

Society for Animal Rights
and
Animal Rights Law Reporter
Announce the First National Conference
On Animal Rights Law

On Friday and Saturday, November 27 and 28, 1981, SAR and ARLR will sponsor the first national Conference on Animal Rights Law. To be held in midtown Manhattan, the Conference will include at least 14 hours of working sessions, Friday and Saturday luncheons, and a Saturday evening closing dinner featuring a speaker prominent in the animal rights movement. Among the many reasons for choosing New York City is the existence of approximately 50 well recognized law schools between New England and Virginia, and the significant number of potential registrants.

The SAR/ARLR conference on Animal Rights Law is open to lawyers, law teachers, law students and judges. Although the number of conference participants will be strictly limited to well under a hundred, if space permits there will be a few registrations reserved for lay persons active in the animal rights law movement.

The conference registration fee (inapplicable to persons presenting papers, participating in panels etc.), will be \$75.00 per participant, except for law students whose registration fee will be \$35.00. (The number of registrations available for law students will be limited). The registration fee will cover the two days of meetings, the Friday and Saturday luncheons and the Saturday dinner. All other expenses of attending the conference will, of course, be the registrant's own responsibility. Beginning April 15, 1981, SAR will begin to accept applications for conference registration, reserving the right to reject applications in its sole discretion and to close registration when its predetermined cut-off point has been reached. Conference registration applications should be on the applicant's letterhead, if possible, or should otherwise identify the applicant's connection with the legal profession or the Animal Rights Law movement. The registration application should also include full payment of the registration fee. All registrations for the conference will have to be completed by mail, and under no circumstances will registration be allowed at the conference itself.

Although subject to change, the conference's tentative program is as follows:

Friday, November 27, 1981: formal opening of conference and welcome by Helen Jones, President of Society For Animal Rights, Inc.; How SPCAs and

private attorneys can help each other, especially regarding the prosecution of cruelty cases; the standards for and nuances of veterinary malpractice; a theory of increased measure of damages for injury to or death of a pet animal; luncheon; litigation on behalf of animals, including: defending the animal rights activist, animal rights cases as viewed from the bench, panel discussion of test-case litigation, problems and pitfalls in animal rights litigation.

Saturday, November 28, 1981: Animals and decedent's estates, including "Sido" type problems, bequests to and of animals, the problem of precatory language; legal and other resources available to the animal rights lawyer, including how to use federal and state Freedom of Information Acts for maximum results; luncheon; panel discussion of model animal protection codes and Departments of Animal Affairs; the lawyer's role in legislative and other political action on behalf of animals, including election polling, lobbying; animal rights law as viewed from the legislature; open floor discussion concerning goals and strategies of the Animal Rights Law movement in the eighties, and special interest projects (e.g., law school courses in Animal Rights, National Organization of Animal Rights Lawyers (which will probably be one concrete result of the conference), centralization of referral/employment for animal rights lawyers) closing dinner.

This program is somewhat but not entirely flexible, so we will consider other topics for a while longer. Any suggestions should be forwarded promptly, especially by persons wishing to participate in the presentations themselves. (Not all of the above topics have yet been "spoken for" — so anyone interested in any of them should let us know quickly).

Even though the conference was a long way off when first announced in the January 1981 Animal Rights Law Reporter, the early response (from all over the country) has exceeded our expectations and some commitments to attend have been made already. Accordingly, we strongly urge those persons really serious about attending to register for the conference as soon as possible, because given our somewhat limited space it would be entirely counter-productive for us to close registration before the people whom we really want at the conference have gotten into it.