



New Hampshire Animal Rights League Newsletter

February 2013

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2013 Project--End Trapping in New Hampshire!

The NHARL is focusing its effort and energy on the trapping issue in 2013. We received a grant from the LUSH Corporation to do this work. Our goal is to introduce and pass legislation in 2014 to end trapping in NH. In January we had our first meeting to discuss the strategic plan of actions we laid out to achieve our goal.

Many folks attended this first meeting and the group decided to name itself New Hampshire Citizens Against Trapping (NHCAT). The group discussed the necessary actions that will need to be taken throughout the year to get as much support as possible to achieve the goal. Group members volunteered for different parts of the project. Everyone is welcome to attend the next meeting which will be sometime in March. If you would like to help in any way let us know by sending an email to info@nhanimalrights.org

And please help us get signatures on the petition by signing and asking everyone you know to sign it too: www.tinyurl.com/nhcatpetition
Thanks!

ANDREW

Andrew is the beautiful rescued mixed breed dog who was killed in an illegally set, body-crushing conibear trap in December of 2012. Out for a walk with his owner, veterinarian Melissa Fogelson, on a public trail in Auburn, Andrew smelled the baited trap and couldn't resist investigating. The trap slammed shut on his neck. Melissa tried desperately to save him, but these types of traps are not meant to be easily opened. She did a lot of screaming as she tried desperately to remove the trap but, in the end, it did not matter as she watched her best friend suffer and die in front of her. She then walked almost a mile carrying his lifeless body off the trail, because no one leaves their best friend behind.



Andrew was rescued as a puppy by Melissa. Even as a young animal, he had a huge distrust of humans. He showed fear of humans until he got to know them. Melissa enrolled him in agility for fun class in hopes of socializing him and, slowly, Andrew began to realize that some humans were good. Last year, Melissa discovered while examining him that he had several pellets embedded in his body. Suddenly, it all made sense. This dog had been used for target practice when he was less than three months old! Andrew's death is even sadder knowing that he started out in this world maltreated by human cruelty and, in the end; he died from human cruelty. His lack of trust in our species appears to be justified by his tragic end.

Rest in peace Andrew, your death will not be in vain. We promise you we will work very hard to remove these body-crushing traps from New Hampshire's outdoors so that all your non-human brothers and sisters will be free to walk and run again without the fear of being killed or maimed in one of those cruel devices.

Upcoming Events *Contact us for more info on any of these events.*

March 2--Northeast Organic Farmers Association Winter Conference. NHARL will have a table promoting veganism. This year the event will be held in Laconia. <http://nofanh.org/education-events/winter-conference/>

March 23--NH Peace Action Committee 5th Annual Conference. Dr. Taylor will again represent NHARL and give a talk about how veganism is an essential step toward societal and personal/inner peace. We will also have a table promoting "Peace on Your Plate." This year the event will be held at Rivier University in Nashua from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. This is a free event open to everyone so hope to see you there.

April 20--Discover Wild NH Day Fur Trapping Protest on Hazen Dr. in Concord, NH. As we did last year we will protest outside this event for most of its duration from 10 a.m. until about 3 p.m. Please come for all or part of this protest and show Fish and Game there is a lot of support to end trapping.

April 20--VegFest at Manchester Community College, 1066 Front St. from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. NHARL will have a table. This is the first annual Veg Fest and is organized by Susty's Café of Northwood.

June 8--Market Square Day in Portsmouth. Check out our booth that will promote a trapping ban in NH.

June 9--Stratham SPCA Paws Walk. We will have a table promoting a trapping ban.

Thank You to All of Our Supporters

LUSH cosmetics is a wonderful company that not only doesn't test on animals, they help to support animal causes, along with other human charities, by dedicating all of the proceeds from the sale of their charity pot to worthy non-profit charities. The NHARL applied for Charity Pot funding to help us in our effort to end trapping in NH and we were accepted and received a grant check in January of this year. The charity pot that will feature NHARL will be sold at Lush's Rockingham Mall store. <http://www.lushusa.com/>

The DTS Foundation continues to give us a year end donation. The DTS foundation was founded by Tom Scholz, lead singer of the rock band Boston, and also gives donations to animal as well as human causes. <http://www.dtscf.org/>

Veg Fund provides us grants, for vegan food and literature purchases, when we promote veganism at our various tabling events. <http://www.vegfund.org/>

Most of all though we are very grateful to you, our members and supporters who stick with us year after year and without whose support we would not be able to continue the good work to help animals. We thank you very much!

It's Time

It's a ritual of peace: human and canine
 escaping chatter, forged metal, things that beep or run on
 oil,
 to enter the tranquil woods.
 One smells the roil of life in the fragrant soil
 the other listens to a bird, and is satisfied in naming it.
 One trots ahead, tail switching from side to side
 like a metronome beating out the rhythms of the heart.
 Both explore in their own way, trusting
 that all will be as it should be.
 In the woods, the human gains a new respect
 for their four-legged friend, glimpses
 the wild wolf of yesterday,
 bound by ancestral instinct and purity,
 compelled to push forward and never tire.
 On December 5th, Andrew, a tame one,
 was killed by steel jaws intended for a wild one.
 On December 5th, many of us began to question why
 wild or tame should ever be subjected to the crush of steel,
 an anguished death so unnatural
 within the grove of whispering pine,
 stand of white birch, boulder strewn brook.
 It's time.
 Time to push forward and protect them – tame and wild.
 Time to banish from the honest woodland the perverse
 human desire
 that conspires against those who cannot defend themselves.
 Time to push forward and never tire.

In Memory of Andrew by Tricia Orr

Legislation

Below is a list of animal related bills in the NH Legislature for 2013, and their primary sponsors. The status of these bills can change very quickly from day to day. For the latest information go to:

http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/quick_search.html

Enter the bill number with no spaces (e.g. HB110), and click on BILL DOCKET or BILL STATUS for current information about the bill. Click on FULL TEXT to read a PDF or Html version of the bill.

HB 641, Cebrowski, increasing the penalties for failure to license dogs

HB 497, Cebrowski, relative to negligent treatment of animals

HB 109, Cebrowski, repealing group licenses for dogs

HB 110, Haefner, requiring that photos or video recordings of abuse of farm animals be turned over to law enforcement within 24 hours

HB 608, McGuire, relative to the slaughter of poultry and rabbits

HB 390, Murphy, allowing companion dogs in some areas of restaurants

HB 328, O'Connor, relative to the sale of pets

HB 276, Reilly, relative to wildlife resistant solid waste storage and disposal

HB 258, Kidder, prohibiting the taking of deer from baited areas

HB 564, Vaillancourt, prohibiting simulcast racing of greyhound races from states that do not publicly report injuries to the dogs

HB 547, Haefner, establishing a Commission to study funding options for the state veterinary lab

SB 16, Cataldo, relative to the taking of red deer and elk

SB 133, Woodburn, adopting the interstate wildlife violators compact

SB 56, Forrester, prohibiting the taking of bear from baited areas

SB 59, Carson, prohibiting the cruel confinement of certain farm animals

SB 72, Bragdon, including owls within the definition of raptor for purposes of falconry (this bill was voted "Inexpedient to Legislate" by the Senate on 2-14-2013, which means the bill was KILLED, at least for now.)

Effective legislative advocacy is more complicated than supporting bills that protect animals and opposing bills that don't, it's about understanding the political climate and supporting bills that make sense for New Hampshire. National animal protection organizations will often use state legislatures to promote their own agendas, regardless of priorities within the state. For example, in the last legislative session one of the national organizations persuaded several of our animal friendly legislators to sponsor a bill placing humane standards on " puppy mills ". We don't have puppy mills in New Hampshire; we have a few large dog breeders (called "commercial kennels") that are licensed and inspected by the Department of Agriculture, and we have an unknown number of smaller breeders who are subject to no regulation whatsoever. That is where our problem lies, and where we should concentrate on reform. Regulating "puppy mills" that don't exist distracts from the real problem.

Another example is the bill that the national farm animal organizations promoted several years ago to prohibit the use of battery cages for chickens, an excellent idea, to be sure, but do we have large-scale, factory farms in NH that use battery cages? I would ask the same question about this year's SB 59. Do we have large farms in NH that use these methods of cruel confinement? Honestly, I don't know, but I would research this issue carefully before supporting the bill. Like the parable of the little boy who cried "wolf", if we complain too much about issues that don't exist, our Legislators won't listen to us when we have serious issues to talk with them about, like prohibiting the use of steel jaw and conibear traps.

This year I've also seen many "canned" e-mail messages to Legislators and letters to editors generated by the national organizations, especially on HB 110, the "ag-gag" bill. These messages are not an effective way to advocate or oppose legislation. If you care about a bill, take a few moments to use your own words to explain your feelings to your Legislators. That will have a much greater impact than the same message received from several dozen people.

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Animals Lost a Great Friend in 2012

Doris Hood of Manchester, NH was only 55 years old when she died on November 13. She had a love of animals from a very young age, translating into a passion-filled life of tirelessly helping them. Most recently, she was the president of Animal Allies of Manchester, but that didn't mean she sat at a desk and did no actual physical work. Along with the daily duties of feeding animals and cleaning litter boxes, Doris spent many days transporting carloads of cats to and from veterinarians for low-cost spay and neuter. Doris was instrumental in putting forward a proposal to Manchester alderman to ban exotic animals in the city, and she was a strong presence during the Ringling circus protests at the Verizon arena only a month before she passed.

Doris leaves a void that can never be filled at Animal Allies, and she will be sadly missed by her family, friends, and the animals. Donations in her memory may be made to Animal Allies, PO Box 693, Manchester, NH 03105-0693

Headlines for a Sane World

Catherine Gore and Tricia Orr have been involved in the animal rights movement for several years. Catherine is a board member with the Massachusetts Animal Rights Coalition, and Tricia served as Editor for the New Hampshire Animal Rights League.

The two friends set out to write an entertaining, and educational, compilation of fictional news stories about animals finally receiving the respect and justice they deserve. *Headlines for a Sane World* is the product of their collaboration. The news stories in *Headlines for a Sane World* envision a revolution of kindness toward all animals. By tapping the imagination, readers are encouraged to create a world in which cruelty-free practices and choices are embraced. Help Wanted Ads (Wanted: Caring Consumers) are there to guide the reader on how to go about creating a more compassionate world. Available as an e-book on Amazon and iTunes for \$1.99 with all of the proceeds going to Mercy for Animals.

Your membership and financial help is much needed and appreciated.

___ \$20.00 Regular member, age 15 or over.

___ \$5.00 Student member, Senior member, Junior member, (age 14 and under).

___ \$200.00 Life member, for self and spouse.

\$ _____ Sponsor/Donor who wants to support NHARL, without being a member.

\$ _____ Additional Donation.

\$ _____ Total. **THANK YOU!**

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Giving to NHARL through your will is one of the most important ways you can help animals for years to come. Making a bequest is easily executed with your attorney and can save your estate money in tax payments if the estate is subject to federal estate tax.

Court appearance for trapper who killed Andrew

It was what can be described as a slap on the wrist. He pled nolo on all three counts of violating NH Fish and Game trapping rules and he was fined a total of \$248. He said he had no money so he will be able to pay off the fine doing community service. He also must pay Andrew's owner restitution in the amount of \$795 and he agreed to pay that. He has one year to do so. We held a peaceful and small demonstration outside of the courthouse, with about 5 or 6 of us showing support for Andrew and inside many of Andrew's friends attended. Thank you to everyone who showed up to support Andrew.

Legislation continued from page 3

Our NH Legislators have hundreds of issues to deal with each year. Most often they don't understand current statutes regarding animals, or the effect that new bills may have. They rely on us to provide them with the information they need to make their votes. When you communicate with your Legislators, be passionate, be articulate, but be accurate and make sure you understand the issues. That is how we best advocate for the animals.