Letters

Cavy Kudos
My husband and I love guinea pigs and have had several over the past 10 years. We do everything we can to support guinea pig rescue efforts and education on their proper care. I was thrilled and delighted with “Something to Wheek About” (July/August 2011). You hit everything right. Absolutely everything. And thank you so much for doing so.
— LINDA WHITENTON, MARIETTA, GEORGIA

Illuminating Cruelty
When my All Animals magazine arrives, I can’t wait to read it cover to cover, knowing that there will be articles in the magazine on all sorts of animal subjects and that at least one story, if not more, will make me cry.

So it happened when I read the brief article on bulls in Spain being set on fire (“Tormented by Fire,” July/August 2011) by Ruthanne Johnson.

The absolute terror and agony that is caused these animals is beyond comprehension. Spain has an unfortunate history of animal abuse toward bulls, and I am so glad to see this hideous torment given publicity. Only by educating the public can we try to stop the abuse for all animals.
— CAROL GENTZ, LANGLEY, WASHINGTON

Share the Love
Someone wrote in your July/August 2011 issue that they share All Animals with others when they’re done. I think I have a better way of doing just that: I bring them to the veterinary clinic where I work and place them in the lobby magazine racks. Clients there already have animals (their pets) on their minds, and your arresting (and often stunning) cover photos practically beg people to pick them up and open them. I see people reading them there all the time.

This way they have something much better to read than the usual run-of-the-mill waiting room selection of sports or glamour rubbish. Please keep your issues coming and I’ll keep bringing them to work—after I’m done reading them myself, of course!
— DAVID BERNAZANI, R.V.T., LAFAYETTE, CALIFORNIA
Loving Miss Daisy

After reading “When You’re Ready for a Mature Relationship” (July/August 2011), I wanted to tell you about my cat Daisy. She has been a part of my life for 26 years. She is approximately 28 years old. She is the matriarch of our little household, which consists of two humans and two other kitties. All are very unique in their own way, but Daisy showed us a side of her we did not know existed.

I was housesitting for a friend who had just adopted a rescued Siamese who was very badly damaged. Another kitty in the house was aggressive, so I ended up taking the Siamese with me. When I got home I took the animal carrier inside and sat it down next to the couch. The little Siamese crept out only to come face-to-face with Daisy, who smelled him, walked around him, and then did something I’d never seen her do. She picked him up, carried him to the couch, put him down on her pillow, and started to wash him. From that moment on they became inseparable. We named the Siamese “Boy.”

Boy gets Daisy for meals and to take their daily walks in the backyard. Each kitty sleeps in a different room throughout the day, but at night Daisy sleeps at the head of the bed between the pillows. She’s lost a lot of weight but eats well. She’s not a lap cat but sits next to me always and loves her treats. She follows the sun throughout the house. She has a window seat that she shares with the other kittens, and when she cries the other two run to her. Since Boy’s larynx was crushed and he has no voice, Daisy has become his voice.

I could go on forever about my precious three cats, but I just wanted to share Daisy with you.

— PRISCILLA DAVIS, TUCSON, ARIZONA

The Eyes Say It All

I am a supporter of The HSUS and am so grateful for all of the work you guys do! I read the article by David Kirby, “Why Is Our Food Making Us Sick?” (July/August 2011). The picture of the pregnant pig in the gestation crate broke my heart; her eyes were full of hopelessness. Is this a stock photo, or did he shoot at the factory personally? I would like to pay for her rescue and her piglets to go to a sanctuary. I know it’s an odd request, and I know there are thousands just like her. I guess if I could rescue at least one, I feel there would be one less animal suffering.

— MASON DEVON, MALIBU, CALIFORNIA

Rock On!

Thank you for the interview with the very talented, compassionate, animal-loving vocalist Leona Lewis. So many virtuosic rock stars have done great deeds for animals. A brief list includes Paul McCartney, Moby, Morrissey, Chrissie Hynde, Joan Jett, Bryan Adams, and British guitar legends Brian May and Jeff Beck, who are both doing their best to protect and rehabilitate wildlife in the United Kingdom. God bless all these musical icons who kindly rock the world for humans and animals.

— BRIEN COMERFORD, GLENVIEW, ILLINOIS

Loving Animals should be read by everyone who is concerned about the ethics of our relationship with animals. It provides a philosophical middle ground between extreme views on each side of the animal rights issue.

— TEMPLE GRANDIN

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One, I feel there would be one less animal suffering.

— MASON DEVON, MALIBU, CALIFORNIA

Paul Shapiro, Senior Director of Farm Animal Protection, Responds: Mason, thank you so much for wanting to ease these animals’ suffering. We, too, were haunted by her photo, taken during our 2010 investigation of a Smithfield Foods subsidiary in Waverly, Va. While she and the rest of the pigs in that factory farm were likely sent to slaughter, we hope our exposé—one of many—will lead to a better future for millions of animals like her in the years to come. There are many rescued pigs you can sponsor at farm animal sanctuaries, and of course, we can each help farm animals by making more humane choices every time we sit down to eat. Learn more at humanesociety.org/farm.