



THIS ISSUE'S MUSE

Looking at her full plumage and bright eyes, you'd never know Postal survived a harrowing mail order disaster. She and her sister Suri were the only survivors after approximately 150 chicks were left on the loading dock of a New Hampshire post office on a cold, wet spring day in 2013.



These days, the two share a spacious coop with five other adopted hens at the home of HSUS state director Lindsay Hamrick and her partner, Jim. Postal and her flockmates—including Trix, shown above—start each day with Hamrick bringing out morning treats. That gets them clucking. They love dust bathing and gobbling the ground oyster shells that Hamrick scatters for a boost of calcium. And just like clockwork, each bird is in the coop by sundown, getting comfortable on her roost for the night. It's their routine and they like it that way. (To uncover more secrets of this amazing species, turn to p. 30.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Buyer Beware

I love reading All Animals and was especially happy to see the article about dog food safety in the March/April issue ("Food or Foe?"). I think it's important to add that just because a bag of food says it was manufactured in the U.S., it doesn't necessarily mean that the ingredients are sourced in this country. Reputable manufacturers will be glad to tell you where they're getting their raw materials if you call them. If they won't tell you, don't buy the food.

—VAL PARKS, DENVER, COLORADO

Remembering Shy Guy

I was shocked to learn of the animal testing performed on dogs for dental implant research as reported in the March/April issue of All Animals. I was totally unaware that dogs were used in this kind of testing. Although sometimes difficult to read, articles like "For Shy Guy" are informative and revealing. Reading your magazine reinforces my desire to contribute monthly to The HSUS. Thank you for your efforts to stop this kind of animal cruelty.

—NANCY ZIMEROWSKI, LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS

Thank you for the article "For Shy Guy," a painful but necessary reminder that some beings are born into suffering and never know anything else. While it hurt to read, it has strengthened my commitment to animal advocacy, and I hope it will inspire greater compassion and resolve for others, too. Your life matters to us, Shy Guy.

—CHARITY TABOL, WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

Worth a Thousand Words

I just received my March/April issue of All Animals. Attached to the magazine was a reminder that my membership is expiring, with a picture of an HSUS employee on his knees, cradling in his hands the head of a precious pit bull. The picture moved me to tears. And if my daughter were to ask me, "What is a real man?," I would show her that picture. God bless all of the HSUS people who do so much for animals.

—BEV ZELLER, TUCSON, ARIZONA



SELFIE HELP

While hosting the Academy Awards, Ellen DeGeneres gathered a few famous friends to snap the photo at top—a moment that helped raise \$1.5 million for The HSUS: Samsung had pledged to donate \$1 to the charity of DeGeneres' choice every time the photo was retweeted on Twitter. (Another \$1.5 million was given to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.) Below that, a few of the animals at HSUS care centers "gathered" to express their thanks.

f WE ASKED, YOU ANSWERED

"Socktopus," a "dog box," an indoor grass patch—our Facebook fans told us about the most creative gift they've made for their pet.

CHERYL SCHLINDWEIN OESER I made wood, carpeted pet stairs for my 3-legged, diabetic cat to reach my bed each night.

BETH REITER We noticed that our dogs get bored when we are both at work and find cardboard boxes around the house to open, so now my husband makes them a "dog box" every day before he leaves, filled with toys, treats, chewies, and random things they may like the smell of. He closes up the box and hides it somewhere in the house for them to find. Without fail, when I get home, they have found their box and ripped it open and played with the goodies inside.

LINDA CAIN My cat had cancer and had to wear one of those awful plastic ring things around her neck. She had issues sleeping with it so I made her one with elastic and nerf balls. It looked funny but it worked. She could sleep and eat; it was like having pillows around her neck.

STACEY BAKER When my dog was younger, he loved to chew on socks. My husband gathered a bunch of his old socks and knotted them all together into a circle for our dog to chew on. We called it "the socktopus."

JEAN HUGEL Crocheted a washcloth, worked the material a bit to shape it, turned into a little hot pink mouse, complete with ears and a tail. The best part was I could put catnip in it. Isis (my kitten) loved it.

NANCY BLUM In my apartment, I grow grass in a big wooden box for my turtles to walk around in. They love it.



LISA ANN TORCHIA CAMP My granddaughter and I make houses for the feral cats every winter: a small cardboard box inside of a larger cardboard box, placed inside a plastic tote. Crumpled-up newspapers in between boxes act as insulation. We cut a small opening for them to get in. Put it on the southeast side, up against the house and out of the wind.



MONICA ORTA AILEY It was a very cold day here in Texas. We had gotten some sleet in overnight and the city was virtually shut down. My foster puppy needed some clothes to keep her warm when she went out to potty, so I made her a "Swock" (sweater/sock) and a matching "Swat" (a sweater/hat) out of my husband's sock. I even added pawprints to it :)

KIT VAN ORSDEL I made my chihuahua her own Christmas stocking out of felt with her image on it so she could have a stocking full of treats and toys on Christmas morning. She likes to stick her head inside to make sure she gets all her treats.

COGNAC VAQUERA My husband made a beautiful double-dog kennel for our two large breed dogs out of an old entertainment center!

PAM HOUSTON A 2,200-square-foot house lol. They just let us live there as long as we pay the bills.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK: Chance meetings with animals can often prove unforgettable (p. 24). What was your most memorable encounter with a wild animal? Tell us at humanesociety.org/aafacebook.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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