



# 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 2022

Published monthly  
for members of the  
HSVAWL

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## AWL's HUG Program Saving Lives by Helping Us Go!

The AWL works very hard to match our homeless pets with the perfect families - in 2021 alone, 248 cats and 96 dogs found their forever homes. Although in many cases, adopters are not available within local communities, and that's when our HUG, or Help Us Go program, helps save even more lives. Because of HUG, last year an additional 65 dogs were transferred to our no-kill, partner rescues. Shelley Shepherd, AWL's Dog Adoption Coordinator, explains:

*"More than 80% of the dogs that are transferred to other rescues already have adopters before they leave the AWL, and the majority of them are larger sized dogs that are harder to adopt locally. HUG is their fastest way to a new home."*

It's a win-win situation. As more of these in-demand dogs are transferred to other rescues (typically in northern states) where new adopters anxiously wait, it frees up space at the AWL so we can vet and care for other dogs left behind that are more popular with adopters in the south.



*Through our HUG program, Shelley Shepherd & AWL volunteers recently helped save the lives of 25 beagles.*

## Setting the Wheels in Motion

Although very successful, the HUG program requires a lot of community cooperation, committed volunteers, and financial assistance. But the payoff is well worth it. In January, Shelley was contacted by a dog foster parent about a large number of beagles that desperately needed help or they would be confiscated by a municipal shelter with the possibility of being euthanized. Their owner could no longer afford to maintain them, and because they had not been sterilized, within a year there were 25 beagles that needed homes. Could the AWL help? Fortunately, we were able to help due to an incredible effort from AWL volunteers and the generosity of the Ryan Lund Memorial Fund.\* Since Ryan's parents wanted the funds to make a difference in the lives of animals, the expenses were paid for from his Memorial Fund. It was definitely a team effort. Sue Luse coordinated the beagles' medical care, and volunteers Julie Keck and David Sparks took the dogs to Waggin' Wheel for vetting, and Shelley contacted Border Tails Rescue, a no-kill rescue, to see if they could assist. Fortunately, Border Tails Rescue, who has had a partnership with the AWL for several years, was able to take all 25 dogs. (continued on page 2)

*\*Ryan Lund, a good friend of the AWL, was an avid animal lover & HSV POA employee.*

## Help Us Go (cont'd)

Since Border Tails is located in northern Illinois, everyone agreed to meet in St. Louis to transfer the beagles. On the appointed day at 7:30 am, Shelley, along with Julie and Pam Easterwood, met at Waggin' Wheel, picked up the 25 dogs, loaded them in Shelley's personal vehicle and AWL's van, and then Julie and Shelley embarked on the 400 mile drive to St. Louis. They drove back to HSV the next day (less 25 beagles) but extremely happy knowing the dogs were saved and would be adopted.



## Building Relationships with Partner Rescues

Along with Border Tails Rescue, the AWL has had a long-time relationship with Bark from the Heart Rescue, which also has a strong connection to HSV. Kathy Deets, known as the rescue's "Lifesaver," met Shelley on her many travels to HSV to visit her mother Nancy, and stepfather DuWayne Beaver. During many of these visits, Kathy would take dogs back to Illinois for adoptions, and the outcomes were always positive. Sadly, Mr. Beaver, a HSV resident for 25 years, passed in January, and the family graciously requested that donations be made to the AWL. On that recent bittersweet visit, Kathy took a very special dog from the AWL with her - Annette, an Anatolian Shepherd mix - to find a forever home. Now back in LaGrange, Illinois, Kathy reports that Annette has been renamed Kimber after the two things DuWayne loved very much - his (predeceased) daughter Kim, and Kimber Manufacturing, in honor of his military career. Oh yes, and that Annette is doing wonderfully. To the AWL, Help Us Go sounds a lot like Happily Ever After!



(For more information on transport programs like HUG, please read Time Magazine's February 3, 2022 article - How America Saved Millions of Dogs - By Moving Them) Click link below

<https://time.com/6144366/dog-adoption-relocation-aspc/>

## February Statistics

Adoptions - 14 Dogs, 7 Cats

Hug Transfers - 1 Dog transferred from Garland County

Spay/Neuter - 58 vouchers used in January (40 for cats)\*

Angel Fund - 8 requests for assistance

AWL Memberships - 686 (as of 3/1/22)

Champions - 89

\*This is the start of kitten season and we are thankful so many litters were avoided by having the cats spayed and neutered.

## Spay/Neuter Clinic

Our first 2022 spay/neuter clinic will be held on March 28th & 29th at Crows Fire Station. Call Dorothy @ 501-226-5772 for an appt.

## Petco Free Vaccine Clinic

March 19th - Fountain Lake Fire Station 1-4 pm  
Call Chari @ 501-922-5269 to make an appt.

## The Ice Storm Cometh - Again!

With a second winter storm predicted in February, the cats and dogs were moved once more from the adoption center. Jill Jones credits Melanie Marshall for the morning weather warning and everyone sprang into action. According to Jill, "Bill and Susan Wheat loaded their car with food, litter, litter boxes, and cat beds; took Frank and Creed to their house, and then helped me set up the rest of the cats at my house. Chris Frantz helped clean up at the shelter, while Grady Shepherd and Julie Keck loaded up the dogs to take to Waggin' Wheel. We all got out of the shelter just in time." Removing the animals from the shelter is crucial for their safety in case weather conditions made the adoption center inaccessible. Fortunately, the storm ended quickly, and once again all the animals were returned safe and sound to the Adoption Center.



*Garbanzo (above left) & Jewel check out their temporary "home" while waiting out the storm.*

## Thank You Rotary!



We extend a very special thank you to the the HSV Satellite and Morning Rotary Club for their generous donation of towels, pet carriers, food and accessories. A special shoutout to Harv Shelton, (pictured with just a few of the donations,) and to Melanie Pederson for orchestrating the drive.

*"Everybody should have a shelter dog. It's good for the soul."*

*- Paul Shaffer, entertainer*

## Twix Gets Ready for Foster Home

Foster mom DJ Wisheart and Shelley Shepherd give Twix, an Australian Shepherd puppy, a bath (with the help of a peanut butter lick pad). Animal Care Worker Kathie Ingram and DJ groom the lucky stray who will get to live with his new foster family.



DJ Wisheart

Kathie Ingram

## Gift Boxes from Max and Neo

Several times a year, the AWL receives donation boxes with new dog leashes, collars, treats, and other gifts from Max and Neo. Because of their generosity, most dogs that are adopted from the AWL go to their home with a new leash and collar. Max and Neo donates products "1 for 1" to dog rescues in the US for every product sold. For more information, visit [maxandneo.com](http://maxandneo.com)

## Ways to Help the AWL at No Cost to you

Did you know the AWL benefits when you shop at Amazon Smile, iGive, Hale Pet Doors, and Kroger to name a few? By selecting the AWL as your charity, the AWL receives a percentage of each sale. By using the ResQwalk app on your mobile phone when walking your dog, the AWL also benefits.

Please save your aluminum cans and used ink jet printer cartridges for the AWL!

Aluminum beverage cans should be bagged and dropped off in the fenced bin behind the adoption center, or you can take them to the POA Minorca Sanitation site, located at 218 Minorca Road. Please bring your printer cartridges to the adoption center. Visit <https://hsvawl.org/donation-options> or call us at 501-915-9337 Mon-Sat for more information about these programs.



*Max and Neo's latest donation box included several collars and other goodies for our dogs!*

## Happy Tails - "Sweet" Skittles and Starburst

One year after their adoption, Amanda writes, "Happy Birthday to my furbabies!!!! They are the best behaved kittens and love to give love and be loved on! They love to play and when my nephew comes over they never leave his side. They are so beautiful and we can't thank you and the foster family enough for letting us have them as our own!"



*Starburst (above) enjoys her playmate, and gets an affectionate "hug" from her calico sibling Skittles. (right).*



*Volunteer Katherine Barnes displays some of the cozy fleece she is using to make over 50 custom cat blankets to fit their cages. We know the cats will enjoy them, even though Lena seems content just to take a nap!*

## Oooops!

In last month's Rescue Report, the Guest Relations hours were incorrectly listed as 1:00 am to 3 pm. While we have many volunteers who do put in late or long hours, the correct hours are 11:00 am to 3 pm.

## Congratulations

**Jerry Kalick is February's Champions winner!**

Jerry graciously donated his \$460 winnings to the AWL. The AWL is truly a group of Champions!

To join or learn about Champions, email: [contactus@hsvawl.org](mailto:contactus@hsvawl.org)