



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.

December 2023

Published bimonthly
for members of the
HSVAWL

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Board of Directors

- President - Susan Luse
- 1st VP - Shelley Shepherd
- 2nd VP - Jill Jones
- Secretary - Janene Howell
- Treasurer - Debe Jolliff
- At-Large - Melanie Marshall
- At-Large - Laura Allworth
- At-Large - Sandie Rickerman
- At-Large - Rose Johnson
- At-Large - Michelle Alford

Editor - Laura Allworth



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

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71910-8032

Happy Holidays to our Animal Welfare League Family!

We are extremely grateful to you, our friends and members, for your wonderful support - whether through volunteering, adopting, or donating your time and talents.

It is through your generosity that we can continue our lifesaving work, as our expenses (primarily veterinary care and food) cost over \$300,000 every year.

Your gifts have helped us place nearly 400 homeless pets in loving homes in 2023, and the need continues.



Please consider a gift to the AWL in your holiday giving. Your philanthropy makes a world of difference for the pets.

As a volunteer based shelter, 100% of your tax-deductible donation directly supports our animals!

There are many ways to make a tax deductible donation.
Scan the QR code; visit hsvawl.org and click donate;
or send a check to: PO Box 8032, HSV, AR 71910-8032



AWL Annual Meeting and Board of Directors Election

Members gathered at the Coronado Center on Nov. 16th to elect 2024 BOD members and receive an overview of the AWL's 2023 status, finances and accomplishments. Items discussed included the spay/neuter program (*read more on page 2*), dog and cat adoptions, our dedicated volunteers, fundraising, publicity events, the need for cat and dog foster parents, and our PAWS program, which helps pets stay in their homes when their owners are unable to care for them.

All 2023 statistics will be published on our website and in this February, 2024 publication.

BOD Election Results

Three new Board Members were elected to two year terms:

Beverly Fitzpatrick, (Secretary)
Janice Dean & Susan Senogles (At-Large)

Re-elected for two year terms were
Rose Johnson, (At-Large) &
Jill Jones, 2nd Vice President.

Special thanks to BOD nominees
Beth Barrows & Cathy Stiles, both
very active and valued AOL volunteers.



*Congratulations to our 2024 Board of Directors!
From left: Jill Jones, 2nd Vice President; Sue Luse, President;
Shelley Shepherd, 1st Vice President; Rose Johnson, Michelle
Alford, Laura Allworth, Janice Dean (all At-Large); and Beverly
Fitzpatrick, Secretary. Not pictured are Debe Jolliff, Treasurer;
and Susan Senogles, At-Large. More information about the
BOD will be featured in the February, 2024 Rescue Report.*



AWL's Spay/Neuter Clinics Exciting New Partnership effective in 2024!



GOOD SHEPHERD
HUMANE SOCIETY

The HSV AWL is thrilled to announce we will be partnering with Fido Fixers and Good Shepherd Humane Society of Eureka Springs for our mobile Spay Neuter clinics starting in 2024.

Fido Fixers is a 501(c)(3) organization based out of Greenwich, CT that provides large mobile vehicles fully equipped for surgeries to qualified animal welfare groups with a robust spay/neuter program. In order to meet the volume of animal surgeries required by Fido Fixers, we will partner with Good Shepherd Humane Society and share the use of the vehicle. We will each provide our own veterinarian and vet tech. GSHS will provide low-cost services to the pet owners in Carroll County, AR, and surrounding areas while the AWL will continue our clinics in Garland and Saline counties. It is a Win-Win situation!

Many details will need to be worked out, but Spay/Neuter Program Coordinator Angela Nickols plans to begin operating the mobile clinics in April using the same locations as in past years. Angela said "I know our wonderful team of dedicated spay/neuter volunteers is anxious to get working again and are going to be proud of the new surgical unit. It is my hope we can expand the program to operate the two-day clinics every other month instead of just quarterly. The need for low-cost services in our area is never-ending and the amount of unsterilized cats and dogs would continue to grow without these clinics."

Golden Paws Society - AWL's Legacy Gift Program

At this time of year we receive many inquiries about various ways to set up planned giving for the AWL. These may include gifts through a will or living trust, gifts through retirement assets, such as required IRA distributions; gifts through life insurance plans, or charitable gift annuities.

Legacy gifts to the AWL cost nothing today, and they are one of the most effective ways to ensure that the AWL can carry on its mission of saving lives far into the future. We encourage you to talk with your financial advisor and/or attorney about these and other legacy gift possibilities. All gifts, both large and small, make a difference. For more information, visit the Legacy Giving link at <https://hsvawl.org/legacy-giving> or call our Adoption Center at 501.915.9337.



From Meeting & Greeting to Making Gourmet Pizzas... Fostering AWL Friendships

Deb & Steve Fitzgerald generously opened their home to host two separate gourmet pizza parties for silent auction winners at Girls Gotta Howl. The winners, (along with 9 of their fortunate friends) selected four different gourmet pizzas prepared by AWL volunteer Deb and grilled to perfection by Steve. The food and camaraderie were outstanding!

HSV Police Chief Kristi Bennett (right) takes a moment to pet adoptable dog Laney at the Newcomers Meet & Greet on Dec 6th at the Coronado Center. Plans are in place to feature an adoptable cat and dog weekly on the HSV Police Facebook page, which has nearly 6,500 followers!



Lucky Laney gets hugs and pets from HSV Police Chief Kristi Bennett.



Steve & Deb Fitzgerald (above right), with Bruce & Delores Rickert, hosted 2 pizza parties for GGH silent auction winners.

Kitten Crisis Update *contributed by Lisa Ake and Jill Jones*

In June 2023, when the kitten population was at its peak, there was an outbreak of ringworm at the main kitten foster shelter. The AWL quickly jumped into action by opening and staffing a second kitten foster shelter to isolate and treat the affected kittens. Ringworm is a fungus found in the environment and is a common problem with kittens because of their underdeveloped immune systems. Many shelters in southern states reported that in 2023 there was an increase in the ringworm fungus, most likely due to the increased rainfall in the spring.

A Huge Undertaking - The second kitten shelter was set up in a foster home that was already caring for adult cats recovering from illnesses, surgeries or injuries. Tables, crates and supplies were set up in a separate room to isolate and care for the kittens. To treat ringworm, a three prong approach was used: environment management, treating the kittens with daily oral medication, and weekly baths given by a volunteer.



Litters of kittens are isolated in cages while they are being treated and cared for.



To treat the ringworm, kittens receive daily medication and weekly baths.

As more kittens came into the system, it became evident that additional help was needed. Volunteers worked on a schedule seven days a week. Multiple crates, litter boxes, scoops, and loads of laundry were constantly washed and disinfected. Additionally, a few husbands of the volunteers helped haul away trash and took cardboard boxes to the recycling center. At one point, 45 kittens were being treated at the same time in the isolation room. It was well organized and with the help of Waggin' Wheel vet care, all of the kittens recovered in a few months.

AWL volunteers that answered the call to help were Jennifer Hurd, Susan Senogles, Sue Espinal, Julie Keck, Laura Allworth, Cindy Boucher, Pam Galuska, Sandie Rickerman, Janene Howell, Mel Marshall, Cathie Moeller, Sheri Hall and Betsy Bailey. These volunteers, along with Jill Jones and Lisa Ake, were spending up to 5 hours a day cleaning and caring for the kittens and adult cats.

Simultaneously, the main kitten foster location received two thorough cleanings and disinfecting including the ceiling, walls, and floors, so the new kittens arriving could be placed at the primary kitten foster home. AWL Volunteers Cheryl and Chad Schaefer, Brenda Bennett, Pam Galuska and Cindy Boucher participated. Some kittens were moved to the foster homes of Pam Galuska and Bill & Susan Wheat. Volunteer Judi Prestridge also fostered a special needs kitten to keep him isolated. Other volunteers were tasked with ordering and managing supplies, organizing vet visits and general help when needed.

All volunteers are very much appreciated, and we also thank the generous donors that answered our call for help with donations of kitten litter and food!

Good News - None of the volunteers involved in this crisis got ringworm, nor passed it to their own cats or dogs, due to the stringent protocols that were put into place by the volunteers. AWL is happy to report that almost all of these kittens have been adopted and are very much loved by their new families!

AWL recognized by Best Friends Animal Society for exceeding a 90% save rate for cats and dogs

The HSVAWL was recently honored by Best Friends Animal Society for achieving no-kill status by exceeding a 90% save rate for cats and dogs in 2022. The actual rate was an exemplary 96%! Best Friends Animal Society operates the nation's largest sanctuary for homeless animals and provides adoption, spay/neuter, and educational programs. The AWL is proud to be a partner of the Best Friends Network. Jackie Roach, Executive Director of their Bentonville, Arkansas location and Shai Dunbar, Strategist for Shelter Partnerships, recently visited the Adoption Center with the objective of strengthening our partnership and enhancing support to make a positive impact on the welfare of the animals in our care.



Volunteers gather at the Adoption Center for the presentation by Best Friends Animal Society representative Greg Scott.



Lily Alerts - Social Media helps reunite pets and their owners

94 Lily Alert--Lost D...
KK is a small 13 year old spayed female dog who bolted when briefly unclipped from her leash after it got tangled in a bush on a trail walk. Her home is on South Badalona Drive, which is about 1/4 mile from the Badalona/Desoto trail



Found this little girl in the rain last night off Huelva near main gate entrance.
Lost dog: please share.



KK back at home

LOST ----- FOUND ----- REUNITED

The AWL's Lily Alert Program has been in place for more than 10 years, and with the popularity of Social Media, such as Facebook and particularly Next Door accounts, matching lost pets with their owners is accomplished much more quickly. In this case, KK was reunited within a day of being lost. Deborah King, AWL's Lily Alert coordinator recommends, "The key is to take good pictures of the animals which clearly show face and body - sort of like a mug shot of the animal. Keep the photo on your phone or computer, ready to text or email if needed."

To Report a Lost or Found Pet:

We hope you never have to report a lost pet, but if you do, please contact HSV Animal Control at 501-922-6547. Also call the AWL at 501-915-9337, or Deborah King at 281-216-1925 and a Lily Alert will be created.



ARKANSAS
community foundation
HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE

The AWL received a \$2,000 Giving Tree Grant from the Arkansas Community Foundation in October, 2023 as part of their "Smart Giving to Improve Communities." We thank them for the generous grant that will be used for our Spay/Neuter program.

Behind the Scenes Happenings at the AWL

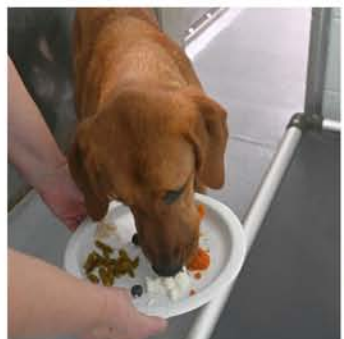
Adopter Lynn Morris (below) gets ready to take Jesse, a 6 year old Chihuahua, to his new home; Adeline Bates holds Brigett, who just got her official portrait photo taken by Alex and Bruce Woodcock. Brigett, a young Mountain Cur, is being fostered by Holly Bates and her family.



In what has become an annual Thanksgiving tradition, volunteers prepared a special meal for all the animals at the shelter. They enjoyed chicken, (sardines for the cats), fresh blueberries, sweet potatoes, green beans, and pumpkin puree topped with plain yogurt.

(from left) Volunteers Janice Dean, Rose Johnson, Ron Rychlik, "Chef" Shelley Shepherd, Susan Senogles, Cathy Stiles, Sue Luse, and Therrel Wilson.

(Bottom row) Logan waits in anticipation, Peaches chows down, Bobby eats every morsel, while Mike licks his chops as Caleb looks on.



Cat Care Workers Meeting

It takes a lot of volunteers to take care of the nearly 300 cats and kittens that are adopted from the AWL every year. Much of that care is done by our Cat Care Workers (CCWs) who come to the Adoption Center or help at our cat foster homes. Recently, 22 of the AWL's CCWs attended a meeting hosted by Cat Adoption Coordinator Jill Jones. It was a good opportunity for the CCWs to get to know one another (as they usually work independently,) and a forum to share ideas and ways to improve procedures. Jill provided an update of the recent kitten crisis which affected 90 felines (see article on pg 3,) the impact of "shelter stress," a discussion of FIV (Feline Immunodeficiency Virus), seasonal trends in the amount of felines that come into our care, and the importance of socializing and brushing, especially with strays. We are so grateful for our CCWs - they are key in helping our felines get ready for their forever homes, and so passionate about their comfort and well being!



Cat Care Workers attend a meeting led by Jill Jones, Cat Adoption Coordinator. Many have been volunteering for several years, and others have recently joined the AWL. Thank you for all you do!



Petco Angel Tree

Every year, our good friends and partner at the Petco Store in Benton feature an Angel Tree to benefit the AWL.

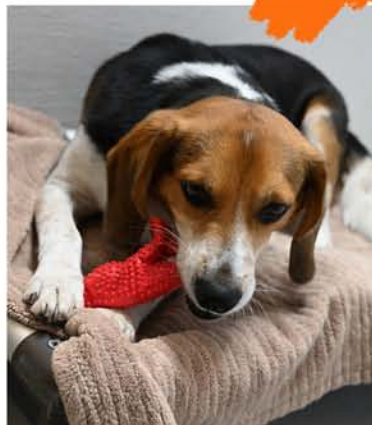
Customers select a tag from the tree that lists needed items for a dog or cat, purchase them, and place them in the gift box under the tree. Currently, there are several gift boxes filled with items for our adoptable pets, and we are still in the height of the Christmas shopping season!

Thank you to our generous Petco "Angels!"

Tasty holiday treats thanks to Nylabone!

Nylabone has regularly donated boxes of their chew toys for our canines in a wide variety of shapes and sizes. They keep our dogs entertained while promoting proper dental health. Thank you Nylabone!

Testimony to Nylabone's popularity are (from left) Hunter, Laney, & Elsa.



Statistics

Adoptions

September - 5 Dogs, 44 Cats
October - 10 Dogs, 25 Cats
Nov - 7 Dogs, 14 Cats

Angel Fund Requests

Sept - 9, Oct - 8

Spay Neuter

9,285 sterilizations since 2007
Oct & Nov
44 Vouchers used by Kelly
11 Vouchers used by Waggin' Wheel

Memberships as of Dec 1st

652 Members, 91 Champions

HUG Transfers

Sept - 28, Oct - 12 Nov - 4

Save the Date

Volunteer

Appreciation Luncheon

January 25, 2024

Desoto Club & Grill

100 Clubhouse Dr.

11:30 am - 1:30 PM

AWL Open House

Sunday, May 4, 2024

Champions

Congrats to our Monthly Winners!

October

Donna Bojus - \$455

November

Dorothy Zabecki - \$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 for more information.

or click the link below to join:

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

Love comes in all sizes.

Adopt your perfect fit

Sept. 15-17 and help the
Animal Welfare League



In recognition of our lifesaving work, Best Friends doubled the stipends for their National Adoption Weekend on September 15th - 17th. During the event, 32 cats and 5 dogs were adopted from the AWL. As a result, we received \$50 for each adopted animal, or a total of \$1,850. More importantly, 37 pets have new forever homes!

Blessings of the Animals honor the Feast of St. Francis and help the AWL

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church



The St. Francis Chapter Daughters of the King sponsored the Blessing of the Animals on October 1st at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. Several parishioners brought their pets to be blessed by Father Keith Hearnberger, and assisted by Rev. Brenda Kroll. The AWL is very grateful for their \$1,000. donation, and we were very pleased to see so many animals who had been adopted from the AWL receive blessings.

Christ of the Hills United Methodist Church



More than 50 parishioners from Christ of the Hills brought their pets to be blessed on Sunday, October 22nd. The extremely well behaved pets were blessed by Senior Pastor Rev. Siegfried Johnson, Associate Pastor Steven Frieze, and Associate Pastor Sheila Jones. Many donations of dog and cat food, along with monetary gifts, were generously donated to the AWL.