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Kindness to Animals Has No Boundaries

October 2015

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I'm sorry to be sending this October AKI newsletter so late--it's not even October any longer! I just returned from Uganda (where I wasn't able to write the newsletter), but I didn't want to put this off until our November newsletter.

Seeing the Uganda SPCA Haven and the staff in person, watching them work, working alongside them really put things in perspective. Haven staff members, Alex O, Mary, Jackie, Henry, Geoffrey, and Dan (with support from Dr. Alex and his crew), work so hard, they care so much for the dogs and cats; yet compared to a typical shelter in the US, they have so few resources at their disposal. When you don't have supplies at hand, it sure strengthens innovation. But when you don't have money (there are so few ways to raise money in Uganda for dogs and cats), as innovative as you may be, it's a gap that's tough to fill. But you can help!

The stories below are just a snapshot of what The Haven staff face on a daily basis--dogs and cats, puppies and kittens are constantly coming through the doors, the USPCA phone rarely stops ringing, yet the staff face every day with courage, and treat all animals with love and kindness.

If you care about animals and want your donations used in the most effective way, please consider designating the Uganda SPCA for your donation to AKI--<http://www.animal-kind.org/#!donate/epq2c> As always, AKI sends 100% of all donations to our partner organizations.

Thank you AKI donors-Uganda SPCA Haven staff now have bright new uniforms!

When I arrived at The Haven in early October, I saw the tattered state of The Haven staff's uniforms. USPCA board members requested to use some of AKI's 2nd 2015 disbursement to USPCA to buy new uniforms. SURE! Alex Ochieng and I went shopping and found these nice blue coveralls and dust coats. We had them stenciled with the USPCA logo and topped the uniform off with gumboots for everyone. Even the dogs were impressed!



I found that every day at the USPCA brings surprises.....

Sometimes the surprises seem more than you can handle, but most have happy endings. Last



weekend, Geoffry went off on a rescue call and came back on a boda boda (motor bike taxi) with this dog (photo right with Henry). A wire was wrapped around his mid-section; we think someone used it to restrain him--obviously the wrong way to accomplish that!



The wire had gotten embedded and the wound looked red and raw. But this dog, named Geoff, was in such good spirits, he has a beautiful disposition. Geoff didn't appear to be in pain and he didn't mind the other dogs sniffing him or that we were trying to cut the wire off. Dr. Alex eventually sedated him and removed the wire, and within hours, the wound was healing and Geoff was ready to move on to more fun activities.

Whoever adopts Geoff will be getting a wonderful dog. And he'll always have the sign of a survivor--a black scar will encircle his mid-section, but that will be the only memory of this bad experience.

Shopping in Kampala

It's not like an average trip to the mall. Alex and I went to Nakasero Market, an outdoor market teeming with stalls, shops, and people, to buy the new uniforms, and 10 feet from the stall where we were doing business, a kitty was sitting under a car. We looked closer and saw his tail was mangled. He must have been in pain; he let us pick him up and put him in my knapsack. We quickly finished our transaction, and drove with the kitty back to The Haven. Dr. Alex cleaned up his tail, gave antibiotics and painkillers, but the tail will likely have to be amputated. Such a sweet cat, as you can see, he let Jackie pick him up to show off his injury.



Almost every time I came into the office, another litter of puppies was brought to The Haven.

The USPCA holds community spay/neuter clinics, performs s/n at The Haven, and educates the public about the importance of s/n. Even so, there's a never ending stream of puppies in need of rescue and sanctuary. The USPCA Haven never turns them away.



More puppies arrive at The Haven

They find a place to sleep in the office until space is made for them.





These old kennels are being replaced

Thanks to AKI donors, we raised enough money to cover the cost of about 3 1/2 new kennels for the USPCA Haven. As you can see (photo right), these old kennels are in such bad shape. In some cases, the doors don't close tightly, wires are sticking out, and there are holes in the fencing. It's not the safest situation for dogs, but it also makes it difficult for staff and volunteers to maneuver during feedings and to get dogs out of the pens for walks. All the pens desperately need to be upgraded!



The new pens will be sturdy, more hygienic, and long lasting.



They will also be mobile. They can be moved to a new location when and if USPCA purchases property for a new shelter.

The cattery needs to be upgraded

Currently, about half the cats live in this cattery and the other half are in a transformed garage at The Haven. The USPCA hopes to replace this cattery with one made of the same material as the new dog pens, large enough to hold all the cats, with lots of space to play, or for shy kitties, to hide away. The new cattery will be a little more expensive than the dog pens, but it will be worth it. We need to raise about US\$1500 for the cattery. Won't you please help?

<http://www.animal-kind.org/#!donate/epq2c>



As you can see, the USPCA Haven is a busy shelter!

They deal with all the usual cruelty, abandonment, and overpopulation issues (and some unusual ones) that we see in shelters around the world--but with fewer resources at their disposal than most shelters this size.

We have a dream that some day the USPCA will be able to purchase land and have a bigger site for dogs and cats to play and live; to serve as an animal rescue educational center for Africa; with guest quarters for visitors; with humane facilities for students. We'll tell you more about these hopes and dreams in upcoming newsletters.

As the holiday season draws near, please remember to designate Animal-Kind International for your AmazonSmile purchases, <http://smile.amazon.com/> ; to use GoodShop with a % of your purchase going to AKI, <http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop>; and to shop eBay for items that give a % to AKI. Questions? Please feel free to get in touch with me at karen@animal-kind.org.

Also, please consider a donation to AKI as a holiday gift for your pet loving friends and family. We'll send a holiday letter notifying the recipient of your generosity and kindness. <http://www.animal-kind.org/>

Thank you so much for helping animals in some of the poorest countries--they rely on us, they have no one else.

Karen Menczer, Director
&
the AKI Board of Directors

AKI always sends 100% of your donations to our partner organizations. AKI works with organizations in Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Namibia, Malawi, Ghana, Bosnia, Armenia, Jamaica, Honduras, and Suriname.
This newsletter in memory of Bruni.



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