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The Animal Welfare Institute is a non-profit charitable organization founded in 1951 to reduce the sum total of pain and fear inflicted on animals by humans. Our legislative division seeks passage of laws that reflect this purpose.

The Animal Welfare Institute aims to:

- Abolish factory farms, support high-welfare family farms, and achieve humane slaughter for all animals raised for meat;
- End the use of steel-jaw leghold traps and reform other cruel methods of controlling wildlife populations;
- Preserve all species who are threatened with extinction, and protect wildlife in international trade;
- Refine the housing and handling of animals used in laboratory experimentation and encourage the development and utilization of alternatives to the use of live animals;
- Oversee and improve transport conditions for all animals;
- Inspire teachers to adopt a humane approach to science education and discourage painful experiments on animals by students.

Reverence for life

In 1951, Dr. Albert Schweitzer granted permission to the Animal Welfare Institute to award a medal in his name to individuals who have shown outstanding achievement in the advancement of animal welfare. Engraved with the image of the doctor and his dog, the medal bears the words, “We need a boundless ethics which will include the animals also.” Schweitzer’s worldview was based on his philosophy of Reverence for Life. He believed that we “must try to demonstrate the essential worth of life by doing all we can to alleviate suffering.”
Animals in Agriculture

Animal Welfare Approved label takes off!

Formally launched in 2006, Animal Welfare Approved is a program that unites conscientious consumers with compassionate farmers. The Animal Welfare Approved food label on meat, poultry, dairy and eggs tells consumers that the animals were raised with the highest animal welfare standards of any food label, which in turn helps the environment, family farmers and consumers. Every Animal Welfare Approved farm is an independent family farm, and all animals are range- and pasture-raised.

A generous grant in 2007, paired with strong farmer interest and consumer demand, has allowed AWI to expand this landmark program. New staff members and consultants, including scientific advisors, farm and slaughter plant auditors, and marketing experts, have been assembled to ensure the success of the Animal Welfare Approved label. The University of Bristol—the top animal behavior and welfare program in the world—provided 20 of our representatives with state-of-the-art animal welfare training, and Animal Welfare Approved launched its new website, which can be visited at www.AnimalWelfareApproved.org.

AWI welcomes program director Andrew Gunther, who joined Animal Welfare Approved in April. Previously, Gunther was the senior global animal compassionate product procurement and development specialist for Whole Foods Market, leading the team that designed and launched the company’s five-step welfare program in the United Kingdom. He is an extraordinary farmer himself, having pioneered the world’s first organic poultry hatchery and managed the largest independent organic chicken farm in the UK. “I find myself in a unique position that allows me to combine my passions: animal welfare; farmers’ rights; high-quality, safe food; and environmental sustainability,” said Gunther about his new post.
It is the farmers themselves who are the lifeblood of the Animal Welfare Approved program. Last fall, a luncheon was held at Otto Enoteca Pizzeria in New York City to recognize Frank Reese, the preeminent poultry expert in the United States. Environmental lawyer Robert F Kennedy Jr. sent a personal taped message for the event, and restaurant owners Mario Batali and Joe Bastianich attended. Proceeds benefited AWI and Waterkeeper Alliance.

AWI co-hosts a weekend at Swine School

Lessons in pig behavior, herd health, breeding, feeding and outdoor management were offered at the Stone Barns Center for Food & Agriculture in Pocantico Hills, N.Y., last April. Instructors included Diane Halverson, AWI senior farm animal program specialist; Marlene Halverson, AWI senior farm animal policy specialist; and Paul Willis, Iowa pig farmer and manager of Niman Ranch Pork Company.

On the frontlines in Eastern Europe

AWI rural affairs advisor, Tom Garrett, stewards our battle against hog factories abroad with our Romanian consultant, Marina Spinu, and Polish consultant, Marek Kryda. Garrett and Spinu investigated the outbreak of swine fever in three of Smithfield Food’s Romanian farms. The duo exposed them as illegal operations permitted by numerous officials, which then caused a crisis in the Romanian government. In Poland, Kryda monitored hog factories, visited afflicted communities, and worked with local citizens, ultimately leading to the closure of the Smithfield hog factory at Wieskowice. Kryda appeared regularly on radio and TV, and more than half a million Poles were enlightened about hog factories by Danish State TV’s documentary, “The Pig Kingdom in the East,” edited for Polish viewers by Kryda and wife Yona. Interviews with experts on poisoning by hydrogen sulfide and ammonia emitted by animal factories were also filmed and distributed; and Lady Tracy Worcester’s film, *The Pig Business*, features Garrett and will be released in the UK and Poland soon.

New books offer ways to improve the lives of non-human primates

Last January, AWI published *Taking Better Care of Monkeys and Apes: Refinement of Housing and Handling Practices for Caged Nonhuman Primates*, by AWI Laboratory Animal Advisor Viktor Reinhardt, D.V.M., Ph.D. Reinhardt has devoted his career to promoting better living conditions for animals in research institutions, as well as improving scientific methodology. Written for professionals who work with animals in laboratories, the book offers a review of the current scientific literature on refining the housing and handling of monkeys and apes. It clearly demonstrates how—with minimal labor and costs—primates can live healthier, less stressful lives when housed with a companion, allowed to forage for food, given environmental necessities that complement their species’ behaviors, and trained to cooperate for procedures such as blood draws without the use of force or restraint. This past year, we also published a booklet called *Safe Pair Housing of Macaques* by Jodie Carlson, assistant professor at the Yale University School of Medicine, complete with informative photographs of rhesus macaques in laboratories.

Six scientists explore avenues of refinement and enrichment

AWI takes a keen interest in furthering scientific projects aimed at improving the welfare of animals used in research. To that end, the AWI Refinement Awards are offered annually to those involved in non-lethal studies that seek to refine the housing and/or handling conditions of animals in laboratories. In 2007,
Encouraging refinements to improve the handling and care of animals used for experimentation is a crucial concern of AWI.

A community forum reaches out through the internet

Viktor Reinhardt continues to moderate the Laboratory Animal Refinement and Enrichment Forum (LAREF), which he began in 2003. This electronic list-serve is open to animal care personnel, animal technicians, students, attending veterinarians and researchers who have or have had direct experience in the care of animals kept in laboratories. The individuals who share their questions and stories on LAREF comment directly from their experiences, making the forum a source for open and candid discussion, innovative ideas and peer support. Topics this year have included safe group-housing of female rabbits, feeding enrichment for rodents, symptoms of illness in rodents, treatments for compulsive hair-pulling in macaques, and environmental enrichment for cats.

Six scientists received $6,000 each to conduct and publish their research. Several of these studies have investigated ways to improve the lives of rats and mice, who vastly outnumber all other animals in experimentation and testing, yet have no protection under the Animal Welfare Act. Final reports on all six studies will appear in upcoming issues of the AWI Quarterly.

Animals in Laboratories
Animals in the Wild

The buffalo war rages on

This year 1,660 animals—a third of the entire population of Yellowstone National Park buffalo—were killed for “trespassing” into Montana. When these majestic animals meander down from the park’s snow-covered mountains in search of grass, they are typically sent to slaughter, or sometimes chased back into the park. The Montana Department of Livestock claims it is protecting cattle who graze on public lands from the threat of contracting brucellosis, even though no documented cases of transmission between buffalo and cattle have been reported. With the genetic diversity of the buffalo now severely threatened, AWI joined with the Buffalo Field Campaign and others in April to file an emergency petition with the U.S. Department of the Interior requesting that the National Park Service immediately stop the slaughter. Though the petition was denied, we are considering challenging the decision in federal court. Because the current buffalo management plan is ill-conceived and unscientific, AWI is working with organizations and wildlife researchers to document its failings and help us more effectively advocate on behalf of buffalo.

Defending wild horses

While the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) continues to wrongly remove wild horses and burros from the range and place them in long-term holding facilities, AWI stepped up its advocacy for the basic protections afforded to these animals.
under federal law. Wildlife consultant Andrea Lococo, who brings decades of experience advocating for wild equines to AWI, submitted numerous comments and letters on the Wild Horse and Burro Program. She also filed a formal protest with the Secretary of the Interior on the BLM’s mismanagement of 1.3 million acres of public lands in Arizona, and teamed with AWI staff to present a detailed critique to the Government Accountability Office regarding the BLM program. Lococo was recently appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture as a member of the National Wildlife Services Advisory Committee. Her first committee meeting is scheduled for later this year.

Busy like a … Fox!

Camilla Fox is passionate about reducing the cruelty of trapping and lethal predator control, protecting native carnivores, and finding humane solutions to human-wildlife conflicts. In 2006, she received a Christine Stevens Wildlife Award, and with AWI’s support, Fox examined the efficacy of a humane alternative to the Wildlife Services (WS) program for livestock-predator conflicts in Marin County, Calif. The innovative plan received much praise from all stakeholders, including ranchers, and has replaced the former WS program in the county. Now serving as wildlife consultant to AWI, Fox aims to publish and present her findings next year.

Fox played a pivotal role in a federal court decision last April ordering the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to “promptly take all action necessary to [ensure] no further taking of threatened Canada lynx.” She and plaintiffs charged that the trapping of Canada lynx in Minnesota core habitats violates the Endangered Species Act. Fox testified as an expert witness, showing the lynx suffered injuries and sometimes death from leghold traps, neck snares and Conibear kill-traps. She also explained that trappers injured or killed at least 13 lynx between 2002 and 2005, and that lynx kittens were sometimes orphaned as a result. At the end of AWI’s fiscal year, Fox was preparing documentation to file a similar lawsuit in defense of Canada lynx, this time against the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife.

Camilla Fox provides her services in a Mongolian wildlife field study of vultures and argali sheep.
Since our 1970s Save the Whales campaign, AWI has led the fight to preserve the ban on commercial whaling, eliminate capture of dolphins, reduce the use of lethal underwater active sonar, and support the creation of new protected marine areas.

“Heroes” actress comes to Washington for the whales

In January, the star of the TV drama “Heroes,” Hayden Panettiere, came to Washington, D.C., to increase political awareness of the worldwide dangers faced by whales today. Panettiere is the spokeswoman for the Save the Whales Again! campaign co-founded by AWI and The Whaleman Foundation. Accompanied by AWI’s Susan Millward and The Whaleman Foundation founder Jeff Pantukhoff, Panettiere held a press conference with House and Senate leaders, led a rally, met with President-elect Barack Obama during his candidacy, spoke to students at Georgetown University, and attended a reception hosted by Senator Maria Cantwell. Buoyed by this trip, the House later passed a resolution against the resumption of commercial whaling.

Sonar evidence “compelling” and “convincing”

Last February, Hawaii Federal District Judge David A. Ezra officially recognized the U.S. Navy’s use of active sonar as harmful to whales, stating that the evidence presented by AWI and fellow co-plaintiffs was both “compelling” and “convincing.” AWI and other nongovernmental organizations alleged that the Navy violated the National Environmental Policy Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act and the National Marine Sanctuaries Act. We charged the National Marine Fisheries Service, which regulates the Navy’s use of sonar, with failure to comply with the Endangered Species Act. Judge Ezra also ruled that the Navy’s reliance on a noise level of 173 decibels, below which it claims harm to animals from its sonar will not occur, was “arbitrary and capricious.” AWI concurs; whales have stranded and died at predicted noise levels of around 150 decibels—100 times less intense than the threshold set by the Navy. Such a level is without scientific justification.
Saving the whales, again!

The 2008 International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting held in Santiago, Chile concluded on June 27 with an air of confusion and uncertainty over the fate of the world’s remaining whales—not to mention the fate of the commission, which has declared itself at an impasse. No resolutions were proposed during the entire five-day-long meeting, and only a single vote was held among its 81 member nations while the body discussed its future. But that didn’t stop AWI from calling attention to the plight of whales worldwide by spreading the Save the Whales, Again! campaign on the streets of Chile’s capital city.

Over 1,000 activists gathered for an outdoor rally led by Chilean actress, Leonor Varela. Later, AWI hosted a reception with Chilean Minister of the Environment Ana Lya Uriarte Rodriguez, who gave a speech on cetacean conservation to a room filled with delegates. The next day, she announced that Chilean President Michelle Bachelet was dedicating all the country’s waters as a whaling-free sanctuary. Nevertheless, the coming year will be a difficult time for whales while the IWC tries to reinvent itself as an effective international whale management regime.

Taking it off the menu: shark fin soup

Historically considered a delicacy for the elite in China, shark fin soup can now be found in restaurants all over the world. The demand for this dish is driving the global collapse of shark populations. The inhumane and wasteful practice called “finning”—whereby the fins of a living shark are hacked off and the animal is thrown back in the water to die—has been illegal in the U.S. since 2000, but enforcement has been hampered by loopholes in the ban. Fortunately, in July the U.S. House of Representatives voted in favor of the Shark Conservation Act which will tighten the U.S. Shark Finning Prohibition Act. AWI is pushing for adoption of this measure by the full Congress.

But this alone is not enough. The only way for sharks to have a chance is for people to stop eating shark fin soup. AWI is leading an effort involving U.S. restaurants to stop serving the dish, educating chefs and restaurant owners, and asking them to make the compassionate choice. A list of several hundred restaurants in the U.S. that should be avoided because they serve shark fin soup can be found online at www.awionline.org.
Government and Legal Affairs

Stopping the slaughter of America’s horses

Though the last three horse slaughter plants in the U.S. were shut down in 2007, more than 100,000 American horses are still being sent to a brutal death each year in Canada and Mexico. These animals are hauled over American borders with no rest, no food and no water for multiple days on end, enduring some of the worst abuse in transport.

While the Senate version of the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act (S. 311) passed out of committee, the House version (H.R. 503) has not moved despite gaining more than 200 cosponsors. In fact, while most Americans want to see an end to horse slaughter, special interests including the American Quarter Horse Association, the American Veterinary Medical Association and the American Association of Equine Practitioners lobbied hard to defeat the measure, all the while claiming that they had the best interest of America’s horses at heart.

In tandem with our legislative work, AWI launched an initiative with the National Black Farmers Association (NBFA) to place at-risk horses on NBFA farms, and we continue to work on the Homes for Horses Coalition to promote professionalism in the equine rescue community.

Educating prosecutors on animal abuse

In the wake of the Michael Vick dog fighting case, we decided to assist prosecutors in taking action against those who are mistreating animals by working with the National District Attorneys Association to create an animal cruelty training curriculum.

An advisory committee of professionals in animal welfare, law enforcement, psychology and domestic violence was convened earlier this year to provide guidance in the program’s development, and the curriculum is anticipated to be ready for implementation by the end of 2008. Our aim is to see more animal cruelty cases being brought to trial, and more stringent penalties sought by prosecutors.
Despite the protests of local animal welfare groups, Cambodia and Malaysia are now exporting thousands of macaque monkeys annually to the United States, where they are used in biowarfare experiments conducted in secret facilities. The primates are exposed to diseases such as Ebola, anthrax, botulism and Lassa fever, as well as nerve gases like sarin.

Apes, keystone species in their ecosystems, have spread tree seeds via their droppings for eons, but are threatened by habitat loss. There is only one way to save them: curb deforestation. Governments must recognize “carbon credits,” which encourage countries and corporations to compensate for greenhouse emissions by saving forests. Saving apes means saving ourselves too. 1.2 billion of the world’s poorest people depend on forests for their livelihood. Forests also absorb and store carbon, thus controlling climate.

AWI interviews veteran trapper Bill Randall, who reveals the cruelties of steel-jaw leghold traps and neck snares. Randall is now involved in a lawsuit to protect endangered species like the Canada lynx from traps. Ducks, blue herons, owls, and even dogs and cats are also victims of these indiscriminate devices. Rather than face the ire of the public, trappers often secretly kill and dispose of trapped house cats.

A devastating outbreak of swine fever in Smithfield Food’s factory farms in Romania put the brakes on an unregulated industry. Who’s to blame for the appalling conditions? Evidence points to collusion between U.S. Senators and members of the Romanian Parliament. The losers? Pigs and Romanian peasants who are being driven off their small farms by agribusiness giants.

Unbreakable mirrors, food treats hidden in toys, mop heads strung with macaroni—these are some of the simple things laboratories can provide for rhesus macaques that will improve their lives. Humane treatment of animals also reduces stress levels, which results in more valid research data.

An AWI-funded study shows a simple, inexpensive improvement in housing benefits both rats and researchers. Rats housed in clear plastic cages that are partially covered with strips of cardboard are less anxious than rats living in completely clear or opaque plastic cages.

The symbol of our nation, the American bald eagle, was officially taken off the Endangered Species list in 2007. From a low of 400 breeding pairs nationwide, the population has risen to 11,040 pairs. But thousands of species still remain on the list, and hundreds have gone extinct while waiting for a reluctant administration to classify them as endangered, a status that affords them legal protection.
AWI interviews six diverse teachers who are bringing animals into the classroom and curriculum. The result? In New York City, students who read to dogs are raising their reading levels the fun way. At the Onondaga Nation School, south of Syracuse, N.Y., kids are learning respect for nature and animals through traditional indigenous stories. In Miami, rescued dogs visiting classrooms offer a lesson in forgiveness and empathy. And in Philadelphia, even the “lowliest” get respect in the annual Fab Rat Fest.

Iowan Dave Murphy notes that Senator Barack Obama outshined Democratic rivals Senator Hillary Clinton and Senator John Edwards when it came to the No. 1 issue in Iowa: hogs. Obama favors local control over the industrial hog farms that produce enormous levels of pollution, and wants to limit government subsides to the industry and hold them responsible for cleaning up the mess.

A coalition of Alaska’s indigenous people, environmentalists, and commercial and recreational groups is gearing up for a battle to stop the proposed Pebble Gold and Copper Mine. As the largest mine in North America, it would leave a two-mile-wide, several thousand-foot-deep gash in the pristine Bristol Bay area. The project also entails the creation of the world’s largest dam to hold back toxic waste, such as cyanide, sulfuric acid, arsenic and a slew of heavy metals created in the mining process.

Economic subsidies to Mongolia ended with the demise of the Soviet Union in 1990. The new source of income? Its wildlife. Populations of red deer, musk deer and Saiga antelope have literally been decimated by poachers who feed the traditional medicine market in China. Native Argali sheep have also fallen prey to American trophy hunters, and millions of marmots are being killed for the fur trade.

Tom Hermach, president of the Native Forest Council, urges citizens to “defend the commons” and oppose the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service’s plan to increase logging of public lands by 200 to 300 percent. Clear-cutting and strip mining of forests caused massive landslides and flooding in the Northwest last year.

The fourth article in a series written to counter the hype about China’s “green” Olympics in Beijing: AWI examines the effect of growing Chinese consumer demand for ivory and exotic dishes. It’s bad news for elephants and turtles, and means near devastation for coral reefs. Fishing with explosives and cyanide has destroyed up to 88 percent of the reefs in Southeast Asia.

For 17 years, the Cynomolgus Monkey Breeding Farm in Israel has been raising laboratory-bound macaques in relative harmony by housing them in large, multi-level outdoor pens. Numerous escape routes and blinds allow monkeys to evade aggressive troop members, and tree limbs and shelves placed high in the pen give the these tree-dwellers the security they crave. A small swimming pool and swings provide entertainment.

AWI was contacted by a distressed Oklahoma rancher who had unwittingly sold two pregnant mares at auction to killer-buyers. Suspicious, she tried to buy them back, but it was too late. They had already been shipped to Mexico for slaughter.

Kudos to a budding animal welfare activist: Savvy second grader Noel Williams didn’t care for the options when the class had to choose a category for animals in the exercise “Persons, Places, and Things.” Noel wrote, “A rug or something is a thing, but not an animal. He or she is not a thing.” Noel suggested replacing “Persons” with “Beings.”
• BaZIL, an innovative no-kill dog shelter in post-war Bosnia, houses its residents in eco-friendly straw bale condos. Unfortunately, traditionally-minded politicians and local bounty hunters were able to reinstate a “catch-and-kill” policy for strays. BaZIL hopes to convince the public that its spay-neuter approach is the only solution to the stray dog problem.

• A 100-million-ton mass of plastic garbage is floating in the Pacific Ocean. This “plastic soup” is a deadly dish for marine animals. Plastic can block the digestive tracts of birds, fish and even whales, leading to death by starvation. Unless people stop using disposable plastic or the waste is managed more responsibly, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch—already twice the size of the continental U.S.—could double in size in the next 10 years.

• After the court finally shut down a Missouri “random source” cat and dog dealer, the couple’s son took over and opened up shop. Congress can end this shadowy cottage industry—whose victims end up in laboratories—by passing the Pet Safety and Protection Act, which would prohibit research facilities from obtaining animals from random source dealers.

• The Elephant Nature Park in northern Thailand is a “magical place,” a heaven-on-earth for its 30 residents, who have been rescued from lives of abuse. A century ago there were 100,000 Asian elephants in Thailand; now there are only 3,000. Working elephants are typically beaten into submission, and abuse and malnourishment are common.

• The fifth and final article in a series leading up to the Beijing Olympics finds that, despite moderate “green” improvements to Beijing itself, China’s numbers tell a different story. Almost 40 percent of its mammals, 70 percent of non-flowering plants, and 86 percent of flowering plants are endangered. Rampant abuse of domestic and wild animals continues to keep pace with the insatiable entertainment, food, fur and traditional medicine industries.

• A technician who has worked with pigs for 20 years explains how she takes advantage of a pig’s need for socialization and slowly develops a “trust-based bond,” which facilitates laboratory testing and minimizes distress for the pig.

• Crimes Without Consequences: The Enforcement of Humane Slaughter Laws in the United States is a free-to-download, 150-page AWI report written by Dena Jones on the widespread yet hidden cruelties that characterize the industry. High-speed slaughter lines, untrained workers, inadequate inspection and lax enforcement of existing laws translate into untold millions of animals being dismembered while still conscious. AWI calls for the strict enforcement of the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act and for poultry to be protected under the law.

• In September 2007, five members of the Makah tribe in Washington violated the Marine Mammals Protection Act by hunting and killing a gray whale. Three of the five men pled guilty in exchange for a light sentence of probation and community service.
Unfortunately for elephants, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has accepted China as an “ivory trading partner.” China can now buy 240,000 pounds of stockpiled ivory (representing 11,000 dead elephants) from South Africa, Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe. CITES has not learned its lesson: It banned the international ivory trade in 1989, but allowed the sale of stockpiled ivory eight years later. This led to a resurgence in poaching and the deaths of 200,000 elephants.

Humans are not the only ones who show empathy and form interspecies bonds: A hippo defends an impala from a crocodile. Pods of dolphins rescue humans from shark attacks. A wild crow adopts a kitten and喂养 her with worms. A cat guides a blind pug around obstacles and guards him while he eats. These true stories of spontaneous acts of kindness show we have much to learn from our fellow compassionate animals.

Disabled animals are benefiting from advances in prosthetic technology. Albie the goat lost part of his leg in a Brooklyn slaughterhouse, but with the help of a custom prosthetic leg, he’s back in business. Winter the dolphin lost her fluke after being caught in a crab net, but is relearning how to swim.

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Tyson Foods is being sued by rivals Sanderson Farms and Purdue Farms, as well as angry consumers, after Tyson put a label on their chickens claiming they were “raised without antibiotics.” Tyson sold an extra 70 million pounds of chicken thanks to the false labeling. They later admitted they injected eggs with antibiotics a few days before hatching.

With the support of AWI, a team of scientists conducted a study that indicated that an enriched environment improved the quality and increased the quantity of African clawed frog eggs, which are widely used in studies by the neuropharmaceutical industry. The frogs also seemed to enjoy the addition of plastic plants, hollow plastic logs and rock caves to their housing.

Follow-up to the Makah whaling case: Wayne Johnson and Andy Noel, the two defendants who did not plea bargain with the state after being found guilty of killing a gray whale, were sentenced respectively to five and three months in prison. Noel revealed that the Makah Tribal Council knew in advance about the hunt, and some members even voiced support. Given the suffering of the whale, AWI considers the sentences too light and urged a new investigation into the Tribal Council’s involvement in the illegal hunt.

Biocides are bad news for animals. Government subsidies for manure-based biofuel will go to animal-oppressing, super-polluting factory farms. Disaster looms for millions of wild birds and animals in the prairies, forests, wetlands and seven million acres of conservation land that will be plowed under in the next few years to grow unsustainable crops like soy and corn. The solution? Increasing fuel efficiency by five miles per gallon would displace the same amount of fossil fuel that will be replaced by biofuels.

Yankton Sioux joined forces with their non-native neighbors in South Dakota to protest Long View Farm’s construction of a large-scale hog factory that threatens their environment, homes and health. The confinement of animals also runs counter to traditional indigenous values. State police showed up in unusually high numbers and arrested 17 tribal members.

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Speeches Made and Meetings Attended by AWIR Representatives

2007

- Exhibited at the American Veterinary Medical Association annual meeting, July 13-17
- Organized a protest against the killing of cats and dogs for human consumption, Korean Embassy, July 25
- Organized and chaired monthly U.S. Anti-Whaling NGO Coalition meetings beginning July 25
- Discussed Iceland’s scientific whaling program and its resumption of commercial whaling with the Ambassador, Embassy of Iceland, July 25
- Liz Ross and Tracy Silverman spoke on horse slaughter and current legislation, respectively, at the Taking Action for Animals conference, July 28-29
- Serda Ozbenian gave public comment at a hearing on listing beluga whales under the Endangered Species Act, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Silver Spring, Md., July 31
- 12th Annual Congress of the International Society for Applied Ethology, Mérida, Mexico, Aug 4-10
- Emergency/disaster preparedness meeting for animal shelters in the D.C. area, Aug 6
- Met with Thompson Hospitality staff to thank them for stopping their sales of shark fin soup and express concerns over their sale of Chilean sea bass, Herndon, Va., Aug 14

Note: All meetings held in Washington, D.C. unless otherwise specified.
Organized and performed street theatre to protest NMFS’s authorization of a permit for the Navy’s use of Low Frequency Active (LFA) Sonar, Aug. 16

Discussion with the U.S. State Department on sea turtle conservation, Aug. 29

Eursafe Sustainable Food Production and Ethics, 7th Congress of the European Society for Agricultural and Food Ethics, Vienna, Austria, Sept. 13-15

Co-sponsored a lunch with Chef Mario Batali and Heritage Foods USA to honor Frank Reese, Animal Welfare Approved turkey farmer, Otto Enoteca Pizzeria, New York, N.Y., Sept. 25

Organized a march and rally in front of the Japanese Embassy to protest the slaughter of thousands of dolphins every year by Japanese fishermen, Sept. 25

Public meeting of the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel regarding essential fish habitat, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Silver Spring, Md., Oct. 3

Sponsored a press conference on S. 311 to end the slaughter of America’s horses, Capitol Hill, Oct. 4

Exhibited at the “Becoming the Change” conference held by the Animals and Society Institute, Raleigh, N.C., Oct. 5-7

Met with the Hawaii state government to discuss military sonar and the U.S. Navy’s adherence to the Coastal Zone Management Act provisions, Honolulu, Hawaii, Oct. 9

Met with Adam Lewandowski of the California Tahoe Conservancy regarding coyote management policy for the community, Tahoe, Calif., Oct. 12

Exhibit booth at the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science annual meeting, Charlotte, N.C., Oct. 14-18

Marek Kryda spoke on factory farming at the Gdansk Region ruling party Law & Justice Convention, Oct. 16

U.S. Animal Health Association Animal Welfare Committee, where Cathy Liss spoke about remote trap monitors and shark finning, Reno, Nev., Oct. 22

NGO observer at the Caribbean Environment Program Fourth Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee on Marine Pollution from Land-based Sources, Peten, Guatemala, Oct. 29-Nov. 2


Exhibited at Iowa Farmers’ Union Presidential Summit, Ames, Iowa, Nov. 10

Tom Garrett and Marek Kryda lectured on the need of legal limitation of factory farms in Poland at farmers’ trade unions and the Agriculture Chamber Conference, Srodek, Poland, Nov. 12

Hosted a Congressional reception against horse slaughter with actors Bo Derek and John Corbett, Nov. 13

Marlene Halverson presented on science, values and ethics in animal well-being at the Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin Conference, "Driving the Issues: Determining Our Industry’s Destiny," Madison, Wis., Nov. 14-15

Tom Garrett and Marek Kryda met with local authorities and media on factory farming, Szczutowo, Sierpc County, Warsaw Region, Nov. 15

Exhibit booth at the National Association of Biology Teacher’s annual conference, Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 29-Dec. 1

Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, Tumon, Guam, Dec. 3-7

Congressional breakfast on the Oral Rabies Vaccine Program, Dec. 5

Torun Media University Conference on protecting family farms in Poland, Torun, Poland, Dec. 15

AWI Board of Directors meeting, Alexandria, Va., Dec. 18, 2007; May 8 and June 12, 2008
2008

- Susan Milward lectured Albright College students on whaling and cetacean captures and captivity, Maui, Hawaii, Jan. 3-5
- Practical Farmers of Iowa conference, Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 9-10
- Minnesota Organic Conference and Trade Show, St. Cloud, Minn., Jan. 18-19
- Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group Conference, Knoxville, Ky., Jan. 18-20
- Save the Whales Again! rally with "Heroes" actress and Save the Whales Again! campaign spokesperson, Hayden Panettiere, organized by Susan Millward, Dupont Circle, Jan. 27
- Met with Embassy staff and Hayden Panettiere to discuss whaling, Embassies of Norway and Iceland, Jan. 28
- Susan Milward spoke at a press conference urging the U.S. government to reclaim its leadership role in whale protection at the International Whaling Commission (IWC), House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee, Jan. 29
- Reception for the Save the Whales Again! campaign with Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) and Hayden Panettiere, Jan 29
- Texas Conference on Organic Production Systems, College Station, Texas, Feb. 2-3
- Agriculture Committee of Polish Parliament on the results of factory hog farms inspection of the Supreme Control Chamber (NIK), Feb. 5
- Booth at the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture’s annual conference, State College, Pa., Feb. 8-9
- Met with Claudia McMurray of the U.S. State Department to discuss the U.S. position on whaling, Feb. 12
- Presentation by Diane Halverson to highlight standard-breed poultry welfare, Lindborg, Kan., Feb. 15
- Ohio Ecological Food and Farming Association Conference, Granville, Ohio, Feb. 15-17
- Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service’s 19th Annual Organic Farming Conference, LaCrosse, Wis., Feb. 21-23
- Met with Ag Minister Marek Sawicki of the Polish Peasants’ Party on the situation of family farms producing pigs affected by big hog producers, Feb. 22
- Met with Ag Minister Marek Sawicki of the Polish Peasants’ Party on the results of factory hog farms inspection of the NIK, Feb. 25
- New Mexico Organic Farming Conference, Albuquerque, N.M., Feb. 29-March 1
- Georgia Organics Conference, Dalton, Ga., Feb. 29-March 2
- Marek Kryłka and Senator Grzegorz Wojcichowski visit Smithfield Foods sow farm, Czernin, Pomerania Voivodship, March 4
- Met with former Ag Minister Krzysztof Jurgiel to discuss legal opinions on new legislation concerning animal welfare, animal feed and the environmental impact of factory farming for the Polish Parliament, March 5
- Agribusiness Accountability Initiative North America Forum, Durham, N.C., March 5-6
- Observed and assessed county science fairs in the Washington, D.C. metro area, March 8-April 12
• Intercessional Meeting on the future of the IWC, London, England, March 6-10
• Session of the Supreme Administrative Court on the case of Smithfield Foods versus Natura Association, Wierzchowo, Poland, March 19
• National Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Conference, Kansas City, Mo., March 25-27
• National Science Teachers Association national conference, Boston, Mass., March 26-30
• Annual meeting of Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research, where Cathy Liss presented on “Improving the Lives of Animals in Laboratories,” Atlanta, Ga., March 28-29
• Northeast Grasstravaganza, Binghamton, N.Y., March 28-29
• Presentation by Diane Halverson and Marlene Halverson at the Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture, Pocantico Hills, N.Y., April 18-19
• Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Animals Committee meeting, lobbied delegates on a variety of issues, Geneva, Switzerland, April 19-24
• International Forum on Global Aspects of Farm Animal Welfare, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium, April 22-23
• Presentation during a conference in the Regional Assembly of the Bialystok Region on organic pig farming, April 24
• Conference of the Ministry of Environment of Organic Farming Future in Poland, April 25
• University of Minnesota Alternative Swine Task Force Meeting, Montevideo, Minn., May 1
• Organized a screening of the film *Sharkwater* to highlight the plight of sharks and educate viewers on AWI’s campaign against shark fin soup, May 1
• 38th World Farmers’ Congress, Warsaw, Poland, May 4

• University of Bristol Animal Welfare Assessment Program training for Animal Welfare Approved staff and consultants, Wake Forest, N.C., May 5-8
• Interagency meeting of the IWC, NOAA, Silver Spring, Md., May 7
• Food and Agriculture Congress, where Marek Kryda had personal meetings with Vandana Shiva and former Ag Minister of Germany Renate Kuenast, Bonn, Germany, May 12-16
• Presentation by Liz Ross on horse slaughter at Animal Care Expo, Orlando, Fla., May 16
• Annual meeting of the Marine Fish Conservation Network, June 3
• Public hearing on Makah gray whale hunt, NOAA, Silver Spring, Md., June 5
• Met with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal Care staff regarding enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act, Riverdale, Md., June 17
• USDA and American Horse Council meeting on the “Unwanted Horse,” Jefferson Auditorium, USDA, June 18
• Presentation by Marek Kryda on organic pig farming during the Regional Assembly of Lodz Agricultural Conference, Lodz, Poland, June 19
• NC Choices annual meeting, Raleigh, N.C., June 19
• 60th annual meeting of the IWC, Santiago, Chile, June 20-28
• Presentation on organic pig farming at the Ag Academy Agricultural Conference, Siedlce, Poland, June 25
• Fourth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee for the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region, Gosier, Guadeloupe, June 30
Statement of Functional Expenses Year Ended June 30, 2008

Program Services Management and General Total
Salaries $1,055,494 $42,353 $16,163 $1,114,010
Payroll taxes and employment insurance 88,988 3,381 853 92,425
Employee benefits 92,481 3,469 867 96,817
Retirement Plan 29,485 743 186 30,414
Advertising 45,360 - 4,637 45,997
AWI Quarterly 123,154 - 2,571 125,725
Printing and publications (except for Quarterlies) 147,413 - 2,318 149,731
Research, writing and editing 8,537 - - 8,537
Grants 394,012 - - 394,012
Conferences, meetings and travel 349,910 - 653 350,563
Postage, mailing and addressing costs (except for Quarterlies) 33,920 - 3,891 38,119
Telephone, duplicating and office supplies 199,149 258 10,829 210,235
Professional services 313,811 38,708 - 352,539
Membership and subscriptions 45,164 - 25 45,189
Acquisition of books and other educational materials 510 - - 510
Consultants 352,218 3,500 - 355,718
Interest services 46,166 - - 46,166
Occupancy costs 41,416 323 83 42,822
Miscellaneous 8,184 - - 8,184
Total expenses before depreciation 3,066,956 92,665 39,174 3,196,395
Depreciation of fixtures and equipment 11,202 2,400 2,400 16,004
Total expenses 3,078,158 95,065 39,174 3,212,397

A complete financial statement audited by Rosenberg, Neuwirth and Kuchner, Certified Public Accountants, PC, is available from AWI and upon written request from the Office of Consumer Affairs, Commonwealth of Virginia, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218.

Financial Statements


Program Services Management and General Total

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>$1,055,494</td>
<td>$42,353</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payroll taxes and employment insurance</td>
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<td>Advertising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupancy costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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Total expenses before depreciation 3,066,956
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Financial Statements
Bequests
If you would like to help assure AWI’s future through a provision in your will, the general form of bequest is suggested:

I give, devise and bequeath to the Animal Welfare Institute, located in Washington, D.C., the sum of $                  and/or (specifically described property).

Donations to AWI, a not-for-profit corporation exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), are tax-deductible. We welcome any inquiries you may have. In cases in which you have specific wishes about the disposition of your bequest, we suggest you discuss such provisions with your attorney.