



# Tails of Hope

The Newsletter of Animals in Distress  
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## Then and Now: A Matter of Purrerspective

As time goes on, a person learns that change is inevitable—whether in a good or bad direction. Just look at your photo albums to see the truth of that statement. Yes, we all grow older and develop sagging and wrinkles and hair loss and...just fill in the blanks! Sometimes, though, we can MAKE change—for better or for worse. And that is what we do every day at Animals in Distress: we change lives...for the better. We do our best to end suffering and despair, and to bring hope and recovery. This newsletter is devoted to reporting on examples of lives that have been saved—and changed for the better, because of what we have been able to accomplish, with YOUR help.

Our upcoming Radiothon, our biggest fundraising event of the year, starts on July 12, as Bobby Gunther Walsh of WAEB 790AM, 5 to 10 am, Monday thru Friday, shares stories of our rescues as living proof of the importance of our life saving work. Every WAEB Radiothon has an emphasis on THEN and NOW: the animals we rescued were in desperate and hopeless situations THEN (when we rescued them) but they are NOW safe, loved, and hopeful in our shelter or in the home of a family who adopted them.

What power we all have to write happy endings to sad, sad stories. What power we all have to take a sad THEN story and give it a happy and hopeful NOW ending. Together, we can literally make miracles happen. Our 44+ years of unwavering commitment to saving lives proves that. YOU are the only source of funding we have. YOU

ultimately make the difference between life and death. YOU determine the ending of so many sad stories with heartbreaking, and seemingly hopeless beginnings. Sometimes, listening to the news, we become so disheartened. What can we do to stop violence around the world, terrorism, political corruption, child abuse, .....the list goes on and on and on? Those situations are part of our NOW, and not a very happy part. However, we are not without power to change the outcomes in many cases. We, with your help, have dedicated ourselves to saving the lives of animals without hope and without anyone to speak on their behalf.

Please take a few moments to reflect on what we can do, together. Please support our work. We can't raise the \$50,000-60,000+ it takes to run our shelter every month without your help. In fact, if not for our volunteers, that cost would be much higher. We pledge to you that 100% of every dollar you donate is used directly for animal care—not for inflated salaries, marketing through tv commercials and expensive mailings, not for “administrative” expenses that hide a multitude of expenses having nothing to do with true animal rescue and rehabilitation. We get NO money from any public sources—not local, state, or federal. YOU are the only source of the money it takes to save lives. Please help make the NOW endings so much better than the sad THEN beginnings.



Do you remember me? I used to be the spokescat for the animals who have no voice. I was crippled as a tiny kitten with death as my only option until Animals in Distress gave me a place to be, safe and loved, for 6 ½ years until my poor body gave out. I used to write a column for this newsletter, explaining why your love and support mean so much. Some people still ask about me, and say they miss hearing from me. As you might remember, I continued to write from Heaven, even after I died, for quite a while. Then I stopped doing that, thinking that it was time to fade into people's memories. But some of you have not forgotten about me (I love you for holding me in your hearts) and I wanted to let you know that I have never forgotten all of you, or the wonderful home I had at Animals in Distress. I know what it feels like to be afraid and alone. I really do. Thanks to folks who believed that animals like me deserved a chance, I had 6 ½ years of life before my body finally could not go on. I keep watching over all of my friends at Animals in Distress, whether animal or human, as the Guardian Angel of that special place. I see them trying so hard to save lives...and I see them crying when a life slips away despite their best efforts. Really, folks: they (we) need your help.



# ***WAEB 790 AM Radiothon* to benefit Animals in Distress, July 12-18.**

## **Donations for Challenge Hours and for incentive prizes are still needed.** Please contact

us if you can help with either at [aidpa@enter.net](mailto:aidpa@enter.net) for email or call Rose Yanger at 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. It's amazing to see how much more we can raise when people know that their dollars are being doubled or tripled during a Challenge Hour!! PLEASE consider donating early so we can start with a good amount toward our final total. The minimum amount for a Challenge Hour is \$500. Businesses will get on air credit for their donations, and individuals can honor or remember a loved one by offering a Challenge.



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

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***Donations of any amount are desperately needed now. We had to cancel many events in the past year, and we are counting on this year's Radiothon to help make up for the lost revenue and donations. The animals need all of us to do what we can. Their lives depend on it.***

### **RADIOTHON UPDATES AND INFORMATION**

This year's Radiothon is shaping up as the pandemic gets more under control. We will host an all day Sunday event at the shelter, on July 18, with food, a basket social, and live broadcasts. Vinart is again generously underwriting the food as well as a challenge hour. ResQ is again donating 2 hours of air time, from 1-3. And DLP Realty will donate air time from 4-5. Please donate baskets for the social. Contact Kelly at [khart70906@aol.com](mailto:khart70906@aol.com) or 610-762-8553 to make arrangements about the baskets.

#### ***Incentive Prizes (more to come):***

Donors of \$100+ are in the running to win one of the following: \$500 gift certificate from Hager Furniture, \$500 gift certificate from Joe Mascari's, or a Gas Grill from Lehigh Supply.

Donors of \$50-99 are eligible to win one of the following: \$200 gift certificate from the Historic Hotel Bethlehem, Passes for golf at Wedgewood Golf Course, and other items.

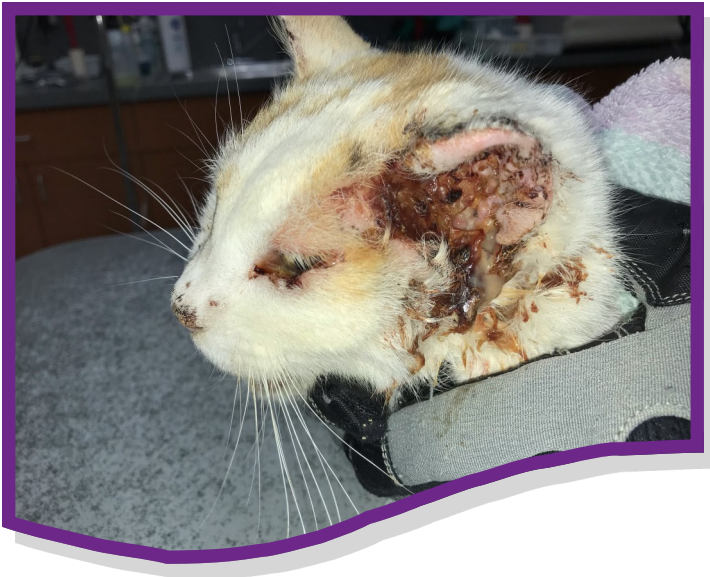
Donors of \$25-49 are eligible to win Dinner with Bobby Gunther Walsh, various gift certificates, & other items.

On Saturday, July 17: Gene Dickison of More Than Money will have a booth at Nazareth Day where he will take donations for the Radiothon. Other weekend remote events are still being confirmed. Radiothon updates will be placed on our website [animalsindistresspa.org](http://animalsindistresspa.org), published in our July newsletter, and announced on Bobby Gunther Walsh 's show on WAEB 790AM, 5-10 am, M-F.

# Timing is Everything

Many of the rescues we get involved with are high pressure: the animals might survive IF we get immediate medical help for them, and their chances of survival if we don't do anything are very poor.

The story of a white cat we named Ziggy illustrates that point quite dramatically. Ziggy was a stray observed for months, living in a barn area. Ziggy started to appear to have a problem with his face/ear



area. Months went by, and nothing was done to help the cat. Finally, a local person decided to take the cat to a vet, assuming that it had an ear infection. This person didn't want to incur medical bills for anything serious, which is understandable from a financial perspective. However, the vet diagnosed the problem as much more than a simple ear infection and recommended surgery to try to fix the problem. We agreed to assume responsibility for the cat from that point forward, to see if we could help this sweet soul survive.

Imagine our horror when the vet called us, while Ziggy was still on the operating table, to report that the infection had eaten away at the cat's sinuses, roof of mouth, gums, etc. In other words, this cat had been enduring indescribable pain and agony for a very long time. And sadly, now that there was someone willing to help it, time had run out. There was no way to give this Ziggy any quality of life because so much of her mouth and skull area had been destroyed.

This kind of story makes us think hard about how important it is to rescue animals and get them help as soon as possible. Waiting too long often means it is impossible to save an animal, impossible to reverse the damage that is done. Impossible to undo the months of fear, pain, and suffering.

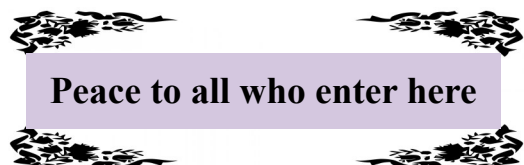
At such times, all we can do is weep privately for that poor animal, We console ourselves by thinking that we tried to do something, we didn't just walk away. Ziggy died without pain and fear, and was loved and cared for until her last breath—if only for a short time.

If only we had gotten her sooner. If only...if only....

However, in most cases, the animals we rescue can be helped. That's reflected in the huge medical bills we have to pay every month. Those with diabetes, or wounds, or broken bones, or special needs like being FIV or feline leukemia positive...the list goes on and on. These animals usually can be saved and given a quality of life. We believe that every life deserves a chance to live, despite all the harshness and cruelty and neglect it has endured.

We have to remember that we cannot change the past. We can't erase the neglect and cruelty and misery that happened. BUT from the time that animal is safe at Animals in Distress, from that moment forward, each animal will be treated with kindness and given every opportunity to survive—and thrive.

A carved wooden plaque is exhibited in the foyer to our Hospitality Center. It reads: "Peace to all who enter here." That message is at the heart of who we are and what we do. Every animal (and person) who enters our shelter will be treated with kindness and respect, with compassion and understanding. And if the animal cannot be saved, at least its last moments will full of love and compassion.



# Sometimes, Being a Loud Mouth Can Save Your Life!

Imagine a tiny but loud voice screaming from inside an old barn somewhere.



Scooty upon arrival after rescue

That is exactly what a couple of farm workers heard for a couple of days. They finally found the source: a tiny kitten wedged between two boards on the second floor of the barn.

By the time it was discovered, the

kitten was about 3-4 weeks old and very dehydrated. It was covered in some black stuff and was sneezing on and off. They men tried to give it water but really didn't know what more to do for it.

By the time we were contacted, the kitten was an emergency. When an animal, especially such a tiny one, is starving and dehydrating, its body functions start to slow down so the body can conserve what resources it has. Time counts in such situations.

We immediately got the kitten into a foster home where it received kitten formula and a warm place to sleep. People who foster tiny kittens know that they are dealing with a high risk group. Tiny bodies don't have much strength built up and can become in serious condition very quickly. Sadly, sometimes, even the best efforts of a foster mom or dad aren't enough to pull the kitten back from darkness and death.

We are very happy to report that in this case, the kitten is thriving. No more sneezing. Just a spunky and happy ball of fur. By the time you are reading this, the kitten, whom we named Scooty, will be getting his first distemper shot, a deworming, and a combo test to check for feline leukemia and FIV, two diseases of the feline immune system. Scooty will live because he was rescued in time.

## *In the Palm of Your Hand*

In the palm of your hand  
Sits a miracle,  
A tiny work of art,  
A kitten . . .  
Doomed, when its mother died. . .  
Doomed, until you came along.

In the palm of your hand  
Purrs a life,  
Fragile and tentative,  
Teetering on the brink  
between light and darkness.

In the palm of your hand  
Lies a soft sculpture,  
Micro-paws grasping the bottle  
While tiny ears synchronize their rhythm  
To the beat of the sucking mouth,  
Taking in what its mother can no longer  
provide.

In the palm of your hand  
Sleeps with full belly  
A contented kitten,  
A lucky orphan,  
Safe and warm,



In the palm of your hand.

--Lois Gadek

## *When Enough is Enough: A Love Story*

We recently rescued two dogs, brother and sister, who were destined to be euthanized because they had no place to go.

Their story began in Guatemala when they were tiny puppies. Their mother had been beaten to death, and her puppies clung to her dead body since they had nowhere else to go. An American visiting the area saw what had happened and decided to bring the puppies back to the U.S.

The brother and sister were placed with someone who misrepresented the kind of home he could provide. The dogs were kept outside on short chains, and sometimes had no food or water. They lived like this for over a year and a half until being rescued.

Next, they were boarded in a kennel. Eventually, the owner of the kennel donated much of the boarding since she wasn't being paid but couldn't evict this pair: they had nowhere to go.

Sadly, the kennel owner has died, and her property is to be sold. Again, Casey and Teddy had nowhere to go. Some people who knew them were concerned, but no one offered to adopt them. One of the challenges with placing them is that they have to be adopted together.

Casey, the female, is outgoing and social; but her brother, Teddy, really needs his sister around to help him handle social interactions. Breaking them up after all they had been through is unthinkable.

Sadly, they were scheduled to be euthanized because they had no place to live. By the time we heard about the situation, they had only two days before being put down.

Because of all of our supporters, who make our work possible, we are able to offer this sweet pair a home for as long as they need it. We are able to give them

time to adjust to another totally new environment. We can offer them love and kindness so that each day of their lives will be happy ones. They will never have to

be chained outside in all kinds of weather, shivering in the winter and being eaten alive by flies in the summer.

We call this kind of rescue an "Enough!" These dogs, from the time they were babies, have been through one sad situation after the other. All they have in the world is each other, so it is understandable that they are very bonded. Why should they die because people have failed them? Why should they die, after being "rescued," because they had

nowhere to be? ENOUGH. Enough suffering. Enough sadness. Enough homelessness. ENOUGH.

Teddy and Casey will live at our sanctuary for as long as necessary. They are very sweet dogs and, we think, will eventually be adopted by the right home for them.

They remind us of another couple we took in years ago, who had been living as feral dogs for 8 years. The male dog had even chewed off his foot after it became gangrenous. We named them Hero and Theresa. 57 separate animal organizations turned them away. Animals in Distress was the only place to offer them a home. They had endured ENOUGH.

Hero and Theresa lived the rest of their lives at our sanctuary. Hero died a few years ago, and Theresa died several months ago of bone cancer. She was at least 20 years old. Those two dogs had a great love story. Devoted to each other right up to their last breaths.

These are the kinds of rescues we can do, with your help. These kinds of rescues are the reason we are called The Kennel of Hope.



## A Matter of Commitment and Trust

This newsletter highlights rescue stories of animals who would not have had a chance without our sanctuary. A rescue isn't over when the animal is admitted. Physical and behavioral issues have to be addressed, and that takes time and resources. Never forget that none of this is possible without your help and support.

100% of every dollar you donate goes directly to save animals like Scooty, Casey, Teddy, and Ziggy. No one gets paid for administrative, fundraising, and other such non-animal care duties. Our funds go directly and totally to save lives, not to fancy offices, expensive mailings and television commercials, costly events, and executive salaries.

Our WAEB Radiothon, which starts with its on air appeals on July 12, is our biggest annual fundraiser, last year generating \$212,533 in donations. That is an impressive total, and we used every dollar for animal rescue and care.

With your support, we are able to save many animals. Even those we cannot save are still better off than if we didn't help them.

Please understand that the ones we do save are even more precious because we know that we can't save every animal. Some people don't like to hear about the ones that don't survive. But we want you to understand that the ones we do save are even more precious because they are proof that we can work miracles, with YOUR help. We shed tears for some we lose, but we are thankful for the miraculous recovery of most. We cannot thank our friends and supporters enough for making our work possible. Our biggest fear is that some day, we would not have the resources to help animals like Scooty, Teddy, Casey, and Ziggy. But we know that our friends understand the importance of their help. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for believing in us and our mission of unconditional hope and kindness.

*Any donation for the Radiothon will be much appreciated. We try to get as much money raised as possible, before the Radiothon starts, so we can inspire others to give what they can. Our challenge is great, especially in these sad and difficult times. But we know you will do what you can...for the animals who have no hope without ALL of us.*



Please detach this coupon and mail it to: RADIOTHON, Animals in Distress, P.O. Box 609, Coopersburg, PA 18036

*Enclosed is my gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ so that the neediest pets, like Ziggy, Scooty, Casey, and Teddy get a second chance in a world that seldom gives second chances.*

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ State\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

*Check box if you prefer that we don't send you a receipt.* ☐

*Check is Enclosed* **or** Charge my Credit Card (MC, Visa, Discover)

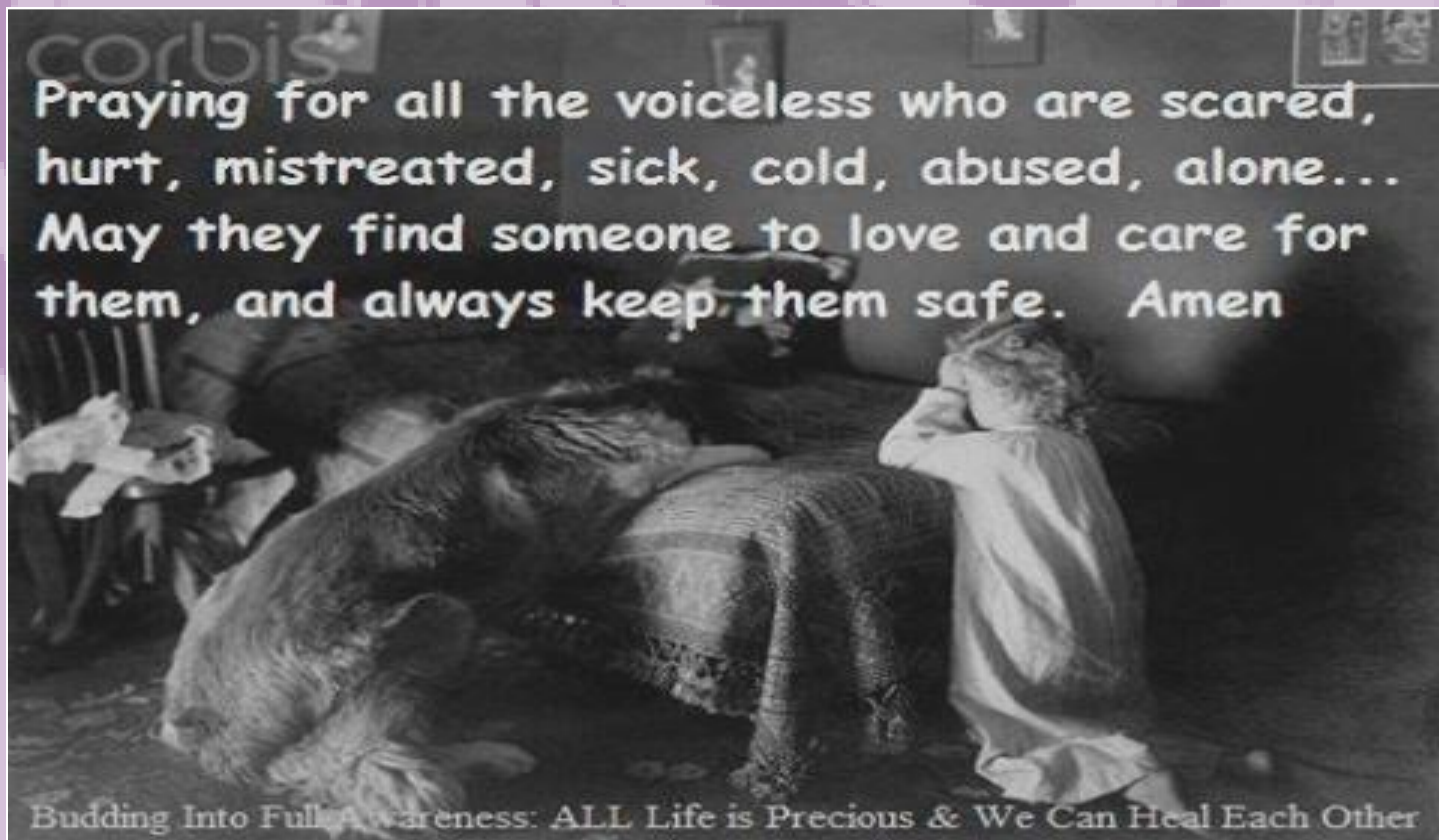
Card Number\_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date\_\_\_\_\_

Name on card (print)\_\_\_\_\_

Signature\_\_\_\_\_



*Scooty the Cutie says:  
"Thanks from all us  
little guys!"*



# ANIMALS IN DISTRESS

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Current Resident

Hey, we need  
your help now  
more than ever.  
Please help us  
Little Guys.



Check out our website at [animalsindistresspa.org](http://animalsindistresspa.org) for news and updates.

**WAEB 790AM**  
**Radiothon starts**  
**July 12. Mark your**  
**calendar now, so you**  
**don't miss out on this**  
**important event, that**  
**is dedicated totally to**  
**raising funds to rescue**  
**and rehabilitate**  
**desperate and**  
**injured cats and dogs.**  
**Check out all the**  
**details inside.**