

2020 YEAR IN REVIEW: THE YEAR SHARK SHUTDOWN CANNED HUNTS AND CRUSHED COCKFIGHTING!

Dear Friends and Supporters,

2020 has been an incredibly difficult and painful year for many of us. The pandemic hit early, shutting down much of the country. SHARK, however, did not stop. We rose to the challenge, finding new ways to save lives.



We called this campaign, "Operation Shutdown," and we targeted canned hunting clubs operating in violation of state shutdown orders.

Operation Shutdown began when we saw a New Jersey hunt club's advertisement for two "hunting" slaughters during the lockdowns.

The first was for 1,000

tame ducks, who were to be released and slaughtered, followed by a second shoot where 1,250 ducks and pheasants were to suffer the same fate. We called the hunt club and legally recorded them discussing their plans. Then we presented that evidence to New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy's office.

We are proud to say that Governor Murphy took immediate action to shut the two planned slaughters down, saving 2,250 lives!

And that was just the beginning!

With this success, we understood that we could score even more victories for the animals across our country. We then made it our mission to find as many hunt clubs, canned hunting ranches, pigeon shoots and any other animal killing businesses that were violating stay-at-home orders and get them shutdown. We knew that we had to move fast and be forceful in order to save as many lives as possible.

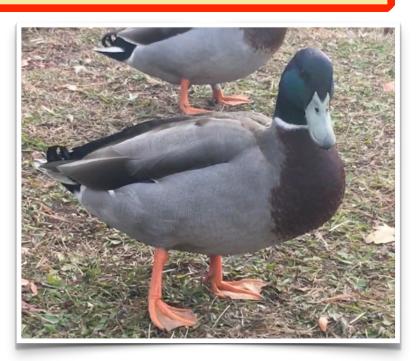
The entire SHARK team undertook an intensive search for any active canned hunts that were going to violate stay-at-home orders. By late spring, we had successfully stopped a dozen canned hunts and live pigeon shoots, across five different states!

We didn't just trust the local authorities either; we followed up to make sure that they did their jobs. This included using our drones to check properties in Michigan and Illinois and boats on Lake Michigan.

We also used the orders to shutdown the notorious Philadelphia Gun Club's pigeon shoots. The Gun Club's shooting season usually runs from November to April, but this year it ended in early March after we alerted the authorities to the shoots. We told them how shooters come from numerous different states and how that represented a real health threat in spreading COVID-19.

• There were no more pigeon shoots after we took action!





Thousands of ducks, pigeons, pheasants and many other animals were saved due to SHARK's work!

The point is, no one at SHARK stopped working for animals when the world itself seemed to slow and then shut down. We are not like other groups who sit in offices collecting bloated salaries while animals suffer. We do this work because we truly care about animals and we fight hard to save them, no matter what happens.

Left: Two wounded pigeons SHARK rescued at a shoot held at the Philadelphia Gun Club

By creating a unique campaign and taking decisive action, SHARK saved tens of thousands of lives!

When people say there's nothing that can be done in a pandemic, don't believe them! There's always a way!



SHARK, and our partners at the Humane Farming Association, are proud to announce that our campaign against cockfighting has scored unprecedented victories and saved tens of thousands of lives!

We have already shutdown 5 major criminal cockfighting operations in Kentucky in 2020 so far, and with your support we plan on shutting down many more before the year is over!

This campaign is growing and we are actively searching for cockfighting venues across the country and sharing that information with state authorities. In Kentucky alone, through both tips from the public and our own research, we have uncovered 10 cockfighting operations that have been allowed to violate the law due to local police turning a blind eye to them. **That's all changed now that SHARK is on the job!**

SHARK is working with the Kentucky State Police (KSP) on shutting down all active cockfighting "pits," that we find. This relationship has already proven to be successful, as the KSP recently shut down one major fighting pit we discovered and we just exposed 5 more locations that will be prevented from holding future cockfights.

We received a phone call from the owner of that cockfighting pit and, after we told him that cockfighting had been illegal for many years, he answered:

"Yep, but they wan't bothering us till youse got involved."

Think about how important that statement is: Cockfighters have been killing birds for years with no interference from the police, yet once SHARK started this campaign, everything changed.

This shows just how effective SHARK's work is!



SHARK undercover video from a KY cockfight

SHARK has been involved with cockfighting issues in IL and in CA since 2018. It started when we flew our drone over properties that were used for breeding and housing roosters used for fighting.

When we saw that many of these cockfighters were openly posting about their criminal behavior on Facebook, just as the father and son to the right had, we began a major effort to collect evidence on dozens of cockfighters, spanning 22 states. We are not able to talk about all these investigations, but we can tell you that, after we sent a detailed report to the Texas State Police about a large cockfighting operation called the Salinas Game Farm, we were told that arrests have been made and further investigations are ongoing! Having individual cockfighters charged for breaking the law represented extraordinary victories in our battle against cockfighting, but it was just the beginning.



We received a tip that a father and son cockfighting team in Kentucky (middle and right) were also law enforcement officers. We investigated them, collected evidence and we are proud to announce that both men have been charged and are awaiting trial for their crimes!

This past June, SHARK investigators swept into KY to go after four cockfights we had discovered. Our investigators went undercover at two of these despicable fights and captured horrific video of animal cruelty and other criminal acts.

We used our drone to film at a third fighting pit, and then SHARK President Steve Hindi, by himself, went right into the fourth pit and told them to shut down, and it worked! No one but SHARK would or could do that!



Left: Drone video showing cockfighters with a dead and living rooster at one cockfight. Below: Steve Hindi inside the cockfight that he busted up



Our initial campaign was covered in the news (right) as well as subsequent press releases we made, such as the shocking video of two Clay County Sheriff Deputies we filmed at a cockfight.

These so-called officers of the law didn't break up the cockfight, but instead socialized and joked with the cockfighters. This type of relationship between local police and illegal cockfighting is why these criminal organizations have been able to operate so openly in KY.



The cockfighting season runs from November to late summer. We are about to be very busy shutting down these despicable fights.

This has been an incredibly complex and expensive effort. We mentioned our partners at the Humane Farming Association. They helped defray some of the costs of this campaign, allowing SHARK investigators to be on the ground, getting the job done. That, however, only covers a small part of what a campaign like this costs to run effectively.

We are going to need much more funding in order to fully carry out this massive effort, which includes extensive traveling across the county to shutdown cockfights wherever we find them.

If you are excited that SHARK has made such dramatic change in so short of a time, and shut down so many of these disgusting animal fighting pits, then support the Crush Cockfighting campaign with a generous donation now!



Over the summer, we were challenged to debate by BL Cozad, one of the most prominent cockfighters out there. In addition to committing animal cruelty, Cozad is racist, homophobic, misogynistic and is anti-Semitic.

Cozad has stated that in addition to wanting to make cockfighting legal he would also give the same status to beastility and dog fighting. Cozad's history includes threatening a court clerk telling her he wants to shoot up courthouses.



Steve debates cockfighter BL Cozad in KY. Note the gun Cozad brought to the debate. The full debate can be seen on crushcockfighting.com

There is still much more that we have accomplished and are working on with this campaign.

- We are running ads in newspapers in six states across the country asking for tips on cockfighting locations. We have also set up a phone hotline (630-385-0244), and a special email address (tips@sharkonline.org) to make it easy for people to inform us of cockfight locations nationwide.
- Cockfighters, outraged by our success against them, have targeted SHARK with numerous death threats, including one by a law enforcement officer. One cockfighter already has a felony arrest warrant out for him, and we are pushing for charges against the police officer in Clay County, Kentucky who wrote, "Shark guys gonna go missing."
- SHARK and HFA have also filed a lawsuit against Monterey County, CA, to force the county to enforce an ordinance limiting the number of roosters allowed on a property a move to combat cockfighting. Unfortunately, laws that are unenforced are worthless, so we've taken the county to court.

For the safety of our investigators, we cannot speak publicly about everything that we are involved with for our Crush Cockfighting campaign. As you can see from what we can tell you about, SHARK has already accomplished more than any other organization that has taken on cockfighting.

We aren't in this for a quick photo-op and then move on as others have, we are fighting this battle to save lives.



Our investigators risked their safety to infiltrate cockfights and film them

SHARK TAKES A BITE OUT OF RODEO ANIMAL ABUSE (Again)

No one has gone after rodeos as SHARK has for decades. From baby calves, steers and horses suffering horrific abuse, injuries and death, SHARK has documented rodeos from one end of our country to the other and into Canada. Our videos have exposed numerous stock contractors electro-shocking horses to force them to perform. This vast trove of evidence completely destroys the myth that horses are, "born to buck." They are, in fact, "brutalized to buck."



Calves, just a few months old, suffer terrible abuse at rodeos

VICTORY! STOCK CONTRACTOR BANNED FROM RODEO!

Prior to the virus hitting, we sent an investigator to the National Western Stock Show and Rodeo in Denver, Colorado for its entirety - more than two weeks. It was a grueling and expensive run, with multiple rodeo performances daily, but the video documentation obtained resulted in two different stock contractors being investigated for animal abuse.

We filmed one of those stock contractors, Kirsten Vold, stabbing horses with a piece of metal to torture them to perform. This is the very definition of "brutalized to buck."

We contacted one of the vice-presidents of the rodeo who said he would investigate. True to his word, he did, and Vold is banned for two-years.



SHARK filmed this stock contractor stabbing horses with a piece of metal. Because of this abuse, she is now banned

Dealing with rodeo animal abuse, like all the other issues we deal with, is difficult work. But if you want rodeo animal abuse to stop, this is how you do it. Due to the large number of unethical corporate sponsorships (Coke, Dodge - see more at: CorporateThugs.com), rodeos are firmly established throughout the country, and especially in the western US. Any successful effort to stop the abuse must be unyielding and persistent and with your support we will continue.

SHARK TAKES ON PIGEON SHOOTERS - AND WINS!

In addition to the pigeon shoots we stopped during OPERATION SHUTDOWN, there were two other notable wins.

• SHARK sued the South Carolina based Broxton Bridge Plantation for shooting down three of our drones during a pigeon shoot in 2018. We are pleased to announce that the plantation settled, and has not only agreed to never interfere with our drones again, but has paid us nearly \$4,000 for the damage they caused!

This was a very important victory because it held a pigeon shooting club accountable for what they did, and ensures we will be able to film their illegal activities without such interference in the future.

We also continue to be very active in Pennsylvania, using a drone to film horrific live pigeon shoots at the Philadelphia Gun Club.



When we see an animal in need, like Penny, we help!



SHARK filmed terrible cruelty at Broxton Bridge, including children abusing wounded birds



SHARK's drone filmed vile members of the Philadelphia Gun Club killing innocent pigeons for fun

This is Penny. We found her when we were working on anti-cockfighting issues in Kentucky. As we were driving down a rural highway, we saw her, and we immediately pulled over to rescue her. She was terrified, scrawny, and covered in ticks.

After months of rehabilitation, Penny has a clean bill of health, is starting to play with toys, and loves to roll in the fall leaves. She's overjoyed to be in her forever home where she's constantly indulged in her favorite activity—getting belly rubs!

SHARK DRONE EXPOSES SICK AND INJURED COWS

Last May, SHARK released an emergency action alert after our drones filmed cows suffering from terrible injuries and malnutrition on a farm in IL. Thanks to the quick action from you, our supporters, the authorities went to the farm and action was immediately taken to improve the health and well being of the animals.

This successful campaign proves how effective we all can be when we work together to protect animals.



MOTHER'S DAY PLEA FOR MOTHER COWS

Cows, and their babies, suffer horrific acts of cruelty on farms. In the past we've filmed dairy farms in California where animals were forced to live in filth and dead bodies were piled in the mud. We all know the tragic fate of calves used for veal. What is not seen is that even though imprisoned and doomed, cows love their children, and will fight to protect them.

When reviewing the drone video from the farm in IL, we saw one moving scene when two of the farmers were trying to pierce the ear of a calf in front of her mother.



The calf cried out in pain as the male farmer ineptly tried to pierce the ear. The female farmer had to wield not one but two large metal poles to keep the mother cow from coming to her baby's aid. We released the video of that mother cow trying to protect her baby on Mother's Day, so that people would make the connection and understand that animals love and want to protect their children just as we do.

CONNECT WITH SHARK ONLINE!

WWW.SHARKONLINE.ORG

FACEBOOK.COM/SHARKONLINEORG

SHARK'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL HAS 139,000 SUBSCRIBERS

AND MORE THAN 113,000,000 VIEWS!





SHARK has filmed beagle breeding warehouses in both New York and Virginia, where dogs are bred and sold for experimentation. In 2020, we made two trips to the Envgio facility in Cumberland, VA.

Our high magnification drones showed how disgusting these prison camps are. We filmed dogs living in and eating their own filth, exhibiting severe behavioral problems such as aggression and stereotypic behavior, such as walking in circles due to emotional suffering.

Our video proved so effective that legislation was introduced against Envgio in the VA state legislature. The sponsor noted in a news story that they drafted the bill after viewing SHARK's drone video. This is another example of how invaluable our drone work is.

ODENEWS

'Truly barbaric': Viral video of dogs warehoused for research raising concerns

CUMBERLAND, Va. (WRIC) — A video going viral that shows hundreds of beagles to be used in research, warehoused at a breeding facility in Virginia is raising concerns.

The **drone video** has been viewed more than 65,000 times. It was taken by the animal rights group, SHARK- Showing Animals Respect & Kindness.

ABC News ran a story about our video. This got the attention of a legislator who introduced a bill against Envgio

Animal abusers, such as Envigo, call these terrified dogs "products," and they treat them as such, depriving them of attention and love. By showing the world the faces of these dogs, SHARK proved the undeniable truth about the animals imprisoned in these camps; each and every one of them is a living being no different than the dogs we call, "family."

This shows why SHARK's work is so important; we expose the plight of animals and work to stop the cruelty and help the animals.



SHARK NEEDS YOUR HELP TO SAVE LIVES!

We began this mailer by talking about how the pandemic has had a dire effect on all of us. It would have been easy for us to shut down as the rest of the country did, but that's not SHARK. We don't take the easy way out because we truly care about animals.

- OPERATION: SHUTDOWN was an amazing success because we were able to create an effective strategy and we followed through saving every life we could.
- CRUSH COCKFIGHTING is already the most successful effort against cockfighting by any animal protection organization and we are just beginning. No other animal protection group has taken such risks and gained such significant results so quickly.

No one at SHARK will ever get rich by working for the animals, and I have never taken a penny from the organization. In fact, I have personally funded the group during dire financial times from my retirement fund, but this can't continue. **SHARK cannot continue to win so many victories for animals unless we get the funding we need.** Donations to SHARK goes immediately to help animals, not expensive television ads, fundraisers, marketing, etc.

Just look at everything this small, yet dedicated group of investigators has accomplished and you will see how essential we are to the movement to save animals.

Join with us in this great and noble cause, and the lives we save will be the lives you save.

Most sincerely,





Dogs like this, imprisoned at Envigo, had no hope before SHARK. We will never stop fighting for animals





Meet SHARK's newest weapon in the war against animal abuse! This is the Matrice 300, the most powerful commercial drone available.

Our drones have saved tens-of-thousands of animals and opened the hearts and minds of countless people to the plight of animals. We invested in this powerful machine because we know we can save even more lives and that is the only thing that matters.

If you agree with us that drones offer an astounding means of fighting animal abuse, you can support SHARK's "Drone Brigade," by noting that with your donation