



"The Kennel of Hope"

Tails of Hope

The Newsletter of Animals in Distress
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47th Alumni Day Celebration of Animals in Distress

Sunday, June 2, 2024

You, your friends (two and four legged), your family, co-workers, neighbors and all who want to help our fellow creatures, are invited to come out and have a great day of fun and meeting new friends. It's a time to share your heart with animals.

Laps of Love Walkathon 10:30am

Registration fee for Laps is \$10.00 per person. Registration will begin on Sunday, June 2 at 10:00 am. Those who get sponsorships of \$50.00 or more will get a free T-shirt. Whoever brings in the most sponsorship will receive a special prize. The Laps will begin at 10:30 am. We will take 5 laps around the shelter. Winners proceed to the prize table to pick up their prize and food vouchers.

Following is our Pets and People Party Alumni Day from noon to 4 pm.

People and Pets Picnic Celebration from noon to 4 pm



Live Music compliments of Donna Fisher and Friends

Food and Beverages Basket Social*

Craft and Gift Bazaar Silent Auction*

Program Highlights

**12:45—Pet Cake Walk (walk with or without a pet -
including you cat adopters!)**

2:00—Special Program

3:45— Drawing for Winners of the Basket Social

*If you are donating items for the Basket Social and the Silent Auction, please drop them off by 3pm on June 1.

Memorial Day Reflections



Many people do not realize how many millions of animals have served in the military. Horses by the thousands, dogs, birds, rats, fish/dolphins, the list is amazing. These animals have saved millions of human lives, often at the sacrifice of their own. We owe them a debt we can never repay.

Ironically, many of these animals were discards, strays, without a home. Some just showed up around a military encampment and stayed. Many military dogs have sniffed bombs, alerted soldiers to hidden snipers, and defended their humans in direct combat.

The Garden of Heroes at Animals in Distress is dedicated to all animals who have served humans, saving lives and making an impressive and unforgettable impact on countless humans.



The first dog to be awarded several medals in military combat was a pitbull named Sergeant Stubby. He was a stray. The soldiers who rescued him were, in turn, rescued by Stubby hundreds of times.

So, let us remember all the heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice so we can be safe..and free. We at Animals in Distress honor such service and acknowledge a debt that our society can never re-pay.



*As America celebrates Memorial Day,
we pay tribute to those who have given
their lives both human and K-9*

Thank you for your service!



Have you ever been in a relationship with someone whose presence in your life is of inestimable value? Someone to whom you look for companionship, understanding, comfort, forgiveness, support, inspiration...? Have you ever felt that if the whole world fell apart in your life, you would still be OK if that someone were there to love you and support you through your trials and tribulations? Did you ever feel as if there would always be a beacon of light in your life, as long as that someone was there?

Our wish is that everyone can find one (or more) someone's in their lives.

In the world of animal rescue, rescuers sometimes come upon animals who are bonded pairs. These are animals who, for a variety of reasons, have developed a deep connection with each other. These animals will suffer, psychologically, if they are separated from each other.

Imagine an animal who has lost its family, its home, its familiar surroundings, its sense of security, and everything else that was part of its life, *except for the someone who is the partner in a bonded pair*. And then imagine the situation of animal rescue people who are faced with trying to help bonded pairs find new and loving forever homes.

It is often difficult enough to find a home, a really good home, for one animal. Especially if that animal is older, has health issues, or just doesn't "market" well. Combine that challenge with trying to find a home for a second animal for the same family to adopt. At the same time. A bonded pair. It is extremely difficult. So, we are dedicating this section of our newsletter to discussing some of the bonded pairs at our sanctuary. Our hope is that there might be a family out there who would consider adopting one of these bonded pairs. If that happened, we would be delighted. But if it doesn't happen at this time, that's OK. These pairs, like all the animals we rescue, will have a safe and loving home as long as necessary at our sanctuary.

The first bonded pair we would like to profile are two dogs gotten from rescues when they were puppies. They are now nine years old and find themselves in our shelter. Unexpectedly, the husband died, and the wife had to deal with the landlord, who raised her rent exorbitantly in the hope of exploiting the situation, so she had to move. She had to give up her three dogs. She hopes to get the one back, but knows that she is not allowed to have the other two. She made the heartbreaking decision to give up the two 9-year-old dogs, who are a bonded pair.

One of the dogs is an exuberant Great Pyrenees/Aussie mix named Zoe. This big fluff ball is beautiful, and is very alert and energetic. Her buddy, Krissy, is a Manchester terrier mix. Both dogs are very used to protecting their home and yard, and will alert anyone around that something different is happening in the neighborhood. Both dogs need a little time to get used to strangers, but then are loving and affectionate.



Another bonded pair are Casey and Teddy. These two were rescued as tiny puppies from a terrible situation in Guatemala. Their mother had been killed, and they were literally starving in the streets. Some well-meaning person brought them back to the United States and placed them in a home together. Sadly, circumstances required that the two dogs be given up. The rescue person could only keep them for so long, and then she found someone who owned a kennel. She boarded them there for as long as she could afford to, and then was faced with a desperate decision. In an act of great kindness, the owner of the boarding kennel decided to let the dogs stay for free, and she tried to find a home for the dogs, but was unsuccessful. Then the owner of the boarding kennel died, and there was nobody left to take care of the dogs. Their fate was to be euthanized—at only seven years old.



Some of the people who had worked at or volunteered at that kennel were beside themselves at the thought of these two lovely dogs being destroyed. The dogs had done nothing wrong. The one, Teddy, was more shy and relied on the female Casey to be the spokesdog for both of them. The situation was desperate. Animals in Distress decided that these two dogs had been subjected to so much insecurity and unpredictable circumstances that we needed to provide a better alternative for them. They have been living in our shelter now for awhile, and really are nice dogs. However, they do need to stay together. It would be unthinkable to tear them apart at this point in their lives.

Another bonded pair that have been with us for almost a year are two shih tzu mixes, male and female. Chloe, the blonde female, is very outgoing and a social butterfly. She is blind in one eye, because of an eye infection that was never treated when she was younger. Ozzy, the black and brown male, is more quiet and reserved. It takes him a few minutes to warm up to strangers, but both dogs are exceedingly loving and affectionate. They are about four years old.

They were discovered locked in the house, after their owner had died. Evidently, no one thought to take care of the dogs after the owner passed away, so they were locked in the house until the realtor came to inspect the house for sale. Imagine her shock at finding two little dogs there alone, without anyone to care for them.



One of the sweetest bonded pairs in our shelter is Mick and Midnight. Midnight is now 20 years old. He came to us as a tiny kitten, abandoned with his littermates. He was never adopted, despite being a very sweet cat who has become one of our shelter favorites. Of course, black animals are usually the last to be adopted and the first to be euthanized in many shelters, so he is probably to some extent the victim of that kind of discrimination.

Mick came to us in 2019. He and his two sisters were rescued as very tiny kittens. He



is a handsome black and white cat, and was initially very shy and terrified. He would hide from everyone. Through some miracle, Midnight has befriended him and gotten him to realize that it is OK to interact with people and let them pet you. Midnight is like Mick's great grandfather! They are together almost all the time in the room—either on the windowsill or on the ladder together. If you start to pet Midnight, Mick will come running up and join in the love fest.

Another very sweet pair is Simon and Woody. Simon came in with his brother, but was never adopted. He is blind in one eye and has chronic respiratory issues that need frequent care. This is due to the severe neglect before we rescued him. Woody came to us as a kitten with his two sisters. The sisters were adopted, but Woody remained with us. It was discovered that Woody has heart issues that require regular echocardiograms.

Simon and Woody have become best friends, and spend most days lying side-by-side on the windowsill, napping, or watching the birds. They are the very definition of what it means to be best friends.



A third pair who are quite bonded, are brothers who came in together from a very sad hoarding situation several years ago. Animal Control was going to euthanize them along with two other older cats from this family. These two male kittens were very young and had very severe upper respiratory and eye infections. Sadly, these are the kinds of little lives that are discarded before they even get a chance. They are innocent. They are just babies. But yet they are judged worthless and unadoptable, and therefore expendable.

We named them Wally and Theodore. Both cats are very sweet, but have lifelong health issues because of the neglect in their early months. Both their

eyesight and breathing have been affected, so they require nebulizer treatments and occasional antibiotics and vet care. They have been inseparable from the time they came to us. Wally is the more outgoing of the two, and Theodore is shy and more hesitant. Wally looks out for his brother and is, in a sense, his guardian angel.



A Matter of Commitment and Trust

Each newsletter highlights 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 Chloe, Ozzy, Casey, Teddy, and Zoe, Krissy, Midnight, Mick, Simon, Woody, Wally, and Theodore. 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.

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 without hope or friends who care. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for believing in us and our mission of unconditional hope and kindness.

Our WAEB Radiothon, which starts with its on air appeals on July 8, is our biggest annual fundraiser. ***Any donation for the Radiothon will be much appreciated. 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.***

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

A 14k gold custom designed "Kitty Cat Pendant" from Westgate Jewelers of Bethlehem, valued at \$1,000 (and a second piece of jewelry to be determined later)

\$250 Gift Certificate to the Historic Hotel Bethlehem

Several Prizes will be offered in the \$50 and \$25 donation categories, including Dinner with Bobby Gunther Walsh hosted by the **Historic Hotel Bethlehem.**

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

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ so that the neediest pets like the 6 bonded pairs and so many others can 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 (Mastercard, Visa, Discover)

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name on card (print) _____ Signature _____

Thank You for Caring about Those Forgotten by Others



**JUST AS THIS
NEWSLETTER WAS
BEING WRITTEN, WE
RESCUED THESE 8
KITTENS WHO HAD
BEEN ABANDONED
TOGETHER IN A RUBBER
TOTE.**

**NO ANIMAL DESERVES
TO BE LEFT ALONE AND
SCARED, DYING WITH
ITS SIBLINGS.**

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**See you on
June 2 for
Alumni Day
Fun and
Games!**