

Rescue & News Report October, 2025

The HSV Animal Welfare League is a no-kill, all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit group dedicated to rescue, rehabilitate, and find homes for all adoptable cats and dogs, and prevent the overpopulation of unwanted animals.

In this edition: No Paws Left Behind Gala* Rotary Cornhole * Special Volunteers * Happy Tails * September S/N Clinic * Kitten Explosion * Upcoming Events * Statistics

No Paws Left Behind Gala Celebrates planned Shelter Expansion!



It was certainly a night to remember! More than 225 AWL members, supporters and guests celebrated our No Paws Left Behind Shelter Expansion Fundraising Campaign on September 29th at the Coronado Center. As guests entered they were treated to the beautiful pop and classic sounds of The Village Strings, conducted by "Papa" Phillip Wilson, with Kathy Ogilvie, Claudette Healy, Judy Warner, Toni Black, Sandy Brubaker, and Barbara Tornquist on violins; Debbie Holiday and Evelyn Steele on violas; Barbara Reeve and John Wood on cellos; Jim Kelly on bass; Lynne Border on piano; and Mike Langhorne on drums. Special thanks to Village Strings member Jo Leong who designed the creative animal-centric slides that introduced each song.







Guests also enjoyed the free-flowing wine fountains, hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, choice of dinner entree and dessert selection, and placed bids on many silent auction items - from gift certificates, jewelry, artworks, concert tickets, golf, and much more.









AWL President Beverly Fitzpatrick gave a special shout out to our caterer - Secret Hand Shake from the Splash Bar in Hot Springs - and brought out Executive Chef Justin and his partner Mitch for well deserved kudos.





Lois Ann Marler, with the help of Miss Arkansas Princess Zoey Kunz, sing God Bless America

There were also several guest appearances. HSV resident and vocalist Lois Ann Marler donated her time and talent to the Gala. Although she belted out popular music and show tunes, it was her very stirring rendition of God Bless America that was so inspiring. Another special visitor was 2025 Miss Arkansas Princess Zoey Kunz, who became a member of the AWL this year. At 6 years old, she represents a future generation of animal lovers, and told Beverly she wants to be a veterinarian when she grows up. Beverly also introduced HSV Police Canine Officer Nala and her partner Officer Caple. Nala was certified as a police office just over a year ago, but she started her life out as a rescue. In fact, she was named Nala after the lioness in the Lion King film, because she was raised with kittens. Beverly, who is adapt at dog-speak, said Nala wanted to thank the AWL for being a haven for those still waiting for their forever homes. According to Nala, "someone took a chance on me and it made the difference in my life. I have a lot of talent and desire to be the best I can be."



HSV K-9 Police Officer Nala and her partner Officer Caple

To conclude the gala, there was also a 5 minute video presentation that illustrated why we need the shelter expansion, and what it will mean for the AWL. (View video by clicking the play button below)

Regarding funding the expansion, Beverly stated that generously donated monies have been targeted, but it is not enough. "You are our best network. Tell your friends, relatives, and post on social media. The animals are counting on you to help us make this expansion happen."

Note: If you would like to help us with a donation to the campaign, please click the button below, select submit, and on the page listing the donation options, please select expansion fund. To learn more about the NO PAWS LEFT BEHIND Shelter Expansion Fundraising Campaign, please call (501) 915-9337.

DONATE TO THE SHELTER EXPANSION



The No Paws Left Behind Gala - a time to celebrate you!

We are very grateful and want to thank all the donors who have already provided generous support for the AWL life-saving Shelter Expansion, and to our wonderful AWL volunteers who helped with endless preparations and assisted our guests at the event.

10,235+ Owned Animals Spayed & Neutered to date!

At the Spay Neuter clinic held at the Mountain Pine clinic on September 19 & 20, 32 dogs and 38 cats were sterilized. In addition to all our regular AWL volunteers, we are thankful that two male students from Jessieville High School volunteered with us for two hours on Saturday afternoon as part of the Community Service Hours required for school. Under the direction of Logistics Team Leader Bill Joor, the boys disassembled and cleaned cages, assembled cardboard cat carriers, and loaded the supply trailer and other tasks as needed. Thanks always to Petco for providing vaccines for all the animals; our wonderful vet, Dr. Paula Gibson; vet techs Hailey, Abby and Kristin; the Bissell Pet Foundation; Fido Fixers for providing their mobile surgical bus; and to all of our hard-working volunteers.

The AWL is committed to prevent the overpopulation of unwanted animals through our Spay Neuter programs, and we offer 5 clinics during the year. Our final clinic for 2025 is already full, but 2026 dates will be scheduled after the first of the year

Below, AWL volunteers Karen Blankenship, Rose Johnson, and Belinda Baechle monitor registration logistics; Susan Senogles inputs spay/neuter data; Joyce Gaines, Kris Wester, and Jennifer Hurd monitor the dogs in recovery. They are just a few of the several dozen volunteers who work at the two day clinics.









*Did you know?*When cats bunt or headbutt, it's a sign they trust you.



From left, Rotarian Kathy Wright, AWL BOD member Sandie Rickerman, Rotarians Shelly Joyner & Jamie Selden, AWL BOD member Michelle Alford, & Rotary President Steve Wright

Supporters of the HSV Rotary Club and the AWL played in a cornhole tournament at the Balboa Pavilion on August 31st and raised \$1,000 for the Animal Welfare League. Several teams participated, and many of the AWL's adoptable dogs (along with their volunteer dog walkers) came to cheer the teams on!

The proceeds will go towards AWL's NO PAWS LEFT BEHIND Shelter Expansion Fundraising Campaign. Coordinated by Rotary members Shelly Joyner and Jamie Selden, and assisted by the AWL, they called this a "fellowship event" to help the AWL when they learned about the expansion. Rotary President Steve Wright added that the Rotary Club is all about service and building strong relationships. Jamie said the cornhole tournament will be a regular event and that everyone is always welcome!

Visit HSV Rotary Website





Dudley brought dog walker Mike Battle



Shelley Shepherd watches Ellie as she gets lots of attention from Laura Beckenbaugh



AWL BOD members Michelle Alford & Sandi Rickerman pose for a pic between checking in all the players; below Connie Weidert waits for her game with AWL President Beverly Fitzpatrick.







Top, Dudley gives Melissa Griffin a smooch; above, Dawn Battle gives Asher a hug

Kitten Explosion - still going strong!

It's been nearly 45 years ago that the song "Year of the Cat" by Al Stewart made the Billboard Top 10. For the AWL, we can certainly say that 2025 has been the "Year of the Cat," (and kittens!) Cat Adoption Coordinator Jill Jones reports that since the beginning of the year, we have adopted 129 kittens through the end of September. Some were strays, others surrendered, and a few were even born at our foster home. As of September 30th, we currently have 41 kittens at our foster home, and the number doesn't include those felines at our Adoption Center. Some kittens are adoptable now, and others will be ready as soon as they have been spayed or neutered. Again, we can't thank our wonderful volunteers enough. Many have been regularly coming to the foster home as volunteers are needed 7 days a week, 2 shifts per day. They ensure the animals are fed, their health monitored, medications given, dishes, cages and litter pans cleaned, laundry washed, supplies ordered, and they also provide time for socialization among other vital tasks. Special thanks to these essential volunteers who have worked very hard during this "kitten explosion" season: Jill Jones, Lisa Ake, Katherine Barnes, Brenda Bennett, Cindy Boucher, Susan Espinal, Pam Galuska, Janene Howell, Jennifer Hurd, Sandy Jannick, Kris Karr, Patti Keahey, Therese Klier, Susie Neal and Susan Senogles. Also providing "behind the scenes" help are Tracy Ake, Rene Boucher, Todd and Dylan Hurd, and Carol Monk. We couldn't manage without your dedication and commitment. It is much appreciated!



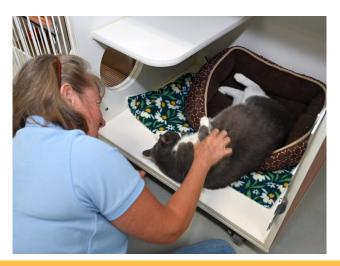








Pictured above, just a few kittens at our foster home; the two tabbies sleeping on the beige bed were found in a cardboard box along the road; Susie Neal enjoys some socialization time with a kitten; below, at the Adoption Center, Dawn Moffit cuddles with Conner, who was adopted after 68 days in the shelter.



Behind the Scenes at the AWL



To get ready for his adoption, Dog Walker Bridget Duffield and David Sikes give Billy a bath, which fortunately he seems to enjoy.



Volunteer (and handyman) Craig Rickerman brought his tools and expertise to assemble a new outdoor shed behind the Adoption Center.



BEFORE

Blow dry anyone? Special thanks to Pam Galuska and Jill Jones who donated a much needed automatic pet dryer for the kittens.



AFTER

The kittens love getting fluffy in the dryer! It also frees up volunteer time and saves on towel washing, since volunteers previously dried each kitten by hand with their own towel.

Happy Tails! Lady and her new forever family



Lady (formerly Daisy) gets a lot of attention from her new family - Jonathan and Jessica with their two sons

Lady, a one year old Labrador, found a wonderful family to share her unconditional love. According to Jessica, she is "doing great and is constantly by our side. She is a fantastic dog and even sleeps on the bed with our son." Jonathan also happens to be the son of Animal Control Officer Jim Kull, so we know that Lady is getting great care!

Bessie
After 239 Days with the AWL, finally finds her forever home!



Bessie with the Adams Family - her new forever home

It was very difficult for Bessie to find her forever home. She had a loving foster mom, but Bessie needed a forever home. Bessie, an 8 year old very sweet and affectionate beagle, does have some medical conditions, but they are managed by inexpensive medications. We couldn't understand why it took so long for Bessie to find a permanent home, but we are thrilled that she is thriving with her new family, who is very smitten with her and Rebecca Adams reports that Bessie "is doing great!"



Coming Events - Save the Dates!

Sunday - October 26th - Blessing of the Animals

All are welcome to the annual services that will be celebrated at Christ of the Hills United Methodist Church at 2 pm, and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church at 4 pm.



Christ of the Hills United Methodist Church 700 Balearic Road, 2 pm 501-922-4503



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church 199 Barcelona Road - 4 pm 501-922-0299

July Statistics 8 Dog Adoptions - 15 Cat Adoptions

2 HUG (Help Us Go) transfers to other rescue, no-kill animal shelters

16 Angel Fund requests

10,165 Animals Spayed/Neutered since 20071 Voucher used at Your Pets in July18 Vouchers used at Waggin' Wheel in July

663 AWL Memberships 96 Champions

August Statistics

4 Dog Adoptions - 22 Kitten & 11 Cat Adoptions

6 HUG (Help Us Go) transfers to other rescue, no-kill animal shelters

13 Angel Fund requests

10,165 Animals Spayed/Neutered since 2007
No vet vouchers reported

668 AWL Memberships 96 Champions

Welcome New Members in July & August

Cynthia Bell

Diana Bliffert

Michael Chew

Suzi Coggings

Wendy Combs

Paula Findley

Mike Fleming

Russ Garrett

Merri & Charlie Grona

Peggy Hadley

Zoey Kunz

Jenny Livingston

Claudia Pautz

Diana Beam Sorenson

Sharon Stewart

Marianne Varley

Alyssa Womack

Linda Young

Champions*

Congratulations to

Robert Street, July Champion Winner

Robert generously donated his \$480 winnings to the AWL

<u>Theresa Wille - August Champion Winner</u>
Theresa won \$485

Pat Jester, September Champion Winner
Pat donated \$245 - half of her \$495 winnings back to the AWL

*Join AWL's Champions Program! Make a \$10 monthly pledge and become eligible to win a 50/50 raffle with a \$500 cap payout. Email contactus@hsvawl.org for more information or click the link to join:

Click to Join Champions

PETFINDER

ADOPT A PET

Considering a new pet?

Click the above links to see our adoptable cats and dogs. For dog adoptions, call Shelley Shepherd at 314-520-8674 For cat adoptions call Jill Jones at 901-570-1430

An important message about unsubscribing to Constant Contact emails:

We hope you enjoy receiving these newsletters, announcements, and our Lily Alerts about missing pets. <u>Please contact us</u> if you wish to remove your name from an individual mailing list, since if you unsubscribe to any of these Constant Contacts, you will automatically be removed from <u>all</u> the Constant Contact email lists from the AWL. We were informed by Constant Contact that when requested, they are required to remove them.

Platinum Transparency 2024 Candid.













The Adoption Center is currently open Mon - Tues - Thurs Fri - Sat from 12 -3 pm. We are closed Wed & Sun. (501) 915.9337





To report a lost or found pet, call POA Animal Control at (501) 922-6547

The HSVAWL is a 501 (c)(3)non-profit organization.

Hot Springs Village Animal Welfare League | 185 Cloaca Lane | Hot Springs Village, AR 71909 US

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