



# 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.*

Sept/Oct 2023

Published bimonthly  
for members of the  
HSVAWL

### In this Edition:

Girls Gotta Howl  
Spay/Neuter Clinic  
Grants & Awards  
Kitten update  
Blessing of the Animals  
HUG program

### Board of Directors

President - Susan Luse  
1st VP - Shelley Shepherd  
2nd VP - Jill Jones  
Secretary - Janene Howell  
Treasurer - Debe Jolliff

### Directors:

Melanie Marshall  
Laura Allworth  
Sandie Rickerman  
Rose Johnson  
Michelle Alford

Editor - Laura Allworth



An Arkansas Nonprofit  
Corporation and 501(c)(3)  
IRS tax exempt corporation

Contact Us:

WEBSITE:

[www.hsvawl.org](http://www.hsvawl.org)

FACEBOOK:

[www.facebook.com/HSVAWL/](http://www.facebook.com/HSVAWL/)

ADOPTION CENTER:

195 Cloaca Lane, HSV, AR  
501.915-9337

OPEN Mon-Sat, 12 -3 pm

PO Box 8032, HSV, AR  
71910-8032

## Gals Gather for Girls Gotta Howl

### Two Sold Out Events a Double Success



*Our awesome Cheapendales (top, from left) Craig, Mitch, Justin, Hunter, Justin, and Gary rocked the house with the help of Sandie Rickerman, choreographer Linda Broome, and assistant Carol Morgan; Welcoming guests to GGH are presenting sponsor Relyance Bank representatives Erin Hayes, Maddy Haines & Dannel Daly; Sampling the popular Wine Fountain, sponsored by ReMax, are Ellie Roberts and B.J. Bjorklund.*

What's more fun than our fabulous Girls Gotta Howl fundraiser? How about two of them? Always a popular event, this year's GGH was a double sellout with both a matinee and evening performance on September 25th. Nearly 500 attendees and volunteers supported the year's major fundraiser, **which netted the AWL nearly a record \$17,000!**

Guests enjoyed a retro buffet catered by Melinda's Cafe featuring fab food reminiscent of the 60's and 70's plus a free flowing wine fountain. We were entertained by the Spa City Tappers, a video montage featuring nostalgic dance clips, and DJ Corey Baldwin played favorite music hits. Always a special treat, some of our adoptable dogs also made an appearance as they strutted their stuff around the Coronado ballroom. But the show stopping highlight was the incredible dance performances by the six sexy Cheapendales, orchestrated by choreographer Linda Broome. Following their gyrating dance routines, they joined the ladies for line dancing and twisted the night away! (cont'd on page 2)





A



B



C



D



E



F

A. (from left) Spa City Tappers Judy Rowe, Karen Reese, Leah Servais, Lynette Gates, Darlene Whitwell & Vinny Anderson dance a "fan"tastic rendition of "Sisters"

B. Guests line up to enjoy the food catered by Melinda's Cafe

C. Shelley Shepherd (holding Jesse) intros Bella & her foster mom Barb Olesen during the Adoptable Dog Parade

D. Volunteers (l to r) Sheri Koch, Susan Richert, Marla Riley, Patti Swenson, Connie Weidert & GGH Co-Chair Sandie Rickerman make a "pur"fect fashion statement

E. GGH guests join the Cheapendales as they make all the right moves on the dance floor

F. Cat mom Pam Galuska shows off her new bag from Phoebe n Friends lobby boutique

G. Julie Gerush is the proud silent auction winner of a Grounds & Hounds gift basket



G

## Special Thanks!

**Relyance Bank, Corporate Sponsor & ReMax of HSV, Wine Fountain Sponsor**

Our Silent Auction Donors: The Vault Restaurant (gift baskets), Diamante Country Club (Golf Packages & Sunday Brunches), Deborah Fitzgerald (Pizza Parties), Pa & Towery Houser (\$50 Gift Cards to Dogwood Tree), Grounds & Hounds Baskets (AWL), the Rickermans, (gourmet Carrot Cakes), and beautiful throws (Anonymous)

Raffle Drawing Winners: \$500 - Fatima Alvirde \$200 - Nancy Petropoulos, Darleen Mosley \$100 - Margaret Vink, Mia Natzke and Linda Worack.

### Girls Gotta Howl Committee:

Sandie Rickerman & Beverly Fitzpatrick (Co-Chairs) Molly Hartman, Mary Rehfeldt, Jan Kincheloe, Sue Luse, and Laura Allworth.

Note: a photo gallery and video clips can be viewed on our website: [www.hsvawl.org](http://www.hsvawl.org)



## Message from the President - "Come Be Part of Our Team"

During the GGH festivities, President Sue Luse delivered a very poignant message about the state of our non-profit. When she announced that the AWL spent \$17k in vet bills alone the previous month, there was a collective gasp by the crowd, and the reaction only intensified as she continued: "We partner with the POA, but the annual expenses that the AWL pays for are over \$300k every year - whatever our animals need, we treat them and get them healthy. It doesn't matter if they have heartworm or need surgery, we pay for it so you can adopt healthy animals." Sue added that the Adoption Center is run entirely by volunteers, which we always desperately can use. "Our need for support and volunteers is continuous - even 3 hours a month will help! Come and be part of our team." Emcee Beverly Fitzpatrick stated that "your support is the glue that holds the AWL together. It takes a lot to do what we do, and grants are not as plentiful as in the past."

Visit [www.hsvawl.org](http://www.hsvawl.org) for information on membership and/or volunteering.



AWL President Sue Luse addresses the crowd, as Emcee Bev Fitzpatrick looks on.

## Spay/Neuter Clinic Helps Alleviate Backlog

In an effort to help reduce the enormous backlog of area animals waiting to be spayed and neutered, a special make up spay/neuter clinic was held at Waggin' Wheel Veterinary Clinic on Sunday, August 13th. A total of 55 pets were sterilized - 43 dogs and 12 cats. Eligible pet owners used their low cost vouchers, and the cost of the clinic was supplemented by the AWL. The animals also received their rabies shots and vaccines, if needed, and at no charge to the pet owners.

Drs. Chris & Rebecca Bilby, DVM's, performed the surgeries, assisted by their staff. The AWL team, spearheaded by Angela Nickols, had over 25 volunteers working in shifts. Set-up of all our supplies took place the afternoon before so the group would be ready at 6:30 am the following day!

*From left, Drs. Chris & Rebecca Bilby perform sterilizations; Michelle Alford checks the animals' paperwork; D. J. Wisehart, Julia Pires, Mary McCullough, Angela Nickols, Connie Weidert, Deborah King, Kris Wester, Karen Goodroad, & Darlene Whitwell are some of the 25 AWL volunteers who assisted with all the preparations and logistics involved in the clinic.*



## Coping with a Crisis

We are grateful to Waggin' Wheel for conducting this special clinic. They, along with Kelly Veterinary Clinic, are keeping our spay/neuter program afloat while we actively seek a source for our mobile clinics. Compounding the situation is the fact that **Arkansas currently ranks last in the nation for veterinarians per capita, which hinders the ability to obtain affordable vet care.** However, help may soon be on the way. Recent Senate Bill 476 (Act706) expands access to care by establishing a scholarship program for vet students who commit to practice in rural communities.



## Kitten Explosion Update - Forty Felines Need a Fur-ever Family!



In our last edition, we announced that we were caring for 93 felines! It was, and still is, an enormous undertaking that we couldn't accomplish without the time and talents of many dedicated volunteers. The great news is that over 50 of these felines have been adopted, but as we go to print, 40 of these adorable, healthy, and lovable kittens are looking for their new home. Several cats are also available for adoption, and they all will make purr-fect companions. Please contact our Cat Adoption Coordinators for more information: Jill at 901-570-1430, or Nancy at 501-922-6444.

## Blessing of the Animals at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church



The St. Francis chapter Daughters of the King sponsored the annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 1st at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. Father Keith Hearnberger, a passionate animal lover, assisted by Deacon Brenda Kroll, blessed the many dogs (& even Bandita the cat) who came to participate. The dogs were remarkably well behaved as the liturgy of St. Francis, the Patron Saint of Animals, was read. The AWL is very grateful for the \$500 donation made on behalf of St. Francis and their parishoners.



*Pictured are some of the participants and the approximate 40 dogs who recieved blessings. Father Keith Hearnberger blesses Peanut, one of the AWL's dogs currently available for adoption. Many dogs present had been adopted from the AWL, and it was so good to see them with their loving families! Daughter of the King member Nancy Hendrick poses with Ruby.*



## Free Pet Vaccines Sponsored by PetcoLove and AWL

Dogs and cats will receive vaccines to protect against parvo, distemper, various viruses, as well as rabies, on Saturday, November 4th from 1 - 4 pm at the Fountain Lake Volunteer Fire Station, 7146 Park Avenue in Hot Springs. There is limited quantity on canine vaccines, so early registration is recommended. **To register, please call Angela at 501-922-8840.** The free clinic is sponsored by the AWL in conjunction with PetcoLove and Dr. Jill Summerford, DVM.



*Please note that dogs must be on a leash and cats placed in carriers; AWL volunteers can help if you need assistance!*

**GIVE PETS THEIR BEST SHOT!**

## FREE PET VACCINES

THANKS TO



[freepetvaccines.org](https://freepetvaccines.org)



## New Ramp Gets Four Paws Up!

Like any aging building, repairs are often needed and the Adoption Shelter is no exception. This is especially true for the AWL whenever animal safety is a factor. Recently, we raised special funds to install a new ramp to replace the deteriorating, unlevel one that was used everytime a dog in the intake area was taken for a walk. It was a major tripping hazard, especially when the dogs were walked at night. A handrail was also installed. Head Dog Walker Julie Keck reports that the dog walkers love the new ramp, which is much safer for the dogs and their human friends!

*Trying the ramp firsthand is Animal Control Officer Jim Kull with Jack.*

*“My little dog - a heartbeat at my feet.” author Edith Wharton*

*“The smallest feline is a masterpiece.” artist Leonardo da Vinci*

## AWL in the Spotlight

The AWL is very grateful to receive two 1st Place Awards in the 2023 HSV Voice Readers' Choice Awards - **The Best Non-Profit & the Best Club!** Our team of volunteers is proud to serve the community and we are honored to be your first choice! Thanks to a generous donor, a table of AWL volunteers were able to attend the awards banquet at the Arlington Hotel on August 26th.



## Hot Springs Village Inside Out

A Podcast Starring Hot Springs Village, Arkansas

### AWL featured on HSV Inside Out Podcast

Shelley Shephard, Dog Adoption Coordinator, is interviewed by Inside Out host Dennis Simpson. Watch the video as Shelley shares stories and photos about the AWL and some of the animals available for adoption. *Click link to watch:*

<https://hotspringsvillageinsideout.com/hot-springs-village-animal-welfare-league/>



*From left, Rose Johnson, Shelley Shepherd, Melanie Marshall, Angela Nickols, Pam Galuska, Jennifer Hurd, and Lisa Ake enjoy the celebration.*



## Statistics

### Adoptions

July - 7 Dogs, 11 Cats

August - 9 Dogs, 22 Cats

### Angel Fund Requests

July - 11, August - 9

### Spay Neuter

9,193 sterilizations since 2007!

June-19 Vouchers - Waggin' Wheel

22 Vouchers - Kelly

July-11 Vouchers - Waggin' Wheel

19 Vouchers - Kelly

### Memberships as of Oct. 1st

650 Members

92 Champions

### HUG Transfers

March - 11, April - 2

## Save the Dates

### Adoption Center

#### Fall Cleaning

Sunday, October 15

### AWL Annual Meeting

November 16th

(more information to come)

### Volunteer

### Appreciation Luncheon

January 25, 2024

Save the Date!

## Champions

Congrats to our Monthly Winners!

July - Gail Kranz - \$450

August - Jeff & Rose Johnson - \$450  
(Jeff & Rose donated the \$450 to AWL)

September - Susanne New - \$460

*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/>



## AWL awarded 2023 Kia Pet Adoption Grant

We are very grateful to the Petfinder Foundation who awarded the AWL \$1,000 to support our lifesaving work. The Petfinder Foundation exists to support Petfinder members through cash and product grants, with the goal of helping to keep adoptable pets healthy and happy. Since its inception, the Petfinder Foundation has given more than \$20 million in cash and product grants to Petfinder members.

## HUG (Help Us Go) Team Needs Your Help!

*Any AWL volunteer will tell you how gratifying it is to see how happy the animals are once they are adopted. And that's what we do, we create happiness for the animals and the families that adopt them.*

Simply put, the HUG team is all about helping our dogs find their new family, wherever that may be. Since some of our dogs get overlooked because of their size or energy level, we partner with rescues in other parts of the country where the demand for dogs is greater.

HUG is seeking volunteers to help with any of the following:

- Transport dogs to Waggin Wheel to get their health certificate exam, and return them to the adoption center.

The AWL van is available to use, and the dogs are crated for safe transport.

- Bath dogs who will be transported.

- Transport dogs (using the AWL van) to meet their ride in North Little Rock which takes them to the partner rescue.

A team of two volunteers are paired up for this job, which usually occurs around 3:30 AM.

According to HUG coordinator Rose Johnson, "The HUG team fulfills a very important role as every dog that gets adopted makes room for another dog that we can save. Large tasks become small when divided amongst several people." To help with HUG or for more info please contact Rose. email: [yougodawg@gmail.com](mailto:yougodawg@gmail.com) or call/text at 757.576.0226



*There are many other ways to volunteer your time and talents for the AWL. To learn more, visit the volunteer section of our website; [www.hsvawl.org](http://www.hsvawl.org) or call us at 501.915.9337.*