

A Note From Your Fans at *Animal Sheltering*

What's one precious resource that shelters around the country find themselves perpetually short of (aside from enough people to do the job)?

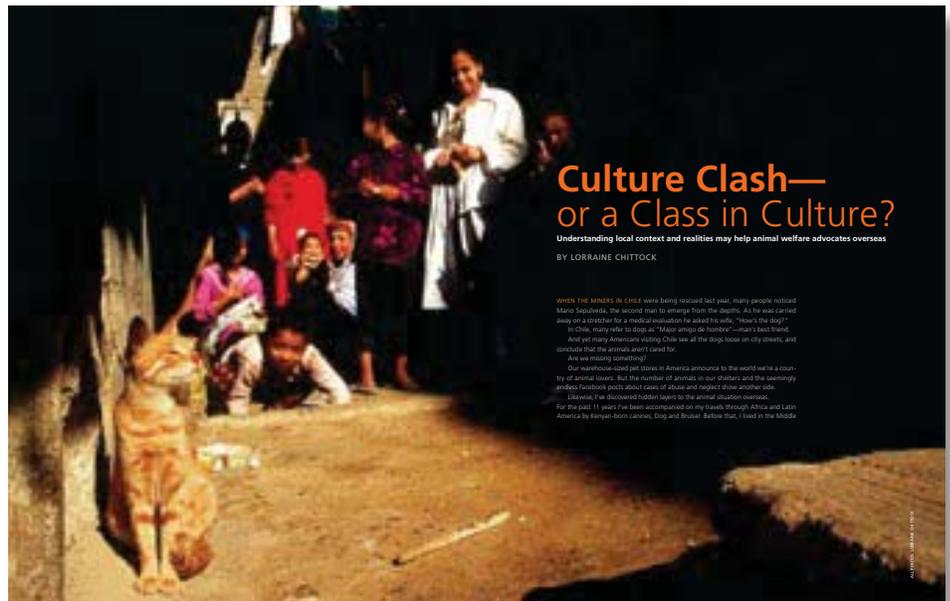
Money, of course. That's why dog walk fundraisers have long been a staple of shelter work. Shelters and rescue groups have come to rely on these community events as a proven source of income that can keep crucial programs running. But, as one of this issue's features reveals, pulling one off—and getting the return on your investment of funds and effort—requires a remarkable level of planning and foresight.

Once you've raised some cash, remember what Ben Franklin said about prevention. Getting funds is one thing—keeping them safe is equally important. Our "101" Department deals with shelter security issues, taking a look at what shelters can do to better protect themselves from criminal elements.

Animal Sheltering isn't the only resource for those in our field who want to keep current with emerging trends and issues. Animal Care Expo 2011 is slated for May 4-7 at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando, Fla. This year marks the 20th anniversary of an event that's grown to become the world's largest training conference and trade show for animal welfare workers. There will be 11 tracks of workshops to choose among—more than ever before. Wayne Pacelle, CEO of The Humane Society of the United States, will sign copies of his new book, *The Bond: Our Kinship with Animals, Our Call to Defend Them*. And, as always, you'll be able to network with colleagues from around country (and the world) who face the same challenges, and share the same goals, as you do.

You won't want to miss it. For information, go to animalsheltering.org/expo or call 800-248-EXPO.

—Carrie, James, Jim, and Shevaun
Animal Sheltering magazine staff



Culture Clash— or a Class in Culture?

Understanding local context and realities may help animal welfare advocates overseas

BY LORRAINE CHITTOCK

WHEN THE MINERS IN CHINA were being rescued last year, many people noticed Mario Sepúlveda, the second man to emerge from the depths. As he was carried away on a stretcher for a medical evaluation he asked his wife, "How's the dog?"

In China, many refer to dogs as "Major amigo de hombre"—man's best friend. And not many Americans visiting China see all the dog houses on city towers, and conclude that the animals aren't cared for.

Are we missing something?

Our warehouse-sized pet stores in America announce to the world we're a country of animal lovers. But the number of animals in our shelters and the seemingly endless Facebook posts about cases of abuse and neglect show another side.

Likewise, the discovered hidden layers to the animal situation overseas.

For the past 11 years I've been documenting my travels through Africa and Latin America by Kenyan-born cartoonist, Dog and Bruler. Before that, I lived in the Middle

Spread the Word

Last year I contacted you to get electronic copies of *Animal Sheltering* articles to pass on to our local city council, county supervisors, and others to educate them about animal issues. You were kind enough to do that, and I have gotten a wonderful response. I live in Santa Cruz, Calif., and with our budget pressures it is hard to convince local government to allocate the money for a healthy shelter and animal control program. It is through citizen involvement that we have worked to create relationships with the government officials that make the decisions. Most of the time, these decisions are made without much knowledge of the many issues that come up. I am so thankful for The Humane Society of the United States and the important information it shares in *Animal Sheltering* and *All Animals* magazines.

—Joan E. DeNeffe

Santa Cruz County Animal Welfare Coalition
Santa Cruz, Calif.

Editor's note: Thanks for reminding readers that *Animal Sheltering* articles can be requested in PDF format. For more information, write to us at asm@humanesociety.org

Globally Grateful

Thank you very much for "Culture Clash—or a Class in Culture?" (March-April 2011, p. 28). As the director of Animal-Kind International (AKI), a nonprofit that supports existing animal welfare organizations in poor countries (Ghana, Malawi, Namibia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Armenia, Bosnia, Honduras, and Jamaica), the question I get most often is: "How can you worry about animals when people are so poor?" My typical answer is: "Poor people often take better care of their animals than wealthy people, and they are grateful for any help they can get to improve the lives of their animals." And another oft-asked question: "How can you impose our Western standards of animal care on other cultures?" My answer to this one: "The organizations that AKI supports were started and are operated by local people—not Americans, not Westerners—local people who care about animals." But now, with Lorraine Chittock's article, I have so much more fodder—I'm looking forward to the next time I'm asked these questions. Thank you, Lorraine!

—Karen Menczer, Executive Director
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