



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cover to Cover

This magazine is well worth the donation! It has great stories about rescues and how everyday people have helped in their area!

—DEBBIE KINKEL-DANN, VIA FACEBOOK

I spend a lot of time reading mine, too. A very humbling and emotional experience. Love all the stories, good and bad. Thank you for all you people do to help these poor animals. I am glad I can help in my small way.

—KENT H. PENTER, VIA FACEBOOK

Cash my check! I can't wait to start getting the magazine.

—CHARMAINE HEWELL MILLS, VIA FACEBOOK

A Hazel Nut

Your article about Hazel the goat ("To the Rescue," November/December 2013), rescued from a Bellaire, Ohio, hoarding situation along with other animals, was so touching. Ron Ault is a hero like his son was. [Ault's son was killed in Iraq.] Thank you, Ron, for taking care of the goats and never giving up on Hazel. Your son would be so proud.

—CHRISTINA GRIMALDI, QUEENS, NEW YORK

Well Done from Down Under

Since receiving All Animals, I have read it from cover to cover and must tell you I am hugely impressed with The HSUS's efforts. Your relief work following Hurricane Sandy has been superhuman, and your many programs for domestic, farm, and wild animals in the U.S. and around the world are truly inspirational. It does my heart good to know that there are so many dedicated people the world over who are prepared to stand up, be counted, and actually do something for our fellow creatures, who so often get a raw deal at the hands of humanity. Thank you, one and all, from this Aussie girl. Love your work!

—KATE COLE, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

THIS ISSUE'S MUSE

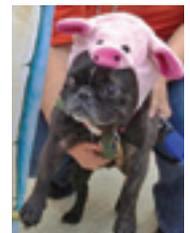
Clea's claim to fame, says Alan Heymann, HSUS vice president of communications, is her nondiscriminating palate and her miraculously short digestive system. She once ate a drawerful of a neighbor's lacy underthings. "We wrote a big check for that one," Heymann says. Fortunately, all those nonfood items pass quickly out the other end with no ill effects, negating the need for runs to the emergency room. Heymann was drawn to Clea's good nature 12 years ago at the Washington Humane Society,



and it's a trait that came in handy when he and his wife adopted a 2-year-old daughter who subjected Clea to a toddler's typical tail- and ear-pulling. A senior citizen now and a little hard of hearing, Clea spends her weekdays snoozing on a comfy dog bed in Heymann's office, oblivious to the comings and goings around her.

Pet Out the Vote!

Pooches were pretty in pink pig costumes at a rally at the Monmouth County SPCA, part of a statewide HSUS campaign in support of a New Jersey ban on sow gestation crates. Dogs and their people were barking mad at Gov. Chris Christie's June veto of the ban, which had been passed by both chambers of the state legislature in nearly unanimous votes. The HSUS launched a blitz of TV ads, phone calls, door-to-door appeals, and meetings with lawmakers to push an override vote that would reinstate the ban. For updates, go to humanesociety.org.



f WE ASKED, YOU ANSWERED

Our Facebook fans told us how rescuing an animal has made them better people.

JANICE LYNN VINES BRADLEY The eight rescue cats that own me have made me a better person by making me move outside my own little world and care for others. They have taught me responsibility. ... They have taught me to have a servant's heart. They have taught me not to get my feelings hurt so easily. They have taught me patience. I love my cats and can't imagine my world without them.

JOANNE JABLONSKI Rescuing our two cats and four pit bulls has been an incredible, sometimes challenging, but always rewarding journey. Saving their lives caused us to want to know more about the breed, and we have become an educated arsenal of truthful info on these dogs, which then turned us into breed ambassadors.

CHELSEA MEISINGER A pet can show unconditional love—something most people have a hard time with. Coming home to a big ball of love and sunshine reminds me that there is still pure love in the world that I can emulate, making my marriage and other relationships better.

NATALIE KEMPTON I wasn't able to save the poor kitty we found cuz he was so badly injured, but I was able to teach my kids compassion. We wrapped him up in a warm blanket, and my 12-year-old son held him

as I drove to a local vet to have the poor kitty humanely put to sleep. Lewis Jr. held him, telling him we loved him and how sorry we were that he was in pain. For just a second, the cat started to purr, as if he understood.

ELLEN GREGORY Saving Mousse has changed me all for the better! Mousse has taught me to never look at what's on the



Drawn to his "good soul," Ellen Gregory couldn't bear to leave Mousse—hungry, neglected, living in muddy pastures—with the man selling him. "From the day we picked him up, we knew he was special."

outside, but to look for what's on the inside and what potential the situation has!

JOHN GOODWIN All I've ever owned has been roadside rescues (I'm a truck driver). I'm a 52-year-old single man; I've never enjoyed the life-affirming things like marriage, children, or even the sort of human relationships everyone around me takes as common entitlements. Every time I wonder how I'm going to continue to care for yet another animal, both financially and with no one sharing any of the hands-on responsibilities, I remember what I've done already. I look at Gina, contemplate what could have been had I not stopped and picked up Jack; I remember Angel or Rollo. When I'm about to take in yet one more lost, frightened animal in desperate need of love and care, this by no means makes me feel like a better person: It simply confirms that I truly am the person I already know that I am.

KIM WOLF Rescuing dogs has opened my eyes to not only their needs, but the needs facing many humans in underserved areas. It has taught me compassion, for both the four-legged and two-legged.

LEE ANN JACKSON It makes me work harder so I'll have enough to provide for them, instead of slacking on Facebook. ... Oops ... gotta go ...

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