

Animal Anti Cruelty League Report July 2009

July was a quite month as Leonora attended a computer course and Truda was off for awhile after hurting her back lifting a heavy dog! Never the less 10 complaints were seen to, 26 fines written and 5 poultry problems dealt with 27 dogs and 10 cats were euthanaised, 18 dogs and 4 cats spayed and 2 dogs castrated. Our local Vets are very busy with farm work at present and thus unable to spay many more animals at the moment - so quite a list has developed of pending spays. We are hoping to get another Vet to help out to catch up on the backlog. 10 stray dogs and 2 cats were picked up, 5 dogs treated with mange and 3 bitches on heat removed and kennelled or spayed immediately. 18 letters were handed out for a variety of complaints like bitches to be spayed, animals in poor condition, poor or lack of running wires and kennels or shelter for restrained animals. 30 follow up visits were made for previous complaints investigated and there were 4 cases of neglect. The court case over the pigs mentioned last report is finally over and the pigs have been sold - at a loss as it cost R9,000 to feed them for nine months. However a message has been sent out that cruelty and neglect is never acceptable. The previous owner got a suspended sentence after a long drawn out court case and Truda and Leonora are grateful that they no longer have to clean pigsties every day!! 40 animals were handled by the Inspectors for basic medical care and a further 82 were taken to the Vet Clinic for attention. This gives a total of 372 animals attended to in July. We were thrilled to be in a position to help with money towards fuel costs for a spaying day that was held in Elim recently. A Cape Town Vet and a Nurse came up on the 24 and 25th July and 24 dogs and 3 cats were spayed or neutered and given veterinary treatment - inoculations and deworming at cost price. The wonderful lady organising all of this is Andrea Booyesen - well done on a wonderful achievement. Andrea also runs a dipping clinic in Elim in summer and we help her as much as possible with supplies and medicines. Another wonderful helpful Vet is Dr Cotton who has a house in Napier but lives and works in Cape Town. She is pleased to help whenever she can - a wonderful gesture and much appreciated by animal lovers in the area. She recently did a vaccination drive in Napier with the help of the ladies from our League who run a Saturday morning clinic in Nuwerus and surrounds. Animals were given a health check up and then dewormed and inoculated -and 200 were treated! Watch out for Biliary at present in your dogs. There seems to be alot of it about at present. Guess its the rain and warm days - the ticks are breeding in ideal conditions for them. If your animal seems off colour don't hesitate to take them for a check up at the Vet Clinic - this disease kills fast and yet is easily treated if caught in time. My border Collie, Tess has also had it this year - first time I have had a case in many years. Look out for lethargy, listlessness and loss of appetite. Also pale gums and tissue around eyes.

And now ; Ten favours a dog desires from man;

1. My life is between ten and fifteen years - every separation from you means suffering for me - think before you decide to take me on.
2. Give me time to understand what you are asking of me - I do not always understand what you are wanting me to do- you do not speak dog very well!
3. Instil confidence in me - I thrive on it.
4. Don't be angry with me for long and don't lock me up as punishment. You have your work, your pleasures, your friends - I have only you.
5. Talk to me often - I may not understand the words but I understand the tone of your voice.
6. Know that no matter how I am treated, I will never forget it.
7. Before you hit me, remember that my jaws could crush the knuckles of your hand with ease with up to 400 kg/cm² - but I don't make use of them.
8. Before you scold me when I don't respond right away - consider that perhaps I am uncomfortable from my last meal, hot from being in the sun too long or feeling plain lazy!
9. Take care of me when I am old - you too will be old some day!
10. Be with me when the going is rough - everything is easier for me with you besides me.