



Assisting Animals in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina

By Allie Phillips

Editor's Note: This article discusses the observations of section member Allie Phillips of the volunteer efforts for animals after the Gulf Coast hurricanes.

Table of Contents

Chair's Corner	2
Editor's Note	2
Animal Law in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina: Animal Law Disaster Relief Network includes Animal Law Section Representatives	4
Key Section Activities for 2005 FY....	5
Treasurer's Report	6
Animal Legal Lifeline Activity: July through December 2005	6
Animal Care and Control Forum Set for May	7
5 th Annual Symposium: Disaster Planning for Animals: The Role of Attorneys and Veterinarians .	8
Lewis & Clark Conference Focuses on Legal Issues Related to Animals .	8
MSU College of Law Publishes First Issue of <i>The Journal of Animal Law</i>	10
MSU Student Animal Legal Defense Fund Report	10
U of M Student Animal Legal Defense Fund Report	11
Upcoming Events	12

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the images shown on television were heartbreaking and horrifying. Overcome by the number of animal shelters and rescue groups in the Gulf Region begging for volunteers, supplies, and donations, I decided to take action. At my own expense, I flew to Mississippi, rented a vehicle, and immediately drove to the state fair grounds, which was being used to help in the animal relief effort.

Two large, open-air barns consisted of the temporary shelter at the state fair grounds where animals were being housed. A vast majority of these animals belonged to displaced residents who were housed next door at the coliseum. Expecting hundreds of animals, I was surprised to find only 60 dogs, 8-9 cats, 2 birds, and a rabbit. I learned that a day or two prior, the coliseum next to the barns had been evacuated (to apparently make room for the state fair) and hundreds of pets were removed by many of the displaced residents. As I toured the barns to find out where my help would be most needed, I kept thinking "where are the cats?" There were many dogs at this facility, but not nearly the number of cats that I expected. I still do not know whether cats were not being rescued, or were too difficult to rescue. It haunts me to this day. I was also overwhelmed by signs on a majority of the dog cages that read "Do Not Touch: Biter." The dogs were traumatized, displaced, and confused, which sadly explained their behavior.

The temperature in the open-air barn was very hot and humid (90 degrees and above with very high humidity). There were flies and love bugs flying everywhere, landing on animals and in their food/water. I bonded with these pets immediately and made friends with other rescue workers from Indiana, Wisconsin, and Colorado. As such, it was difficult to say goodbye a few days later and wonder what would happen to all the pets.

Although I expected some amount of disorganization and chaos, I was surprised at the lack of cooperation among welfare organizations, including the refusal of some groups to share supplies. Although some of these issues were worked out after I left, it was disturbing to see thousands of pounds of food at the state fair grounds that was not being shared with other shelters that were struggling. I offered to transport food and other necessary

Chair's Corner

By Jean Ligon

Most of us likely joined the Animal Law Section because we have a special affinity for animals and either have or aspire to a practice that includes legal issues involving animals, whether that is as a prosecutor, in the civil area, or as an element of estate planning. We pay our dues, read the newsletter, and take in the information that reaches us via the listserv. Did you know that the section's listserv can also serve as a tool to quickly access a great deal of expertise in animal law when you are confronted with a problem unfamiliar to you, or even when you would just like a "second opinion" to make sure you've considered all sides of the issue? It's as quick as a click: <http://www.michbar.org/animal/listserv.cfm>. It is also probably the section's most under-utilized benefit.

Another section program that offers opportunity is the Animal Legal Lifeline ("ALL"). Animal Legal Lifeline is a toll-free telephone number (866-211-6257) that puts callers in touch with ALL attorney-volunteer Nicole Quandt, who takes requests from persons looking for advice and assistance with legal issues pertaining to an animal. She passes them along to members of the section by e-mail.

Some persons with inquiries, of course, think gratis advice over the phone is all they need, or they may hope to right a wrong with pro bono representation. That is not how ALL is intended to function. The primary goal is to put together attorneys who know about the interface of animals and the law with potential clients who have a need for that expertise. It may be a contract matter, an estate planning issue, or even help in the criminal arena. The only commonality is that it will concern an animal, and the only ALL requirement is that

you work initially through Nicole Quandt so she knows whether the caller got a response and assistance.

Remember that responding to an ALL inquiry is not an offer of pro bono services unless you want to extend pro bono services. You should respond with the expectation that the caller is a potential paying client. While not all will end up that way, these ALL inquiries present a unique opportunity to grow your practice with clients who are dealing with legal issues that involve animals.

Watch your e-mail for ALL case notifications from Nicole. If an ALL inquiry seeks assistance in an area of animal law you know something about, take the time to consider contacting Nicole and then the potential client.

The contact for ALL is Nicole Quandt at nquandt@floodlawcenter.com. Use it for your benefit as well as the benefit of the potential client. 🐾

Jean Ligon
Animal Law Section Chair

Editor's Note

This issue of the newsletter is the section's third in 13 months – very close to my goal of three per year. We plan to meet the goal in the next year. We need your help with articles and news items to meet the goal. If you have an article or would like to write one, please contact me. I will see that you get published!

This issue has several articles about last year's hurricanes and related animal relief. Attorneys across the country are taking steps to see that people will be able to take their pets with them in case of evacuation in the face of future disaster. This will prevent some of the saddest scenes that we saw and heard about during the Gulf Coast hurricanes.

Many of the other articles are updates including information about Section activities over the last year. You will read that the section is active and financially sound.

You should expect to see some articles in the coming issues dealing with new trends in the law as well as articles discussing cases involving animals that are of practical and financial value to attorneys.

As always, please contact me with comments or suggestions. 🐾

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Assisting Animals ...

Continued from page 1

supplies to the shelters that were in dire straits, but my requests were refused and policies prohibiting such were cited. The lack of cooperative effort among the groups, and unnecessary policies, were frustrating to the volunteers and were not in the best interests of the animals during this emergency situation.

Still in my memory is a cat named Lillith who arrived at the state fair grounds a few days following the hurricane and then gave birth to four babies. Lillith was a stray who did not have a family to claim her. Many volunteers asked to take Lillith and her babies into foster care because of the heated conditions and bugs in the air that could impact their health. But the requests were denied citing a 30-day hold policy. Volunteers left in tears over these senseless policies. Pets that had families were not getting claimed, so what were the chances that a pre-hurricane stray cat would be claimed? To this day, I do not know what happened to Lillith or her sweet babies. I hope they are safe.

When I returned home, emotionally drained and frustrated at the people, policies, and politics that I encountered, I knew that I would not sit silent for too long. One week later, I was invited to participate in the American Bar Association's newly formed Animal Disaster Relief Network, comprised of attorneys involved in animal welfare issues. To date, we have had several conference calls to discuss legal issues plaguing the Gulf Region in relation to the animals, as well as how to effectively reunite people with their pets. The group is also working to support the passage of the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (H.R. 3858) so that disaster victims will be allowed to take their pets with them. Through my work, I have also started to research the human-animal bond to learn more about how people will not



Allie and Spike



Blind dog Pippey



Brown Sugar



Fogarty

leave a disaster without their pets. I, too, would never leave mine behind.

Being involved in animal welfare for many years, I had never been exposed to the issues involving pets caught in natural disasters. Companion animals, as well as farm animals, deserve our protection and help. I am glad I now have that exposure and I plan to continue in my efforts to prevent the needless waste of human and animal life during a disaster. We should never be denied the opportunity to take our pets with us when fleeing a disaster area.



Lillith and babies

Everyone in this country has been impacted by the tragedies that occurred in the Gulf Region during and after Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma. Help is still needed to care for the hundreds of animals still left behind in shelters. Please continue to provide support. ♡

Section member Allie Phillips is a Senior Attorney with the American Prosecutors Research Institute in Alexandria, VA working with the National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse and the National Child Protection Training Center. Her article "How Pets Can Help Abused Children: The Dynamics of Animal Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Child Abuse" was published in the Summer 2005 issue of the Animal Law Section Newsletter.

Animal Law in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina: Animal Disaster Relief Network Includes Animal Law Section Representatives

By Bee Friedlander

Attorneys were among the first of many groups who offered their talent, time, and treasure to the victims of Katrina last fall. The State Bar of Michigan joined the American Bar Association and other state and local bar associations to identify needs and provide assistance to the people of the Gulf Coast region. The State Bar's Access to Justice Campaign appeal was established to assist the many hurricane victims who evacuated to this state.

Some of the most memorable images from the disaster involved animals. Many people in the Gulf area were forced to choose between evacuating and leaving their animals behind, or remaining in the area and facing danger. Wildlife and farm animals also were affected, although they have not received the publicity and aid that companion animals have.

One potentially important result of the increasing awareness of the plight of animals during disasters is the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (PETS Act), H.R. 3858, introduced in Congress last fall. The bill would "...ensure that State and local emergency preparedness operational plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a major disaster or emergency." In September 2005, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee

on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management. There has been no further action taken since then.

Shortly after Katrina struck, the American Bar Association's Animal Law Committee of the Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section formed a network of attorneys and animal welfare organizations to address the legal issues arising from the disaster. It has been meeting via teleconference since September, and work continues.

Michigan is well represented in the Network. The Animal Law Section representatives are Wanda Nash and Beatrice Friedlander (joining attorneys from the Connecticut, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, and Pennsylvania Animal Law Sections, and New York City and Chicago animal law organizations). Section council member Allie Phillips represents the American Prosecutors Research Institute, and Michigan attorney and veterinarian Sarah Babcock represents the American Veterinary Medical Law Association.

Animal welfare organizations participating include: American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Animal Rescue New Orleans, Best Friends Animal Society, Humane Society of the United States, Maddie's Fund, PetFinder, and United Animal Nations.

Network attorneys and law students have been involved in the following efforts:

- Researching the many legal issues confronting the first responders to the disaster; the results in FAQ format are available at the Animal Legal Defense Fund website: http://www.aldf.org/Answers_for_Hurricane_FAQ_jan06.pdf
(Sample Question: Are government teams who force people to leave companion animals behind acting under any law or regulation?)
- Drafting model Animal Disaster Relief legislation for both the state and federal levels;
- Drafting model Animal Rescue Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). 🐾

Editor's Note: Barbara J. Gislason, Minnesota attorney and founding and current chair of the ABA's Animal Law Committee, will be a featured speaker at the March 17 Symposium, "Disaster Planning for Animals."

Leadership is practiced not so much in words as in attitude and in actions.

—Harold S. Geneen

Key Section Activities for 2005 FY

(October 2004-September 2005)

4th Annual Symposium

“Trends in Animal Law” was held in March 2005 at the MSU College of Law with about 40 attending.

2nd Annual Legislative Luncheon

Held in August 2005 at the State Bar headquarters, the luncheon provided an opportunity to meet with state legislators’ staffers. Our objective for the luncheon is to establish the Animal Law Section as a resource for information on matters regarding animals and the law.

Newsletter

Two issues were published in 2005 FY with 32 pages of content including substantive articles and information on Section activities and other developments in animal law.

Prosecutor and Judge Letters

The section has been sending letters to Michigan prosecutors urging prosecution of animal cruelty cases and offering the assistance of the Prosecutors’ Committee; in the past year, the council developed a procedure for letters to be issued more expeditiously.

Public Policy Reports

The section council issued six public policy reports (actually letters) regarding legislative matters involving animals. Notable was the section council’s opposition to Internet hunting – a measure that involved broad-based and diverse support from Michigan legislators, various groups, and individuals. Positions taken by the council are available at the section’s website, <http://www.michbar.org/animal/publicpolicy.cfm>

Internet Hunting Bill

In addition to the council vote to support the bill, the section participated in development of and revisions to the bill, working with the bill’s Senate sponsor, Sen. Bruce Patterson. Chair Jean Ligon testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee by in mid-2005, expressing the council’s support of the bill and suggesting revisions to expand its scope and increase penalties (H.B. 4465, S.B. 373; the bill was signed into law, PA 111 of 2005).

Animal Legal Lifeline Referral Service Continued

A more detailed summary is at “Animal Legal Lifeline Activity: July through December 2005” on page 6.

Animal Disaster Relief Network

Section council members Bee Friedlander and Wanda Nash are part of regular teleconferences to develop this national network and a legal framework to assist animals in disaster; *see* “Animal Law in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina” on page 4.

Michigan Law for Veterinarians Handbook

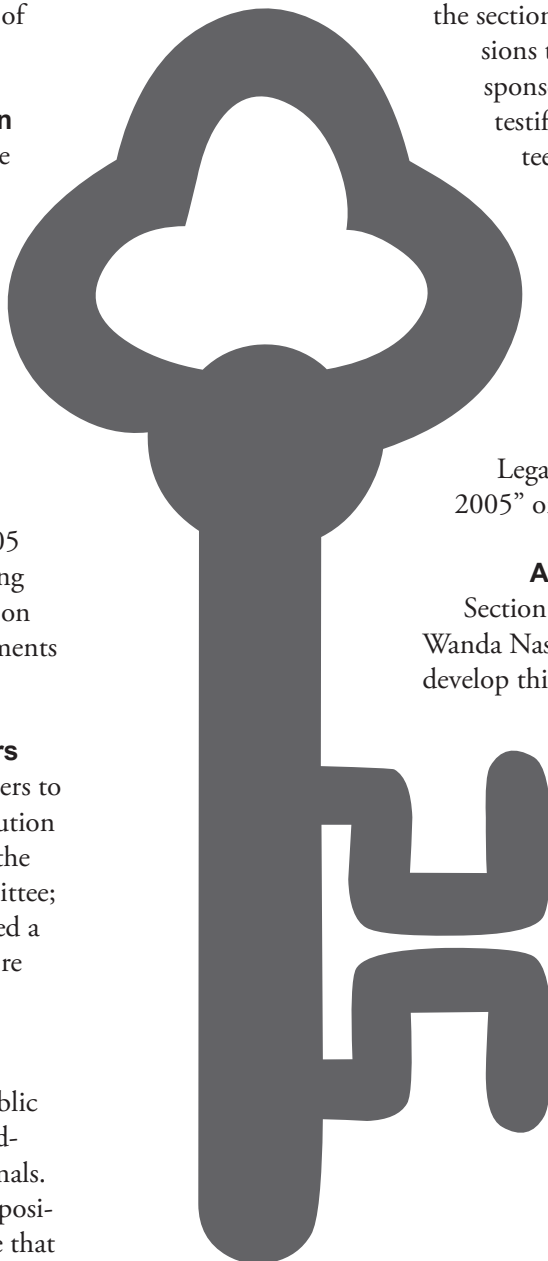
The handbook was produced by Barbara Goldman and provided to the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association for publication and distribution.

Michigan Lawyers Weekly Article

A lengthy front-page article on the section and animal law was published in the May 23, 2005, edition.

Award Presentations

The 2004-05 Brandi award was given to Senator Carl Levin at his Detroit office in October 2004, and the 2004-05 Sadie award to Detroit Zoo Director Ron Kagan at the zoo in June 2005. 🐾



Treasurer's Report for 2005 FY (Fiscal Year)

October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005

The purpose of this report is to assure the members that the Animal Law Section is very viable with a healthy financial status and your section dues are being spent responsibly. The following is a fair and accurate financial picture of the section.

The expenses related to the general categories below have been consistent with the amounts budgeted for the activities during the year. For instance, we estimate an issue of the newsletter to cost \$400 to \$500 and the two issues published this year cost \$876, an average of \$438 per issue. I have found no "surprise" expenses during the fiscal year.

Therefore, I would like to provide you with a brief summary of the following:

- Section's dues and expenses for the 2005 FY
- Section's overall financial condition at the end of 2005 FY

Dues and expenses were as follows:

- Net income was \$4,294 in two categories:
 1. Income from dues was \$4,175 for the fiscal year representing about 170 members and affiliate members.
 2. Seminar net revenues totaled about \$119 (comprised of total income of \$346 less expense of \$227). Our section members paid a lower rate to attend the seminar. We were not trying to "make money" with the seminar as we consider it an essential section function related to education – making a modest profit was a pleasant surprise.
- Net expenses of \$2,583 were in five general categories:
 1. The two issues of the newsletter published in 2005 cost \$876, including printing and mailing.
 2. The annual meeting expense was \$65 for room expense charged by the State Bar.
 3. The legislative luncheon held in August cost \$225 and enabled section council members to meet with legislative aides and staff members to state legislators and committees. The purpose was to let the aides and staff members know about the Animal Law Section and how its members can provide assistance to them in the legislative process. The meeting was held at the State Bar of Michigan offices to eliminate the need for room expense. This was the second legislative luncheon.
 4. The Animal Legal Lifeline (ALL) telephone expenses were \$520 for the year – an average of about \$43 per month. This

Animal Legal Lifeline Activity: July through December 2005

By Donald Garlit

The Animal Legal Lifeline (ALL) operates as a way for potential clients to obtain legal advice from section members. Potential clients who have a legal issue involving animals are able to call a toll-free number (866-211-6257) and briefly describe their case. This involves some screening and then is summarized and sent to all section members through the listserv. If a member wants to get involved with the case, then he or she are able to go back to the coordinator (Nicole Quandt) and get potential client contact information.

A summary of ALL activity in the second half of 2005 shows a total of ten inquiries from seven different Michigan counties. The cases involved a wide range of issues, including a condo association requiring a person to muzzle a dog (potential client objected) to more animals in a private dwelling than local ordinance permitted. Six of our members were involved with these cases. Disposition of the cases was as follows: ALL advice was provided in four situations, two clients retained attorneys – one on a fee basis and one pro bono, and four cases have an unknown result.

The ALL needs everyone who gets involved to report back to Nicole Quandt so that we can determine the effectiveness of the ALL effort. The unknown results do not mean that there was no resolution or involvement in the cases. It simply means that we do not know the eventual result. I ask everyone who gets involved to report back in a timely manner with a simple disposition summary. 🍀

Note: This article was developed based on information and records received from Nicole Quandt.

is money well spent, as it allows potential clients to have access to all section members after a screening call. Expenses were somewhat higher this year as we had some transition expenses related to Nicole Quandt's assuming responsibility for the ALL from Wanda Nash.

5. We had other expenses of \$896 which were primarily related to the listserv charges from the State Bar of Michigan, Section Council meetings teleconference calls, and some other miscellaneous expenses such as the section mailing list. (Note that the teleconference calls were made with very favorable rates arranged by the State Bar of 7 cents per minute per caller – a very low rate compared to other telephone companies that charge 15 to 50 cents per minute per caller. The teleconference calls at such a low rate have made the council meet-

ings very efficient and quicker by eliminating travel time.) I would urge you all to use the listserv as we are being charged a monthly flat rate for the SBM for its availability.

Our **overall financial condition** at the end of the 2005 FY was sound with a section balance of \$12,321 – an improvement of \$1,712 over the end of the 2004 FY.

I have reviewed all expenses and consider them to be reasonable and appropriate and have paid special attention to relating expenses to Section actions. The entire Council is very concerned that any costs incurred be reasonable and appropriate and will continue to act accordingly.

I want to mention the Annual Section Council Retreat held in May. This is an opportunity for the council members to have a regular meeting as well as to discuss future direction and plans for the section. **I want to assure you that no section funds are spent for the re-**

trat, and all related expenses are paid by the council members themselves.

Let me summarize our financial condition as follows:

- The financial status of the section is sound.
- We understand our revenue and expenses in detail.
- We have made every effort to identify the revenue and expenses by category so that the Section Council understands any financial impact of their decisions.

We are aided in accounting by the State Bar of Michigan finance division (as are all sections), which does an excellent job of providing timely and accurate financial information to us.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at donaiddgarlit@yahoo.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Garlit
March 3, 2006 🐾

Animal Care and Control Forum Set for May

The Animal Care and Control Forum is scheduled for Monday, May 8, 2006, in the Lansing area. This event has been rescheduled from October.

Planned speakers include representatives from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and the Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers. The Forum also includes experts from around the country who will address the legal issues involved in topics of current concern, such as feral cat

colonies, animal hoarding, dog and cock fighting, animal exhibitions, the link between cruelty to animals and violence against human beings, and satanic rituals.

There will be plenary sessions in the morning with breakout sessions in the afternoon to allow registrants to choose the issues most important to them. Lunch is included in the registration fee for the full day program.

The forum will be presented as a cooperative effort of the Animal Law Section and of the nonprofit Attorneys for Animals. An important goal of the section is education, and the council believes that we are in a unique position to provide this forum as a service to those working to protect animals, including government agencies and non-profit shelters and rescue groups. 🐾

5th Annual Symposium:

Disaster Planning for Animals: The Role of Attorneys and Veterinarians

(A Timely Topic Co-sponsored with the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association)

Section members have joined with the MVMA to present this year's symposium, March 17 from 1-5 p.m. at the Cooley Center in Lansing. The Symposium's presenters will focus on the efforts now underway in Michigan to incorporate animals in disaster planning, both by the government and by private organizations, and on the legal issues that arose during the efforts to help animals stranded and injured during hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Two of the speakers worked in disaster relief after the hurricanes last fall. Concluding the afternoon is a panel discussion entitled, "Where Do We Go from Here?"

Minneapolis attorney Barbara J. Gislason, chair, ABA Animal Law Committee, will discuss the network of attorneys currently at work on disaster planning and response; David S. Favre, professor, MSU College of Law, will talk about the thorny issue (already being faced in several states including Michigan) of when a rescued animal in foster care can be adopted; Sarah Babcock, an attorney and veterinarian, will discuss veterinarian licensing issues during disasters; and MSU College of Law student Tanya Irwin will talk about legislation.

The Symposium also features Brad Deacon and Nancy Frank, Michigan

Department of Agriculture; veterinarians Jeffrey Dizik, Stephan Steep and Cathy Thiesen; and Linda Reider, Michigan Humane Society disaster planning consultant.

"Those of us involved in using the legal system to assist animals like to think that there may be a silver lining coming out of the clouds of these hurricanes: a heightened awareness of the need to incorporate animals in disaster plans, and to better care for them during and in the immediate aftermath of disasters. By helping animals, disaster planners and responders will help people cope," explained section chair Jean Ligon. 🐾

Lewis & Clark Conference Focuses on Legal Issues Related to Animals

By Tanya Irwin

The Lewis & Clark Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF) and National Center for Animal Law hosted the 13th Annual Animal Law Conference: Science & the Art of Animal Advocacy at Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon, on October 14-16, 2005. The theme of the 2005 conference was "The Art of Animal Advocacy: Using Litigation, Legislation and Science to Advocate for Animals."

Michigan State University College of Law students Julia Loper and Tanya Irwin were among the 195 attendees

who came from 18 states to attend the annual conference. Loper is the 2005-2006 secretary of the MSU SALDF chapter, while Irwin is president.

About one-third of the attendees were law students, in addition to attorneys, lobbyists, and professors, according to Laura Ireland Moore, the founder and executive director of the National Center for Animal Law.

About 80 of the speakers and attendees were treated to a unique retreat to the Oregon coast on Saturday night, which featured keynote speaker Jona-

than Lovvorn, vice president of animal protection litigation for the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). Lovvorn discussed the benefits of a moderate, practical approach to advancing animal issues in the legal arena. Five retreat attendees took advantage of the beautiful location and got up early to go surfing Sunday morning before the conference concluded.

Along with HSUS, a number of other national animal advocacy groups participated in the conference, including the Animal Legal Defense Fund

Lewis & Clark ...

Continued from page 8

Nominations Open for Major State Bar Awards

(ALDF), the National Institute for Animal Advocacy, Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM), the Animal Protection Institute (API) and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA).

The purpose of the longest running national animal law conference is for attendees to learn about animal law, meet leaders in the field, and find out how to be an effective advocate for animals, Moore said.

Topics in 2005 covered a wide range of interests, including Careers in Animal Law and How to Incorporate Animal Law into Your Practice.

Other speakers included Pamela Alexander, the staff attorney for the Animal Legal Defense Fund's Animal Law Program; Andrew Hanson, a Staff Attorney for Midwest Environmental Advocates; Corey Evans, a founding partner of Evans & Page, a civil litigation animal law office in San Francisco; Carter Dillard from HSUS; and Mindy Kursban, executive director and general counsel for PCRM.

Plans are already underway for the 14th annual conference, scheduled to be held October 13-15, 2006, at Lewis & Clark. For more information, go to <http://www.lclark.edu/org/saldff/conference.html>. The theme of this year's conference will be "Market Revolution: Recognizing Animals' Intrinsic Values." 🐾

Irwin is a 3L student at MSU College of Law and President of the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund.

The State Bar of Michigan is seeking a few outstanding lawyers and judges to be the recipients of major awards to be presented during the September 2006 Annual Meeting in Ypsilanti. Nominations are now open and any member of the State Bar can propose a candidate for the following awards:

The Roberts P. Hudson Award goes to a person whose career has exemplified the highest ideals of the profession. This award is presented periodically to commend one or more lawyers for their unselfish rendering of outstanding and unique service to and on behalf of the State Bar given generously, ungrudgingly, and in a spirit of self-sacrifice. It is awarded to a member of the State Bar of Michigan who best exemplifies that which brings honor, esteem, and respect to the legal profession. The Hudson Award is considered the highest award conferred by the Bar.

The Champion of Justice Award is given for extraordinary individual accomplishments or for devotion to a cause. Not more than five awards are given each year to practicing lawyers and judges who have made a significant contribution to their community, state, and/or the nation.

The Frank J. Kelley Distinguished Public Servant Award recognizes extraordinary governmental service by a Michigan attorney holding elected or appointive office. Created by the Board of Commissioners in 1998, it was first awarded to Frank J. Kelley for his record-setting tenure as Michigan's chief lawyer.

The John W. Cummiskey Pro Bono Award, named after a Grand Rapids attorney, recognizes a member of the State Bar who excels in commit-

ment to pro bono issues. This award carries with it a cash stipend to be donated to the charity of the recipient's choice.

The Liberty Bell Award recipient is selected from nominations made by local and special-purpose bar associations. The award is presented to a non-lawyer who has made a significant contribution to the justice system.

The deadline for Liberty Bell Award nominations is Tuesday, May 2, 2006. All other award nominations are due on Wednesday, April 5 at 5:00 p.m.

An Awards Committee, co-chaired by State Bar President-elect Kimberly Cahill and attorney Francine Cullari, reviews nominations for the Roberts P. Hudson, Champion of Justice, Frank J. Kelley Distinguished Public Servant, and Liberty Bell awards. A committee of the Bar's Pro Bono Initiative reviews nominations for the Cummiskey award. The committees' recommendations are then voted on by the full Board of Commissioners at its June meeting.

Nominations must be submitted on SBM forms and should include sufficient details about the nominee's accomplishments to allow the committees to make a judgment. Application forms may be downloaded from www.michbar.org. Click on Media Resources, then Events and Awards.

Nominations can be submitted by web, e-mail, facsimile, or mail to Ms. Naseem A. Stecker, State Bar of Michigan, 306 Townsend St., Lansing, MI 48933 or nstecker@mail.michbar.org. For more information, call (517) 367-6428 or (800) 968-1442, facsimile (517) 482-6248. Submit Cummiskey Award nominations to Ms. Tomika Horne at thorne@mail.michbar.org or call (517) 346-6396. 🐾

MSU College of Law Publishes First Issue of *The Journal of Animal Law*

The *Journal of Animal Law*, Volume 1 was published by the students of the Michigan State University College of Law in November 2005. The *Journal* features an international approach to the subject, as previously reported in the Animal Law Section's winter 2005 newsletter, page 13.

Included in the first volume are articles on non-economic damages, wild animals in captivity, the recent development

of Portuguese animal rights law, legislation and agreements protecting polar bears and defining animals as crime victims. Well-known authors and scholars have contributed to the journal.

It is available for download or purchase. Additional information is available at the following website: <http://animallaw.info/policy/pojouranimallawvol1.htm>

Michigan State University College of Law Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF) Report

By Tanya Irwin

The MSU chapter hit the ground running with the fall semester, and has continued into spring.

Kim Stallwood, Co-Executive Director of Animals and Society Institute will speak Thursday, April 20, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the law school's Castle Board Room. The event is co-sponsored with MSU's Environmental Science and Policy Program and the Ecological and Cultural Change Studies Group. Mr. Stallwood will speak about The Animals' Platform, which is part of his organization's effort to position animal issues in the arena of public policy by raising those issues in political campaigns. The public is invited to this free event. Refreshments will be served.

Images in the media of the animals affected by Hurricane Katrina spurred our SALDF chapter into action. We quickly organized a fundraising drive, including a bake sale. After much discussion over which animal welfare group/rescue effort we should donate to, group members selected the United Animal Nations as the recipient of our \$300 gift. The UAN's Emergency Animal Rescue Service (EARS) team deployed over 400 volunteers to four locations in three states and cared for more than 1,800 animals in the wakes of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Later in the semester we hosted a speaker from the Michigan Humane Society. Jennifer Sullivan, the group's director of

wildlife operations, spoke to SALDF members and Professor David Favre's Wildlife Law class about how their group assists wildlife and how the state's laws both help and hinder them.

We wrapped up 2005 with a joint holiday service project with the Clerical Technical Union workers at the law college geared toward helping the animals at the Capital Area Humane Society in Lansing. We hosted a bake sale and collected items from their wish list, resulting in a donation of \$390 and a truckload of pet supplies. Dancer, a terrier mix up for adoption at CAHS, visited our lobby during the bake sale to inspect the goodies and thank everyone for their donations. The joint cooperation among students, CTU, faculty, and administration for this project was overwhelming and truly captured the essence of the holiday season.

Plans for spring semester include the 3rd Annual MSU College of Law "Cutest Pet Contest," which has raised over \$1,000 each of the past two years for the MSU Chapter of Remote Area Medicine, which provides veterinary care in rural areas.

If you'd like to receive an e-mail from SALDF's MSU chapter about upcoming events, please send an e-mail to irwint@msu.edu.

Tanya Irwin is a 3L student at MSU College of Law and president of the school's SALDF chapter.

The University of Michigan Law School

Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF) Report

The Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF) has been very active at the University of Michigan Law School with a variety of activities.

A summary of recent events includes:

- The first annual Charity Dog Walk-a-Thon was held in October to raise funds for hurricane relief. Over \$1,300 was raised, which was sent directly to the Louisiana SPCA to help in recovery efforts after Hurricane Katrina.
- The speaker series continued, including Marta Diffen and Linda Reider from the Michigan Humane Society, who talked about hurricane relief efforts in Louisiana and Texas.
- David Wallace from the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (and Animal Law Section member) gave a lunchtime talk in February about prosecuting animal cruelty cases. The event was co-sponsored with the Criminal Law Society.

Further information about the University of Michigan Law School SALDF is at http://sitemaker.umich.edu/u/mls_saldf.

Note: Information for this article was compiled by the Newsletter Editor from information at the website above.

Visit the New Practice Management Resource Center

A new Practice Management Resource Center website (<http://www.michbar.org/pmrc/content.cfm>) was unveiled by the State Bar February 1, 2006. Online resources, a lending library, educational center, and helpline are all designed to make it easier for members to successfully manage their legal practices. Questions that cannot be answered by checking website resources should be directed to the Helpline at 1.800.341.9715. Hands-on training and demonstrations of the different software programs available in the marketplace can also be scheduled by calling the Helpline number. An opening ceremony will be held at the State Bar in Lansing this month to showcase all the resources at the PMRC.

Animal Law Section Council 2005-2006

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Upcoming Events

5th Annual Symposium: Disaster Planning for Animals: The Role of Attorneys and Veterinarians

(co-sponsored with the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association)

When: March 17, 2006, 1-5 PM

Where: Cooley Center, Lansing

Weekend of May 19-21: Behind the Scenes at the Detroit Zoo with Ron Kagan

(tentative, to be held during Council's annual retreat and open to all Section members)

Upcoming Section Council Meetings

- March 17 - after Symposium
- May 19-21, Annual Retreat, Metro Detroit

April 20, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Castle Board Room, MSU College of Law, East Lansing

Kim Stallwood, Animals and Society Institute speaks on The Animals' Platform – sponsored by the MSU College of Law SALDF (See MSU article, page 10, for more information about the speaker)

Check the section website for updates on section activities noted above and for future activities.



Animal Legal Lifeline
Toll-free Number for Referrals:
(866) 211-6257



Visit our Website: <http://www.michbar.org/animal/>

Join the Section Listserv:
<http://www.michbar.org/animal/listserv.cfm>

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