

# animal welfare matters



## ANNUAL REVIEW

### Homeless Dogs and Cats Find Open Hearts in Alexandria

#### Animal Welfare League Gives Neighboring Shelter "Space to Breathe"

A nearly blind 13-year-old Shih Tzu named Muppie would never have met his family if it weren't for the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA) and a relationship formed with a government-funded animal shelter in southern Virginia and a newly developed animal rescue called Fur-Get-Me-Not. In that region, the shelters often overflow with homeless pets who are unlikely to find new families locally.

In searching for a shelter with which to start a transfer relationship, the AWLA had several criteria: The shelter must 1) be in Virginia; 2) have a high euthanasia rate; 3) express a willingness to reduce this rate; and 4) have a corps of community members who could help with this goal. One such shelter serves the city of Galax, as well as Carroll and Grayson counties. Published statistics reported a 90% euthanasia rate for cats and 60% for dogs. Within minutes of contacting the shelter, a response came from Fur-Get-Me-Not Rescue, an organization that had formed only months earlier to help solve this problem. They were thrilled to start working with the AWLA.



Alison Lane Photography

**Above: Muppie looking his best for his future family**  
**Left: Donations from the AWLA on their way to Galax**



**Right: Just a few canine residents who will find their homes in Alexandria**



The Galax facility has 36 kennels, including two that they use for cats and two for quarantined animals, as well as a room of cat cages; however, in a recent month, they took in 74 dogs and 162 cats. The shelter's new manager (and one of only two employees), Jessica Vass, is committed to reducing euthanasia and welcomes help — not always the case with shelters. "Alexandria has been really, really helpful in reducing our shelter population," Vass said. "We recently sent a bonded pair of collies called Sugar and Mini Me up to Alexandria, and they were quickly adopted. I have very few people down here interested in taking two dogs."

Fur-Get-Me-Not makes almost daily trips to the Galax shelter, seeking out the animals whose chances for local adoption are slim. Jen Roberts, Fur-Get-Me-Not's president, says, "They get lots of hounds, beagles, pit bulls, old (continued on page 7)

**AWLA matters** **at a glance**




dogs                      cats





turkeys    community pet care    ... and more!



4101 Eisenhower Avenue  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22304  
 703-746-4774  
 EIN 54-0796610  
 CFC 92767 | United Way 8372  
 AlexandriaAnimals.org

### Board of Directors

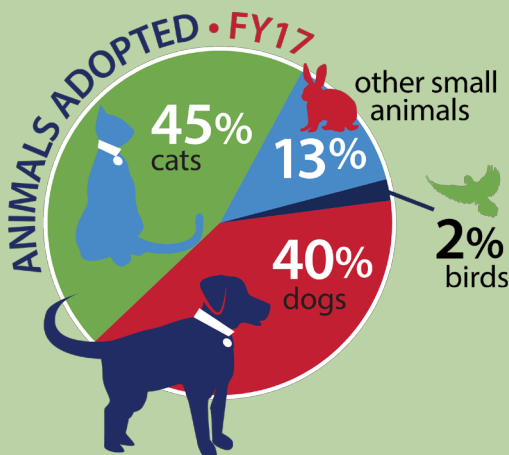
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 Kirk S. Fedder  
 Jerry Hinn, DVM  
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 Sharon McMichael

### Hours of Operation

Monday 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday CLOSED  
 Thursday 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.  
 Friday 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.  
 Saturday 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

*Adoptable animals are available for viewing beginning at noon and online at AlexandriaAnimals.org.*

**IN 2017, THE AWLA  
 CARED FOR MORE THAN  
 2,100 ANIMALS**



### Executive Director

*From the desk of Megan Webb*



**Megan Webb**

Alexandria is truly a special place. I have never been in a community that so openly respects animals and makes them such an important part of their families and their homes. I am inspired each day by the people who strive to make this such a compassionate community: the people who want to volunteer their time, or donate items and funds. I believe it is my job as Executive Director of the AWLA to harness this passion and energy to make the biggest difference in the lives of as many animals as possible. When I arrived in 2013, my first goal was to meet a primary demand of the community: reducing euthanasia rates in Alexandria. We have done that. We have gone from a 44% euthanasia rate in 2009 to a 4% rate in 2017. Now the words of Vola Lawson are present in my mind every day: “We need to help even more animals.”

I came to Alexandria from Oakland, Calif., where I had served as the Executive Director of a very large animal shelter that operated as part of the local police department. This limited our ability to fundraise and expand beyond our footprint, both physically and ideologically. We depended on rescue organizations to help us. What I learned from that experience is that the consistent support of these organizations was essential. We had so many groups offering to help, but rarely on a regular schedule that we could count on. Many would only take our healthiest, friendliest animals —the ones that would have been easiest for us to find homes for — and we were left struggling to find options for veterinary and behavioral interventions with few resources. It was a lonely and scary position to be in, and it was hard to plan for the future when we could barely manage the animals coming to us every day.

Here at the AWLA, we have worked hard to increase our adoption rate through changes in our procedures to prepare animals for homes more efficiently and through extensive outreach to the community. We are now in the privileged position of being able to fill empty cages with animals from other regions. While we could assist so many shelters in the southern United States, I know that this will not effect as much long-term change in those communities as if we develop a true partnership with another shelter. We began this effort by working consistently with Page County, Va., and learned that our relationship and commitment made a real impact. With our support, they had time to expand their adoption programs and grow relationships with other rescues, and now they barely need us.

But we strive to meet Vola’s goal of helping more animals, and as you just read, earlier this year we found another shelter in Galax, Va., that could benefit from working closely with us. We also wanted to do more to achieve the Virginia Federation of Humane Society’s goal to make the state “no-kill” so we knew we wanted our support to stay within the state. We have visited the shelter several times and are planning ways we can collaborate beyond transferring animals, using our experience as a nonprofit shelter to help this new organization find their footing and build programs to expand their adoptions efforts, with the ultimate goal of no longer needing our support. ❤️



# Keeping Alexandria's Animals in Their Homes

On Sept. 23, Alexandria residents and their pets turned up in force for the AWLA's first offsite pet care clinic. Held in the courtyard of the Ruby Tucker Family Center in Old Town, the event offered free rabies vaccinations and other pet care assistance, including nail trims and even advice for pets with behavioral issues. The event was held in collaboration with the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority and the Virginia Department of Health.

AWLA had identified the neighborhood surrounding the Ruby Tucker Family Center as a location in need of help with pets, based on calls received for assistance and records of animals surrendered to the shelter. Rather than holding a free rabies vaccine clinic at the animal shelter on Eisenhower Ave., as had been done previously, the AWLA brought the event to the community, setting up a series of colorful tents in front of the Family Center to provide the vaccines, access to veterinary staff, free supplies and behavioral tips.

**The AWLA believes that animals enrich the lives of Alexandria's citizens in so many ways, and their unconditional love can make a huge difference during challenges like health crises or financial struggles.** Sadly, these are the same crises that might lead people to surrender their pets, unable to find other solutions to keep the animal in a safe and loving home. With this clinic, the AWLA took a step toward reaching pet owners before a crisis occurred. "We wanted to locate the event in a place that was easy to access. We had residents who literally walked out their door into the courtyard and found help with their pets," said Stella Hanly, AWLA Director of Community Programs.

The AWLA mobilized help from throughout the community, including VCA Old Town Animal Hospital, which generously donated the services of two veterinarians as well as vet techs. Dr. Laura MacLean and Dr. Natalie Henigan worked alongside the technicians to give free rabies vaccines, trim nails and smooth matted fur. AWLA volunteers manned tables loaded with nutritious pet food, toys, collars, leashes and other pet supplies, all free to attendees, who left with bags of goodies for their furry pals. In all, 32 pets received vaccines and 40 went home with newly clipped nails and supplies. This event also provided tremendous learning opportunities for the AWLA to continue to reach the Alexandria pet owner community. Additional clinics will be held in 2018 in several more communities across Alexandria to reach even more pets and their families. ❤️



**Above & right: Veterinarians and vet techs volunteer their services to help with pets in Alexandria.**



**The pet care clinic is just one of the programs AWLA has created to extend help into the community, including**

## **AniMeals**

Delivering pet food and supplies to housebound individuals with pets, in coordination with Senior Services of Alexandria

## **A Plan for Pets**

Helping individuals create a plan for future pet care in the event of crises or even death

## **Crisis Pet Care**

Providing boarding for pets whose owners are experiencing major life events such as medical emergencies or sudden housing relocations and have no one to help them with their animal(s)

## **Spay/Neuter Assistance**

Offering pet owners in need access to vouchers from local veterinary clinics for spay and neuter procedures for dogs, cats and even rabbits (*Learn more about this program to the left.*)

## **Behavior Hotline**

Providing the opportunity to reach out to the AWLA's skilled behaviorists to help with common pet problems, including pet introductions, house-training, animal aggression and more, with the goal of helping pet owners remedy issues that might otherwise lead them to surrender a pet ❤️

## **Spay/Neuter Assistance Program**

One of the best ways to reduce the number of homeless animals is to prevent unwanted births. Local veterinarians have generously provided us with vouchers to sell to low-income pet owners who would otherwise have no access to this important surgery for their pets. These vouchers allow pet owners to help control the pet population, starting in their own homes.

In 2017, more than 250 vouchers were purchased from the AWLA by members of the community, made available by 10 animal hospitals and clinics. We thank the following for participating: **Arlington Animal Hospital, Del Ray Animal Hospital, Fort Hunt Animal Hospital, Gunston Animal Hospital, Hayfield Animal Hospital, Hybla Valley Veterinary Hospital, NOVA Cat Clinic, Loving Touch Animal Hospital, Potomac Valley Veterinary Hospital** and **Town and Country Animal Hospital.**



## Rescuing Roo

Roo would have been sold, killed and eaten if he hadn't met the eyes of AWLA Deputy Director Abbie Hubbard.

The Humane Society International had sponsored Hubbard to travel to South Korea in 2016 to help shut down a dog meat farm, after which the AWLA assisted the group with placing 26 dogs from a previously shuttered farm. At yet another farm the group visited, where hundreds of dogs were confined in filthy cages, the sweet face of a large dog called Roo caught Hubbard's attention, and she gained approval to bring him home to the AWLA.



It was soon discovered that Roo feared touch and was too scared to go to a foster home. He was very thin when he arrived and was constantly desperate for food after having lived in a state of near starvation. Anxiety drove him to smear poop all over his kennel. A team of staff and volunteers who were especially diligent about keeping his cage clean became affectionately known as "Roo's Poo Crew."

X-rays showed that Roo had hip dysplasia and arthritis, likely caused by his time in the bottom cage when he was young. Veterinarians hoped that strengthening his unused muscles with exercise, along with comfy bedding and pain management, would bring him relief; however, the young dog continued

to struggle with walking and showed signs of increasing pain.

After consulting with orthopedic veterinarians, it was clear that Roo's early life of confinement and infrequent meals of only rotten vegetables had left his bones brittle and damaged. All four of his legs, including his hips and ankles, had been severely impacted. He would need multiple surgeries to potentially relieve some of his pain, and even then, the recovery would likely be worse than the affliction and had little chance for long-term success. Feeling this was the wrong course for Roo, the AWLA ultimately decided that euthanasia was the only humane option — despite being the most painful choice for everyone who knew him. In the shelter environment, difficult decisions are not uncommon, but this one was especially agonizing.

The AWLA rallied to give this amazing dog a wonderful end to his life. Hubbard took him to the beach to swim in the Atlantic and fetch sticks. Staff and volunteers brought him his favorite things: lots and lots of food, even whole steaks.

If Roo had stayed in South Korea, he would have been sent to a food market in a tiny cage crammed with other dogs. Ultimately, a customer would have selected Roo, as easily as picking out a ripe tomato or fresh banana, and he would have been slaughtered for his meat.

Instead, Roo experienced a year of love and affection at the AWLA. When the end came, he was surrounded by people who cared for him: Animal Care Technician (ACT) Kelley held his head, while ACT Albert comforted him at his side. The team fed Roo an entire tub of ice cream and gave him one last head scratch. Hubbard looked into his eyes and said good-bye. ❤️



Shelley Castle Photography

**Roo loved to jump and play in the yard until it became too painful.**







## By the Numbers: Donations of Time in 2017

- Volunteers gave more than **13,000 hours** of their time, the equivalent of **6.3 full-time staff members**.
- Fosters supported the AWLA during every season, caring for more than **550 animals** this year.
- More than **100 new volunteers** offered their time just this year!
- And **one special turkey** supervised a group who donated their time on Thanksgiving to make treats for our animals!



## Paws to Recap...Revisiting some of our furry favorites from 2017

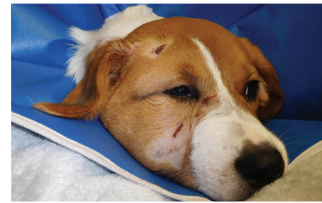
### Bastian



DeSilva Studios, LLC

When Bastian came to the AWLA in late September, an injured stray, he was scared and in pain, but that didn't stop his tail from wagging just a bit each time he met a new potential friend. The 7-month-old beagle pup's jaw had been damaged, and he had barely healed lacerations on the left side of his face, perhaps the result of a dog bite. The AWLA's veterinarian quickly realized that Bastian would need urgent and expensive care, so we shared his story with the community, both to find out more about where he came from and to ask for support to Sarah's Fund, our special fund to help animals with costly emergency or chronic medical needs.

Our supporters connected with Bastian's story, and by the time we heard from the doggy dental specialist that he would need not one but two surgeries, thousands of dollars had been donated to care for Bastian and other animals with medical needs. Bastian's first surgery was scheduled only days later, and while he waited for his adult teeth to grow in so the second surgery could take place, he enjoyed all the love and mushy food he could get in the home of an amazing foster caregiver. In December, the dentist extracted several of his adult teeth and declared Bastian's jaw healed, and this pup was ready to find his home. Because



he would always have some special needs, we considered several applications to adopt this already well-loved boy, and from many amazing candidates, the perfect family was found. After his long journey, where he made so many friends and supporters, Bastian was finally home.

### Ebeneezher

This 5-year-old kitty joined us as a stray in early December 2016. The season and her surly attitude both contributed to her literary moniker; her fur was severely matted, but when we tried to groom or even examine her, she would hiss, swat and pounce. Many cats may show aggression in a cage; some cats handle stress by shutting down and others, like Ebeneezher, lash out. We got the opportunity to know the real Ebeneezher by meeting her in one of our "penthouse suites" at the shelter, AKA a staff member's office. Within only weeks, she was a sociable and tolerant kitty, albeit with a few rules about her personal space. Once we posted this newly groomed gal for adoption, we heard from an interested family, and Ebeneezher joined their home — before she even made it into the Cat Adoptions room. If you have a "penthouse suite" of your own — an unused guest bathroom, spare bedroom, or roomy walk-in closet — and you'd like to make a difference in the life of a kitty like Ebeneezher, consider joining our foster program and changing the life of one of our many cats in need of love and space. *(Paws to Recap continued on page 7)*

Alison Lane Photography



## Recognizing Our Supporters

We have thousands of supporters who make our daily work at the AWLA possible. Here are just a few of the major supporters who made significant contributions to the AWLA in 2017 and beyond.

### *A Legacy of Giving Back*

Animals have always held a special place in the lives of H.N. (Jay) Hoffman III and his wife, Arline. The two have had many canine family members over the past decades, including current pups Rudy and Breezy, who join Mr. Hoffman at The Hoffman Company every day. Mr. Hoffman has played a major role in the development of the Eisenhower Valley, the community to which the shelter moved in 2002.

The AWLA not only appreciates the Hoffmans for the burgeoning community around the shelter which attracts many visitors and adopters, but also their many years of generosity to specifically help animals in Alexandria. The Hoffmans have helped to fund the expansion of our adoption outreach efforts, supported behavior programs to help shy or aggressive dogs become adoptable and sponsored numerous animals with serious medical issues to receive life-saving medical care.

In 2016, the Hoffmans generously covered much of the cost of a specialized spinal surgery for a black German Shepherd puppy, named Arielle. This pup arrived at the AWLA nearly paralyzed from the waist down; however, after this surgery, Arielle is now able to play and even run!

The Hoffmans also donate to Senior Services of Alexandria and were very pleased when our two organizations collaborated to initiate the AniMeals program to assist seniors with the care of their pets.

They also provided funds for AWLA to purchase two vans critical

to our operations, which we use to transport animals to and from their veterinary visits and pick up animals from shelters in need. In 2017, the Hoffmans sponsored new signage for the two vehicles to feature our brand new logo as well as information for the public on how to contact the AWLA.

The support of the Hoffmans has improved the lives of so many animals who have joined us at the AWLA over the past several decades, which is why they have been recognized at our highest level, making them Vola Lawson Animal Guardians. (See back page for more information about the Vola Lawson Animal Advocates program.) If you'd like to join the Hoffmans in supporting the care of animals in your community, consider making a donation now at [AlexandriaAnimals.org/donate](http://AlexandriaAnimals.org/donate).

### *New Earth Landscaping Brings New Life to AWLA*



If you're a frequenter of the AWLA, you might have been impressed by our grooming...and we're not talking about the cats and dogs. Since 2015, Jon Runger and his team from New Earth Landscaping have been committed to establishing and restoring the beautiful landscaping you see at the shelter, making sure our grounds are attractive, well-groomed and, most importantly, safe for the animals who traverse our grounds.

And we don't make it easy for the New Earth team. Dogs leaving muddy patches around their paddle



**Above: After meeting Arielle, the Hoffmans knew they had to help her.**

pool, bunnies clearing out the herb garden and even the occasional impolite piggy digging holes to her heart's content can make landscaping around Alexandria's Animals a full-time job, which is why the time that New Earth has generously donated has made the group a 2017 Vola Lawson Animal Guardian. Thanks to Jon and all of the organizations who donate their time and services to the AWLA each and every day. Without your support, we would not be able to do what we do!

### *In Remembrance of Suzanne Fedder*



The AWLA mourns the loss of Suzanne Fedder: animal lover, mother of board member Kirk Fedder and generous supporter of the AWLA. Suzanne was not only involved with the AWLA but an active civic supporter, a member of the League of Women Voters and a permanent fixture at the polls as a volunteer on every Election Day. Suzanne passed away in September.

As a youth living in Washington, Suzanne made a habit of taking in stray dogs until she could find homes for them. As an adult, pets became a regular part of her home, and her family reports that she was even able to unite natural enemies when she encouraged a friendship between their tabby Tiger and their (cont. on page 7)



## SUZANNE FEDDER (continued from page 6)

Chesapeake Bay Retriever Flip, who would nap together on the couch and watch television.

When the responsibility of pet ownership became too great, she maintained her love of animals by supporting the AWLA. She was also a lifelong artist and could be found most weekends painting or drawing in her studio. Suzanne is survived by her sons, Scott and Kirk. Her legacy will be remembered by the AWLA and across Alexandria. ❤️

## PAWS TO RECAP (continued from page 5)

### Esmeralda

This mottled bunny was found in a park and brought to VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital by a kind citizen. When VCA contacted us to pick her up, we were surprised to find that Esmeralda was heavily pregnant and we would soon have not one but eight bunnies in our midst!



Esmeralda stayed with one of our amazing foster caregivers to give birth and care for her kits, and the whole bunch was so full of personality that they were given equally rollicking monikers, including Bunyonce, Lil' Kit and Binky Minaj. An excellent mom, Esmeralda stayed with her babies until they were old enough and was adopted in late summer. Her bunnies stayed with our foster caregivers until they were ready for their spay and neuter procedures, and the remaining family all found new homes in October. ❤️

## HOMELESS DOGS & CATS (continued from page 1)

dogs, old cats...Some of the dogs considered unadoptable here do just fine in Alexandria." Each time the AWLA meets Fur-Get-Me-Not to pick up dogs and cats, they also bring donations from the Alexandria community that cannot be used at the AWLA but are in great need at the Galax shelter.

"People in our area tend to think of shelter pets as 'bad seeds' or having behavioral issues, so many of the ones that come up to AWLA have actually been in the shelter situation for quite some time," Roberts said. "Others become 'repeat offenders,' when people expect a perfect pet, one that will automatically fit right into their schedules, and do not give the animal time to adjust to a

new environment. They are returned within a week or less after adoption."

Roberts says that the AWLA's willingness to help with these animals has "made it easier to breathe." The hope is that the relationship will not only save the lives of the animals from Galax but, by giving the shelter "space to breathe," Galax will be able to use this energy to continue working to improve its operations — and to focus on local spay/neuter efforts to address pet overpopulation in the area.

Alexandrian Raza Alam and his family had been searching for a year and a half for the perfect dog — one that was small and calm and could ease into daily life with a toddler and an energetic puppy. The search ended at the AWLA when they met Muppie, a dark-chocolate-colored Shih Tzu who had been transferred to the AWLA from Galax. The Alams weren't concerned that Muppie was 13 years old and nearly blind. "Muppie was the dog we had always wanted," Raza Alam said. "We went to the shelter, and there he was."

"We couldn't have asked for a better time for you all to walk into our rescue path!" extols Roberts. It's safe to say that Muppie and the Alam family agree. ❤️



## 2017 VOLA LAWSON ANIMAL ADVOCATES GUARDIANS AND CHAMPIONS

Animal Welfare League of Arlington Spay & Neuter Team, Kirk Fedder, Suzanne Fedder, H.N. (Jay) Hoffman III & Arline M. Hoffman, Leeanne Pelzer and the Estates of Deborah DeSantis; Darla Cherie Ellis; Beverly Kimes; and Michael & Ginny Royal; and



More information about the Vola Lawson Animal Advocate program, including Guardians and Champions, can be found on page 8.

## 2017 VOLA LAWSON ANIMAL ADVOCATES

AWLA extends a special welcome to the **2017 Vola Lawson Animal Advocates** (VoLAAs) for their contributions during the period of January 1 - November 30, 2017. Thank you to the City of Alexandria, which allows us to continue to provide care, control and sheltering services to Alexandria's Animals.

<b>Animal Friends</b>	Janice Menges	Brenda Edgerton	Maida Loescher
Christopher Aluotto	Amanda Morris	Barbara Ellsworth	Jeff & Sandy Lutton
Tracey Averett	Alyssa Murray	Lauren Engelhart	Dan Malessa
Patricia McKee Beckington	Musser Family Fund	Richard Faircloth & Alan Campbell	Constance McCabe
Cameron Burger	Jennifer O'Boyle	Kevin & Anne Farmakidis	Ann McCord
Caudron Megary Blackburn	Mike Orenstein	Rose Ellen Farmer	John McDonald
Caring Hands Animal Hospital	Peterson Family Foundation	Karin K. Fangman	Kathryn Meredith
Rich Davis & Tylynn Gordon	Gena Roma Photography	Joan McCormack Ferrill & Mary Ferrill	Linda Michael
DeSilva Studios, LLC	Marti & Will Roper	Richard & Helen Fiske	Katherine Michetti
Dirty Paw Photography	Connie Shang & Mobile Imaging	Ellen Flynn	Arnold Miller
Sabina Dua	Veterinary Ultrasound	Flachs Family Fund	Greg Miller
Friedman French Foundation, Inc.	Ynette Shelkin	Daniel Ford	Marnie Moore
Tim Gainor	Mike Shera	* Harriet Forster	Julie Moses
Rosemary Harris	Christine Stillwagoner	Brenda Fredenhagen	Abhishek Mundra
Abbie Hubbard	Erica Stinson	Sharon Gardiner	Margery Nelson
Rafael Maldonado	* Sharon Vannucci	Michael & Anne Germain	Amy & Shelby Nicholas
Shannon & Paul Meissner	Laina Vittone	Laura Giza	Rodger & Esther Nisley
Restaurant Eve	Brittney Waranius	Joseph & Pat Gosh	Lael O'Shaughnessy
Vicki Smith	Katherine Ward	Trey & Suzanne Goulden	Lindy Paull
Lita Valdez	Nantana Wongtanasirikul	Michael & Tracy Gregg	Ruth Perez-Kim
Patricia Vinall	Yates Service, Inc.	Alexandra Gulino	Damon Penn & Patty Penn
		Linda Greenway & Pete Wilhem	John Perlman
<b>Animal Companions</b>	<b>Animal Advocates</b>	Bailey Hall	* David & Lilly Pierce
David Abuin	Brittany Aldredge	Gina Hardter	Suzanne Post
James Adams Jr.	* Jean Marie Antone	Robin Harman	Katydean Price
Jessica Almond	Karen Avery	Sheila Harrington	Catherine Pruitt
April Aralar	Rachel Baer	Lisa Harrison	Carol Ramkey
* Allen Argentieri	Cassandra Baker	Lisa Heidemann & Eric Brinkmann	Peter Ramsberger
Amy & Tim Asato	Kaitlynn Baker	Walter Hill	Anne B. Rector
Dan Bernstein	Jeremy Barr	Nancy Hindman	James Remers
Anthony Borruso	Glen & Ronda Bernstein	Louise Hislop	Hanna Rhodin
John & Elizabeth Brigden	Sherri Berthrong	* Margaret Hodges	* Marlene Roesen
Mark Bolla	Taylor Bezerra	Jodi Horton	Jennifer Salan
Gail Chagnon	Xavier & Stephanie Bignon	Holy Cow	Ruben Sanchez & Marie Harte-Sanchez
Estate of Daniel T. & Barbara Chapman	Amanda Blankenship	Steven & Nancy Howard	Alison Satinoff
CubeSmart	Marianne Boegli	Elizabeth Hujsak	Jeff & Susie Schneider
Donna Dawe	* Doreen A. Bradford	Christian Hunter	Wendy Schudmak
Cliff DeGray	Jean Brooks	Aaron Jackson	Bill & Joyce Smith
Deborah Dobek	Cindy Broome	Allison Jones	Patricia Sottile
Katie Dobrinska	Jackie Burks	Cindy Jones	Karin Stack
Samantha Elfmont	* Richard & Eric Burnam	Rosemary Jones	Susan Stolburg
David & Rebecca Francis	Lynnwood & Deborah Campbell	Judy Joyce	Barbara Strother
Yolande Frommer	Michele Carneiro	Jill Kale	Nina Tingley
Kate Gallup	Linda Clark	Echo Keif	Erica Trimboli
George Mason Elementary	Stephen Clifford	John & Jennifer Keyser	Barbara Velloz
Kelly Haisfield	Danielle Cook	Jennifer Sebolt Keenan	Claire Vinocur
Mary S. Hall	Jennifer Cotnoir	Erica Kinsey	Philip & Amanda Wait
Janelle Hartley	Danielle Cotton	Kris & Pamela Kolesnik	Tyler Walcavich
Melinda Hollander	Martina Cotton	Leslie Kostrich	Marsha Ward
Sarah Hughes	Cotton & Company LLP	Kazunao Kubotera	* Julian & Elizabeth Watson
Mark & Rebecca Michele Huppert	Laurette Crum	Sachiko Kure	Nicole Weinberg
Drew Kahle	Laurel Cunnane	Linda Langner	Judy Weiner
Jo Kang	Jeff Damrow	Lee Larkin	David Wormser & Janet Hawkins
Susan Koscis	Janet D'Angelo	* Bruce Leonard	Eleo Worth
Sarah McKinney	Del Ray Animal Hospital	Tina Leone & Bruno Grinwis	

Vola Lawson Animal Advocates (VoLAAs) are recognized individuals and businesses who give support at the highest levels. The program includes several levels of recognition for monetary donations and volunteer hours as well as in-kind donations made fiscally. **Animal Guardian**—\$25,000 or more financial or in-kind support or 5,000 volunteer hours; **Animal Champion**—\$10,000 or more financial or in-kind support or 1,000 volunteer hours; **Animal Friend**—\$5,000 or more financial or in-kind support or 500 volunteer hours; **Animal Companion**—\$2,500 or more financial or in-kind support or 250 volunteer hours; and **Vola Lawson Leader**—\$1,000 or more or 100 volunteer hours. **Legacy Donors** have made provisions for Alexandria's Animals through planned giving, and are identified with an \*. More information about Guardians and Champions can be found on page 7.

**For more information about becoming one of Alexandria's Animal Leaders, contact [development@alexandrianimals.org](mailto:development@alexandrianimals.org).**



DeSilva Studios, LLC

### Tribute Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated in honor or memory January 1–November 30, 2017. AWLA mails a card to each recipient, and donations of \$250+ are recognized here.

#### In Honor of . . .

*To my soon to be new husband, Derek Schwartz!*  
by Hillary Shaffer  
*Sue Dickerson* by Teresa Murrin  
*Buddy!* by Karin K. Fangman  
*Bastian* by Deidre Schexnayder  
*Meeko* by Erica Raggio  
*Fiona, our new cat from AWLA* by Kevin & Anne Farmakidis  
*Dorie & Harlow, our sweet puppies* by Xavier & Stephanie Bignon  
*Pemberly* by Dr. Marti Roper

#### In Memory of . . .

*Susan Moffet* by David Wormser  
*Porkchop* by Leila Balali  
*Gracie Thompson* by Linda Thompson  
*Daisy (AWLA alum)* by Vickie H. Gross  
*Maysie & Marco Polo* by Margaret Zeigler  
*Winston* by Mara Burr  
*Jimmy Lee Allen* by Erik Niells  
*Leo* by Kristin Vidovich  
*Fitz & Howie* by Aaron & Victoria Poe  
*Willow* by Ryan Compton  
*Sierra Ross* by Jessica Highland  
*Monty* by Michelle Dunkley  
*Molly (AWLA alum, long since passed away)* by Bob Forsythe  
*Taylor Vilardo* by Daniel & Linda Vilardo  
*Waco* by Karen Zent

**Animal Welfare League of Alexandria**

4101 Eisenhower Avenue  
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703-746-4774

EIN 54-0796610  
CFC 92767 | United Way 8372  
[AlexandriaAnimals.org](http://AlexandriaAnimals.org)