



# 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.*

## Winter 2024

Published bimonthly  
for members of the  
HSVAWL

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### Board of Directors

President - Susan Luse  
President - Beverly Fitzpatrick  
(effective March 1, 2024)  
1st VP - Shelley Shepherd  
2nd VP - Jill Jones  
Secretary - Open  
Treasurer - Debe Jolliff  
At-Large - Laura Allworth  
At-Large - Rose Johnson  
At-Large - Michelle Alford  
At-Large - Susan Senogles  
At-Large - Beth Barrows  
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  
PO Box 8032, HSV, AR  
71910-8032

## Volunteers are the “Heart & Soul” of the AWL!



*Special thanks  
to the hardworking  
volunteers who coordinated  
the luncheon!*

More than 100 of the AWL's volunteers, “The Heart and Soul of the AWL,” attended an appreciation luncheon at the DeSoto Club on January 25th. While many volunteers come to the Adoption Center and serve as animal and cat care workers, dog walkers, or with guest relations, several more volunteer “Behind the Scenes” and serve as foster parents, help with social media, our HUG, Angel Fund, & PAWS programs, Lily Alerts, adoption folders, spay/neuter, computer records, grant writing, photography, fundraising and so much more!

*(Cont'd on page 2)*



*(Above) Longtime volunteers Molly & Therral Wilson;  
Cat Care Workers Therese Klier & Cindy Boucher;  
Dog walkers Paul & Laura Hedgpeth.*



## Volunteers are the “Heart & Soul” of the AWL (cont'd from page 1)

The volunteer appreciation luncheon is also a great way for volunteers to meet each other, foster friendships, and learn about all that the AWL does. Many have volunteered for decades, while others have recently joined our team. We are so grateful to have such caring and talented volunteers, yet our need for more volunteers is constant. Please tell your friends and neighbors about us and our many volunteering opportunities. More info: <https://hsvawl.org/volunteer-opportunities>



Thanks to the generous businesses who donated gift certificates! Congrats to the winners, who were randomly selected:

L to R, Jennifer Hurd, \$50 Sunset Grill  
Wes Hartman, \$50 Home Plate  
Barry Zarling, \$40 Artfully Baked & Brewed  
(not pictured) Molly Wilson, \$30 Melinda's Cafe  
Cari Roche, \$20 Granada Mexican Grill

View more luncheon photos at:  
<https://hsvawl.org/calendar%2Fevents>

## January Cold Snap and Snow Prompts Shelter Evacuation...

Fearing that forecasted frigid temperatures and snow could prevent AWL volunteers from reaching the shelter to care for the animals, a decision was quickly made to evacuate the animals from the Adoption Center the weekend of January 13th.

Arrangements were made to take two cats to the foster home of Bill & Susan Wheat and seven cats to Jill Jones' home. Volunteers Lisa Ake & Sue Espinal set up the cat foster locations with individual crates for each cat, while Beth Barrows and Kris Karr helped Jill Jones prepare the cats for transport with their litter boxes and bedding. Jennifer Hurd and Susan Senogles also helped with all the preparations and logistics.

While the cats were being relocated to their temporary safe havens, a total of 10 dogs were transported by Grady Shepherd & Julie Keck to Waggin' Wheel for boarding. Liz Ryan fostered Laney at her home. Since the cold, ice, and unsafe driving conditions lingered, the dogs remained at Waggin' Wheel for a total of 20 days, where they were kept safe. We are also very thankful that their boarding expenses were covered by a generous volunteer who wishes to remain anonymous.

### ...and Safety for Strays

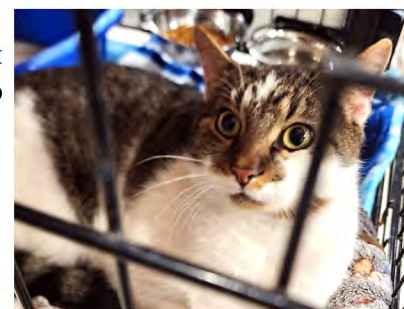
During the cold snap, the AWL received a call from a concerned resident about a stray cat that was hanging around their home. Lisa Ake, Sue Espinal, and Brenda Bennett set a trap on the homeowners deck, and later that night the cat was captured and taken to Jill's house for care. The cute tabby was named Jeremy after the name of the homeowner who called, and we are very happy to report that he is currently in the process of being adopted!

*Thank you to Lisa Ake and Shelley Shepherd for contributing to this article, and to all the AWL volunteers who helped during the evacuation.*



During the cold snap, crates to house the cats were set up at foster homes while they were evacuated from the shelter.

Jeremy, a stray cat roaming HSV during the cold snap, was fortunately trapped by AWL volunteers and brought to Jill's house for care.



A Facebook banner for the Animal Welfare League HSV. It features the text "ADOPT DON'T SHOP." in large, bold letters. Above the letters are icons of various animals: a cat, a dog, a cat, a dog, and a cat. The Facebook logo is in the top left corner. Below the banner, it says "Animal Welfare League HSV" and "4.7K followers • 41 following".

Have you visited us on **facebook** lately?  
Join our more than **4,700+ followers!**  
<https://www.facebook.com/HSVAVL>

You can help by holding a Birthday Fundraiser or share our pics of adoptable pets! Thanks to all of you who spread the word & support us!

## IMPORTANT ORGANIZATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT

We recently announced to our membership that effective March 1st, 2024, current AWL President **Susan Luse** will be resigning from the Board of Directors, citing personal reasons. Susan will continue to assist with the AWL's Spay Neuter Program, and we thank her for her many contributions, including serving as AWL President since 2017.

**Beverly Fitzpatrick**, who was serving as Secretary, has been elected by the BOD as our interim President. Beverly served as AWL President in 2015 and 2016. **Beth Barrows** has also been voted to the BOD, filling the At-Large position held by **Janice Dean**, who also resigned. **Janice** will continue to actively volunteer with the AWL.

**Melanie Marshall**, **Janene Howell**, and **Sandie Rickerman** ended their BOD term at the end of 2023. They are continuing their key volunteer roles, and we thank them for their years of service on the Board of Directors.

## Meet the 2024 AWL Board of Directors

### **Beverly Fitzpatrick, Interim President - Joined AWL in 2012, Board Member since 2013\***

(\*she took a year off in 2021) Through the years, Beverly has served in several major AWL positions, including President, Vice-President, Treasurer, has chaired or co-chaired many of our Fundraising events, and has been in charge of Shelter Operations. She started the Guest Relations position, served as a grant writer, and wrote the original volunteer manual still in use today. Beverly also worked with the POA to begin the transition of AWL to a no-kill shelter through more accurate animal control intake tracking. Beverly started the L.A.P. (rehoming pet program) and helped develop the HUG (Help US Go) program.

### **Shelley Shepherd, 1st Vice President - Joined AWL in 2014; Board Member since 2016**

As a newcomer to HSV, Shelley took her recycling to Cloaca Lane, saw the shelter and signed up as a dogwalker. From then on, she says her involvement with the AWL "morphed." Shelley served as an Animal Care Worker, Secretary, helped with Angel Fund, the HUG program, is a foster dog mom and in charge of the Dog Foster Program, and has been the Dog Adoption Coordinator since 2016. "It's all about the dogs; I would do anything for the dogs." Shelley certainly does that, and believes all the time spent matching adopters with the dogs "is well worth it, if it means one night less at the shelter, and another night at their new home."

### **Jill Jones, 2nd Vice President - Joined AWL in 2016; Board Member since 2019**

Jill is our Cat Adoption Coordinator. In 2023 alone, 244 cats were adopted: "I started out to help the animals, and now I realize how much animals help people, which is why I love facilitating the adoption relationship." Jill's home also served as a temporary shelter during this summer's "kitten crisis," while they were being medicated and readied for adoption. Jill helps the medical team with feline veterinary needs, and as a cat foster mom, monitors feline surgery recovery in her home. Every week, Jill and some of our adoptable cats and kittens make "Adoption Day" visits at the Petco Store in Benton. She also posts pictures and updates on the AWL facebook page.

### **Debe Jolliff, Treasurer - Joined AWL in 2011, Board Member since 2018**

Debe has been very active with the HUG (Help Us Go) program, Angel Fund, the website, computer hardware and software programs, and served as back-up dog adoption coordinator. She initially got involved by "responding to a plea for help to transport dogs to distant cities," citing that "animals that end up with us do not have a family to love or to take care of them. We exist to ensure that their next home is their forever home." As treasurer, Debe meticulously maintains all financial items including receivables, purchasing, insurance, annual budgets, and required reports. This is all accomplished from her home in Missouri!

### **Laura Allworth, At Large - Joined AWL in 2018, Board Member since 2021**

When she discovered HSV had a no-kill Adoption Center, she "was thrilled and knew she wanted to help animals who couldn't help themselves." Laura prepares the AWL's marketing, media, and publicity communications, including news articles, the website, and the Rescue Report. She also helps with fundraising events. Laura is "amazed at the tremendous accomplishments of the AWL, especially as an all volunteer organization." Her goal remains "to expand public awareness of all the programs and services we provide for the animals, HSV residents, and the community."

### **Rose Johnson, At Large - Joined AWL in 2021, Board Member since 2022**

Rose, along with Shelley, serves as the AWL's Dog Adoption and Foster Coordinator, and helps facilitate the HUG (Help Us Go) and the PAWS (Pets Assistance Welfare Solutions) programs. Rose also assists with our Angel Fund program. Rose and her husband Jeff, both "big animal lovers," often walk the shelter dogs at night. Says Rose, "I serve the AWL because of the rewarding feeling it brings from helping homeless animals, and want to ensure the dogs have safe refuge while we help them get their fur-ever homes!"

(cont'd on page 4)



## Meet the 2024 AWL Board of Directors *(cont'd from page 3)*

### Michelle Alford, At-Large - Joined AWL in 2016, Board Member since 2023

Michelle has been an AWL volunteer since 2016 serving in many capacities including Animal Care Worker, Dog Walker, foster mom, and Spay/Neuter Clinics. Her all-around shelter experience, as well as her business background, have been very beneficial to the AWL. Among other responsibilities, Michelle serves on the Angel Fund Committee, the Safety Committee, our Education Program, the Election Committee, and assists with our fundraising events. She enjoys helping the AWL wherever needed and sharing ideas.

### Susan Senogles, At-Large - Joined AWL in 2018; Board Member in 2024

Before moving to HSV in 2018, Susan was a Professor of Microbiology, Immunology and Biochemistry at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center for 29 years, yet also found time to volunteer with the Memphis Humane Society and the House of Meows. Joining the AWL Board this year, Susan serves on the Grant Writing Committee, does the monthly data reporting for Best Friends and the Shelter Manager count, tracks the animals that enter from the POA versus the community for the year-end Petco report and Petco grants. Susan hopes to bring more enrichment activities to both dogs and cats in the shelter, and to provide more attention to the long-term shelter residents who may need extra help to get them adoption ready.

### Beth Barrows, At-Large - Joined AWL in 2021; Board Member in 2024

Beth came from a horse farm, and after retiring from the Department of Defense, worked as a veterinarian assistant. Since volunteering at the AWL, she has utilized those skills at our Spay Neuter and Vaccine clinics. Beth also serves as both a Cat Care Worker and Animal Care Worker; with Guest Relations, the HUG (Help US Go program) and will be part of the L.A.P. (pet rehoming program.) Beth says "she loves it all, and wants to be involved in any way she is needed."

### Secretary Needed!

As Beverly Fitzpatrick will be serving as President effective March 1st, her position as Secretary for the AWL is open. The Secretary primarily takes notes at the monthly board meetings (recording is allowed.) To learn more about how you can be part of this fun and rewarding team of volunteers, please email Beverly at [fitzpatrick44@att.net](mailto:fitzpatrick44@att.net) or call her at (214) 632-5314.



## Thank You! Village United Methodist Church - Explorers Sunday School Group



*From left: Lamar Cowger, Paul Richards, Helen Williams, Gary & Genie Kistler, Lynne & Jerry Harkleroad, Ivan Williams, Glen Wortham, Nancy & Lee Smith, Pat & Al Bowles, Connie & Bob Shoemaker, & Betty Cowger. Not present are Cheryl & Matt Pedigo, Susan & James Holick, and Bear Starr. AWL members*



*know Bear as one of our Dog Walkers who is also a Dog Foster Dad! Bear is shown here from our Volunteer Luncheon.*

The AWL is so grateful to our many donors, and it's very humbling when parishioners from our area congregations also generously support us. A special thank you to the Explorers Sunday School Group from the Village United Methodist Church, who chose the AWL as their December Charity of the Month. They donated \$200, plus dog and cat food, and we thank them for their continual support. Good friend of the AWL Bob Shoemaker, (2nd from right) serves as the Class Covener. Bob's wife Connie (3rd from right) is a long time AWL volunteer. The Explorers Group, with participants ranging in age from the 60's through the 90's, proves that it's never too late to learn!

## Spay Neuter Clinic Announced for April 26 & 27, 2024 First 2024 Mobile Spay Neuter Clinic at Fountain Lake Volunteer Fire Station

Angela Nickols, founder and coordinator of our S/N program, is excited to announce our first 2024 clinic is scheduled for April 26 & 27 at the Fountain Lake Volunteer Fire Station. After a 16 month hiatus of our mobile S/N clinics, this is very welcome news! The AWL will be partnering with Fido Fixers, who is providing the fully equipped mobile surgical vehicle that we will share with Good Shepherd Humane Society in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.



One of the mobile surgical vehicles provided by Fido Fixers, a 501 (c)(3) based out of Greenwich, CT., that we will be using for our spay neuter clinics.

Our vet for the mobile clinics is Dr. Paula Gibson, who lives in Avila and still works in Little Rock. We will also be providing a vet tech. Angela reports that Dr. Gibson is very eager to work with us and we are lucky to have her. On a side note, Dr. Gibson will be traveling to Alaska in March participating in her ninth iditarod serving as a vet for the dogs.



S/N Coordinator Angela Nickols gives an update at the recent Volunteer Luncheon.

Angela is also happy to say that many of our seasoned S/N volunteers are anxious to return and assist at the clinics. She hopes we can increase the amount of clinics from four to six per year, as the need is very great. To properly equip the mobile unit and accommodate our requirements, the AWL will also be purchasing additional surgical instruments to supplement Dr. Gibson's instruments, plus another autoclave (sterilizing) unit. A second anesthesia machine will also be required.

The AWL is so appreciative and grateful that Angela and her team worked so tirelessly to find a way to continue our S/N mobile clinics when, at the end of 2022, we were devastated to learn that the mobile vet unit that conducted our four annual clinics could no longer hold them. In the interim, they spent many hours contacting endless sources, and exploring alternative options before beginning this new partnership. Information about the clinic available soon!

**THE AWL HAS SPAYED OR NEUTERED NEARLY 9,300 LOW INCOME COMMUNITY PETS SINCE THIS VITAL PROGRAM WAS STARTED IN 2007.**

## Memorial Donations

Recently, the AWL was blessed to receive two generous memorial donations. One was in memory of the donor's departed sister and her husband. After they lost their beloved Golden Retriever, the husband did some volunteer work at our shelter. The donors wanted the donation to go where it is most needed, so it will help with the upcoming Spay/Neuter expenses.

The second memorial donation is from the estate of a woman from Texas who we never had the pleasure of knowing. She was a lover of all animals with a very generous heart who even purchased a home for stray cats to live in. It was so important to her that her legacy of caring for animals continue after her passing, that she arranged for her estate to form a foundation to help animal charities carry out their missions. In 2023, the AWL was contacted by the law office who administers the foundation. They visited the Adoption Center, and we received word late last year that they selected us to be a foundation recipient. The AWL is very honored to receive these memorial gifts.



The AWL has a Memorial Fund in place which honors a special person or pet (living or deceased). The honored person/pet or their family is notified of the donation if an address is provided. For memorials of \$50 or more, a digital plaque with the named person/pet is included on the HSWAWL Adoption Center memorial display. The AWL also has a Legacy Gift program called the Golden Paws Society, which provides for AWL animals beyond a person's lifetime, yet costs nothing today.

For more information, call 501.915.9337, email us at [hsvawlpr@gmail.com](mailto:hsvawlpr@gmail.com) or visit <https://hsvawl.org/donation-options>



# AWL by the Numbers - Your 2023 Impact

## 447 Animals Came into our Care

### 169

Dog Adoptions

### 240

Cat Adoptions



*(a small number of cats and kittens were transferred to other rescues or sanctuaries)  
(82 Dogs transferred to rescue/sanctuary through our HUG - Help Us Go! Program)*

AWL receives money when you shop!



iGive.com\*

\$1,302 shopping rebates



Recycling Rebates  
Aluminum Beverage Cans

\$4,994



Printer Ink Cartridges

\$145

Angel Fund spent \$24,952 to help 125 community families with emergency veterinary assistance.

Our 2023 program expenses:

**\$307,053**

which included \$184,434 in veterinary fees.

### 194 Volunteers

*AWL is staffed entirely by our dedicated volunteers who care for our shelter animals 365 days a year! They serve at the Adoption Center, as foster parents, at Spay/Neuter Clinics, and behind-the-scenes to mention a few.*

**100%** of all donations support our homeless pets.

**\$27,515** Donations received from our Holiday appeal.

**\$1,932** Donations received from Giving Tuesday

**247** Animals Spayed/Neutered  
(181 Cats & 237 Dogs)



Low income Community Pets Spayed/neutered since 2007

*3 area schools receive educational classroom materials including "Kind News" for all 1st - 6th graders*

**646** Annual Members  
(Including **90** Champions)  
sustaining monthly contributors

**93%** Live Release (Save Rate)

*(Number of animals in our care placed into loving homes at year's end divided by those on hand at year's beginning & those taken in. We take in some very vulnerable and sick animals and some do die despite quality care & some are humanely euthanized to end suffering.)*

## Happy Tails! Pia - an Amazing Love Story

Pia's incredible story began in the spring of 2023 when Dog Adoption Coordinator Shelley Shepherd called foster mom Duffy Russell. Pia, a senior Italian Greyhound, needed to be rescued as her person had dementia and was in a care facility. Duffy agreed to go to Little Rock and foster Pia until the AWL could find her a home. When Duffy met Pia, she wasn't sure she would make it, as she could literally see through the skin on her legs, and she was dying of a broken heart. The vet told her she cried all the time. But Duffy took her home and patiently began to give her her great care; injecting her with subcutaneous fluids, giving her medications (when Pia would allow it,) and making her fresh, healthy food - the only food Pia could keep down. Eight months later, Duffy and her husband Barry formally adopted Pia, "After everything we've been through, I'm her person now."

Today, Duffy reports that Pia is doing well. She gets along well with their other two dogs, can still jump on the couch and runs faster than Duffy even though she's missing a leg. Pia's tail also wags like crazy when she sees her, and she barks if she wants to be covered up with her blanket, is hungry, or wants to go potty outside. Duffy has also developed a type of sign language with Pia, and she does everything she asks her to do. Best of all, she's so happy Pia's alive with a great quality of life and said that Pia never cried once since she's been with her!



*When Duffy took in the three legged Pia, she weighed 7.7 lbs, was deaf, almost blind with cataracts, suffered with a broken heart, and nearly 15 years old.*

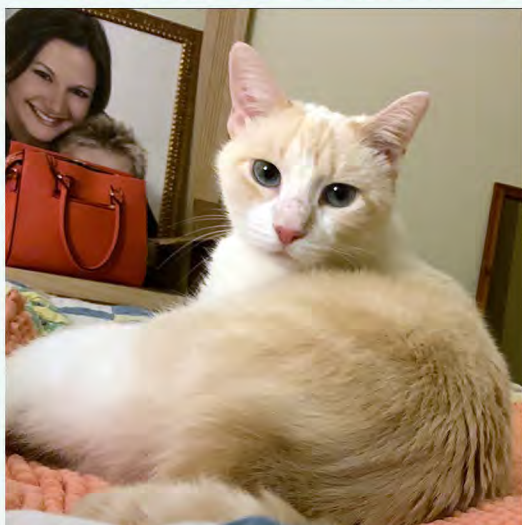


*"It had been a dream of mine to rescue dogs that outlived their owners because it breaks my heart when a dog is displaced after spending it's whole life with a family." Duffy Russell*

Duffy is quick to thank the AWL for all that we do to give the animals a good life, but it's the amazing love and care by Duffy that has made it possible for Pia to live her best life. Shelley adds that "there's no doubt in my mind that Pia would have died of a broken heart within a couple of weeks had Duffy not stepped in. Thank you Duffy!"



## Sweet Princess - A Royal Beauty who gives Emotional Support



*Sweet Princess rests comfortably in her new home, as Janet smiles at her in the photograph.*

Janet and Julie have been friends for 45 years and have lots in common, except while Janet always had cats, Julie was always afraid of them. That changed 14 years ago when Julie's son rescued a cat, and she soon understood why Janet loved them so much. Recently, Janet's beloved 19 year old cat Coal, who had given her much support and companionship, passed. At the same time, Julie (Gerash) began volunteering as an Animal Care Worker at the AWL, and shared a picture of Sweet Princess with Janet. Although still devastated about losing Coal, Janet fell in love online with Sweet Princess. Cat Adoption Coordinator Jill Jones, Janet, and Julie worked together to make the adoption happen, and Julie delivered Sweet Princess two days before Janet's birthday. They bonded immediately, and Janet, who suffers from PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder,) says that "Sweet Princess saved me." Janet's doctor agreed, and certified the beautiful flame point Siamese mix as an emotional support animal. Julie adds that Janet and Sweet Princess are both very happy; "they saved each other!"

*Thank you to Duffy Russell & Julie Gerash for their very Happy Tails!*

## Statistics

### Adoptions

December - 6 dogs, 34 cats  
January - 9 dogs, 5 cats

### Angel Fund Requests

January - 6

### Spay Neuter 2023 Totals:

181 cats; 237 dogs  
9,293 sterilizations since 2007  
8 Vouchers used in December:  
7 - Kelly, 1 - Waggin' Wheel

### Memberships as of Jan 1st

646 Members  
90 Champions

### HUG Transfers

January - 2

## Save the Date

### AWL Open House

Sunday, May 5, 2024

*Details to be announced soon*

### Girls Gotta Howl

Monday, September 23, 2024

### Fundraising "Brainstorming" Meeting

Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
2 pm, location TBD

*Learn about our popular  
fundraising events, and  
join our creative team!*

**AWL members and  
their friends are welcome!  
If interested, call or text  
Beverly Fitzpatrick  
at 214-632-5314**

## Champions

Congrats to our Monthly Winners!

December, 2023 LINDA FITE - \$455  
*(Linda donated \$155 to the AWL)*

January, 2024 GAIL TAYLOR - \$450  
*(Gail donated \$450 to the AWL)*

Feb, 2024 ROBERT STREET - \$450  
*(Robert is donating \$450 to the AWL)*

*We would also like to acknowledge  
October's winner DONNA BOJUS,  
who also donated her \$455 winnings  
to the AWL.*

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

Email [contactus@hsvawl.org](mailto:contactus@hsvawl.org)  
for more information.  
or click the link below to join:

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

## RESCUE RESALE...Repurpose, Reuse, & Change Donations into Cash for the Cause!

The AWL is fortunate to receive so many donations from our supporters - whether it's a beloved pet's last belongings or something their pets didn't use, their intention is that we're able to use it for our animals or our many outreach programs. Any items unable to be used are offered as "Cash for the Cause," where, for a donation, AWL volunteers, members, and visitors can pick up some bargains for their pets. The area is in the AWL Adoption Center Donation Room and marked "Rescue Resale." The pricing on some items is a suggestion, as any donation given from the heart for our animals is always appreciated! Next time you visit the shelter, ask someone on duty to help you check it out. That item you've always been looking for your pet just might be there! Unsold items will be donated to our local charities.



## Kitten Season - Here Already?



Callie Mae, a stray outdoor cat, was captured and brought to Jill Jones' foster home in plenty of time before she delivered 3 beautiful kittens. All are doing well, and the kittens will be ready at the end of April for adoption after they are fixed and receive all their shots. Although Callie Mae had her litter a little earlier than the norm, we want to make sure we have volunteers to help with another possible "Kitten Explosion."

### **Temporary Kitten/Cat Volunteers Will Be Needed!**

The amount of kittens we take care of pre-adoption seems to increase every year, especially if they need special treatment or care. And while the kittens were well taken care of by our volunteers who traveled to the foster homes, many times it was difficult to find volunteers to cover all the shifts at the Adoption Center.

**Please consider helping our felines this spring/summer - the schedule is flexible!**  
For more information, please email Janice Dean: [scottydogs24u@hotmail.com](mailto:scottydogs24u@hotmail.com)