

Coffee Break, 20

“I sit with the dogs and cats in the shelter and think of the countless hours the volunteers have served the shelter, and this seems to help me continue.” >>

Animal Sheltering

animal services / rescues / shelters



30 Moving on Up?

In resource-poor areas around the country and the globe, animals are boarding planes, trains, and automobiles in search of a better life. Their nomadic lives are part of an elaborate balancing act on the part of shelters and rescues to save as many animals as possible. But what happens to the homeless animals already living in the receiving community? Does the arrival of new animals lessen their chances for lifelong homes? Five representatives of local and national organizations explore these and other questions in a series of essays on animal transfer.

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42 Opening the Door to New Understanding

Responding to the public’s misconceptions about admission and euthanasia policies, two Pittsburgh shelters collaborated on an educational campaign. The resulting website conveys the stark reality of the flood of animals still entering shelters in many areas of the country.

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8 Scoop

Are shelters getting sick? (One in Ohio produces a massive Hair Ball, while a Canadian humane society turns green.) Also, a lawyer works to make animals "sentient property," an animal control academy hits its stride, and more.

20 Coffee Break

In your space, you talk about what you do when the job becomes too much—take a day off, think about the animals you've helped, and sometimes, just be happy that your hair looks good.

23 Creature Feature

They may look like little dinosaurs, but these scaly guys are still in existence—and may turn up at your shelter in need of care. And boy, are they picky! We provide some basic guidelines for housing, feeding, and adoption requirements.

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The executive director of a New Hampshire shelter talks about why shelter workers should care about what—and whom—they eat.

*Dedicated to C. Lincoln Imlay,
who helped us make this a better magazine
January 9, 1956 - April 27, 2007*



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As an accompaniment to our feature section on animal transfer, veterinarian Jan Scarlett provides tips on moving animals to their new destinations safely.

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Fundamental to maintaining a healthy shelter population is a system for examining all animals as soon as possible after intake. Veterinarian Lila Miller of the ASPCA runs through the basics.

61 The Behavior Department

What do your adopters expect when they take home a kitty? And will they be unpleasantly surprised? The ASPCA's Emily Weiss explains a new system for matching the right cats with the right people.

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The volunteer room in a California shelter gets a makeover—and an appearance on local TV.