

Celebrating Animals

Bella might be more comfortable playing fetch in the yard than posing for pictures, but the 3-year-old yellow Lab still made an impression on Capitol Hill. Adopted two years ago, she took advantage of Erin Kanoy's time as a congressional staffer with occasional trips to the office. "She would spend half the time curled up at my desk and the rest of the day 'checking' on the staff to make sure they had played enough," says Kanoy, who now works for a Washington, D.C., think tank. In February, Bella had her day in the sun as a candidate in The HSUS's Congressional Dog Photo Contest, along with about 100 other dogs belonging to members of Congress and their staffs who vied for titles such as Barker of the House, Senate Pawjority Leader, Elder Statesdog, and Best Campaigner. But it was the stories of Lex, an 8-year-old bomb-sniffing German shepherd, and Hero, a cute little mixed breed orphaned in Iraq, that stole the show when Reps. Walter Jones, R-N.C., and Paul Hodes, D-N.H., were recognized with crystal bone-shaped plaques for uniting the dogs with the families of soldiers who had befriended them before being killed in the line of duty.

— *Andy MacAlpine*

YOUR BEST SHOT

Do you have an inspiring photo of a favorite pet or wild animal?

Send it to us for possible publication in *All Animals*, along with an explanation of 250 words or fewer about why it's meaningful to you. E-mailed photos should be at least 300 dpi and no more than 6 MB; please include only one attachment per e-mail.

Send submissions to allanimals@humansociety.org or *All Animals*—Your Best Shot, The HSUS, 2100 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037.

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