



ISLAND TAILS

PREVIOUSLY HAPPYTAILS

ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY FRIDAY HARBOR NEWSLETTER
WINTER 2014

BOB

success stories

DARLA

CHARLIE

HARRISON

MEATLOAF





THE SCOOP with PERCY

As the new office administrator, I find myself in a quandary. I love the office but find I am sharing space with kittens . . .
EEWEEWW!

It's fall; kitten season should be over but not at our shelter. We are overflowing. If

this continues, it will put a damper on my Christmas. I appeal to the compassion of the general public. Please come by bond with one of these fuzzy little nerds and take somebody home. My sanity depends on it!



2014 CALENDARS are HERE

The APS-FH 2014 calendars are here. At only \$17 each they make **GREAT** holiday gifts for everyone on your list. Purchase them at apsfh.com or one of the following locations: The Barking Bird, Friday Harbor Pet Supplies, Harbor Veterinary, The Animal Inn or the shelter office.



A huge THANK YOU to all who participated in our first APS-FH calendar contest. We had over 80 entries and feature all on the calendar.

HI BOB

Zeus, a handsome Pit Bull was near the end of options after two years at our shelter. Overlooked simply because of breed.

As with many dogs in confinement for long periods of time, Zeus showed signs of "Kennel Neurosis". Symptoms include loss of focus, relentlessly barking, pacing and often developing aggression.

In walks Mike MacLellan, an island resident who has "a way" with dogs. Mike and his wife, Elizabeth took Zeus under their wings, working to socialize him with other dogs and get him out of the kennel.

The more time Zeus spent with them, the happier and better behaved, less-frustrated and well-adjusted he became. One weekend Zeus was asked over for the weekend, then he became a frequent guest and soon a full-time foster. Finally his day came when Elizabeth popped by to officially adopt, "Bob", his new title. According to the MacLellans, Bob is thriving as a full-fledged member of the pack and a model dog-citizen. Thank you to Elizabeth and Mike.



APS POLICY De-Clawing Decoded

Why?

The reasons behind our contract to not to de-claw cats or kittens adopted from APS-FH takes shape from our mission statement. It is our mission to protect the welfare of animals and the potential dangers from the elective surgery of de-clawing (**amputating the last digit from each 'finger'**) putting felines at risk for serious complications.

For those unfamiliar with the surgery, a few facts and the reasons behind our policy:

- INFECTION, resulting from surgery or simply from litter boxes or soil during recovery
- NO DEFENSE, from predators or other felines
- PERMANENT PARALYSIS
- DEPRESSION
- OBESITY

Simply put, for safety and quality of life APS-FH stands behind our mission to protect the welfare of felines by asking you not de-claw your adopted kitty.



Community Connections

** marks the spot on upcoming events, save those dates



WAGS - 2013 Laughing Our Tails Off

What a night for comedy and fun! This year, 2013 WAGS was a howling success with the entertainment provided by an All-Star line up. . . Elayne Boosler, Wendy Liebman and Emo Phillips. The venue for an evening of comedy was the San Juan Community Theatre and the laughs were aplenty. Thank you Elayne, Wendy, Emo and their spouses for traveling to the island to help support the animals of APS. A big thank you to all our sponsors, donors and volunteers who continue making our WAGS event a huge success year after year.

CALIFORNIA DREAMING

As many know, APS is underway on a long awaited project to acquire property on San Juan Island for a new animal shelter. We finally have found a parcel, are in negotiations to purchase and ready to begin our quest. We hope to kick off our capital campaign NEW HOME NEW HOPE raising funds for our new facility in the spring of 2014.

Last month, to educate ourselves on the most energy efficient, animal and neighbor friendly features for incorporation in the design of our new facilities several members of our staff traveled to the Bay Area to visit two state-of-the-art animal shelters. We had great in-depth tours of both the San Francisco and Silicon Valley Humane Societies returning with more knowledge and ideas than we had anticipated.



'V' is for VOLUNTEERS

The staff of the animal shelter could never function without our dedicated volunteers. We want to thank each and every one of you (*YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE*) for taking time out of your busy schedules to lend a hand, walking dogs, cleaning, socializing frightened kittens, yard work, office support or any of the other tasks that need doing. *All your help is essential and appreciated!*

SPAYGHETTI DINNER ** 6 Years and Counting



Mark your calendar February 25, 2014 for pasta. The annual APS Spayghetti Dinner at the Mullis Center will once again celebrate spaying, neutering and controlling island pet population over a few noodles and sauce. See you all there.

Community Foundation for Foster Pets

Each year the APS places many wonderful pets into foster care homes. Life at the shelter for pets with medical issues can be difficult, and to improve their lives we count on foster families. When these pets with ongoing medical needs are placed in foster care the APS helps pay for most medical expenses. This year we anticipated spending close to \$5,000 on ongoing expenses such as insulin, thyroid medication, special dietary foods, teeth extractions and blood work.

The San Juan Island Community Foundation generously offered to include APS-FH in its *MATCHING GRANTS* Program at the fair this year. In 4 days at the fair we reached our goal; donors from the community pledged \$4,000 in donations and SJICF matched with \$1,000.

Thank you everyone for your kindness!



RENDEZVOUS with DESTINY



The APS-FH, with your help proudly re-homed over 89 cats in the last year. Each adoption is a cause for celebration in our shelter family, and we are always especially happy to see cats that have been waiting a long time, find their new forever homes. “Sky and River”, sister American Shorthair Tabbies are one such case. They had been at the shelter for some time – most likely due to their need to be adopted together. As sisters, they were deeply bonded.

Naturally, we were thrilled when Wendy and Roy Finkle dropped by the shelter in late September hoping to find a pair of cats who needed to be adopted together. We introduced them to Sky and River and the four of them hit it off immediately.

The girls, who normally were a bit on the shy side, immediately took a liking to Roy and Wendy, winding around their legs and even jumping up to be held. Wendy asked what the girls’ names were. We replied, “Sky and River”. There was a moment of stunned silence – Roy explained the two of them spend about half the year at their home here on the island and the other half at their ranch in central California – The “Sky River Ranch”. Well, as they say, “the rest of this story is history”, Sky and River are now busy adapting to their new life with Wendy and Roy. At last report they are doing great and have settled comfortably in their new home.



Fall Wish List

As in the past, our community’s continued generosity never fails to put a smile on our faces and our mission is ongoing. We again find we are in need of donated supplies. Below are a few of our every day needs to continue to make life at the shelter better for residents until they can find their forever homes.

- **Dry Dog & Cat Food**
(Purina One Chicken & Rice)
- **Canned Dog & Cat Food**
- **Paper Towels**
- **Cascade Dishwashing Liquid**
- **Liquid Laundry Soap (HE)**
- **13 Gallon Kitchen Bags**
(With Handles)
- **Large Garbage Bags**
- **Hand Sanitizer**
- **Copy Paper**





Letter from the President

On behalf of all the animals, I want to thank everyone who has opened their homes and hearts to the shelter animals this year. You have generously contributed to their daily needs through volunteering, donations and hands on animal care (walking, grooming, training and affection). The shelter receives no government funding and relies totally on the generosity of people like you. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

APS has come a long way since 1982 when strays were kept in cages at the county dump. Through hard work and dedication a small group raised the funds to lease and remodel a storage building to house and re-home the island's stray animals. In 1992, many caring islanders saw the urgent need for a larger facility and again came together to raise the funds needed to build our current shelter on leased Port property.

New challenges now face our shelter that must be addressed if we are to continue to fulfill our mission and remain a viable community service. We are happy to announce a generous donation will allow us to purchase the property needed to build a permanent shelter.

We are eager to get started in the coming year knowing our new shelter will be built with the support and compassion that has kept the APS going for all these years. We'll keep you posted on the progress of your new shelter. Thank YOU!

Jaime Ellsworth
Board President APS-FH



Feral Felines MEOW "Thanks"

Feral cats took center stage at the shelter this year. APS-FH was called to help with Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR) of the many feral cats sighted in and around the Federal, State and County Parks on the Island as well as several feral colonies in various locations. All which had grown out of control.

A huge thank you to our Island residents, who

once again stood tall at the plate. Greg and Patty Black personally trapped over 30 ferals on their property. They were brought to the shelter in small batches to be spayed or neutered and later returned to the Black Farm where the family continues to provide food and shelter for the felines. Other islander's responded with open hearts to a recent article in The Journal of the San Juans regarding the plight of feral cats and kittens. Thank you island community for your very generous response – we received many donations, large and small, totaling over \$3,000 to help with the veterinarian expenses. We also send a thank you to Dr. Susan Besel and Dr. Sue Poirot of Harbor Veterinary Services for accommodating the extra volume of surgeries. Together we made a real difference in pet overpopulation on our little island.



DONATION AVENUES Bidding for Good

We are happy to introduce our newest donation avenue, "Bidding for Good" (B4G) an online auction program. Our first B4G auction featured our Wags to Riches 2013 silent auction raising over \$9,000!



The second auction, a generous luxury barge cruise of Ireland donated by Michael & Helga Burry raised \$3,000 in just 3 weeks. The winning bid went to the Reinkers of Avon Ohio. Thank you Burrys for the wonderful donation, and Reinkers for participating in our auction.

We hope B4G opens new doors for more great donations and shelter auctions. Check out biddingforgood.com for more information on how this avenue for fundraising



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in acknowledgment of kindness.

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