



"The Kennel of Hope"

Tails of Hope

The Newsletter of Animals in Distress
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EDITOR: LOIS GADEK

Our 47th Alumni Day came and went, and it couldn't have been a more perfect day.

The weather was wonderful, with a gentle breeze, clear skies, and a comfortable temperature.

After having to cancel Alumni Day for a couple of years due to the Covid epidemic, we never take any gathering for granted. It is so nice to see so many friends, as well as to meet some new friends. A new friend is a 92 year old Korean War veteran who seemed to love being here: he was smiling almost all the time! We are always excited to see the animals we have adopted into loving homes come back for a visit, and there were several of those. The photo collage on the next page has yellow stars on the dog pictures of returning alumni for the event. There were many, many more such visiting adopted animals, but we were limited in how many pictures we could put into the space we have available.

Many thanks to everyone who made the day possible. Kelly Hartnett, Linda Hoffert, Bob Johnson, Mike Bonstein, and so many others worked so hard to get everything together. Special thanks to those who donated baskets for the social, goodies for the food, and labor for set up and take down.

Special thanks to Donna Fisher and friend Regina for providing music and good cheer for the afternoon event. Donna has been playing for our Alumni Day gatherings since 1992. We also want to extend special congratulations to Donna on receiving a PA State 2023 Keystone Press Award for excellence in photography. Although Donna has officially retired as a photographer for the Morning Call, she remains very busy with her music and also with photography. She has received many recognitions over the decades of her career, and those recognitions continue. It just goes to show that when you have great talent, you don't lose the ability to apply it when you retire. Let's hear it for all those people with decades of experience.

Part of the afternoon activities was a special presentation at 2 o'clock by President Lois Gadek. She wanted to thank everyone for coming, and thank all the volunteers and people who made the day possible. But she also wanted to remind people that there were some people missing from the event this year. We wrote up those losses in the previous newsletter: John Sawyer, Bonnie Schneider, Nancy Michener, and Steve Homick. This year, we especially missed seeing Steve grilling hotdogs while wearing his memorable hotdog hat!

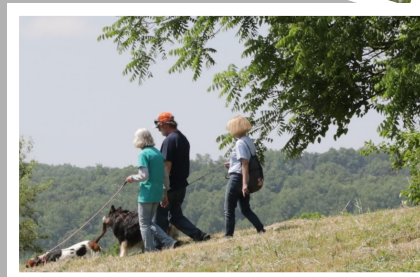
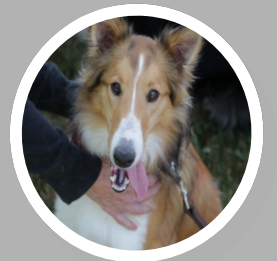
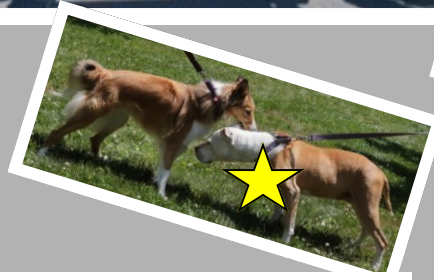
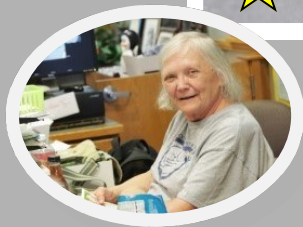
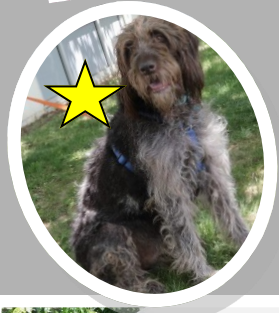
Lois also wanted to acknowledge the passing of another volunteer of many decades' service. Lenny Seng, husband of Sandy Seng, passed away recently. You may not have heard of Lenny's name, but we want you to know that his fingerprints were probably on dozens of newsletters you received over the years. Lenny and Sandy were the main people who got all of our mailings ready for the post office to process. That involves putting labels on, arranging the items in trays, filling out the necessary forms, and getting everything to the post office.


This may not seem like a big deal, but trust us, it is a big deal. Lenny was so devoted to getting the newsletter out that recently, when he was having a health crisis, and waiting for transport to the hospital, his main worry was about the newsletter. He was worried that it wouldn't get out on time. We do not know how better to describe the dedication of our volunteers than that one example. *This newsletter is dedicated to him.*

As the day wrapped up, winners of the various prizes and basket social items were selected. We are always amazed by the creativity and generosity of the people who make the baskets. Just amazing stuff.

Every Alumni Day, which we hold in the courtyard, we are surrounded by the hundreds of cats and dogs who now reside at our sanctuary. The cats line up at the windows watching all the activities and wondering what the heck is going on. Some people sit back in lounge chairs and listen to the music, while others socialize and make friends and fuss over the animals. It is difficult to describe for you what a positive and loving experience Alumni Day is. One volunteer called it a **Love Fest**. And it is.

For those of you who were unable to attend this year, we hope you enjoy the photo collage. It captures just a few special moments of what was a day of love and good feelings. None of this would be possible without all of our friends. For 47 years, our friends have stood by us, believed in our mission, and supported our work. The upcoming Radiothon is our single biggest fundraiser of the year, and we hope that everyone will do what they can to make it a big success.



 Adopted from AID

Photos courtesy of Lowell Linde

What Do You Do When You Have Nothing Left?

Sometimes, in our rescue work, we come across situations that break our hearts. We encounter animals in horrible situations, usually caused by the betrayal of humans. But also, sometimes, we encounter situations where the animals are in the possession of people who have nothing left: no home, no money, no food, no shelter, no help. Despite their precarious and desperate situation, some of these people still worry about what will happen to their animals if they can no longer care for them.

The following rescue is exactly that kind of situation. We were contacted with an urgent plea to take in two dogs. The owner is in her 50's and has lost everything: her husband, her home, her car, and now her freedom. She was most likely going to jail, for what we don't know. But her major concern was not for herself but for her two little dogs.

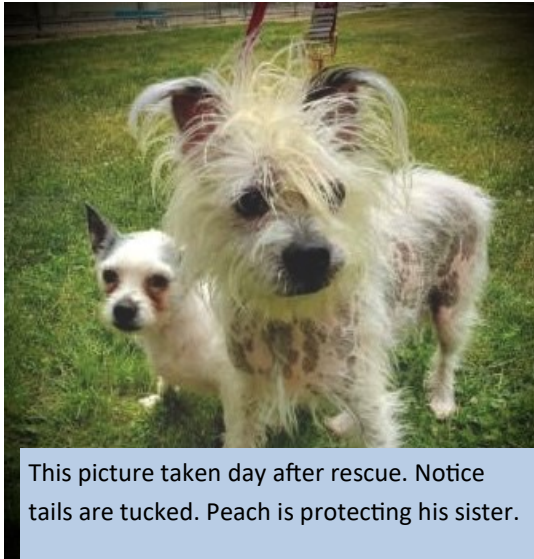
It is not our business to get into the whole history of her predicament, and it is certainly not appropriate to judge her. All that mattered to her was that her dogs be safe. Her only other option was to euthanize them. The problem with the dogs is that they had never been properly socialized around people and various situations. Consequently, they were both terrified of new people and situations. And the male dog was protecting his owner and his sister, and could get nippy. As soon as people hear that a dog is nippy, they back away. Sadly, many shelters and rescues consider that a death sentence.

When we went to meet the dogs, we could see the desperate situation. The dogs were scared. They both needed vet care, although they were in good condition overall. They are siblings from a cross between Chinese crested and Boston terrier, a mating that happened by accident between two of the owner's unspayed/unneutered dogs. They had been with her their whole lives of 7+ years, through the loss of her home. They lived in her car with her until an accident totaled her car. And then they had no home until a kind person offered them shelter in a spare room of a business.

The owner suffers from multiple emotional and physical problems. Then she got informed that some old charges were coming back to haunt her and that she should expect to go to jail.

What would YOU do to write an ending to this sad story? What does your heart say as you think about it? What should happen to those two dogs, who are totally innocent? What kind of chance would YOU give them in this world of sweets and sour? What would you do?

As you can probably guess, the answer to that question is that WE at Animals in Distress, with your help and support, were able to save the dogs. They are now at our sanctuary and doing much better than expected. Away from the stress and trauma of their previous life, they seem to understand that they are safe and loved in a calm and nurturing environment, an environment they have probably never known before. These pictures say more than we can convey with words. They will have whatever



This picture taken day after rescue. Notice tails are tucked. Peach is protecting his sister.

care they need so they can become the happy dogs they deserve to be.

Such rescues would never be possible without your unconditional love and support. When our friends donate, they are allowing us to convert money into life for such animals. No animal should be treated like damaged or surplus merchandise. We have seen miracles happen because of the power of unconditional

love. If you want to see the embodiment of that, visit and meet Peach (the male) and Littles (his sister). They are alive today and for years to come because of people like YOU.



9 Days Later. Tails are relaxed and dogs don't look as scared. They know they are safe...at last.



Radiothon Week July 10-16: Events and Information

**Monday through Friday,
July 10-14, Listen to The**

News Radio 790 WAEB Radiothon on the Bobby Gunther Walsh Show, which airs weekdays from 5 to 10 am. Listen at these times for latest news, prizes, events, updates, and rescue stories.

AID President Lois Gadek will be calling in every half hour with stories of rescues that explain why donations are urgently needed for our life saving work.

Service Electric Channel 50 televises Bobby's show from 5-10 am. For updates on the Radiothon and other information, visit Gunther's page at WAEB.com or our newly designed website at animalsindistresspa.org.



Pledge line during the show, from 6-10 am, is 610-841-4999.

Over the weekend, July 15 & 16, Bobby will be on air live from remote locations on Saturday, and from our shelter all day on Sunday. Three hours of live broadcast from the shelter will be from 1-3 and 4-5 on Sunday.

Pledge line to call on Saturday and Sunday is 610-966-9383 from 8am to 6 pm.

Sunday, July 16, at the shelter:

Continental Breakfast starts at 8 with pastries from Amish Village Bake Shop, and coffee/tea.

Picnic Lunch starts around 11:30, featuring hotdogs donated by Yocco's, burgers, various munchies, plus beverages, desserts from Amish Village Bake Shop, etc.

Pledges may be made or dropped off at the shelter all day Sunday.

Live broadcast for 2 hours, from 1-3 pm, has been underwritten by Res-Q Natural Supplements, who are also offering product giveaways. A Challenge hour sponsored by the **Don Wenner team brokered by EXP Realty & DLPCapital Partners is being broadcast live from 4-5.** If you can't attend in person, you can listen in to find out why your donations are so important. It is such a luxury to have enough time to talk in depth about what we do, and to possibly interview visitors who have adopted from us or who donate their time and money because they see firsthand what the Radiothon means to us in saving precious lives.

Live Broadcasts from Remote Locations on

Saturday, July 15 Stop by, meet Bobby, make a pledge.



Allentown Farmer's Market at Lucy and Lolly's Pet Foods 8am-4 pm

Sponsored by Mr. Bill's Poultry, Johnny's Fresh Meats, Lucy & Lolly's, Amish Village Bake Shop, Allentown Farmer's Market and the Ritz.

Volunteers will have tables set up take pledges at Lucy & Lolly's. Sponsors will also have donation cans set up at their stands.

Also on Saturday, July 15 (1-4) and Sunday,

July 16 (9-5pm) at the shelter:

Silent Auction & Basket Social

Special thanks to the Vinart Auto

Dealerships, Lehigh Valley Acura, Honda, Hyundai, & Porsche Lehigh Valley, & Mercedes Benz of the Lehigh Valley, for sponsoring the Radiothon AND for covering the cost of food we will be serving our guests. Their kindness reflects the commitment to the community of this incredible organization, a blessing to the Lehigh Valley and beyond.



Thanks to Ironton Telephone for helping to set up phone lines off site at the shelter and at the station.

PLEDGE LINE TO CALL ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 8AM-6 PM, is 610-966-9383.

Incentive Prize Highlights

We know that you donate only to help needy animals. However, due to the generosity of the following businesses and individuals, we are able to offer these incentive prizes in various categories. This list is not inclusive, since many more prizes will be added as the Radiothon progresses. Please support the businesses mentioned in this newsletter.

Donors of \$100 or more are eligible for a drawing to win one of these fabulous prizes:

\$500 Gift Certificate to Joe Mascari's Carpets and Rugs International of Allentown

\$500 Gift Certificate from Hager Furniture in Palmerton

Gas Grill from Lehigh Supply Appliance of Bethlehem valued at \$600

A 14k gold hand-designed diamond necklace that says "Paws That Love Us" exclusively made by Westgate Jewelers of Bethlehem, valued at \$1,000

\$250 Gift Certificate to the Historic Hotel Bethlehem

Donors of \$50 or more are eligible for a drawing to win one of the following:

A "Getaway" at **Oliver's Salon and Day Spa**, including a massage, manicure, and pedicure

Passes for Golf at **Wedgewood Golf Course**

And Other Gift Certificates and Gift Items to be announced later

Donors of \$25 or more are eligible for a drawing to win one of the following:

Dinner with Bobby Gunther Walsh compliments of the Historic Hotel Bethlehem,

Great Allentown Fair tickets to various shows,

Iron Pigs tickets



Silent Auction Items will include a 2022 **Limited Edition Brian May (from the fabulous band Queen) Seiko watch**. One of only 12,500 produced. Automatic with a display back. Plus collector's box and commemorative coin. Watch is 42.5 mm. Patterned after Brian's famous homemade red guitar. Rotating bezel and band depicting guitar strings. Bids are to start at \$250. Retail value \$595.

Donated by **Westgate Jewelers** of Bethlehem.

REMINDER:

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS—Sunday, October 1, at **Animals in Distress**—formal blessing is at 2:30. All pets attending will receive a St. Francis of Assisi medal as well as an individual blessing.

WAG WALK—October date to be determined, at Lake Nockamixon. Details in the next newsletter. Start collecting sponsorship money now. Participants bringing in the most money will receive special prizes. Registration at the marina at 10:30 am.

If you are donating items for the Silent Auction and/or the Basket Social, please drop them off by July 12. Best hours are 1-4 on Sat and Sun, and 6-8 on Monday nights. If you need to make special arrangements or have questions, please contact Kelly at: phone—610-762-8553 or email — khart70906@aol.com.

Writing Happy Endings to Sad Beginnings.....

Someone was seen abandoning some pet bunny rabbits in a field near an old country store. Concerned people who witnessed this cruelty searched the fields for the bunnies and were amazed to discover a Siamese cat lying in the field. It didn't appear to be injured from what they could tell, but it was weak and lifeless. His ears were swollen and malformed, he was crawling with ticks sucking whatever blood he had left, and he was unable to get up. He was screaming—in fear and in pain. He had gotten to the point where struggling to stay alive had exhausted him, and he was left to die—alone and unloved—in a field.



When we rescued the cat, it seemed as if he had been a pet at one time. Most disturbing is that both his ears were deformed due to untreated cysts that must have been getting worse and worse, sort of crumpled up like a piece of paper thrown away by someone. In addition, his dental distress was so bad that he had to have all of his teeth extracted. His teeth and gums were rotting. And the only way to allow him to survive was to extract his teeth. Surgery was also done on the ears. One of our volunteers named the cat Miso. Our veterinarian determined that Miso is about 9 years old and friendly. He is eating much better now, compared to when we first rescued him. It was almost as if he had given up trying to stay alive.

Like many of our rescues, we try to do our best for each animal but we never know if someone will actually adopt a specific animal. Or how long that will take. Some wonderful animals get passed by for no particular reason, and animals who are older or damaged in some way are often even more challenging to place.

Imagine our surprise and delight when a lovely family expressed interest in adopting him. They had just adopted another cat named Bernadette from us, but they could not get Miso out of their minds. They said that they were coming back for him because “he needed them...and they needed him!”

As you can see from these pictures, Miso is now safe and loved in his new, forever home. He went from dying alone and in misery, unloved and afraid, to a beloved member of a family who thinks he is wonderful.

We wanted to share this story *because it is so typical of the rescue work that we do—and that YOU make possible.*



Miso's ready to go to his new life



This blanket is way better than lying in a field



Miso: From dying to living...thanks to all who help us do such rescues

Now Miso knows what it is like to be safe and loved

Please detach this coupon and return it to: RADIOTHON, ANIMALS IN DISTRESS, P.O BOX 609, COOPERSBURG, PA 18036

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____ to help save lives of desperate animals like Littles, Peach, Miso, Cream, and so many others, who seldom get a second (or third or fourth) chance in a world that seldom gives second chances.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number and/or email if you win a prize _____

Check this box if this donation is payment for a you already phoned in: []

Check this box if you do not want a receipt for your donation: []

Please indicate one: [] Check enclosed OR Enter Credit card (MC, Visa, Discover)

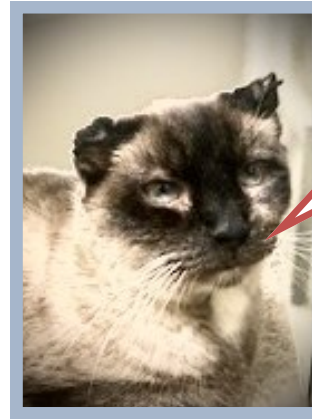
info below:

Name on card _____

Card number _____ Exp date _____

Your signature _____

Phone if paying by credit card _____



*Thanks for
saving my
life*

We can't help animals like these without people like YOU. Thanks for caring when many just turn away and try to ignore the great need for Kindness to all creatures great and small.. You make all the difference—more than you can know.

When Rescue Comes Too Late



One of the most frustrating parts of our rescue work occurs when we get an animal too late to save it. No words can convey how

devastating that feeling is. We get our hopes up that we can actually help and save that life, only to find out that we got that animal too late to reverse the damage that has been done.

One such recent example is an orange cat named Cream. Cream had been in a group of cats (usually labeled ferals but often consisting of domesticated cats abandoned by their owners). The cats were used to being fed and then they would disappear until the next feeding. One day, the people feeding the cats noticed that Cream had liquid dripping out of his anus. This continued for many months, along with other problems that we will not describe here. You get the picture.

When we got the call, we immediately wanted to get the poor, suffering animal to a veterinarian. After weeks of trying, the people finally trapped the cat. It was in miserable condition. Words are inadequate to describe the smell. We could only imagine the hell endured by Cream.

Sadly, our veterinarian determined that he could not be saved. His intestinal tract was so damaged that it was beyond repair. There were several other things wrong, but suffice it to say that Cream passed away. We take comfort in knowing that his long suffering is over, and that he is at peace now. Finally.

We wanted to do so much more for him but have to accept the harsh reality of the situation. *His death reminds us of how precious are the lives we have been able to save. And we do save the large majority of animals that we rescue. But we also shed quiet tears for those, like Cream, that get to us too late. He and others like him didn't deserve to suffer like that. We take consolation in knowing that he did not die alone and in agony. He passed away with dignity and in peace, surrounded by those who cared.*

ANIMALS IN DISTRESS

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Current Resident



*Rescue isn't just
a word. It's a promise.*

Check out our website at
animalsindistresspa.org for news and updates.

**Everybody's talking
about the WAEB 790AM
Radiothon, starting July
10. 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.**

Pledge line in studio is 610-841-4999, all week. Shelter pledge
line is 610-966-9383, Sat and Sun 8am-6pm.