Letters TO THE EDITOR

Contact Us WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your feedback, and please include your contact information. Letters may be edited for clarity and space.

All Animals/The HSUS
Letters to the Editor
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The Fur on Their Backs
“Creature Comforts” (March/April 2011) described making use of old fur coats for orphaned baby animals. I have three fur coats—many years old but still in excellent condition—that I would like to donate to this cause. I would not want them to be sold for anyone else to wear but would love to help some orphaned babies. Please tell me how to go about this. — AMMIE TUNCAP, SUN CITY, ARIZONA

FROM THE EDITORS: Our Student Outreach staff will respond to you directly with information—and our thanks—about donating old furs. Other readers can contact the program at humanesociety.org/coatsforcubs or 301-258-1490.

It’s Their World, Too
In reference to “The Faces of Climate Change” (March/April 2011), my wife and I have always loved and respected all animals and their habitats. Sadly, mankind’s contribution is surely to blame for global warming, and we humans must act to halt its spread.

We do not own this planet. It is equally owned by all creatures.

— MIKE & PHYLLIS GREEN, HUNTINGTON, NEW YORK

Lucky Dog
I love your magazine. It is an inspiration to everyone to do something for the animals. My “something” was saving a dog that was hit by a car.

A month or so ago, after the rain and freezing temperatures in California, a gal who owns horses at the stable where I keep mine drove up with a little dirty, skinny, matted dog—she’d found him on a busy street. My daughter and I took one look and went off to our vet hospital.

The little dog, whom we named Lucky, was in good shape—except for one hip. The hind leg was out of the socket. X-rays and blood tests revealed that surgery was the answer.

I didn’t hesitate—money was no object. We collected some funds, but I paid the rest.

Today, Lucky is the cutest, happiest dog alive. I believe he is a cross of poodle and bichon. Nothing can describe how wonderful taking care of Lucky makes me feel. I will do this again without blinking an eye. I feel 10 feet tall.

— MARY KAY GILLEN, YORBA LINDA, CALIFORNIA

I read “Creature Comforts” with a mixture of joy and reminiscence. I had a similar experience several years ago when I helped rescue and raise a litter of kittens.

A feral cat had given birth under a bush outside my neighbor’s apartment. Two days later, my neighbor called to let me know she’d found the mother dead (she had been hit by a car).

A few weeks prior to this incident, at a thrift store, I had purchased a large rabbit-fur item that turned out to be a foot-warmer. After my neighbor’s phone call, I had a “light bulb” moment.

I went to her apartment, and the kittens were in her laundry basket, wrapped in a towel, meowing. I gently placed the kittens inside the fur-lined foot warmer, and lo and behold! The kittens stopped meowing and promptly went to sleep!

That foot warmer became their surrogate mother until they grew too big to fit into it, but by that time they didn’t need it anymore. The foot warmer had to be thrown away, but I didn’t care. It had served a better purpose.

— DORI SAHAGIAN, TUJUNGA, CALIFORNIA

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Bear Betrayal
I was just looking through my old All Animals, and the article on bear baiting ("Torment in the Arena") in the September/October 2010 edition especially disturbed me. I was so brokenhearted for the plight of those bears, especially when that little girl told her father it looked like the bear was crying. My tears just ran and continue to do so. The pain and fear that they must be suffering is just too much to think of. I hope you will continue to try and end this torment. You do such wonderful work, and there are so many animals grateful for that.
— NANCY WHEELOCK, ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

Putting the Fun in Fundraising
I’m thinking about a fundraiser for animals this summer. I’m not sure of something me and my 11-, 16-, and 14-year-old friends can do to accomplish that. Can you help me? The money I make—we’ll keep a few dollars and you can have the rest for animals.
— EMILY THOMPSON, FLORA, INDIANA

> FROM THE EDITORS: Thanks for helping the animals during your summer vacation, Emily! Here are a few ideas: Hold a raffle with a local animal organization, with prizes donated from a local store. Organize a sports event, such as a walk or run for animals. Hold a “Coins for Critters” or “Pennies for Pets” collection by decorating canisters and asking local businesses to place them on their counters. Find more ideas in our online action guide at humanesociety.org/missionhumane.

A Whale of a Mistake
In a timeline highlighting past years of The HSUS’s annual Genesis Awards (March/April 2011), you wrote "1987—Leonard Nimoy accepts an award for Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home, recognized for its theme of saving orcas.”

Actually, the whale species featured in this film is the humpback—quite a different thing.
— ERIC JEWETT, LOS GATOS, CALIFORNIA

> FROM THE EDITORS: Thanks to you and other readers for setting us straight. Our apologies to all the Trekkies—and humpbacks—out there.