in PAC Contributions to the political campaigns of Hundreds of Congressional Candidates - Millions of Dollars that could have been used to help dogs in shelters, but instead, was diverted to support the political agenda of the HSUS.

At least Six Member of Congress have requested, on behalf of their constituents, that the Justice Department look into the documented allegations of non-compliance with the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995. If you believe that all public charities should comply with the same laws as all taxpaying citizens, I respectfully urge you to respond to the “Call to Action” that is set out below, and send the suggested E-Mails to your two U.S. Senators and your U.S. Representative. Numbers do make a difference, and if the Department of Justice were to aggressively investigate the HSUS, it could become a “juicy” “news story” that would put the HSUS on the defensive. And at the risk of being accused of suggesting “animal abuse,” news stories about the HSUS not being in compliance with the “Law” just might “cook its goose!”

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A man sent an email to a small hotel in a Midwest town that he planned to visit on his vacation. He wrote: "I would very much like to bring my dog with me. He is well-groomed and very well behaved. Would you be willing to permit me to keep him in my room at night?"

An immediate reply came from the hotel Owner, who wrote; "Sir, I've been operating this hotel for many years. In all that time, I've never had a dog steal towels, bedclothes, silverware or pictures off the walls. I've never had to evict a dog in the middle of the night for being drunk and disorderly. And I've never had a dog run out on a hotel bill.

Yes, indeed, Your dog is welcome at my hotel. And, if your Dog will vouch for you, you're welcome to stay here too!"

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**April 13th & 14th, 2012**
Minnesota Pet Breeders Association Spring Seminar, Jackpot Junction Casino, Morton, Minnesota. Contact Teri Franzen at (218) 894-0005 or Sheila Haag at (320) 453-6921.

**April 21st, 2012**
ACA Dog Show, Mid West Hundesport Association, Gardner, Kansas. Contact Lena Cross at (610) 858-6214.

**April 27th - 29th, 2012**
Oklahoma Pet Professionals NE OKPP Dog Show, NEW LOCATION!! Miami Civic Center, Miami, Oklahoma. Contact Ed King at (918) 638-6462 or email: okppvp@aol.com.

**April 28th, 2012**
Top of the Ozarks MPBA Dog Club is hosting an APRI All Breed Dog Show (2 Shows). Will be held at the YMCA in Mountain Grove, MO. Contact for info: Mary Ann McGregor (417) 926-6306 or Donna Christensen (417) 926-6478 or visit the APRI website: www.aprpets.org.

**May 19th & 20th, 2012**

**June 2nd, 2012**
GO FOR THE GOLD DOG SHOW!! Making Tracks for APRI Dog Show Club is hosting an INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONS ONLY DOG SHOW. This event will be held on the same day as our annual show in Moberly, MO. Your APRI Champion is invited! Entry deadline is May 10th. Contact Frances Schmidt at (660) 963-2155.

**June 8th, 2012**
Professional Pet Association Seminar, Moberly, MO. Contact Maria Stille; stille@windstream.net or Sharon Lavy; sharon0123@windstream.net.

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