‘Spotlight’ on the Capitol!

* Frontlines of the Prop B Battle
* HSUS Lobbygate Cover Up
* SB 15 Oklahoma Bill
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Letters to the Editor;

Dear Kennel Spotlight,

I love your magazine! I read it cover to cover and have saved almost all of the back issues. I have several teenage employees that have used your articles in research for papers they had to write for school. Dan and I have been raising puppies for 21 years now! It has been a huge blessing to us and our employees and the families that have our puppies in their homes. I’ve been to our State House many times when we were fighting bills that the HSUS got legislators to introduce. So far we have won but we are trying to be proactive in everything to keep a step ahead of HSUS. I could go on but need to get back to work. Thanks again for all you do! Sincerely, Deb Beer.

To Kathy and all,

Your publication and the important connection to the group it provides is invaluable to me. Yes, I am out of state but I’m certain there are many others like me in mind. Thanks for all the hard work, Citrine Kennels.

Kennel Spotlight,

Thank you so much for all you do for the industry. I really appreciated Frank Losey’s letters I could use to object to HSUS getting any information about my kennel from USDA. Yours is the only publication I routinely read from cover to cover. Please continue to provide us with guidance! Thanks, Judy Roland.

Kennel Spotlight,

I have gotten your magazine for a number of years and really enjoy it. You have never asked for any money but would like to help out a little (wish it could be more!). Thanks again for an informative magazine!

Betty Lou Marquis

From Dog Blessed Kennel,

We enjoy your magazine and the support you give for the dog breeders. Thank you for a great magazine!

Amy & Doug Noland.

Kennel Spotlight,

I have been a responsible dog & cat breeder for a number of years. I was licensed in the early 80’s and sold to Jim Hughes (DoBoTri). Thanks for my Kennel Spotlight Magazines for the last several years. I don’t know how many I have but I have a lot and I go back and read them over and over. Now I am 75 yrs. Old and I forget a lot so I read them even more often. I’ve enclosed a form for my daughter in California; she shows and in her spare time, helps at some shelters. She needs to know everything she can about Prop B so if you could send her those back issues, then I won’t have to tear pages out of mine to send to her. Thanks! Sunny Marie Rosseau.

Thank you for all the work you do to help us breeders! Jeannie Daley

Hi Kennel Spotlight, 

We came up with the original name for the ‘Kennel Spotlight Magazine’ and could not be without it! Keep up the great job you’re doing. Thanks! Phyllis Disque

Dear Bob,

I think your Kennel Spotlight is very important to the future of the Animal Industry. I like all the information you collect about all the animal terrorist groups, what they are doing and what they’ve done and want to do. We all need to be aware of these things. The way things are going, the whole industry is in danger of being wiped out. I think ALL animal people good and bad must write and form a coalition nationwide to combat these groups and the Federal & State government. There must be a way to do this; you seem to have the expertise and knowledge to set up a network of all types of animal people to come out in large numbers to oppose ordinances and the State & Federal laws that are for the sole purpose to put ALL animal people out of business. I have no way of knowing how or where to start such a large and important fight to save our way of life and livelihoods. I hope you will be able to do this before it is too late. Yours Truly, Paul Haug.

KS,

I always love getting the Kennel Spotlight and have saved copies for future reference, but as a new breeder would love a question and answer section. Finding a place to go where you can get reliable information without having unsolicited comments on the evils of breeding has been impossible!

Thank you, Diana Bergstrom.

KS,

We greatly enjoy the Kennel Spotlight! We enjoy the good reading and updates on our business interests. Thanks!! Hangin’ in there! Kim Pease.

Hi there!

I’m not sure if I should send something in or can just email you that I would like to continue receiving your magazine, The Kennel Spotlight. I really look forward to it more than any other publication I get. I received sample copies at the Iowa Pet Breeders Convention back in 2009 and have since devoured it! I belong to the
IPPBA because they are so great and informative. I just can’t believe the way the US has turned on our Ag and Dog breeding communities. Soon, there won’t be anyone left! Thanks again for a great publication, Donna Frakes. Ps. I raise dogs and have a small farm with livestock.

To Southwest Auction, I wanted to say how much I enjoy your auctions and as a new breeder, appreciate all the information you guys give at the sale. It’s helped me a lot in choosing great breeding stock and I have emails daily from people wanting to buy my pupsies! Thanks, Diana B.

Here is a ‘funny’ from one of our readers who answered one of our questions on the mailing list form we sent out in the last 2 issues; The question was;

“How many dogs do you own?”

Answer;

“Enough to make 50 pounds of *!@#$ a day!”

You can all guess what the ‘word’ was!

Thank you to my ‘South Dakota’ friends who sent that in! you know who you are.......!

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Kennel Spotlight * Feb/Mar ‘11 • 7
From the
‘Front Lines of the Prop B Battle’
By Karen Strange, President of MoFed & Mindy Patterson, Campaign Manager for the
Alliance For Truth.

(The following is some of the ‘behind the scenes’ detail on the Campaign Against Prop B.)

The Filing of the Ballot Initiative………..

(Karen): We knew it was coming, we just didn’t know when. Members of the agriculture community had been meeting regularly throughout the summer and fall of 2009, anticipating that HSUS and their band of Kool-aid drinking followers would attack Missouri at some point. Although we had been hearing rumblings of Missouri being a possible target, we didn’t know if it would be the 2010 or 2012 ballot, so we continued to build our allies in anticipation of the coming war.

It came sooner than we hoped when Tuesday evening before Thanksgiving 2009, Barbara Schmitz, HSUS Director for Missouri, dropped their proposal at Secretary of State Robin Carnahan’s office. First thing Wednesday morning, I e-mailed the SOS office requesting the information under the Missouri State Sunshine Law. At 2:30 p.m., a reply came. I was stunned. I sat staring at the computer in disbelief when I saw the title, “Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act”. I was sick. My first visions were of dog breeders literally being shoved down the river in a canoe with absolutely no one standing with us. Two petitions were turned in. A mistake was made on the first and a second was turned in minutes later. Our worst fears had become a reality. It took half an hour for me to gather my thoughts and then the fighter in me began to emerge. We founded MoFed on the premise that we would fight any and all animal rights attacks on our interests, and fight we would! I sprang into action! I called long time ally Jeff Windett of the Cattlemen’s Association as well as various leaders in MoFed and the pet industry. Our plotting began!

Thanksgiving weekend proved grueling as I had my mind on anything but celebrating! Monday morning, Windett called an emergency meeting for Tuesday of the Missourians for Animal Care Ag Coalition (MoFAC) to discuss various options. Our first decision was to file an immediate lawsuit against the ballot language to try to prevent it from going on the ballot. MoFed was called to a meeting with leaders of MoFAC and together, we hired a law firm to represent us.

The Lawsuit…………

Leslie Holloway and Kelly Smith of Farm Bureau, Don Nikodim of the Pork Producers, Dave Drennen of the Dairy Association, Dale Ludwig of the Soybean Association, and Lewis and myself of MoFed met with Chuck Hatfield and Michael Gibbons of the Stinson, Morrison & Hecker Law Firm to discuss Prop B. Both gentlemen had extensive experience in the political arena and were among the best to represent our interests against HSUS and their attack on Missouri. When filing the suit, a registered voter and resident of Missouri had to be named as the plaintiff. It could not be an association. The Ag coalition decided to move forward with my name listed as the plaintiff because I had the most experience directly fighting animal rights. Members of the coalition who stood with us were MPBA, PPA, Farm Bureau, the Cattlemen’s Assoc., Pork Producers, Dairy, Egg Council, Equine Council, MFA, FCS Financial, Soybean Assoc. and Corn Growers. Donations poured in from all facets of the pet and agriculture industries.

Although we directly brought suit against the Secretary of State and the State Auditor, the Humane Society of Missouri quickly entered the lawsuit to “defend the poor puppies.” What ensued was a nine month bitter fight between MoFed and HSMO; not our first time in court against one another!

The shenanigans they pulled in the lawsuit were unbelievable! Our first judge was Judge Wilson, a legal scholar highly respected among his peers. His rulings were in our favor on the various issues and our challenge looked good until HSMO (along with HSUS!) saw that they were losing. In a panic, they hired a new attorney for their case. It was the judge’s brother! Judge Wilson had no choice but to excuse himself from the case! We were then assigned Judge Beetem, also a well respected judge. The battle heated up as we continued our exposure of the true agenda of the animal rights groups to eliminate the pet industry by deliberately using prejudicial and offensive language to deceive the public into signing their petition and thus getting it on the ballot. They were reeling from a 91% public approval rating of their propaganda.

A tremendous amount of research went into the lawsuit, with many hours spent writing and analyzing every aspect of animal rights versus animal owner’s rights. No stone was left unturned. One of our major battles with HSMO was a sealed envelope of theirs containing information we believed would help our case. We wanted it and they refused to give it! We believed they deliberately used the “puppy mill” term to play on the sympathies of the unknowing public. Judge Wilson had ruled in our favor to see that information so they hired his brother. Judge Beetem ruled along with Judge Wilson and they repealed, throwing the decision into the Western District Court of Appeals in Kansas City. Just days before we went to court, the Appeals Court ruled in favor of HSMO, basically tying the hands of Judge Beetem.

It has been said that I let the HSMO attorneys walk all over me in court. Court testimony is not like testifying at the capitol. Your own attorneys determine what you say. “Spilling the beans” only aids the opposition. In a court of law, facts are presented. Anything else is merely hearsay. Many of you heard continued on pg. 10
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excellent testimony from Rep. Jim Viebrock. The HSMO attorneys were successful in having all his testimony thrown out. It has been said that Judge Beetem was “paid off by the other side”. He was not. HSMO and their band of attorneys successfully maneuvered their way to victory with very questionable actions. Saying more than “yes” or “no” would only have provided them with more ammunition against our side.

The ruling against us was disappointing, but seeing the firsthand actions by HSMO aided by HSUS only fueled the fire in the belly of MoFed. We despised them before; we despised them even more now! The next battle began immediately!

The Campaign Against Prop B........

(Mindy): I facilitated two educational symposiums sponsored by the Missourians for Animal Care agriculture coalition which took place in late June, 2010. One at the American Royal in Kansas City, where Karen Strange, Kelly Smith, and Dr. Alan Wessler of MFA spoke to an audience of fifty people. The other took place at Pillar in the Valley in Chesterfield, a 5,000 square foot office where conservative groups and politicians rent as a meeting place.

The other took place at Pillar in the Valley in Chesterfield, a 5,000 square foot office where conservative groups and politicians rent as a meeting place. Kerry Messer, Chris Chinn and Karen Strange spoke to an audience of 100 people at our evening symposium, including an animal rights activist who made an unsuccessful attempt to crash the party.

Immediately following the symposium at Pillar in the Valley, Karen Strange and I were invited by the owners of this office complex for dinner after the program. This couple took the opportunity over our private dinner meeting to express their horror about what they had learned that evening about the animal rights movement, and saw clearly that Proposition B was nothing but a deceptive measure to take more control of our lives. Karen and I both had the sense that they wanted to help in some way, but that had not yet been revealed.

Four weeks later, I was invited to lunch by one of the owners of Pillar in the Valley. We were joined by her daughter who was introduced to me as a person who had been a national campaign director for many high profile campaigns. After a serious discussion about what a full-blown political campaign entailed, I agreed that this was the direction we needed. I was barely out the door from the restaurant after my lunch meeting before I had Karen on the phone to discuss the idea. We both agreed that we should go for it!

By August 24, 2010, I was settled in my office at Pillar and we were in full campaign mode. We had the official “blessing” of the executive committee of Missourians for Animal Care and the many organizations involved. We agreed we would work in concert to fight for the common goal to defeat Proposition B and had shown our unity at the Missouri State Fair in early August by distributing printed pieces, yard signs and hand-held fans to fairgoers. MPBA, PPA and MoFed had a joint booth along with displays set up in various venues by Farm Bureau, the Cattlemen Assoc., Pork Producers and Soybean Association. Numerous flyers were distributed at our booths. Support against Prop B was overwhelming!

My first duty as campaign manager was to raise money. I made immediate headway in my efforts to get to the decision makers of many large corporations -- but almost all were reluctant to donate money to The Alliance for Truth campaign because they feared that Missouri would compromise with HSUS like Ohio had just weeks prior. Ohio’s actions devastated our fundraising efforts so we had to turn to grassroots hard work.

By mid-September, the generous financial contributions of MoFed, MPBA and PPA to The Alliance for Truth, allowed the campaign to move forward and launch a ROBO call, several radio ads, and helped finance all of our printed push pieces.

I was in daily, no... hourly contact with Karen Strange throughout the campaign. I recall one morning in mid-September, calling Karen after The Alliance for Truth campaign director had made a very strong declaration in our morning meeting that campaign signs were worthless, and that we would not be spending any money on signs. My call to Karen was to tell her that PPA, MPBA, and MoFed would have to finance their own signs, and that they did. Mid-America Pets and various others in the pet industry also made signs along with Farm Bureau and the Soybean Association.

Vote NO on Prop. B signs began to pop up like mushrooms all across our state! I had people calling into The Alliance for Truth campaign office asking how they could get yard signs or 4’ x 8’ signs! I had people telling me that, had it not been for the Vote NO on Prop B signs, they would not have known about the issue and that the signs prompted them to investigate what the measure was all about. I believe those signs were a very significant element of success to our unified campaign, and without them, we would not have made the huge amount of headway in such short order! PPA made bright colored t-shirts that sprang up everywhere.

Breeders wore them wherever they went, talking in lines at Wal-mart and grocery stores and anywhere they could about voting No on Prop B. MPBA members joined forces and wore the t-shirts throughout southern Missouri. A huge rally was held in Mountain Grove and other areas of the state to raise money and awareness about Prop B.

Meanwhile, Kelly Smith of Farm Bureau traveled the entire state with a power point presentation exposing the true agenda of HSUS and other animal rights groups, educating the masses about our fight and the attack against agriculture by out of state special interest groups. By mid-October, MoFED, MPBA, and PPA were directly assisting The Alliance for Truth's
efforts to make campaign phone banking a success. All organizations were sending people to the campaign office, with some driving three, four, and five hours to work 6-8 hour days of making phone calls to registered voters. Meanwhile, more yard signs and 4’ x 8’ signs were flying out the door, including new ones printed by The Alliance For Truth Campaign.

We may not have known it at the time, but launching an actual political campaign was an ideal way to create a central point of communication for contact with the press. And since The Alliance for Truth appeared to have sprung up out of thin air, it intrigued many of the reporters covering the election. Accordingly, our campaign received a great deal of coverage from statewide television, radio, and newspaper reporters.

One of the turning points of the campaign took place when I attended the September 12th Tea Party Rally at the St. Louis Arch along with Karen Strange, Barb York, Cathy Griesbauer, Hubert & Sharon Lavy, Pam Middleton and others. There were about 12 of us who attended with our Prop B educational materials and push pieces determined to inform the 8,000 to 10,000 people in attendance. This event was a turning point to our campaign because it engaged the St. Louis Tea Party who understood the government intrusion aspect of Proposition B. From this point on, we had the Tea Party working hard in our favor, and it is my belief that the Tea Party movement contributed greatly to our success in the urban areas of Missouri.

The Election……

(Karen and Mindy): To take the campaign from a 91% approval rating for HSUS to defeating it in 103 of 114 counties was nothing short of a miracle! In the final three weeks of the campaign, Mr. Forrest Lucas of Lucas Cattle Company (and owner of Lucas Oil) came forward with television and radio ads that brought the Prop B proponents to their knees! He attacked HSUS for their true agenda and was a last minute push to our campaign. All the grassroots work, the unities with agriculture and other organizations, the power point presentations by Kelly Smith, yard signs, bumper stickers, newspaper and radio ads, letters to the editors, rallies and growing support from the general public came to a head with the onslaught of the Lucas ads. We truly felt the cavalry had come! What were once insurmountable odds were suddenly obtainable.

We held our breaths election night as the numbers began rolling in. We maintained a commanding lead throughout the night, and it was only after the urban votes in Kansas City and St. Louis as well as two counties in the boot heel came in that we sank to our knees by only 60,000 votes of 1.9 million cast!

Where Do We Go From Here?............

Although we lost by a very slim margin, we celebrated a great victory!! We were attacked in late 2009 by the largest and wealthiest animal rights organization in the world. Rather than cowering to their lies and propaganda, we united our forces and fought back. We were told by numerous political advisors that we could not defeat HSUS by attacking them. Rather, we had to tell the public that we take better care of our animals than HSUS. We ignored their advice and attacked our enemy with a vengeance! We exposed their true agenda of eliminating animal ownership and agriculture as we know it. Each time they told the public it was “only about dogs” we fired back that it was a direct attack against all agriculture! When they showed emotional pictures in television ads, we fired back that the breeders and veterinarians portrayed were not representative of what they were saying. We proved that banding together with other agriculture interests created a formidable force. We talked to everyone who would listen and found that the public was hungry for the truth. We created public awareness that has not waned, and we have continued our march for taking back our rights against the onslaught by outside special interest groups buying our state laws!

Prop B made changes to our state law, not our constitution, so it can be amended or repealed in the state legislature. We are working on many avenues to make the necessary changes to ensure that the pet industry will continue to thrive. We may not have won this particular battle, but we are winning the war against animal rights.

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The HSUS Lobbygate Cover-Up and A Call to Action!

By Frank Losey

Once upon a time - November 22, 1954 to be precise - three individuals prepared articles of incorporation for an organization that was originally called the “National Humane Society.” That organization later became known as the Humane Society of the U.S. (HSUS). In their infinite wisdom, those three original incorporators included the following language in their articles of incorporation: “no substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation or to participate in or intervene...in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.”

Fast forward fifty years later to the year 2004 when Mr. Wayne Pacelle became the President and CEO of the HSUS. The articles of incorporation of the HSUS were the same as they were in 1954, but the political focus of the HSUS had dramatically changed and has continued to evolve into an extraordinarily sophisticated and highly prolific lobbying organization.

Onion Layers

As everyone knows, an onion consists of many layers. In this expose of the HSUS ‘Lobbygate’ cover-up, let us peel back a number of layers of a very deceitful and smelly ‘HSUS lobbying onion.’

Under the very first layer one will discover that Mr. Pacelle, who had served as the “Chief Lobbyist” for the HSUS before becoming its President and CEO, had already created the ‘Humane USA Political Action Committee’ (PAC) - an ‘affiliate organization’ of the HSUS. Most significantly, this PAC has submitted over 2,300 pages of lobbying related documents to the Federal Election Commission! Such a volume of pages more than suggests that ‘substantial’ lobbying activities are being generated from within the corporate structure of the HSUS.

Other illustrative examples of the lobbying activities of the Humane USA PAC may be derived from the fact that it, “channeled more than $400,000 to candidates through direct PAC contributions and through fundraising events that we hosted” (in 2008), and “gave direct contributions to 115 federal candidates who ran for election in 2008.” (The details of the political/lobbying activities of the Humane USA PAC have yet to be reported for the most recent elections in 2010. However, the following Humane USA PAC statement is most revealing: “[We] will be involved in hundreds of races at the state and federal level during the primary and general elections.”)

Thus, it is fair to say that the HSUS has participated in political campaigns, which are contrary to the explicit prohibition in its articles of incorporation! Here it is also noteworthy that Mr. Pacelle continues to serve on the Board of Directors of the Humane USA PAC, and that Mr. Michael Markarian, the HSUS Chief Operating Officer – the number two official of the HSUS - serves as the Chairperson of the Humane USA PAC, and that both Mr. Pacelle and Mr. Markarian participate in the decisions as to which political candidates receive HSUS Political PAC contributions.

To those who might suggest that the activities of the Humane USA PAC do not rise to the level of “substantial part,” consider also the fact that when Mr. Pacelle became President and CEO of the HSUS, he immediately ‘founded’ and orchestrated the creation of the ‘Humane Society Legislative Fund’ (HSLF), another ‘affiliated organization’ of the HSUS which has become the primary lobbying arm of the HSUS. Most significantly, Mr. Pacelle serves as its Vice President, and Mr. Markarian serves as its President. Tax returns filed by this organization reveal that Mr. Pacelle and Mr. Markarian each devote 10 hours a week to this organization - presumably 25% of a standard workweek for both of them, which by any measure would be considered a ‘significant part’ of their activities!

Furthermore, the HSLF publishes a “Scorecard,” which tracks how all 535 members of Congress voted with respect to the HSUS’ legislative agenda, and each year it hosts a Congressional reception to honor those members of Congress who have been most supportive of their agenda. And oh by the way, the HSLF also contributed $50,000 to the 2010 YES! on Prop B ballot initiative campaign in Missouri.

As the second layer of the ‘HSUS lobbying onion’ is peeled back, one will discover that Mr. Pacelle orchestrated the merger of the ‘Fund for Animals’ into the HSUS in 2004, and that he serves as its Executive Vice President. Additionally, Mr. Markarian serves as its President. Still further, this ‘affiliated organization’ has been used to ‘laundry’ contributions to political campaigns, such as the $110,000 that IT contributed to the Humane USA PAC, and that both Mr. Pacelle and Mr. Markarian participate in the decisions as to which political candidates receive HSUS Political PAC contributions.

Beneath the fourth layer of the ‘HSUS lobbying onion’ one will discover that the ‘Humane Society of Missouri’ (HSMO) became so involved as a ‘surrogate’ organization for the HSUS for the purpose of lobbying in support of the YES! on Prop B initiative that it is now in jeopardy of losing its tax-exempt, public charity status. In this regard, the IRS has assigned a Tax Fraud Case...
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File Number for its investigation of the Humane Society of Missouri (Case File No. 2010-003995). Significantly, the IRS has yet to consider the fact that the HSMO contributed nearly $197,000 - according to documents filed with the Missouri Ethics Committee - to the YES! on Prop B Campaign. This fact leaves one to wonder whether that nearly $197,000 would have been better spent in support of animal shelters in Missouri. And, under this same onion layer, one will discover that the HSUS contributed over $4.1 million dollars - according to documents filed with the Missouri Ethics Commission - to the YES! on Prop B Campaign. Again, one is left to wonder why the HSUS would spend over $4.1 million dollars on a lobbying effort in Missouri, but apparently not a single penny in direct support of any animal shelter in the State of Missouri.

Under the fifth layer of the ‘HSUS lobbying onion’ one will discover that the BIO of Ms. Nancy Perry, the HSUS Vice President for Government Affairs, reveals that “She oversees lobbying efforts in state legislatures, including ballot measure campaigns, and Congress and directs grassroots activities nationwide. She also lobbies directly for federal animal protection legislation; and that the HSUS has lobbied in all 50 states for animal protection legislation and secured felony cruelty provisions in 41 states (including Washington, D.C.).” This conclusively establishes that Ms. Perry also devotes a ‘substantial part’ of her activities to lobbying!

While on the topic of BIO’s, Mr. Pacelle’s BIO contains the statement that he “helped to defeat some of the strong anti-animal welfare politicians in the United States, including Rep Richard Pombo of California (2006) and Rep. Chris John of Louisiana (2004).” Not only was such action contrary to the prohibitions contained in the original articles of incorporation for the HSUS, but it was contrary to an explicit IRS prohibition that reads as follows: “Under the Internal Revenue Code, all section 501 (c) (3) organizations...are absolutely prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for political office....Violation of this prohibition may result in denial or revocation of tax-exempt status and the imposition of certain excise taxes.”

Beneath the sixth layer of our ‘HSUS lobbying onion’ one will discover that the HSUS repeatedly boasts that it is responsible for the passage of more than 550 – that’s 550! - Federal and State statutes and ballot initiatives. This too reinforces the fact that a ‘substantial part’ of the activities of the HSUS are lobbying-related.

Under the seventh layer of the ‘HSUS lobbying onion’ one will discover that up until the filing of its 2009 Tax Return, the HSUS repeatedly included on its Returns detailed comments as to its lobbying activities for the year. Comments included: “With staff of our Government Affairs Section in Washington DC, Regional Staff in our Field Services Section across the country, and a network of volunteers, we are active in ALL 50 State Capitols across the country.... Also at the State level, the HSUS is active in citizen-initiated ballot measures.... HSUS training is offered to citizens... who wish to participate in the legislative process.... In 2008, the HSUS organized and taught ‘Lobbying 101’ workshops in more than 40 States.... We also communicate with online advocates and provide information and training remotely.... The HSUS sent electronic updates to nationwide volunteers, members, and other interested parties. In addition, the HSUS assisted in sending constituent E-mails and Faxes to lawmakers through a functionality on the Society’s website.... Lobbying on these issues included direct contact with legislators and their staff.” Perhaps the most compelling evidence of a ‘cover-up’ of the magnitude of the lobbying activities of the HSUS may be derived from the fact that when the HSUS filed its 2009 Tax Return, all such references as quoted above were omitted, even though they had appeared in prior year Tax Returns. Why the ‘omissions,’ if not for the purpose of a COVER-UP?!

And yet there is more that may be found under the next few layers of the ‘HSUS lobbying onion.’ For example, the HSUS has sent hundreds of millions of lobby-related E-Mails each year to its millions of members, volunteers and lawmakers. If one does the math, the total number of lobby-related E-Mails for the last 4-5 years could very well exceed over a billion! If over a billion E-Mails were stacked on top of one another, the stack would be over 69 miles high! That 69 mile high stack would also reinforce the fact that a ‘substantial part’ of the lobbying activities of the HSUS was lobby related.

Under yet another layer of the ‘HSUS lobbying onion,’ one will also discover that tens of thousand of HSUS volunteers have lobbied on behalf of the HSUS Legislative Agenda. And according to IRS Regulations, the lobbying time expended by ‘volunteers’ must be attributed to the public charity in order to determine if it has engaged in TOO MUCH LOBBYING, and has exceeded the “substantial part” threshold of the IRS. So when the cumulative effects of the above described lobbying activities of the HSUS are added to over 100 other examples of HSUS lobbying activities that are included in over 1,400 pages of incriminating documents that have been provided to the IRS, it becomes an inescapable fact that the HSUS devotes at least 40% or more of its monetary expenditures and the time of its paid staff, members, and volunteers to direct or indirect lobbying activities. That is twice the amount of allowable lobbying activities for a tax-exempt, public charity! Consequently, one is left to wonder why the IRS has tolerated such lobbying abuses by the HSUS, especially in light of the fact that its own Regulations provide that “No organization may qualify for 501
(c) (3) status if a substantial part of its activities is attempting to influence legislation (commonly known as lobbying.... The IRS considers a variety of factors, including the time devoted by both compensated and volunteer workers and the expenditures devoted by the organization to the activity, when determining whether the lobbying activity is substantial.... Under the substantial part test, an organization that conducts excessive lobbying in any taxable year may lose its tax-exempt status, resulting in all of its income being subject to tax.”

As if the above evidence of excessive lobbying is not enough to call into question the need for the IRS to crack down on the HSUS in order to maintain the integrity of the IRS Compliance Program for tax-exempt, public charities, there is another ‘bombshell’ of monumental proportions - the omission of significant revenue on its Tax Returns. In this regard, it is shocking and incredulous that, even though the HSUS claims to have over 11 million Members, and its Annual Dues are $10 per year, the HSUS claimed on its Tax Returns for the last five years (2005-2009) that it received ZERO - that’s right ZERO - revenue from Membership Dues. What happened to the potentially missing $500 plus million dollars!?

Call for Expeditious IRS Action

So WHY hasn’t the IRS done something about the fact that the HSUS may be a TAX CHEAT, and WHY has the IRS permitted the HSUS to engage in excessive, prohibited, under-reported and non-reported lobbying activities?

Well, the IRS has assigned a Tax Fraud Case Number (29-92012) to its “on-going” investigation of the HSUS. However, its “on-going” investigation has been on-going for over two years, and there does not appear to be any sense of urgency to hold the HSUS to a strict and timely standard of accountability. That is why the issue has been elevated to the Department of the Treasury’s Office of the Inspector General for Tax Administration, which has also assigned a Case File Number (55-1005-0025-C). This office has oversight over the IRS, and if this office were to receive thousands of E-Mails from concerned citizens who believe that the HSUS should be held to a strict standard of accountability, that may create the compelling ‘critical mass’ of pressure that will result in the IRS being directed to expedite the completion of its “on-going” investigation of the excessive lobbying activities of the HSUS, as well as for the IRS to be directed to ask the HSUS to account for its failure to report any revenue from Membership Dues - up to $500 Million! If anyone wishes to help create the critical mass of pressure on the IRS to expedite its investigation of the HSUS by sending an E-Mail to the Treasury’s Office of the Inspector General for Tax Administration, the following is suggested for your consideration:

1. Address your E-Mail to: Complaints@tigta.treas.gov.
2. Use for the Subject line of your E-Mail: OIG Case File Number 55-1005-0025-C.
3. For the text of your message, you may wish to use language such as: “Now that the IRS has received over 1,400 pages that document the excessive lobbying activities of the HSUS, which may amount to an HSUS LOBBYGATE COVER-UP; and that the HSUS may have under-reported its revenue from Membership Dues on its 2005-2009 Tax Returns by as much as $500 million dollars or more, would you please urge the IRS to complete its investigation of the HSUS in an expeditious manner in order to ensure that the integrity of the IRS Compliance Program for tax-exempt, public charities is maintained.” (Note: You do not need to include your name or address if you do not wish to do so.)

If you do send an E-Mail to the OIG Hotline, please blind copy me on the bcc line of the E-Mail so that I may keep track of how many E-Mails are sent to the OIG. Use f.losey@insightbb.com for my bcc E-Mail address.

And, if anyone prefers to call the OIG HOTLINE, the number is 1-800-366-4484. The FAX Number is 202-927-7018; and the Mailing Address is Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, HOTLINE, P.O. Box 589, Ben Franklin Station, Washington DC 20044-0589.

End note…”The Shadow knows what evil lurks” in the heart of the HSUS, and he too will be whispering in the ear of the IRS!

Franklin W. Losey is an attorney licensed to practice law in the States of Ohio and Kentucky and also licensed to appear before the U.S. Supreme Court who has submitted written legal briefs that have been considered by the U.S. Supreme Court. He has served as a United States Air Force Judge Advocate; was assigned to the Pentagon as the Director of Civil Law, where he supervised over 100 military and civilian attorneys; provided legal guidance to the Air Force Chief of Staff and other General Officers assigned to the Pentagon. Since 1990 Mr. Losey has interfaced with Presidents of multi-billion dollar corporations, Members of Congress and their key staff, and senior members of the Executive Branch of our Government. During this period he successfully orchestrated actual statutory changes to Title 10 (Armed Forces), Title 18 (Crimes and Criminal Procedure - Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act), Title 26 (Internal Revenue Code), and Title 41 (Public Contracts) of the U.S. Code. He was also successful in effecting changes to regulations promulgated by the Department of Defense, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Agriculture, OSHA, EPA and the International Maritime Organization and has spoken on behalf of the U.S. Government at an Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OEC). Mr. Losey’s passion for representing responsible dog breeders is based on his commitment to repay Chaucer, his beloved Yorkie, who he treasured for over 18 years who came from a breeder in Missouri. Mr. Losey may be contacted via email at f.losey@insightbb.com.
When the Kennel Spotlight heard that the ‘leading abolitionist of animal agriculture’ Wayne Pacelle, President of HSUS was going to meet with some legislators at our Missouri Capitol in Jefferson City, we knew that we definitely had to go! I met up with some 70 plus breeders on January 12th to help counteract some of the ongoing damage from the HSUS. Despite the fact that our Proposition B bill has already passed, it will not go into effect until November of this year and so our fight is far from over!

Led by Karen Strange of MoFed and Barb York of MPBA, our group walked the halls of both the House and Senate to meet with any of the legislators who had time to speak with us. We had a very positive response and several of them took time from their busy schedule to stop and address the breeders. Representative Tom Loehner from the 112th District talked about the possibility of the current licensed breeders being ‘grandfathered’ in so that they would not lose their businesses. He encouraged all pet professionals to contact their local reps and tell them their ‘personal’ stories. Representative Ed Schieffer from the 11th District gave praise to the various Ag groups and Farm Bureau members joining the dog breeders to get Prop B changed. He recommended that we as breeders and pet owners need to explain to our legislators the potential loss of revenue not only to our families, but to the local communities and state. He also suggested that we send ‘letters to the editor’ to our local newspapers educating the public about the devastating effects of Prop B.

Senator Bill Stouffer of the 21st District who filed SB 4, (a full repeal of Prop B), graciously allowed our entire group into his office and took the time to answer several questions about the unconstitutionality of the bill. He, along with several of the other legislators was in agreement that Prop B was in their top priority to address since it concerned all animal agriculture and production. We were all acutely aware that while we were voicing our concerns to the different senators and representatives, Wayne Pacelle was also there meeting with the same legislators, pleading his case that the voter ‘numbers’ in the big cities were what constituted the ‘will of the people’. We passed by him several times in the hallway but there were no outbursts or threats from our group as most people would expect. It was important to us that the representatives of our state recognized us as ‘professional pet producers’, and not the backwoods, ‘animal abusers’ that Mr. Pacelle and his HSUS group have portrayed us as.

We were very pleased to again meet with Senator Mike Parson of the 28th District, who had made a great presentation at the Bolivar meeting held on Dec. 30th (see article on pg. 24). Being from an agriculture background and cattle rancher himself, he is very committed to seeing Prop B changed. He gave the breeders some excellent advice on what they could do to help him and the other legislators make this happen.

It was a great experience for me personally to go to the capitol and see ‘first hand’ the lawmaking process. I even had the opportunity to meet with Representative Bill Reiboldt who is from my own district and a dairy farmer himself. Dave Miller, a fellow breeder and advocate from Neosho and I, spoke to Rep.Reiboldt about the detrimental effects of Prop B to our families and livelihoods. We really appreciated him and the other legislators we met with that day, taking the time to speak with us about the critical loss of revenue to rural Missouri due to Proposition B. We look forward to seeing the positive results from our representatives in protecting our rights as animal producers, ranchers and farmers.

I urge anyone in the animal agriculture and farming communities to write to your local representatives and explain to them your own personal and financial loss due to Prop B. Make sure you remain professional and polite and be sure to thank them for their time and consideration. And above all, stay in contact with our lobbyists, Karen Strange with MoFed, Barb York with Missouri Pet Breeders and Mindy Patterson with the Alliance for Truth; these ladies are our soldiers on the front lines, protecting YOUR RIGHTS!

By Kathy Bettes

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ANAMNESTIC RESPONSE TO VACCINATIONS

In previous articles, I have discussed the differing divisions of the immune system in puppies. It gets complicated when evaluating these various segments of the immune system, how they work with or against the other in response to being challenged by either vaccines or environmental pathogens.

In this article we will concentrate our focus to the acquired immune system, and its response to vaccination. The acquired immune system has memory, and we will discuss the importance of timing of the primary vaccination, and interval between primary vaccination and booster vaccination to give the best anamnestic response.

T-cells originating from the thymus, are the primary cells that attach to the antigen (i.e. Parvovirus) and present this antigen to the white blood cells (WBC’s) that will start producing antibodies against the antigen. T-cells are produced at a fairly constant rate. If the antigens in the primary vaccination activate all the T-cells, we will not have enough new cells produced from the thymus, to respond to a booster vaccination with an interval of less than 10-14 days.

The interval of 10-14+ days allows for newly produced, naïve T-cells to be activated by the antigen, to produce more antibodies, stimulating an anamnestic (booster) response.

Proper vaccine intervals, is much more critical, than the sheer number of vaccinations administered to the animals.

Working together to establish proper vaccine intervals for the puppies, starting with our breeding facilities, will ensure the puppies have adequate immunity.

If you have any questions concerning your vaccination programs, including adequate vaccine intervals, feel free to call and visit with any Lambriar veterinary staff.

Dr. J
Lambriar Staff Veterinarian

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As age slipped up on Bugle Ann, Mother Nature gave her many symptoms to convince her it was time to slow down. She loved the hunt but she did not like the morning after. She found that she needed those 2:00 a.m. trips outside almost every night. When she got up, she noticed that her joints sounded like a string of firecrackers going off. She found that she liked to lie in a warm place and watch the younger dogs romp in the yard. All the signs of advancing age were being made clear to her.

She made the trip to Ohio to visit Leon. She then made two more hunts when she came home but in about 30 days, she was just not herself and she had no desire to try to even keep the fox in sight. Besides, there was something different about Old Red. He was not doing the things he used to do. If she had not got a good look at him, she would swear she was chasing a different fox. Dominate got much closer to Old Red and he realized that something was much different. After the first chase, it was obvious that nobody was going to catch that fox on a straight hard run.

Old Red lay in the brush, laughing at the efforts put forth by the dogs as they chased Young Red across the hills and valleys. Now this was fun. Lying there in the brush watching Young Red just plain outrun those dogs gave him a sense of enjoyment he hadn’t experienced since he’d been able to do the same. But he knew his son was going to need some advice from the old master. Blind speed does not last long. Cunning takes its place at a later date, and Old Red had a trainload of cunning. He would just have to pass it on to Young Red.

Dominate realized quickly that some planning and teamwork was going to be necessary to catch this fox. He quickly realized that this was a much younger and faster fox than he learned to chase from Bugle Ann. He was going to need some advice on some of the maneuvers his mother used when she left the scent or the visual contact to get ahead of the fox.

**Although dog lovers do not believe it, dogs do not write.** They can’t hold a pen in their paws. For that matter, neither do foxes. So the only way either had of imparting their knowledge to their offspring was to show them. This necessitated that Bugle Ann and Old Red, once again, needed to make the race. On the next night out, Bugle Ann took the lead but she knew immediately that this fox was not Old Red. He looked the same, but his smell was different. She stopped the race and started to hunt for the trail of Old Red again. Young Red stopped running and turned to look at the dogs. The dogs stopped running and turned to look at Bugle Ann. Where was she going? They could all see that Red was standing at the top of the hill, daring them to just try and catch him. Old Red saw Bugle Ann cross his scent. He heard her cry that beautiful sound she made when she picked up a trail. But Red remembered how close he was to death the last time Bugle Ann got on his trail. He also remembered the vow he made to never let it come that close again. Old Red headed for his home. He entered his hole a quarter mile ahead of Bugle Ann.

Dominate thought the night was a bust, so he headed back to the fire. Coming in early was an absolute abomination. I had seen a dog killed for coming in early. Dominate did not realize that he had committed the cardinal sin. Thumb picked up an old harness strap and hit Dominate hard with it. He then scolded the dog harshly and chased him back away from the fire. Dominate knew he had done something wrong, he just wasn’t sure what it was. He went looking for the other dogs, who were trying to pick up another scent from another fox.

Thumb was mortified! Here he was, the owner of the two best dogs in Jackson County and looking to start a training school. He had intended to use Dominate as a stud dog, then Dominate pulls a stunt like this. The other men around the fire got very quiet. They knew Thumb was distraught. Every fox hunter in West Virginia knew the humiliation Thumb was suffering. It was not a joking matter.

Bugle Ann picked up the scent of Young Red. He saw her swing onto his trail but he knew he could out run her. He was more concerned about Dominate and Sister. They were young and fast. But where was Dominate? He had left the pack. Red was concerned that maybe he had gotten ahead of him and was just waiting for him to show up. Little did he know that Dominate was getting scolded back at the fire. But Bugle Ann knew. She was worried and very concerned about Dominate. She had seen dogs killed because they
came in too early. She was going to have to have a talk with that boy.

When Dominate got back down into the valley, he heard the pack picking up the scent of Young Red but he was so hurt that he didn't care. He knew he was going to have to figure out why his master had punished him. Whatever it was, it had something to do with him being the first one to return to the fire. Well, that was never going to happen again! He guessed that Bugle Ann had looked for and found another scent, and now was on the trail of a new fox. He had just assumed that all the dogs would give up the chase when Old Red had gone to his hole. What if she had not found a new scent? That whole pack would have been running all over that valley, burning up energy for nothing. He could not see what he had done wrong.

Young Red just plain outran those other dogs and disappeared into the timber. He ran up the creek and jumped onto a log and his trail vanished. The pack then gave up. All the dogs returned to the fire, including Dominate. The hunters called it a night, loaded up the dogs and went home. The next day, Bugle Ann called Dominate and Sister over to her. She was trying to soothe Dominate's hurt feelings. She would not try to win the race the next time; she would concentrate on teaching them the skills she had acquired over the years. She too, used to depend on speed, but as the speed left her, she had to rely on tricks she had picked up from other older dogs. She would teach them to her pups. Dominate was still angry. Why did Thumb expect him to stay out when the fox had run to the hole? Bugle Ann consoled him by explaining that sometimes a dog did what his master wanted him to, whether it made any sense or not. When you were three miles from the fire, you could do what ever you wanted to do, just so long as you made some noise that sounded like you were on the trail of a fox. But you had to learn that a rabbit or a deer ran a different race, and those hunters sitting up there on that hill could somehow tell whether you were onto a rabbit or not. Bugle Ann had noticed over the years that the dogs that liked to chase rabbits were not there for the next race. You learned to chase the fox first, but you learned to please your master next. By Jim Hughes

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2010 Canine Legislation Year in Review

2010 was a year of many challenges and many victories for responsible dog owners and breeders. The AKC Government Relations Department (AKC GR) had another record-breaking year in the number of canine legislative proposals introduced on the federal, state, and local levels.

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of numerous AKC state federations, local clubs, and concerned breeders and dog owners, a number of the over 1,200 proposals introduced were defeated or never considered. AKC GR was pleased to support the efforts of local dog owners working to protect their rights. You can view a full list of 2010 successes online at www.akc.org/canine_legislation.

Highlights of successes in 2010 include:

• **California** – Senate Bill 250 sought to mandate the sterilization of dogs on a second animal control violation in a lifetime and could have prevented the owner of the dog from ever owning an intact animal again. The General Assembly defeated the bill by a vote of 28-40.

• **New Hampshire** – House Bill 1624 sought to impose many unreasonable and unnecessary restrictions on responsible dog breeders and owners, including ownership limits, onerous care and conditions standards for certain breeders, and severe limitations on the practices of debarking and tail docking. The NH House Environmental and Agriculture Committee defeated the legislation.

• **North Carolina** – After a two-year legislative battle, Senate Bill 460 was finally defeated when it was pulled from consideration by the House Finance Committee. SB 460 sought to place unreasonable, costly, and confusing restrictions on dog breeding in North Carolina. North Carolina legislators reported receiving thousands of letters and phone calls from concerned constituents.

• **Wisconsin** - The Wisconsin Legislature adjourned prior to giving final approval to AB 793, which would have allowed for those contracted to care for animals seized during a cruelty trial to petition the court to euthanize, sell or remove the animals prior to the conclusion of the trial. Furthermore, an animal would have been considered “unclaimed” if the owner failed to pay an amount mandated by the court for care of the animals within five days. The owner would not have been refunded the money paid, regardless of whether there was a guilty verdict.

Despite fewer states having a legislative session in 2010, AKC GR tracked over 250 more pieces of canine legislation on the federal and state levels than in 2009. In total, over 1,100 pieces of legislation were introduced in Congress and state legislatures relating to dogs or animal ownership. Cruelty and breeding restrictions remained hot issues, and there was also an increase in the amount of general legislation that addressed animal ownership or dogs in particular. Although the majority of these “other” bills were not detrimental to dog owners, it demonstrates that lawmakers are concerned about animal issues. As a result, we expect the number of state and federal bills to increase again in 2011.

AKC GR is also observing a trend of increased attempts to pass legislation on the local level when it fails on the state level. As a result, there were significantly more breeder and kennel regulations proposed locally than in previous years. In many cases, constituents were able to defeat, amend, or postpone these proposals, and AKC GR was pleased to support these efforts. This sends a very clear message that it is imperative to continuously check city council and county commission agendas, as successes on the local level are a direct result of local constituent involvement. On a positive note, at least five localities introduced legislation this year to increase or repeal their ownership limit laws. This is an exciting
development for responsible dog owners, and illustrates the impact that education and perseverance can have when fighting canine legislation. The numerous successes in 2010 demonstrate that the united voice of responsible dog owners and breeders is being heard by lawmakers. However, we can expect new and even tougher challenges in 2011. Keep up-to-date on 2011 legislation and learn how you can get involved by contacting the AKC Government Relations Department at (919) 816-3720 or by visiting our web site at www.akc.org/canine_legislation.

2010 Local Legislation

2010 State Legislation

*Note that some bills encompassed more than one issue, and therefore were counted twice.
It’s been over 3 months since the general election but controversy continues to swirl surrounding Proposition B (also known as the ‘Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act’ ) that was written by the animal activists of HSUS (Humane Society of the United States). Prop B was designed to put more extreme regulations on dog breeders and reform Missouri’s dog breeding industry, so it was no surprise that the agricultural community decided to join in the fight.

The Polk/Dallas County Cattlemen’s Assn. and Farm Bureau hosted an informational meeting in Bolivar, Missouri on Dec. 30th, 2010 with well over 500 residents, ranchers, farmers and dog breeders in attendance. Missouri State Senator Mike Parson from District 28 outlined his ideas on ‘fixing’ Prop B and gave an ‘eye-opening’ power-point presentation on the ‘legal ramifications’ of the damaging bill. “When you start limiting the private sector in what they can own and sell, I think that’s a problem,” he explained. “It does nothing for the people who operate illegally because it only applies to licensed breeders.”

Senator Bill Stouffer and Senator Rob Mayer along with several other lawmakers from across the state were also in attendance. “Proposition B lowers the standards we already have so we need to at least bring it back up to where it was,” stated Sen. Stouffer, who recently filed a full repeal of the bill. Some of the talking points discussed were about Prop B not only limiting the rights of private businesses but targeting a major economic industry in Missouri. Former Speaker of the House, Ron Richards commented that Agriculture is the largest job creator in the Show Me State. Many farmers and ranchers feel that Proposition B is just the start of a slippery slope situation where the same rules could be imposed on the cattle, pork and poultry industry.

A surprise attendee was millionaire Forrest Lucas of Lucas Oil and Cattle Company who had flown in specifically for this meeting. Mr. Lucas, who had already spent over $350,000 in television and radio ads to fight Prop B, addressed the crowd and pledged to continue the fight to protect all of animal agriculture nationwide. He commented that the ‘real HSUS’ had already hurt the poultry industry (Calif.) and their target is to abolish all meat production, including hunting and fishing. He reminded the animal producers that they were the ones who voted in the new legislators so the producers needed to make sure the lawmakers did what was right for the animal agriculture industry.

Despite Proposition B passing with 51% of the vote, many lawmakers believe voters who supported the issue were misinformed and swayed by propaganda. “I think it was a very polished and well-funded campaign in favor of the proposition. The opposition got started late and had limited resources,” commented Senator Mayer. “When you look at the content of the bill and really read it, there are definitely some areas that need to be clarified.” Both sides will agree that the battle over ‘B’ is far from over!

It was an incredible meeting the Kennel Spotlight would like to thank all the state representatives and guests who attended and spoke on behalf of the pet and animal agriculture industry. We appreciate your support of a major economic industry to our nation and look forward to working with you in protecting all animal producers and their families.

For those of you who didn’t attend, you really missed out! It was awesome! By Kathy Bettes
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SB15 FILED BY OKLAHOMA
SENATOR JOSH BRECHEEN

Part one column:

In an attempt to preserve constitutionally guaranteed personal property rights, I have filed SB15. This bill would overturn the Commercial Pet Breeders Act, which narrowly passed during the last legislative session.

The Commercial Pet Breeders Act (CPBA) set up a new state regulatory board to inspect every commercial dog or cat breeder with 11 or more producing females. It mandates involuntary inspection of private property without a warrant. Its board now has the authority to tell private business owners how to run their businesses yet has only one-out of eight- representatives who is a commercial breeder.

The CPBA board until recently imposed regulations that were crippling to commercial dog breeders with grossly high license fees, mandated animal exercise schedules, rules on number of employees per animal and facility humidity level guidelines among other regulations. In short, this board is convinced they know more about animal husbandry than the producers and their veterinarians.

I have grave concerns that although some regulations for the time being now resemble USDA guidelines (after major outcry from the industry), the board will return to their original regulations in years ahead (due to the left leaning philosophy of board members and lack of representation from the industry). I also see the handwriting on the wall for the state taxpayer picking up more of a tab for the regulatory services as private fees are reduced. Other states with like programs have increased state government involvement and taxpayer expense at a rapid pace.

The most egregious part of this statute (UNCHANGEABLE WITHOUT REPEAL) is the mandatory inspection of private property. ALL commercial owners of 11+ producing females will be under the supervision of the state. The state inspector will have access to their private property (not a public facility) without a warrant. This is a direct violation of an Oklahoman’s Fourth Amendment protection from unreasonable search and seizure. Individual liberty is at stake and we must not allow the loss of personal freedoms and constitutional rights, lest we are next.

Imagine if your cattle, swine, horses or poultry were being subjected to similar invasive inspections under guidelines established by bureaucrats who think meat comes from a plastic wrapped styrofoam tray? We wouldn’t be too thrilled, yet the Commercial Pet Breeders Act sets the stage for exactly that kind of legislative tradition. That discussion is for next week’s column.

Many of us know a commercial pet breeder. They are our friends, neighbors and relatives. Commercial breeders use the income to survive and support their local economy. For some, it’s their retirement plan. They are small businesses, taxpayers and part of our community. Most breeders are professional and treat animals humanely. They know if they don’t, it’s extremely hard to sell a sickly or thin animal. The market, not a government inspector, ensures this.

Yes, there are bad actors, but these actors aren’t getting rich by being inhumane. They aren’t the ones selling to pet stores as that privilege is reserved only for those who are already USDA inspected and compliant. The bad actors are the ones who try and stay out of the light of day by selling puppies in superstar parking lots or some other quick sale location. They will not be effectively discovered under this new Oklahoma law. They will just move their operation deeper into the woods.

Current state law already establishes a way for animal cruelty to be addressed. Our local law enforcement officials can enter property without a warrant or line of sight confirmation and seize harmed animals. The state can recoup the cost of these actions through fines or sale of the animals. The problem, by many accounts, is not historical statute. The problem is twofold; the lack of personal responsibility, such as people alerting authorities when they see something of concern, and enough knowledgeable law enforcement personnel to address complaints.

I recently met with a District 6 constituent to talk about these concerns. She is a former Missouri state kennel inspector who now runs an animal welfare charity in our district and has a tremendous heart for protecting animals. I doubt anyone in the state of Oklahoma has greater expertise or knowledge about the regulation of the commercial pet production industry and the challenges of addressing animal cruelty. She, too, contends that the recently passed law needs to be repealed as it will NOT make a significant difference in the welfare of animals and that there is a BETTER SOLUTION. If an animal welfare advocate with years of commercial breeding expertise doesn’t support this law, how can the rest of Oklahoma feel confident in it accomplishing its intended goals? This individual and I are working together and believe we have found an alternative that protects animals while reducing state expense, the government’s interference in free commerce and trampling of private property/constitutional rights.

Identification of those selling sickly animals is the key to a new plan. This information could be gathered through requiring health certificates at time of purchase (already required for out-of-state purchases and at certain livestock auctions). The health certificate would include verifiable facility information for the purchaser (a relationship with local veterinarian issuing certificate is essential in this step). For health certificates issued for exchange purposes, the information would then be sent to an existing state agency that already oversees other livestock production industries.

continued on pg. 28
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The state agency would then identify and plot the locations of commercial pet facilities (available online) based upon the number of health certificates issued yearly (number of sales). As is, this state agency has the staff to handle this new responsibility and could also assist local law enforcement officers in addressing animal cruelty when discovered (calls from informed neighbors or recipients of sickly animals.) Those engaged in criminal acts would be imposed upon while those who operate humanely would continue as normal (as most obtain health certificates already).

The agricultural community with both private and state regulatory interests should welcome this new idea given the potential problems ahead for production agriculture without repeal. This will be discussed in the column. Senator Josh Brecheen, District 6

**PART 2 COLUMN;**

The battle cry against this Commercial Pet Breeders Act is overwhelming among informed conservatives and humane animal producers.

The CPBA was sold as a way to stop animal rights activists like the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) from creating a media campaign that might hinder Oklahoma’s commercial pet breeding industry or hurt our state’s image. Legislators were told that if we didn’t regulate, we would be branded inhumane because of unregulated “puppy mills,” and that it would hurt our ability to attract industry. Have you ever heard of a manufacturing site locater asking about our state’s dog breeders or whether we have a “puppy mill” problem? I have not. They do ask about a low tax business environment and if there are state-level regulations that might increase their costs. They will ask about worker’s comp laws, our road and rail system and our educated/skilled labor force, but “puppy mills” just aren’t a part of the normal discussions. It was a well designed selling point but lacking in practicality.

Ironically, just recently HSUS released its annual rankings that show our state ranked 27th in humane treatment of animals. We ranked lower than 26 other states (middle ranking among 50 states) BECAUSE we allow certain common AGRICULTURAL and HUNTING practices (i.e. gestation crates for sows and using hog dogs that they deem inhumane). The regulation of ‘PM’s’ is not the final goal for animal rights activists and yet Oklahoma is starting down a slippery slope of retreat.

“My goal is the abolition of all animal agriculture,” said HSUS employee John Goodwin. The passage of the Commercial Pet Breeders Act threatens production agriculture and the agricultural community needs to be awakened. The animal rights activists will not stop here. This bill places their foot in the door with legislators and creates the opportunity for an easy transition to other animal industries. Oklahoma is one of the most conservative states in America, with a conservative legislative majority, so the fact that the animal rights activists won a major legislative battle with the passage of the CPBA is quite concerning. “No harm” they say, “It’s not livestock but only applies to companion animals.” However, we should look at other states and animal rights history to know what’s next. Keep in mind the issues causing us to be ranked inhumane relate to common agricultural practices.

The horse industry will likely be the next target. In several states, the animal rights activists are trying to classify horses as companion animals. We could have an Oklahoma legislature within ten years passing laws regulating stalled horses, dairy cattle or an FFA or 4-H student project. It’s not so far out to see urban mindsets moving this direction, rationalizing. “Well, we do it for dogs so we might as well for....”

I am also convinced that the statutory number of 11 intact females for dog breeders will be lessened as the years pass and the Oklahoma legislature changes. There are lawmakers already committed to this course, and the Humane Society and PETA will make sure of it. They have just started.

Let me provide a possible future scenario: A typical rancher who raises cowdogs finds his/her three Border Collie females are now to be inspected as three females are to be the updated 2020 female number cutoff (again, this is just a scenario). If this occurred, the rancher would not have the right to keep a state worker from inspecting their place. Based on the current proposed regulations, a working dog’s life would not be in compliance, so the rancher would have to either run the risk of committing a crime by not licensing or spend lots of money to be in compliance.

Taking it a step further, let’s say the inspector notices a horse stall that has not been mucked to their satisfaction and decides the rancher should be criminally charged with animal cruelty. As a result, the rancher has to spend his hard-earned dollars defending himself against this malarkey, at what cost to his family and livelihood? We must delay this before it grows tentacles!

Now the hard work of garnishing legislative support begins. I am doing my part to engage legislators and other key agriculture groups to join me in supporting SB15 and its repeal of last session’s Commercial Pet Breeders Act. I ask that all conservatives in Senate District 6 please make your voice heard to your local agricultural policy group (Oklahoma Cattlemans Association, Oklahoma Farm Bureau, American Farmers and Ranchers) with the knowledge that your animal industry and private property could be next.

“First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out—Because I was not a Socialist. Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out—Because I was not a Trade Unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—Because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.”

Pastor Martin Niemoller, WWII Holocaust Survivor
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NEW MPBA CHAPTER!

On Monday, Jan. 17th a new chapter of the Missouri Pet Breeders Association in Southwest Missouri was formed. Piloted by Dave Miller of Neosho (featured on the Dec’10 issue cover), a dinner meeting was held at Daddy Jim’s Restaurant in Neosho, Mo. About 35+ breeders attended from around the local SW Missouri area to discuss ways of protecting their businesses and what they could do to help MPBA and MoFed. Special guest speaker was Barb York, president of MPBA who spoke to us about the current legislation happening in the state and the latest accomplishments from our lobbyists.

Although the new chapter has not been ‘aptly’ named yet, officers were elected.

*President-Terry Buening of Neosho, Mo. (email: pawpaw@netins.net)
*Vice President-Kenneth Anderson of Goodman, Mo.
*Secretary-Charlene Jay of Neosho, Mo. (email: charleespuppies@yahoo.com)
*Treasurer-Kathy Bettes of Granby, Mo. (email: kathybettes@kennelspotlight.com)
*Director-Dave Miller of Neosho, Mo.

Dinner was graciously paid for by Chris Fleming of Mid America Pets in Neosho. Meetings will be held on the second Monday of the month in Neosho and plans are already underway for fundraising ideas and increasing membership for MPBA. We encourage all breeders in Missouri and the surrounding states to join their local clubs and support the organizations that are supporting us!

Thank you to Dave & Judy Miller who have been organizing several of the local meetings and lobbying for our Missouri Professional dog breeders. If you would like to join this chapter or the state club, please contact us at one the emails listed above.  

By Kathy Bettes

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ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

By Baxter Black, DVM

ANIMAL LOVERS

Let’s talk about animal lovers
Not those who protest and accuse
But everyday people who carry the load
And don’t make the six o’clock news.

It’s proper to make the distinction
When explanations are given;
Between those who care as a hobby
And others who care for a livin’.

When we speak of animal lovers
The part-time groups come to mind.
Nice enough folks, who articulate well,
And shine when the cameras grind.

It’s too bad more credit’s not given
To the ones who seldom get heard
‘Cause, in spite of their modest behavior,
Their actions speak louder than words.

These are the folks that on Christmas Day
Take care of God’s animals first
With never a thought they should have the day off
Or that they might be reimbursed.

They believe that Genesis meant it,
That man has dominion o’er all,
And they don’t take their mandate too lightly
To care for the great and the small.

God’s entrusted His creatures to us
By rating us all in His log
According to what our abilities are
Most get a house cat or dog.

But the bulk of the animal kingdom
He placed in the hands of a few
Who feel more at home in a pasture than
An office on Fifth Avenue

God did it that way for a reason
‘Cause talk’s cheap where carin’s concerned.
The title of animal lover is
An honor that has to be earned.

To those who’d debate my conclusion
To your own you’re welcome to cling.
But I’ll bet if we’d ask His opinion
God knows that He did the right thing.

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On January 2nd, Janice & Joe Swofford of Shell Knob, Missouri donated an AKC registered Border Collie named ‘Evie’ to Joe Renecker, a 13 yr. old young man who has spent his entire life in a wheel chair.

Last December, Joe’s father Jeff had sent an email to Janice asking if she had any female Border Collies who were short haired and Black and White. His son had decided he wanted a Border Collie for a helper dog. At this time, Janice had only one older pup left that she had named Evie. Janice had completed her CERF testing (Canine Eye Registration Foundation) along with her Herding Instinct testing. She also shown her in Conformation classes at several AKC shows and had taken her to the Border Collie Nationals in October. Evie placed 4th in the puppy class but showing didn’t seem to be her thing so when Janice got home, she decided to find her an Agility home or a great pet home.

It was then she received the email from Jeff and she felt that this was meant to be. Evie had been tagging along with his mother, who was an AKC Champion and Certified Therapy dog, to nursing homes from early on so Janice thought this would be a good opportunity for Evie to show what she could do.

Like most puppies, Evie was a little rambunctious and Janice was apprehensive that she might be too much for Joe so she had Jeff bring him over to meet with Evie and see how they got along. When Joe and his family came, the first thing Evie did was lay her head in Joe’s lap and then sat quietly beside his chair. Despite Evie being worth $1000, Janice knew that giving head in Joe’s lap and sit quietly next to him. And everytime she does this, it makes me want to cry...We cannot thank you enough for your kindness and generosity. This world is a better place to live with people like you. We are very grateful to what you have done for us.'

Dear Janice,

‘You asked me about Joe’s muscle condition. He was diagnosed with “Centronuclear Myopathy or CNM”, sometimes also called “Myotubular Myopathy or MTM”. There are several websites on this congenital disorder. I found “Wikipedia” has the description pretty well written. Here is the link: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centronuclear_myopathy. I copied the part from “Clinical Presentation” to you. There are three major forms. The most severe form is the X-linked form. Babies with X-linked CNM usually die before the age of 2, so luckily, Joe doesn’t have this one. His condition is between severe and mild. See the following:

“As with other myopathies, the clinical manifestations of MTM/CNM are most notably muscle weakness and associated disabilities. Congenital forms often present with neonatal low muscle tone, severe weakness, delayed developmental milestones (particularly gross motor milestones such as head control, crawling, and walking) and pulmonary complications (presumably due to weakness of the muscles responsible for respiration). While some patients with centronuclear myopathies remain ambulatory throughout their adult life, others may never crawl or walk and may require wheelchair use for mobility. There is substantial variability in the degree of functional impairment among the various centronuclear myopathies. Other observed features have been high arched palate, long digits, bell shaped chest and long face, it has to be added that myotubular myopathy only affects muscles and does not impact intelligence in any shape or form. Although this condition only affects the voluntary muscles, several children have suffered from cardiac arrest, possibly due to the additional stress placed on the heart.”

Let us know when you come to Columbia area, so you can come to visit Evie and her new family!’

Best regards,

Lixing (Joe’s mom)
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**The Racket of “Rescue”**

By Kathy Williamson

*(I’m gonna step on some toes but as they say, here’s a quarter. Call someone who cares!)*

First off, let me tell you a bit about me. In 1971, they built an animal shelter about 8 miles from my home. I was young then, and like all my friends, hated the evil dog catcher. However, unlike my friends, I rode my bike to the pound a few times a week to see what I could do to match the dogs and cats impounded with the ‘Lost Pet’ ads in our local paper. It saddened me to know all these beautiful creatures were within days of death.

There were a few people I met who were doing the same thing. Within a year, Volunteer Services to Animals was launched. The goal was to enlist breed clubs, concerned citizens and anyone who gave a tinker’s darn to help lower the 98% kill rate at the 6 city shelters. Personally, I wanted to see things done different; **better**.

So, in 1977, I got a job as one of the first female kennel workers, breaking a “long tradition of male dominance” (CHOKE!). I had a very understanding supervisor who listened to my ideas. Things like; ‘why not feed the dogs daily?’ Policy was, since they were going to be killed anyway, don’t feed them if the public isn’t coming through. But I also started to learn about politics. If the kill rates were not “high enough”, the department would be hard pressed to ask for more money. In those days, medical research facilities grabbed up most of the large dogs, guard dog firms took the aggressive dogs, and ANYONE could adopt a dog. The Koreans coming in “looking for a nice, fat brown dog” were especially scary. But even so, we were killing in excess of 300 dogs and cats **A DAY**.

Then some ‘bright’ people decided that they could “market those poor dogs.” One outfit got an elderly lady to pledge $100,000 (BIG BUCKS in 1981) to open up a ‘rescue shelter.’ They took the dogs and cats on national TV begging for homes---and donations. The money started piling in. A few months later, the same group states they are “inundated” with dogs from an evil breeder. Again, huge amounts of money flow in. Do you see the **racket** yet?

Missouri just passed Proposition B. Many of the rescue groups got a letter stating in short, the ‘evil breeders’ MUST get down to 50 dogs within a year and this outfit is more than willing to take any excess the rescues can’t handle. There is even a phone number so you can “discreetly” send them your dogs which they will place in loving homes... **for a nominal donation of course**.

We had a dog back in ’83, when I worked at the shelter, who whelped 17 pups. The news media was there like flies to feces. Everywhere you looked you saw this 7 year old Lab mix and her brood. The day she came up “for adoption” there were so many people ready to open their hearts and wallets, the cops had to come keep order. She was ‘adopted’ for $1,563.00 and that was a lot of money in those days! The winning bidder got their picture in the paper holding the leash of the growling dog.

You’ve seen the ads on TV of the sick, desperately thin animals on TV. Here come their ‘messiahs’ in the blue coats with HSUS written boldly on their backs. As Paul Harvey said, “and here’s the rest of the story.” Only they won’t tell us; **as they do not operate, fund, back or support ANY animal shelter in the United States. But please keep sending your $19.00 each month.**

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 5th, 2011
South Dakota Pet Breeders Association Educational Seminar, Brookings, South Dakota. For more information, contact Elva Lefdal at (605) 480-2848

FEBRUARY 12th & 13th, 2011
North East Oklahoma Pet Professionals Pet Expo, Miami Civic Center, Miami, Oklahoma. There will be 3 ACA dog shows and Raffle tickets sold for prizes to be given away at the OKPP SHOW on April 22nd. Contact Gary Phillips (918) 373-1720.

MARCH 11th & 12th, 2011
Missouri Pet Breeders Association Spring Seminar, Expo Center, Springfield, Missouri. Contact Rae Lynn Mercer at (417) 259-1017; email: rambling@yahoo.com or Barb York at (417) 448-9484.

MARCH 18th & 19th, 2011
IOWA PET BREEDERS ASSOCIATION SEMINAR, Mesqwaki Veterans Convention Center, Tama, Iowa. For more information, contact Joe Gerst at (319) 310-8683. See schedule on next column.

MARCH 23rd, 2011

APRIL 1st & 2nd, 2011
Kansas Pet Professionals Educational Seminar, Ramada Inn, Salina, Kansas. Contact Sara Meyer at (785) 855-2251 or kansaspetprofessionals@hotmail.com.

APRIL 15th & 16th, 2011
Minnesota Pet Breeders Association Seminar, Jackpot Junction Casino, Morton, Minnesota. For more info, contact Sheila Haag at (320) 453-6921. (see next column)

APRIL 22nd & 23rd, 2011
Oklahoma Pet Breeders Educational Seminar, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. For more information, contact Thea King at (918) 367-2816.

MAY 7th, 2011
Southeast Chapter of Kansas Pet Professionals Education Seminar, Erie, Kansas. Contact Wilma Westhoff at (620) 763-2532 or email; iwesthoff@ckt.net.
Our Beautiful “Lady” was always there
To listen, to help or to just be a friend
A wife, mother, grandmother, sister and aunt
This was our ‘Lady’ right up to the end

Our Beautiful “Lady” was so special to all
Loving her family, friends, her dogs and her life
Her love was like a spring flower that did not fade in the fall
She loved one most all and was proud to be his wife

Our Beautiful “Lady” is with us no more
But in our hearts she will forever be
Her laughter, her smile, her touch no more
But in our hearts her courage we shall forever see

Our Beautiful “Lady” fought a good fight
One she knew she could not win
Just one more day is what she would say
And God forgive me for my sins

Our Beautiful “Lady” no longer in pain
Lay in our Lords arms peaceful and free
We’ll think and smile often when we remember
Our Beautiful “Lady” and then we can see

Our Beautiful “Lady” was ‘Phyllis Fields’~
Submitted by one of her close friends, Charlene Jay

Phyllis K. Winchester Fields
1940-2011

Born May 13, 1940, at Camp Crowder in Neosho, she was the daughter of the late Lloyd “Tom” Winchester and Bess Winchester. She was a 1958 graduate of Neosho High School. Besides being a homemaker, she also operated Quail Meadows Kennel, a dog breeding and grooming business for several years. She was a ‘true’ friend of the pet industry, always helping other breeders whenever she could. Phyllis will be greatly missed! She is survived by her husband, Bob R. Fields and 3 children, 5 grandchildren, 2 step-grandsons, 2 great grandchildren and a sister, Twylla Gisel.

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After 20 years we are now expanding our business! Until now we have primarily been a specialty auction service, but with the next generation of auctioneers coming on we have decided to expand. We have over 5,000 references, computerized clerking and invoicing, cataloging, web site listing, mailing lists for potential buyers, invoice division for consigned sellers and full time office personnel and auction staff. We will handle your auction as if it were our own from start to finish! Whether you have a $5,000.00 or $5,000,000.00 auction, your sale will get our full attention! Real Estate, Automobiles, Guns, Antiques, Farm, Livestock, Machinery, Large & Small Equipment, Household items, we can do it all. It’s all about reputation & marketing and we know how to bring the buyers to your sale. Don’t make a mistake that can cost you thousands of dollars, call us first!

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