



"The Kennel of Hope"

Tails of Hope

The Newsletter of Animals in Distress
P.O. Box 609 Coopersburg, PA 18036

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email: aidpa@enter.net
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VOL. XXIX No. 5

MARCH/ APRIL 2020

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Never Give Up...Failure is in not Trying

We are all well aware of the crises facing our country, and the world, right now. Big problems and challenges. Overwhelming, isn't it? So what do we do?

First, we need to remember that other crises—including horrible wars and illnesses—eventually end. In the meantime, we need to focus on what we can do, we need to feel able to change the course of some things, we need to have hope.

In putting this particular newsletter together, we are mindful that our sanctuary, which houses and cares for between 300-400 animals at any one time, is so small in comparison to the really gigantic issues facing us. After all, who cares about homeless animals? Why should they have priority? Here is our answer to that.

First, every life matters. We all share the same air, the same earth. We all feel fear and pain and loneliness and despair—human and non-human creatures alike. The real saving grace here is that we CAN do something to ease the burdens and fears of others, even if on a small scale.

As we walk around Animals in Distress, we see hundreds of animals whose lives have been saved because YOU cared. You read about such rescues in this newsletter or meet them in person when you visit.

These miracles would not be possible unless all of us, together, choose to make a difference, to replace despair with hope, cruelty with love, and suffering with joy. Please, as we all face these difficult times, take solace in the fact that you have made our sanctuary and the lives in it safe and hopeful.

We will be sharing a few example with you to inspire you to look forward to better days. One thing we consistently see is animals who come to us, broken in body and in spirit, animals who look at us with eyes that are so sad, faces that reflect their dread that no one will ever help them, fear that an approaching hand means pain and hurt. Those animals, treated with love and kindness, become whole again. They allow themselves to live in a positive way, with our help and support. It is difficult to NOT help them, since we are all they have.

A Dog With No Hope: Hunter

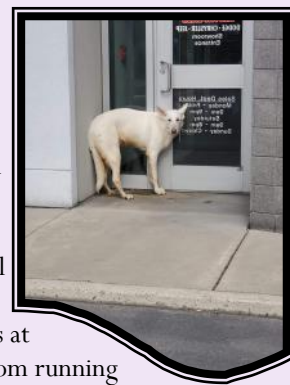
We had an emergency phone call about a white German shepherd, scared and dodging traffic and muddy. The dog finally became so exhausted that he sought refuge on the porch of a local car dealership (it was Sunday, so no one was around). Some kind people saw this and tried to help. They called the police, local and state, and were told to just let the dog go. They told the authorities that the dealership was near a major highway, but the advice remained the same: let the dog go.

They then called other places they thought could help. One yelled at them and said that wasn't their territory (a few local shelters are paid to do animal control in a specific municipality). Some repeated the advice to just let the dog go, and some never answered or returned their phone messages. And, of course, the dog was terrified so a bite situation is always a possibility.

Arrangements were made to get the dog, to our shelter. He had no tags or collar and was limping. We settled him in a quiet part of the dog wing and allowed him to feel safe. His microchip was traced to

a person who gave him away the day before to someone who obviously was unprepared to care for him. The owner was not able to take him back, so we got him medical help and worked to gain his trust. We were told that his name is Hunter.

Hunter has been doing well, and is being treated for a positive Lyme disease test and for his limping. Eventually, he should make a nice pet for the right family. He is so much more trusting now...he now has hope and people who care about him. Had he been "rescued" by people who misinterpreted his fear for aggression, he could have been euthanized as "unadoptable." All he needs is time and kindness...he just needs a chance. This picture was sent to us at the time of rescue: Hunter is exhausted from running and is trying to get inside the car dealership to hide and rest, heart-breaking. Just look at his face and body language: this is a dog whose whole world is fear and uncertainty. Sad beyond words. How could anyone with a soul walk away?



Upcoming Events, Projects, and News - depending on state of our national coronavirus emergency

VOLUNTEERS: We need your help in making all of our events and fundraisers a success. The money from such events—100% of it—goes to support our rescue work. You can help in so many ways: get sponsored for the Laps of Love, set up a fundraiser (dress down day, collection, food sale, etc.) at work or church or Scouts/club), donate your time or services, become a Take-A-Pet-Sponsor, and so on and so on. **VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT**

animalsindistresspa.org for information on upcoming events, copies of the most recent and past newsletters, and lots of other neat things. In addition, you can now donate online by visiting our website. All information is kept totally secure, and we never share donor or mailing information with anyone.



SPECIAL PROJECTS: We are looking for volunteers to “adopt” one or two of the beds around the shelter, and keep them free of weeds. Families, clubs, individuals—anyone is eligible. We are desperate for help in weed control and hope some folks are available. Contact us at aidpa@enter.net or call 610-966-9383, ext. 8, if you can help!

LAPS OF LOVE WALKATHON

Registration starts at 10 am on June 7, which is the same day as our Pets and People Party we call Alumni Day. The whole day will be a lot of fun for you and your dog (or cat). Get sponsorships now and bring them with you when you register. The entry fee is only \$10 per person, with 100% of the proceeds going to help the shelter animals. Entrants bringing \$50 or more in sponsorships will receive an AID t-shirt. In addition to using the form in this newsletter, you can download an entry form from our website, pick one up at the shelter, or even fill one out the day of the event. **Also, Team Cat appreciates your support, even if you can't attend. Just mail in your donation for Team Cat, and the cats will credit for raising money to help the shelter animals. Why let the dogs get all the credit?!**

Entrants will be eligible to win some really nice prizes, but mostly, they will know that they are helping the animals and having a great time as well. You won't meet a nicer bunch of people (and animals) than you will during the Laps of Love and the Alumni Day events that follow.

43rd ALUMNI DAY PETS AND PEOPLE PARTY

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, NOON TO 4

This annual event is like a big family gathering, where people (and their pets) can eat, socialize, play games, enter contests like a Pet Cake Walk or a Pet/Owner Lookalike Contest, catch up with old friends and make new ones...plus win some great items in our always fabulous basket social. *(By the way, baskets are needed and can be dropped off by June 6).*

A momento of the day is our **Commemorative Journal**. Please consider taking out a listing in it, in honor or memory of a loved one, or as a tribute to someone, or as a way to share a favorite poem or photo. Business listings are also welcome. *Use the form in this newsletter to indicate your wishes, and we will do the rest. The Journal is also a fundraiser for us, so please help us make this year's journal one of the best yet.*

Our 43rd Annual Alumni Day Celebration: June 7

at the Animals in Distress Sanctuary, noon to 4 pm

5075 Limeport Pike, Coopersburg, PA 18036 610-966-9383 x8

Website: animalsindistresspa.org

email: aidpa@enter.net

On Sunday, June 7, our annual Alumni Day "Pets and People Party" will be held from noon to 4 pm. This year celebrates our 43 years of saving animals and living the dream started 43 years ago to honor the life of each pet we rescue, providing care and a home for as long as necessary—for life if a suitable home isn't found. Presently, we are home to approximately 350+ animals who have no place to go if we are not here for them. Our AID logo of a cat and dog sleeping peacefully in each other's arms, surrounded by a heart that is the love we all have for them, embodies what we are all about, and the spirit of love and caring is embodied in our annual homecoming Alumni Day celebration. This fun afternoon is made even more memorable by the publication of a **Commemorative Journal**, which becomes a treasured keepsake of the day.

Please use the form below to take out a listing in the 2020 Journal. This is an important fund raiser for us, and all proceeds from the Journal go to help homeless and abused pets. You can use your business card, or make up a message that our printer can typeset. Photos can also be included for an extra \$10 per photo. Please place your name and address on the back of the photo, and include any special instructions on this form.

If you have adopted one of our animals, or are a Take-A-Pet-To-Dinner sponsor, or have lost a beloved pet or person, or have a pet or person you want to honor, taking a listing in our Journal is a great way to honor and remember those dear to us - and help homeless animals as well. Even a happy birthday wish or a happy anniversary greeting or congratulations (on retirement, graduation, promotion, award, etc.) can be acknowledged through a listing.

Please detach form below & return it and payment to:

JOURNAL, Animals in Distress,

P.O. Box 609, Coopersburg, PA 18036, by May 15

Forms for business listings
can be obtained through
email at aid@enter.net

..... Commemorative Journal Form for non-business listings

Please indicate your instructions for your Journal listing by checking the appropriate category below and then placing on the lines provided all information as you want it to appear in your listing. Please type or print legibly the exact wording you desire (attach pages as needed):

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone() _____

LISTING OPTIONS (CHECK ONE)

- [] FULL PAGE@ \$140
- [] HALF PAGE@ \$80
- [] QUARTER PAGE@ \$40

[] LIST ME AS AN ANGEL @\$25 FOR A PAIR OF WINGS—PUT NAME OR WORDING ON THIS LINE AS YOU WANT IT FOR THE ANGEL LIST: _____

My Listing should look like this:

☐ Check this box if you want the same listing as last year.

_____ Number of Photos enclosed at \$10 each. Include SASE for return of photos. No charge for business cards.

TOTAL ENCLOSED=\$ _____

If paying by credit card, provide number _____ and expiration date _____

and print the name of the cardholder here: _____ Signature of cardholder: _____

Special Instructions: _____

Business cards can be used. Or let us know what wording you want, and our printer will typeset your text, poem, or greeting attractively.



BINGO IS RESCHEDULED UNTIL AUGUST 30

Due to the growing concerns about groups gathering and sharing the coronavirus, our Vera Bradley/Longaberger Basket Bingo has been re-scheduled for August 30. The tickets already purchased will be honored in August. Anyone who already purchased tickets but can't attend on that date can contact Kelly at 610-762-8553 or khart70906@aol.com for a refund. Tickets are still available for those who want to reserve a seat. We strictly limit the number of participants so everyone has a great chance to win and a comfortable place to sit!!

WAEB 790 AM Radiothon to benefit Animals in Distress, July 13-19.

Donations for challenge hours and for incentive prizes are needed now.

Please contact us if you can help with either at aidpa@enter.net or 610-759-2819. Donations during the on-air portion of the Radiothon are encouraged when people know that they can make every dollar they donate double or triple its value during these Challenge Hours. PLEASE consider donating early so we can start with a good amount toward our final total. **Kindly mark your donation for "Radiothon" and designate if it's a donation toward the goal or for a "Challenge Hour." Challenge Hours start at \$500.**

***This is our biggest fundraiser and
is essential to our ability to continue our work.***



PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN OUR FUNDRAISERS AND HELP US RAISE THE FUNDS NECESSARY TO CONTINUE TO DO OUR WORK. OUR MONTHLY COSTS ARE CLIMBING AT AN ALARMING RATE, AND WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS. ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL DESERVE OUR LOVE AND A SECOND CHANCE. AND WITH YOUR LOVE AND SUPPORT, WE CAN CONTINUE TO SAVE LIVES AND BRING HOPE TO THOSE WHO ARE FORLORN AND AFRAID.

OUR GREATEST FEAR IS THAT WE WILL ONE DAY LACK THE RESOURCES TO HELP PETS LIKE HUNTER, RUDY, AND SO MANY OTHERS WHO WOULD HAVE LITTLE TO NO CHANCE ELSEWHERE. WE HAVE NEVER TAKEN ONE DOLLAR OF "PUBLIC" MONEY FROM LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS, AND RELY SOLELY ON OUR INCREDIBLE VOLUNTEERS, FUNDRAISERS, AND YOUR DONATIONS FOR EVERYTHING THAT WE CAN ACCOMPLISH—TOGETHER!

EVERY DOLLAR MATTERS. THANK YOU FOR 43 YEARS OF SUPPORT AND FOR YOUR FAITH IN A KINDER, MORE LOVING WORLD.



Mardi Paws was a fun time for all!!!

With all the bad things going on in the world right now, it was nice to have a fun event where everyone could relax and enjoy good company, good music, and good food. (That all happened before the prohibition on gatherings due to the coronavirus, of course.)



Our volunteers spent many hours putting this event together, from colorful and festive decorations to delicious food and live music.



Besides the yummy food, there was a silent auction of some nice items. The musicians, all of whom are excellent artists, offered a wide selection of uplifting, toe tapping songs that “rocked” the Hospitality Center. And the folks from Sleepy Cat Winery provided samples of their yummy products.

A few AID pets also came to the party: Eli, the border collie, now 11, who keeps accumulating awards and honors for his work in agility. Anton, the once paralyzed rescue cat, who lords it over everyone and loves to be the center of attention at such events. By the way, Anton always dresses to suit the occasion.

Little Miss Mia sauntered around in her pink flounce skirt, which complemented her fuzzy black and white doggie fur.



Probably the most original and entertaining place to eat was in the Cat Café. To make more room for people to sit and dine, the front half of the cat wing was set up with tables, chairs, and decorations. Some people took advantage of the opportunity to be entertained by the cats as they enjoyed their goodies. It was difficult to say who had the better time—the people or the cats. Fuzzy faces were lined up at the windows of the cat social rooms, watching with intense interest as the cat wing, normally quiet with subdued lighting at night, became a mini version of Party Central!

Thank you to everyone who came to Mardi Paws, and to those who helped out by donating auction items or food or money. Thanks also to the most amazing, wonderful group of volunteers in the whole world. You give so much of your time and talents for all of our animals.



Rudy's Story

We got a call from someone who found a tiny kitten who dropped out of a car's wheel well. The terrified animal was frantically trying to get out of the traffic and darted all over in a panic. A man saw this and was able to get the kitten. Various places were called for help. No one responded, and the kitten was going to be put back where it was found—to die. We knew this was urgent so we admitted the tiny gray and white kitten. Since this was the day after Christmas 2019, we named him Rudy (after Rudolph the reindeer).

The next day, Rudy went to be checked out by our vet. We were shocked to be told that he had a large mass in his abdomen that was blocking his GI tract and needed surgical removal immediately. His age was only 4-5 weeks, so we were very concerned that he might not even survive the surgery. Such a tiny body.. so much could go wrong.

Rudy survived the emergency surgery but was critical for several weeks. The extraordinary efforts of the For Cats Only staff, led by Dr. Renee Ziegler, is responsible for his survival. Again, remember how small he was at that age...then imagine how much trauma was done to his internal organs by such a surgery.

He had to be syringe fed and nursed for weeks, with Dr. Z and her staff taking him home so he could have round-the-clock monitoring. Amazing dedication and determination brought Rudy through this ordeal. He is now at the shelter recuperating. What a sweet little guy—it's a blessing he can't understand what horrible fate awaited him in such a long and painful death.

There's one more amazing and disturbing part of this story. The mass that was removed appeared to be a hideous knot of fur and bones and other stuff. Was he trying to stay alive by eating a dead bird? A dead sibling? We will never know. We have a picture of the mass but decided not to include it here, since we don't want to shock you. We just want you to understand how very important your support is to our work. We cannot save such animals without your help and prayers.



The picture to the left is Rudy on the day he arrived at Animals in Distress. The day after Christmas, December 26, 2019, was the date his life was saved.

In the picture, you can see some of the poinsettia tributes that decorated our Hospitality Center during the holidays, each tribute in memory or honor of a loved one.

How suitable to have those tributes in Rudy's rescue picture because the people who support our work by donating for those tributes provide the funds to pay for medical care such as the major surgery Rudy required.

As we like to say, we practice the Christmas spirit every day of the year at Animals in

The picture to the right shows Dr. Ziegler cuddling Rudy after his surgery. He is alive today because of her exceptional medical skill, her staff's dedication, and your support. If Rudy could speak, he would thank you for his life.



please detach here and return coupon to: Animals in Distress, P.O. Box 609, Coopersburg, PA 18036

Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ so that pets like Hunter, Rudy, and so many others will have a second chance - and a HOME forever - because of the Kennel of Hope and those who make our work possible.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclose check or Charge my credit card for \$_____

Card number _____ Expiration date _____

Name (print) of cardholder _____ Cardholder's signature _____

☐ Check this box if you do not want a receipt for your donation.

Thank you for caring about those forgotten by others, and for making Hope possible.

Don't abandon me



I don't spread the Covid-19

National Military K-9 Day is celebrated on March 13.

Dogs used in protection, guarding, bomb and drug detection, and so many other areas have sacrificed their lives and saved many humans, both military and civilian.

Until recently, such dogs were usually left behind as excess military equipment! Many were tortured, so some were killed by our troops before they evacuated so the dogs would be spared the vengeance of the angry enemies.

We as a country can never repay the debt to such animals. Here at Animals in Distress, we have created our Garden of Heroes to honor such service. We feel strongly that there needs to be a physical reminder of what these animals have done. We also have a small resource center of books and other information about this topic.

One final note: the first official US military dog was a stray pitbull named Sergeant Stubby. He appeared at a base in Connecticut and became a favorite of a Corporal Robert Conroy. Conroy smuggled Stubby onto the ship and taught the dog to salute the commanding officers, so Stubby was allowed to stay.

Stubby served with the 102nd Infantry, 26th "Yankee" Division in the trenches in France for 18 months, participating in four offensives and 18 battles, going out and finding wounded

soldiers despite the bombs and gun fire all around him.

Stubby was wounded by a grenade on February 5, 1918. After he was healed, he returned to the trenches where he was gassed and nearly died. This experience educated him about the deadly gas, and he was able to warn the soldiers of the gas before they were harmed because dogs have such incredible senses of smell. He also could detect the whine of incoming artillery and warned his unit.

Stubby solely captured a German spy, who made the mistake of speaking German to him when they were alone. Stubby attacked and held the spy until

the soldiers could subdue him. His achievements go on and on—he even saved a French girl from being hit by a car. Ironically, at the end of the war, he had to be smuggled back home to the USA.

He led parades, met Presidents Wilson, Coolidge, and Harding. He became the team mascot of Georgetown Law Center and entertained at halftime. He was made a life member of the American Legion, and received a special gold medal from General John Pershing.

In 1926, he died in Conroy's arms. Who dares to say that he was "just a dog", "just a stray"? He was a hero and we honor him and hundreds of thousands of others in our Garden of Heroes. They have saved countless lives, and we owe them.



ANIMALS IN DISTRESS

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COOPERSBURG, PA 18036

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Lehigh Valley, PA
Permit No. 271

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Current Resident



Calendar of Events You Won't Want To Miss!!

All events are at our sanctuary unless noted otherwise. Schedule may change due to national coronavirus emergency.

**EASTER BAZAAR & EASTER BUNNY
PET PHOTOS on March 29 and April 4 are
CANCELLED due to coronavirus.**

Volunteer Orientation, 7pm, May 26 at the shelter. Applications and guidelines are available from our website or at the shelter.

43rd Anniversary Celebration and Alumni Day Pets & People Party at Animals in Distress

and A LOT more—Sunday, June 7, noon to 4pm. Set this date aside now. **Commemorative Journal** listings due by May 15. The Journal listing order form is available in this newsletter or on our website, animalsindistresspa.org. Enjoy live music, games, a basket social, and much more.

Laps of Love Walkathon at Animals in Distress at 10 am, Sunday, June 7 will be a lot of fun for you and

your dog (or cat). Get sponsorships now. Even if you can't come, just mail in your donation to sponsor a shelter animal or your own. One of our volunteers will "walk" for you!

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