



# HSV Animal Welfare League Rescue Report

*Dedicated to place all rescued and surrendered, adoptable companion animals into loving homes, and to prevent the overpopulation of unwanted animals.*

**March/April 2023**

**Published bimonthly  
for members of the  
HSVAWL**

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## Saving Lives through Dog Fostering

AWL supporters know that pets give love and loyalty in their own special way, and for those cats and dogs still waiting for homes of their very own, we are extremely grateful to our foster parents who provide them with a loving, temporary home. They're part of the dedicated team that creates a safe and healthy environment - along with the extra TLC - pets need to thrive.

By opening their home to pets in need, fosters help save even more lives by freeing up space so we can care for additional animals. This is especially important since our space at the shelter is limited.

In our August 2022 Rescue Report, we featured our fabulous foster feline parents, and now we'll learn about our committed canine fosters!

Shelley Shepherd, AWL's dog foster coordinator, echos their praise. "Fosters play a vital role, and they truly are lifesavers. Many dogs don't do well at the shelter, but once they're in a foster home, they turnaround. Fostering gives us critical information needed to find the right permanent home for them, and helps determine what their needs are." Shelley should know; she's fostered nearly 90 dogs since 2015, and can share many inspiring stories about our wonderful dog fosters. Here are just a few....



*12 yr old Dolly (left) and 18 yr old Molly are just two of the many dogs Shelley & Grady Shepherd have fostered. When Shelley took in Dolly, the dog wasn't able to stand up.*



*Oscar, a senior Foxhound/Beagle mix, was "a perfect dog and "the easiest foster I ever had." Cari Roche*

**Cari Roche** - Cari always wanted to foster dogs that were the hardest to adopt, such as Oscar. Oscar was 11 when he came to the shelter as a stray. He had health issues and had been up for adoption for a year when Cari opened her home to him. She gave Oscar a very good life, and Oscar in turn enriched her life in a very special way. Cari happened to be pregnant when Oscar joined the family. When her daughter was born, Oscar faithfully watched over her and slept next to the crib. According to Shelley, "they were so good for each other!" Unfortunately, Oscar passed earlier this year, but thanks to Cari, his last few years were filled with lots of loving care.

*(continued on page 2)*

## Saving Lives through Dog Fostering (cont'd)

**Karen Geiger** knows a lot about dogs. She regularly walks them at the shelter, and has fostered for four years. What Karen particularly enjoys is “watching the dogs become their own little ‘person’ and seeing first hand how they bloom and blossom.” She helps them problem solve and learn commands. When her fosters get adopted, Karen feels “it’s not a problem to let them go; I look forward to seeing the dogs bond with someone. That’s my payoff!”

*Karen Geiger is pictured with two of her past fosters. Prissy (left) came to the AWL as a very scared and timid stray. But under Karen’s guidance and patience, she came out of her shell. According to Karen, Gidget (right) was the smartest dog she ever fostered, who learned the commands sit, stay, come, off, and even “get your butt back here!”*



Photo by Jennifer Kallas

**DJ Wisheart** has fostered hundreds of dogs since 2015, and has taken in lots of pregnant mamas along with their pups. She is pictured with the adorable Doug, (on the leash) her foster Beagle currently up for adoption, and with Rowdy (in DJ’s arms.) Rowdy is admittedly DJ’s one foster failure, explaining that “he got in my heart and we have a special connection.” DJ says everytime a dog goes to their forever home, “they take a piece of my heart with them, but I know once they’re given to other families, there’s another dog out there that needs me. It’s a calling. - a calling to heal the spirits of these lost dogs.”

**William “Bear” Starr** fosters larger dogs, including the sweet Teddy, who he later adopted. Bear spends a lot of time helping train the dogs to obey commands, and even runs DNA tests to learn more about them. He once saved a dog who was one day short of being euthanized at another shelter.



**Carolyn and Jeff Cochran** are the current foster parents of Cassia, another senior dog whose owner recently passed away. They are helping Cassia with her weight loss plan, and getting her ready for a new family to spend her golden years with.

Shelley can’t stress enough the importance of our “lifesaving fosters,” and thanks all of these dedicated volunteers, which includes current fosters Janice and Bob Dean (see story on page 3), Barb Olesen, and Liz Ryan. “It costs nothing to foster; they just have to provide the TLC!” The AWL provides everything the dog fosters need - including food, crates, supplies and medical services. She also emphasizes that fostering is extremely flexible. The AWL will work with your schedule. “It’s like having a dog without the full time responsibility.” For more information about dog fostering, please contact Shelley at (314) 520-8674. For cat fostering, please contact Jill Jones at (901) 570-1430, or Nancy Jones at (501) 922-6444.

## A Journey of Love that took a Village!

### A Special Rescue Story as told by Janice Dean

On a cold Sunday morning in early January, AWL Volunteer Ginny Simon was on her way to church when she saw a lone adult dog near the edge of a wooded area. Ginny stopped and got out of her car to help the dog, but unfortunately the dog wouldn't come to her. Returning to her car, Ginny saw three newly born puppies (eyes still closed) lying together on the ground. She quickly called AWL Dog Adopter, Shelley Shepherd, grabbed a shirt, and wrapped it around the puppies to keep them warm. Soon several AWL volunteers and friends arrived to help. Ginny had noticed the adult dog was a female that appeared to be nursing. A trap was immediately set for "mama dog" in the hopes of reuniting her with the puppies. Volunteers rushed to find goat's milk and baby bottles, while others canvassed the neighborhood looking to find out more about "mama dog" and the puppies. When the goat's milk and baby bottles arrived, the puppies were fed on site, secured safely in a small crate, and taken to Ginny's home.



The three newborn puppies are kept warm in the shirt Ginny Simon provided while friends searched for and tried to capture "mama dog."

### Around the Clock Puppy Patrol

The three puppies were vet checked and estimated to be two weeks old. Shelley named them Duncan, Doris, & Dexter - very fitting names for three soon to be adventurous and mischievous puppies. In the following days, volunteers, friends, and neighbors bottle-fed them around the clock and rotated driving them to the trap site where they spent a portion of each day to help catch "mama dog." Despite neighbors keeping their eyes on the trap and the POA Animal Control Officers routinely checking the trap for "mama dog," they had no luck in catching her. Meanwhile, the pups were rotated to the home of AWL Volunteers Bob and Janice Dean where volunteers, friends, and neighbors helped continue the initial every two hour bottle feeding routine. Soon, the bottle feeding transitioned to every four to six hours, and then to dry puppy food. Fortunately, the pups quickly learned the pinwheel method of eating, and looked forward to hearing dog sounds on youtube while "mom" fixed breakfast.

### A Journey Full of Learning

There was so much to learn about these little ones! While at the Deans' their eyes and ears opened, baby teeth came in, and they learned about biting and tugging on each other. Full of energy, they burst into play at any time, and pretended to be fierce. Lots of snoozing took place too, as naps were taken after meals and play time. All in all, they had a howling good time!



At nine weeks, Duncan and Doris were transferred to a partner rescue that has a bigger market for puppies. Dexter was adopted by a member of Ginny's family.

*It took a Village,  
but what a  
Journey of Love!*

## Reporting a Stray Animal

We often get calls about stray animal sightings within the Village. The current procedure is to first contact HSV Animal Control Officers at 501-922-6547. They are available from 8 - 4 pm, Mon-Fri. When they are on duty, they will respond and transport injured, vicious and/or stray animals. After hours, please call the non-emergency police number at 501-614-4206 and follow the prompts to leave a message. We will advise if there are any changes to the current policy.

## Happy Tails!

### Celebrating Tucker's One Year Adoptaversary

Shortly after her beloved Merry's passing, Catherine found Tucker on Petfinder, and "fell in love with his handsome looks." A year after the quick adoption, she reports that Tucker is a dog with a lot of personality. He loves people and often acts like he's the biggest dog in the room even when he's the smallest! He even has a bark he reserves for big dogs that she calls his "Cujo Bark," and adds that "if you didn't know it was coming from a 15 lb dog, you'd think he was going to rip your face off and eat your body!" But Tucker is really a very gentle dog, and "has been pure joy and love."

In fact, Tucker recently has become a wonderful ambassador for Rescue Dogs on

many levels. Starting in February, Catherine and Tucker joined a local group that visits various facilities in Little Rock to "share some Tucker love with others. When Merry died, the hole in my heart was so big, I thought nothing could fill it. Her death created space for Tucker (and his best bud Daisy) and I often think Merry sent them to us. Thank you HSVAWL for rescuing Tucker and choosing us to be Tucker's furrever family."

*Tucker (above) sports his special "Rescue Dog" bow tie; (right) comforting a nursing home resident, and getting a big hug from Catherine.*



### Celebrating A Special Adoption and A Special Friend

Once in a while, something special happens and you know it was just meant to be. Such is the happy tail about Connor and Cody, a story that began several weeks ago at Isabella Golf Course. That's when Connor Bowes, who works there as a groundskeeper, noticed Cody, an Australian Cattle dog, limping around hole #4 at Pinta. He followed the dog as it walked over to Cathie Moeller's home, but it didn't belong to her. Apparently, Cody had been roaming the area for a few weeks and no one had been able to capture him until Connor stepped in. With his supervisor's permission, Connor kept Cody on Cathie's deck until Animal Control arrived. According to Cathie, even though she had dog treats, Cody ignored her and instantly bonded with Connor. Later that day when Connor got off work, he came to the Adoption Shelter to inquire about adopting Cody.

Fortunately, no one claimed him, so Cody was microchipped and neutered but tested positive for heartworm which further delayed his release. During that time, Connor often came to visit Cody while he anxiously waited to adopt him. Connor, who calls Cody "his best friend ever," finally went to his new home a month after he entered the shelter.



Thanks to Cathie Moeller, there's a second happy tail to this story, as she wanted to pay for Cody's adoption fee. "I think these two will be very good for one another, and I'm privileged to have witnessed a wonderful moment of "meant to be."

*Shelley Shepherd helps Connor complete the adoption process for Cody, who gives him a big kiss as a thank you!*

## Free Pet Vaccines Sponsored by PetcoLove and HSVAWL

Over 100 cats and dogs received their rabies shots and parvo/distemper vaccinations during the four hour free clinic on March 18 held at Fountain Lake Volunteer Fire Station on Highway 5. Drs. Chris & Rebecca Bilby, DVM of Waggin' Wheel Veterinary Clinic administered the rabies vaccines, and were assisted by AWL's own retired nurses, Mary McCullough, Connie Shoemaker, and Karen Goodroad. They were supported by a team of AWL volunteers including Beth Barrow, Chari Larimore, Jane Garrison, Tom & Betsy Bailey, Julia Pires, and Dorothy Zabecki. Many thanks to PetcoLove for providing the free vaccines during their nationwide campaign, the Fountain Lake Volunteer Fire Department for their assistance, and to Angela Nickols for coordinating the event.



*Beth Barrow (left center) assists pet owners at the free vaccine clinics*

## In the Name of Lily

The AWL's Lily Alert program was started to help reunite missing pets with their owners. Once we are notified, an email blast is distributed throughout HSV with the animal's photo, location, and contact information. Fortunately, many pets have been returned to their loving families through the Lily Alert program.

But what many folks don't know is how the program originally got its name. In 2012, Therral and Molly Wilson's pet poodle Lily got away from the groomer. Their friend, Martha Vaughn, an AWL member, emailed her AWL friends to be on the watch for Lily. Several of them called Therral and Molly to keep them aware of Lily sightings in the area. She was recovered 26 days after she escaped, and reunited with her very grateful parents.

When the Lily Alert program was formalized shortly thereafter, someone suggested to name it after Lily. Now long time AWL volunteers, Therral and Molly are honored for the AWL's way of remembering their special Lily.

*We hope you never have to post a Lily Alert, but to report a missing pet, please call the AWL at 501-915-9337, or Deborah King at 281-216-1925 to participate in the Lily Alert program.*



*Lily, who belonged Therral and Molly Wilson, is the namesake of AWL's Lily Alert program.*

**YOUR PURCHASE HELPS PUPS**



*Enjoy your coffee & support the AWL!*

**We have partnered with Grounds & Hounds Coffee Co., who believes that great coffee should fuel a greater purpose.**

**They are donating 10% of the sales made by the AWL back to us to support our Animal Rescue! You must click the link below for the AWL to receive the proceeds.**

<http://grounds-and-hounds-coffee-co.sjv.io/AW0yoD>

## Statistics

### Adoptions

Jan - 9 Dogs, 16 Cats

Feb - 4 Dogs, 13 cats

### Angel Fund Requests

Jan - 9, Feb - 5

### Spay Neuter

8,890 sterilizations since 2007

Dec - 39 Vouchers used  
(767 total used in 2022)

Jan - 15 Vouchers used

### Memberships

Jan - 671 Members

91 Champions

### HUG Transfers

Jan - 5, Feb - 0

## 2023 Save the Dates

### Walk & Wag-A-Thon

May 6th, Kick off 8-9 am

See info below!

(rain date May 13th)

### Girls Gotta Howl

New! We are having 2 identical

Matinee & Evening events

September 25th

### AWL Annual Meeting

November 16th

## Champions

Congrats to our February Winner  
Sally Hendricks, who won \$455

Join *Champions* - AWL's  
program for a \$10 monthly  
pledge. Each month there is a  
50/50 raffle, with a cap payout  
of \$500.

Email [contactus@hsvawl.org](mailto:contactus@hsvawl.org)  
for more information.

or click the link below to join:

<https://hsvawl.wufoo.com/forms/sguov4m0twh1dc/>

## Walk & Wag-A-Thon!

We are excited to reprise our Walk & Wag-A-Thon "fun"raiser that we held in the spring of 2021! Many of you participated-either by walking the trail (with or without your four legged friends,) by sponsoring a fellow walker, or by volunteering.

- Register to Walk - \$20 per walker; no charge for canines!  
*The first 200 registered walkers will receive an AWL baseball hat*
- Get Support for your walk - contact your animal loving friends and family members to sponsor your walk.
- Non-walkers - sponsor a fellow walker

[Click here to Register](#)

[Click here to Sponsor a Walker](#)

Join us May 6th\* between 8 & 9 am at the Balboa Beach Trailhead  
Participants will walk along the scenic Balboa Trail - either the 1.2 mile one way route or the full 2.4 mile round trip trail. There will be a "rest stop" at the Ponce and DeSoto Commercial Center, where Artfully Baked and Brewed will serve complimentary lemonade and blueberry bites. Note: registration will be available at the event, but we encourage pre-registration so we will have enough volunteers, AWL hats, and goodies!

\*Rain date May 13th. For more information visit [hsvawl.org](http://hsvawl.org) or contact Sandie at 501-574-2628.



Our Volunteers

