



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.

May/June 2023

**Published bimonthly
for members of the
HSVWL**

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OPEN Mon-Sat, 12 -3 pm

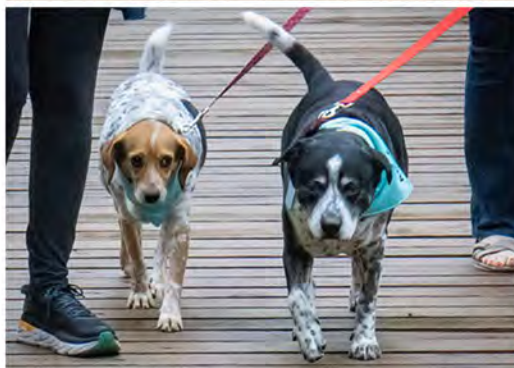
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Walk & Wag-A-Thon - AWL's "Fun"raiser

Overcast skies didn't stop the great turnout of walkers, supporters, volunteers and most importantly, our fabulous canine friends, who participated in our 2nd Walk & Wag-A-Thon on May 6th. Nearly \$6,000 was raised to help our homeless pets! Special thanks to all our wonderful sponsors who helped make the event truly a "fun"raiser. (cont'd on page 2)



Volunteers (along with Cooper!) get ready to welcome the nearly 100 registered walkers & over 40 dogs to the Walk & Wag-A-Thon at the Balboa Beach Trail.



The awesome and very friendly dogs were the stars of the show as they strutted along the Trail!

Walk & Wag-A-Thon (cont'd from page 1)



We are very grateful to all our sponsors who provided gifts for our dogs, and refreshments for the walkers. Special thanks to Arvest Bank, our Corporate Sponsor. Arvest Community Relations Advisor **Stephanie Heffer** (above left) with AWL President **Susan Luse**. Congratulations to **Chuck Howell** (above center), the recipient of the \$50 gift card donated by Clampit's Country Kitchen given to the walker who raised the most sponsorship money. Chuck raised \$600 for his walk, and also won the gift card at our first Walk-A-Thon! Volunteer **Danielle Spacey** (right) monitored the trail with her golf cart and gives **Rose Ludeke** a ride.

Special shout outs to Wag-A-Thon Committee chair **Sandie Rickerman**, who was assisted by **Melanie Marshall, Michelle Alford, Janene Howell, and Laura Allworth**, and to **Jennifer Kallas**, whose photographs captured so many memorable moments!



Champion for the AWL

Petco Love is a life-changing nonprofit organization that makes communities and pet families closer, stronger, and healthier! Through the years, they have consistently given the AWL grants that support our mission. Recently, they bestowed a \$12,500 grant that we applied to cover adoption related expenses.

Free Pet Vaccines

Through their generosity, we have also been able to sponsor free pet vaccine clinics within the community. The vaccines are offered to both cats and dogs, and protect against parvo, distemper, various viruses and the last clinic also included rabies at no cost. The next clinic is scheduled for the fall, but no date has been confirmed. Check our website, facebook, and future Rescue Reports for updates!



GIVE PETS THEIR BEST SHOT!
FREE PET VACCINES
THANKS TO
petco love
A NONPROFIT CHANGING LIVES

AWL Spay Neuter Program 9,000 Animals Sterilized! ...important update

When our Spay Neuter Program began 16 years ago, few envisioned the enormous impact it would have within the community. Local families embraced the program, and to date, 9,000 cats and dogs have been sterilized! That figure is even more staggering when you add all the animals adopted from the shelter every year, all of which are also sterilized.

S/N Clinics Currently on Hold

While a very important milestone for the AWL, it's also very bittersweet. We were informed by the mobile vet unit who conducted our four annual community s/n clinics that starting in 2023 they could no longer conduct our clinics. Compounding the situation is Arkansas's severe vet shortage. To this end, Angela Nickols, founder of the AWL's s/n program, along with her team have been working extremely hard for the past several months to find another source for our s/n clinics; whether through grants, foundations, special donations, sharing facilities with other clinics, and even investigating sourcing our own mobile unit. While options are being investigated, we continue to distribute low cost s/n vouchers to area vets, but currently, there is a 3 month vet waiting period for the 300 outstanding vouchers. It is a dire situation, and one that is a top priority for the AWL. We will keep you updated.



PAWS Program gets 2 “Paws” up!

In an effort to help seniors within the HSV community who have mobility issues or are experiencing chronic illnesses a way to keep their companion cats and dogs at home, the AWL recently started PAWS, a Pet Assistance Welfare Solutions program.

At the same time, Dorie and Jim Goodrum began experiencing some health issues which prevented them from giving Rudy, their young golden retriever, the proper exercise he needed. Through a friend, they learned about PAWS, and program coordinators Melanie Marshall and Rose Johnson set them up with an experienced dog walker who gives Rudy a great workout once a week. The cost is covered through PAWS. Dorie says the program “is such a blessing, and that Rudy absolutely loves the dog walker. We are so grateful she is able to take Rudy on long walks. Even though Rudy is always full of energy, he comes home tired out.”

To learn more information about PAWS, the services it provides, or to volunteer, please contact:
Melanie at melmarshall099@msn.com 817.909.7042 or
Rose Johnson at yougodawg@gmail.com 757.576.0226

Dorie and Jim Goodrum gaze affectionately at Rudy, their golden retriever

Behind the Scenes at the AWL

Although the Adoption Shelter is open Mon - Sat from noon to 3 pm, so much of the work done by the AWL’s volunteers takes place after hours, on weekends, and even on holidays. From middle of the night bottle feedings for kittens and puppies, morning and evening dog walks, emergency vet visits, lost pet alerts, grant writing, financials, fundraising, membership updates, transporting animals to partner rescues, and of course, the hundreds of adoptions the AWL makes every year - the list of the AWL’s responsibilities is enormous. It truly take a village!

In this and future Rescue Reports, we’ll share many of the AWL’s responsibilities and steps we take to rescue, vet, and find homes for all adoptable cats and dogs within our community.



Susan Senogles (seated) and Jill Jones review some of the complex data in the Shelter Manager program.

Animal Intake and Reporting

In 2022, 437 animals came into our care.

Some were sick or strays, some were abandoned or abused, others were surrendered or were even born at the shelter. Whatever the circumstances, it is critical to keep a detailed record of each animal from the day it enters the shelter. To track and report on all the animals as they pass through the AWL, a comprehensive program called Shelter Manager is used. Several volunteers can input specific records simultaneously using their own devices, and since the data is totally digital, it is immediately accessible from any web browser. Basic information including breed, weight, sex, age, health, physical characteristics or dietary needs (if known) are input. If the animal does not have a name, our creative volunteers come up with very fitting ones! Concurrently, each animal is scheduled for a vet visit where they get medical treatments, tests, vaccinations, and when the proper age, get spayed or neutered. (cont'd on page 4)

Dog Walkers Appreciation Pot Luck

Although National Dog Walker Appreciation Day takes place every September 8th, The AWL decided to celebrate a little early. On April 27th, the AWL honored our very own dog walkers who take such great care of our canine friends every single day - come rain or shine; hot or cold weather! Thanks to head dog walker Julie Keck, this has turned into an annual event where the walkers' gather to get to know one another, share good food and stories about their favorite dogs! Many do so much more than walk the dogs....on the same day of the Pot Luck, Julie and Bridget Duffield were up at 3:30 am, picked up a shelter dog, and drove to North Little Rock where they met one of our partner rescues who was delivering the dogs to their adopters based up north. All in a day's work!



No bones about it - every party needs a cake, thanks to Cheryl White



Pictured are some of the AWL's more than 70 dog walkers and helpers: Top row from left - Bob Dean, Sandy Young, Jeff & Rose Johnson, Michelle Alford, Sierra Wise-Canfield, Lidia Malkowski, Cheryl White, Bridget Duffield & Grady Shepherd. Bottom row from left - Miguel Soria, Janice Dean, Julie Keck, Cyndy Echevarria, and Karen Geiger. Above right: Bridget and Julie seem very relaxed and not a bit tired despite waking up at 3:30 am, picking up a dog at the shelter, and meeting a partner rescue in North Little Rock.

Krazy for Kittens!

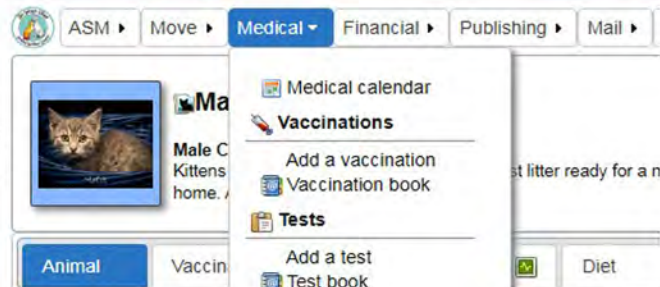
Cat care worker Pam Galuska reports that it's a crazy time at Cheryl Schaefer's foster home. They are taking care of 6 mommas and 33 kittens and more furballs are on the way! A few of the litters were born at Cheryl's home just a week apart, which proved to be "very challenging and overwhelming, but they always look forward to kitten season!"



Behind the Scenes (cont'd from page 3)

In addition to inputting thorough medical records, a major part of Shelter Manager requires entering the adoption info for every cat and dog. Currently, over 90 animals are listed in our system, and extensive records exist for hundreds more that have been processed through the years. Adoptable animals are also linked to other sites, such as Petfinder, which greatly increases the opportunities for adoption.

(right, a screen shot from the Shelter Manager program)



Hot Springs Junior Academy Visits Adoption Center

Thirteen 7th grade students from the Hot Springs Junior Academy visited the Adoption Center on May 22nd. They are part of the JAG* program (Jobs for America's Graduates) taught by Stephanie Goodman. The students were asked to choose a charity from the over 300 non-profits within Garland County that would receive a \$150 grant. Upon the recommendation of classmate Jeremiah, they unanimously chose the AWL. Thanks to Shelley Shepherd and Shelly Hill, the students interacted with the dogs and also visited Tabby Town to see our cats. As part of our continuing Education Program, AWL supports and encourages opportunities that increase children's awareness of humane animal care.



Under the guidance of instructor Stephanie Goodman (top row in red) students from Hot Springs Junior Academy display the items they purchased for the AWL with an \$150 grant they received.

Below, Freddie enjoys getting attention from Alivia and Jeremiah.



**JAG helps young people of truly great promise succeed both in school and on-the-job, leading to a productive and rewarding career. Jobs for America's Graduates is led by a public/private partnership at the national level.*

Thank you for your Adoption Center Donations!

ACCEPTABLE

- Dog & Cat food (including treats such as Milk Bones)
- Collapsible wire crates
- Towels/bathmats/small rugs (no rubber backing)
- Small blankets
- Dog/Cat beds in good condition; all sizes except extra large
- Pet supplies (leashes, collars, toys)
- New cat scratch pads
- Cat litter
- Pet medication (labeled, sealed and not expired)

We often get asked what items we can & cannot accept at the shelter, so we kindly ask you follow these guidelines:

NON-ACCEPTABLE

- Cat trees or climbers,*
- Large plastic dog crates*
- Pet strollers*
- Human bed pillows/linens*
- Heating blankets*

Statistics

Adoptions

March - 4 Dogs, 17 Cats

April - 13 Dogs, 15 Cats

Angel Fund Requests

March - 6, April - 17

Spay Neuter

9,000 sterilizations since 2007!

Feb - 12 Vouchers - Waggin' Wheel;

Jan/Feb - 46 Vouchers - Kelly

March - 52 total Vouchers used

Memberships as of 5/1

663 Members

90 Champions

HUG Transfers

March - 11, April - 2

Save the Dates

Girls Gotta Howl

We are having 2 identical

Matinee & Evening events

September 25th

More info available soon!

AWL Open House

October 8th

AWL Annual Meeting

November 16th

Champions

Congrats to our Monthly Winners!

March - Boyd Burkholder \$450

April - Cheryl Schaefer - \$455

May - Ruthann Guy - \$455

(Ruthann donated her winnings to AWL's Spay & Neuter program.)

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/>

Happy Tails!

Spunky / Henry

When Animal Control Officer Jim Kull and his wife Kathleen moved to HSV from Florida, they weren't considering getting another dog to join their Penelope. That is, until Jim and fellow ACO Sean Sprague captured a bichon frise stray they called Spunky, who eluded them for two weeks. While Spunky was up for adoption, Kathleen brought in the grandkids to see the dogs, and immediately fell in love with him. They adopted Spunky (now Henry) and now the two dogs are "best buds." According to Jim, "Henry has a very relaxed demeanor and is a real cuddler." He adds that although they've had cats and dogs for the entire 38 years they have been married, they were adamant about pets not sleeping on the bed, but "Henry whittled his way into our hearts, so now he is on the bed!"



Happy Tails!

Para / Pierre

Para is a big handsome tuxedo cat who was adopted a few years ago from a sweet lady in HSV who loved him very much. Sadly, a year after he was adopted, she developed severe medical issues and could no longer take care of him. AWL was contacted by her out of state family, and Para was brought back to the shelter to find a new home. Jill Jones, who brings adoptable cats to the Petco Store in Benton every Saturday, took Para once (along with several other cats,) but he was the only one who wasn't adopted. Jill put Para's picture on Facebook posting that he "was the only cat not adopted at Petco that day." Another kind lady saw that Facebook post and knew that Para was the right cat for her mother - and he was! Para's new name is Pierre, and it really suits him. He is doing great in his new home and once more, is loved very much!



"All his life he tried to be a good person. Many times, however, he failed. For after all, he was only human. He wasn't a dog."

Charles M. Schulz

**WE NEED
VOLUNTEERS**



*Love to spend time with our furry friends?
Enjoy walking dogs or cuddling with cats?
Need a flexible schedule?
If so, please consider volunteering
for one of these rewarding positions.*

Dog Walkers

Our dogs really enjoy their morning and afternoon walks and would love for you to join them. Contact Janice at scottydogs24U@hotmail.com or 501-209-9086.

Guest Relations

Greeting and assisting visitors at the Adoption Center, answering phones, and general customer service are a few of the varied tasks of the Guest Relations team. Contact Melanie at 817-909-7042.

Animal Care Workers & Cat Care Workers

These volunteers ensure the cats and dogs are ready to meet their public. They tend to their needs and care and give food as prescribed. Cat Care Workers give each cat individual attention, brushing, and afternoon feeding. Contact Melanie at 817-909-7042.

Dog & Cat Fosters

Foster "parents" enable dogs, cats, puppies and kitten litters to live in loving, nurturing homes, which increases the pet's socialization and their chance of adoption.

For Dogs, contact Shelley at snswws@att.net or 314-520-8674. For Cats, contact Jill at 901-570-1430.



Volunteers are also needed to help with fundraising events and recycling programs to name a few! Learn more on our website or call 501-915-9337.



**Dazzling Diamonds Red Hat Group
chooses AWL as their special charity this year!**



The AWL has a wonderful relationship with the Petco Store in Benton, and we are so grateful for their support through the years. Additionally, we have also developed friendships with many of their caring employees, who personally also support the AWL.

Jill Jones, AWL Cat Adoption Coordinator, (left) poses with Petco employee Kim, who is also a member of the Dazzling Diamonds Red Hat Group. Through Kim's recommendation, the society has graciously donated shopping carts full of items for our homeless pets!