

spotlight on

the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria



Over 50 years of caring

Fall 2004

Canine Games Has a New Date

This Presidential Election Year is Going to the Dogs!



The 13th Annual Canine Games has a new date to take advantage of the cooler, autumn weather. Make plans to attend this one-of-a-kind event on Saturday, October 9, 2004. Dogs of every athletic ability can compete in our 'Indogural Events' such as the "Race for the

White House" (Steeplechase), "Slush Fund Slurping" (ice cream eating), "Evidence Toss" (Frisbee), and many more fun games in the spirit of this presidential election year. The top three finishers in each game will be awarded bronze, silver and gold Canine Games medals.

The Canine Games is the League's signature event and attracts over 600 dogs from all over the D.C. Metro area! The cost to preregister is \$20 per dog; on-site registration is \$25 per dog. Additional dogs from the same household are \$15 each. Spectators, both human and canine, are free. The first 400 pre-registrants receive a T-Shirt and Doggie Bag filled with goodies from our sponsors. All dogs must have current rabies vaccinations. On-site registration begins at 9 am. The Games will officially open at 10 am and will run until 12:45 pm. The awards ceremony at 1:15 pm will follow a fly-ball demonstration and president/dog look-alike contest.

In addition to canine competition, there are fun things to do for all ages: Meet wonderful Shelter dogs, take a chance on our raffle, have an election button made with your dog's photo, and enjoy the food and lively music. Tails of Olde Towne will demonstrate canine massage and vendors will be there with unique pet-related merchandise for sale. And don't forget to cast a vote for your favorite 2005 pet calendar entry!

Registration forms are available now at the Shelter and at www.alexandrianimals.org.

Just an Ordinary Black Cat

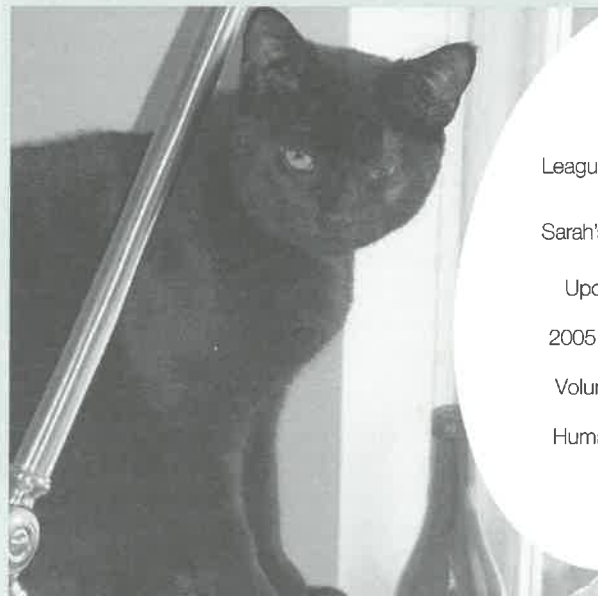
He was just a plain black shorthaired cat who wandered into a family's yard one day and started playing with their dog. When it was time for the dog to come inside, the cat wandered in as well. The family hadn't planned on having a cat, but the dog loved him; and they soon found that this cat was as playful and amusing and affectionate with people as he was with dogs. Days turned into weeks, and the cat stayed. Then one day they noticed him crying in the litter box as if in pain; they took him to the vet, where he was diagnosed with a complete urinary blockage. The cat had won a place in the family's heart, but they simply could not afford the cost of the treatment he needed; they gave him up

to the animal hospital.

Just a plain black cat who touched the heart of a special veterinarian. While he was recovering, he made friends with all the staff members' dogs who accompanied their people to work. The hospital staff named him Cowboy because of the swagger in his walk. One night, a critically injured cat arrived at the hospital; Cowboy became a blood donor, and gave another cat another chance at life. Just a plain black cat, and an everyday hero.

The vet called us to ask if we could take Cowboy and try to find him a new home. "He's just an ordinary black cat," she told us, who would need a special diet for his entire life to prevent recurring urinary tract problems.

continued on page 7



highlights

League information	2
Sarah's Fund update	3
Upcoming events	4
2005 Pet Calendar	5
Volunteer Spotlight	6
Humane Education	7

about the league

HOW TO REACH THE LEAGUE

Vola Lawson Animal Shelter
4101 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304
703/838-4774 Fax: 703/838-4862
www.alexandriaanimals.org
CFC and United Way designee number: # 8372

BUSINESS HOURS

Monday through Friday: 12:00noon to 8:00 pm
Saturday and Sunday: 12:00noon to 5:00 pm
Closed on Wednesdays for adoptions and animal visiting.

ADOPTION PROGRAM

One of our most important programs involves placing homeless companion animals in carefully chosen, permanent homes. Our animal adoption program is one of the most successful in the country and has been praised by national animal welfare organizations. For more information, please call 703/838-4774.

ANIMAL CONTROL and

24-HOUR ASSISTANCE FOR ANIMALS

The League provides animal control services for the City of Alexandria. Our Animal Control Officers enforce State and City laws pertaining to the welfare and control of animals. They are on duty Monday through Saturday from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm and Sunday from 11:30 am to 10:00 pm. At all other times, a trained staff member is on call to respond to animals in need. Please call 703/838-4774 any time you feel an animal needs help.

HUMANE EDUCATION

The League's Humane Educator is available to speak to your group. To schedule a presentation or Shelter tour, please call 703/838-4774. The League also offers Animal Awareness Camp, a summer day camp for children. Visit our website to learn more.

REDUCED-COST SPAY/NEUTER

Through the cooperation of local veterinarians, the League enables all pet owners to have their animals spayed or neutered at a reduced cost. Certificates can be purchased at the Shelter during regular business hours.

LOST AND FOUND

We offer a lost and found program to aid people in finding their pets. Each year, hundreds of lost pets are reunited with their owners through the League.

LICENSING

The League handles dog and cat licensing for the City of Alexandria. For dogs, annual fees are \$30 for each unaltered animal and \$10 for altered ones. For cats, fees are \$10 for each unaltered animal and \$2 for altered ones.

SPECIAL EVENTS

We conduct fun-filled activities for pet lovers throughout the year. Find details of upcoming events in this issue, on our website, or call our Event Hotline at 703/838-4774 ext. 321.

DONATIONS *Can you help?*

The League is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and relies on tax-deductible donations including cash, credit card, stocks, securities and bequests to fund our programs and services. Donations of items for the animals are also greatly appreciated. For more information on giving to the League, please call our Development office at 703/838-4774 ext. 206.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Volunteers perform a variety of helpful functions for the League, such as dog walking, cat socializing, helping out at special events, transporting injured or orphaned wildlife and more. To learn more, call 703/838-4774 ext. 322.

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Kevin Byrne - President, *MSDF*

Gwen Jennier - Vice President, *ITT Industries-Advanced Engineering and Sciences; Angel Dog Music*

Gordon Kromberg - Treasurer

Rosemary Pollard - Recording Secretary

Nancy Hamilton

Carlos Mejias, *Olde Towne School for Dogs; Olde Towne Pet Resort*

Kasia Mendelsohn, *U.S. Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration*

Diana Titus-Allen Waller

Betsy Willis

Unique ways to support the League

iGive.com: When you do your online shopping through iGive.com, a percentage of your purchase amount will be donated to the charity of your choice. You can designate the League as the recipient of your shopping efforts! With over 400 stores, you'll find your favorites selling everything from pet supplies to travel holidays.

Printer Cartridge Recycling Program: Instead of throwing your empty cartridges away, we can turn them into cash for the animals! Drop your used cartridges off (all ink jet and laser cartridges are accepted) at the Shelter during business hours.

Buy Pet Insurance Online: Dog and cat adopters who contact ShelterCare within 10 days of adopting their pet receive two months of free pet insurance. Pet owners who wish to extend their coverage can purchase additional pet insurance through a link on our website. The League receives \$25 for each application initiated through our website. Many different types of coverage are available and plans cover other animals in addition to dogs and cats.

Spotlight on Animals (© 2004) is published by the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable organization, and has an approximate circulation of 16,000. All articles original to this newsletter may be reproduced without prior permission if credit is given to the League. Please address all correspondence to The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, 4101 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304. Please note: The League respects our donors' and friends' confidentiality and we never release our mailing list. This newsletter is printed on recycled paper with soy-based ink. Photographs include images by Kelly D. Swedick.

Sarah's Fund a Lifesaver for 'Sweet Sally'

Sarah's Fund exists to cover the cost of treating severe medical conditions and injuries in adoptable animals. Since it was created in the spring of 2003, seven wonderful animals have benefited from your contributions. The latest is a petite, tortoiseshell cat we named Sally.

All too often we never know what kind of life the animals at the Shelter have led before they come through our doors. When Sally was brought in as a stray, it was easy to tell from her accepting, loving manner that she had been someone's pet. Her good physical condition indicated that she had been living indoors. Her reluctance to put weight on a rear leg was a red flag that she had recently suffered trauma. Her deep, amber eyes revealed trust.

The veterinarian who examined Sally didn't have good news: Because the severe break left shards of bone in her leg, mending the leg with a simple cast was not an option. His recommendation was surgery, amputation, or euthanasia.

The prognosis for a full recovery from surgery was good, but it was an expensive procedure that would require Sally's leg to be repaired using a metal plate. The staff was smitten with this little cat that they got to know during her stray period. The phrase, "What a sweet cat" was heard over and over in our kennel. Sally's injury didn't prevent her from radiating her positive energy from inside the holding cage to everyone who came in contact with her. When her owners did not come forward

to claim her after six days, the decision was made to go ahead with the surgery. While in the hospital waiting room, Sally continued to grow her circle of friends and admirers. After hearing her story and looking into her eyes (the only part of her visible from the carrier), a kindhearted man who was accompanying his own pets for treatment, offered to help with her surgery expense. It seemed the decision was the right one for this gentle, loving kitty.

Was she hit by a car? Injured in a fall? We'll never know the circumstances that brought Sally to us, but now that she's here, we know that we have the resources in place to help mend her and find her a family that will love and protect her. Sally has been recuperating in a foster home and at press time a cat condo is being readied for her in the adoption room.

Contributions to Sarah's Fund can be made using the enclosed, postage-paid envelope. Please check the box marked "Sarah's Fund" on the envelope. More updates in the next newsletter!

Do You Get E-News?

There's an easy way to get the latest news on League happenings. Our monthly E-Newsletter, *Animal Welfare Matters*, is full of information about Shelter animals, special events, volunteers and more. Subscribe today at www.alexandriaanimals.org.



Your United Way or CFC contribution can help us put an end to homeless animals.

#8372

Each year the United Way and Combined Federal Campaign generate a significant portion of the dollars needed to care for the thousands of animals received at our Shelter each year. By designating the League as a recipient of your campaign gift, you are helping to ensure that every animal that comes through our door receives the love and attention it deserves. No animal is ever turned away.

Many of the League's programs, including pet adoptions, humane education, community outreach, wildlife rescue, lost and found, and many more services are funded by your contributions. Does your office have a campaign fair or kickoff party? Invite us! We welcome the opportunity to send a representative who can let your co-workers know about the League and what we do. Thank you for choosing to include the League in your giving plan.

Wishful Thinking

(the animals may need what you don't)

- ◆ BLANKETS! BLANKETS! BLANKETS!
- ◆ COMFORTERS! COMFORTERS! COMFORTERS!
- ◆ TOWELS! TOWELS! TOWELS!
- ◆ Bathmats with rubber backing
- ◆ copier paper: any color

**Please no sheets, pillows or plastic litter pans.
Newspaper accepted as space allows.**

upcoming events

For more information about any of our special events, visit

www.alexandrianimals.org or call

703/838-4774 ext. 321.

Calendar

September 1 Pet Bereavement Group; free meeting at 7:30 pm at the Alexandria Animal Shelter. Other dates: **October 6, November 3, December 1.**

October 1 Yoga Benefit Night

October 9 Canine Games (see cover article)

October 17 Reduced-cost rabies vaccination and microchip clinic from 2 - 4 pm. See details below.

November 9 Annual Dinner & Silent Auction

November 23 Shopping Night at Ten Thousand Villages

December 3-5 Pet Photos with Santa at Olde Towne School for Dogs

February 12 'Black Tie & Tails' at the Torpedo factory. Save this Date!

Annual Dinner & Silent Auction

Join us on Saturday, November 13, 2004 to 'Celebrate Caring.' The League's Annual Dinner & Silent Auction brings together a truly special group of supporters for an evening dedicated to highlighting a year's worth of success stories. Hard work, amazing sacrifices, generosity and happy endings are represented with stories, presentations and displays.

The cocktail reception and silent auction bidding begin at 6:30 pm. (We are putting together an auction that will knock your socks off!) The reception will be followed by dinner, presentations, our special animal story and dancing.

The event will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites on First Street. Look for your invitation in late September.

If you have a unique item or service you'd like to donate to our auction, please contact Lesa Miller at 703/838-4774, ext. 210.

Yoga Benefit Night

Pure Prana Yoga Studio of Old Town will host a yoga workshop at The Lyceum on Friday, October 1, 2004 to benefit the League. The 75-minute yoga workshop will be taught by Lisa Harris Fagnoli and is suitable for all experience levels. Beginners to experts are welcome to attend and mats are available on request. Poetry and music accompany the yoga experience, which will be followed by cocktails and handmade confections from Kingsbury Chocolate of Old Town.

R.S.V.P. to Pure Prana at 703/836-7873. Minimum suggested donation is \$25.

Rabies & Microchipping Clinic

The clinic will be held on Sunday, October 17, from 2-4 pm at the Shelter. The cost is \$10 to vaccinate each dog or cat; \$30 for each microchip. Three-year vaccinations will be given to animals with proof of current inoculation; others will receive a one-year dose. No reservation necessary. Cats must be in carriers and dogs must be on leashes.

Tip: For a much shorter waiting time, arrive between 2 - 3 pm.

Ten Thousand Villages Holiday Shopping Night

The League will host an evening of shopping on Sunday, November 21, 2004, from 6 - 8 pm at Ten Thousand Villages, located at 824 King Street in Old Town. Ten Thousand Villages is also a non-profit, supporting the work of craftspeople in more than 30 developing countries. They are sure to have a treasure for everyone on your holiday shopping list! The League will receive 20% of all the purchases made that evening.

Pet Photos with Santa

Our clever elves are very busy working on this year's special backdrop for Santa who will be making his regular stop at Olde Towne School for Dogs on Dec. 5, 6 and 7 to pose for professional pet portraits. Carlos Mejias and his staff will make sure that pets look picture perfect for this Alexandria holiday tradition. Portrait packages and holiday greeting cards will be available. Reservations can be made after November 15 by calling 703/836-7643. Olde Towne School for Dogs is located at 529 Oronoco Street in Alexandria.



Feline Follies Spotlights a Month of Cats

The League's 2nd Annual Feline Follies put the spotlight on our feline friends for the entire month of June. On Sundays, local animal care experts presented a wide variety of information on cats. The event featured a raffle, photo and coloring contests. We also launched our 'Wise Whiskers' program to promote the adoption of cats ages four years and older. Special thanks to all our Feline Follies sponsors: **Alexandria Animal Hospital, Bone Voyage, Inc., Fort Hunt & Hayfield Animal Hospitals, Fox & Hounds, Ltd., VCA Beacon Hill Cat Hospital and VCA Old Town Animal Hospital.**

3rd Annual Mini Golf Classic Raises Over \$17,000!

The 3rd Annual Eisenhower Avenue Mini Golf Classic, held on June 9, attracted an enthusiastic crowd to Cameron Run Regional Park and raised thousands of dollars for the League and the Eisenhower Partnership. Guests spent the evening playing putt-putt golf, eating hot dogs and "not" dogs (vegetarian hot dogs), bidding on unique auction items and enjoying the sounds of live jazz. Our presenting sponsor was the **Hoffman Company**. Volunteers brought adoptable dogs over from the Shelter to mingle with the crowd and the League's adoption department was open for visitors during the event. Our appreciation extends to the Eisenhower Partnership and all the supporters who made this event a success.

Eagle Sponsors: **Land Rover Alexandria, New Target Internet Design & Development and Simpson Development Company;** Birdie Sponsors: **Alexandria Animal Hospital, Alexandria Gazette Packet, Commonwealth One Federal Credit Union, FASTSIGNS Alexandria, Fox & Hounds Ltd., LCOR Inc., Metropolitan at Alexandria, Oblon Spivak McClelland Maier & Neustadt, Old Town Crier, and Wm. D. Euille & Associates, Inc.;** In-Kind Sponsors: **All American Printing, Inc., ARTCRAFT Collection, Pam Minor, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Photo Solutions and Restaurant Depot.**

Jammin' for the Animals

On Saturday, July 15, 2004, local band, Cerulean Groove, played an evening of soulful music to benefit our Shelter animals. Thank you to all three band members and especially to lead singer, Laura Cerulli, for organizing the event. Our thanks also goes out to Jammin' Java in Vienna (a great place to hear music!) and singer, Kristin, who opened the show with her amazing voice.

2005 Pets of Alexandria Calendar Call For Entries

Hurry! Deadline for entries is September 15, 2004 for the 2005 Pets of Alexandria Calendar Contest. Eligible pets include those adopted from the League and any pet that resides in Alexandria.



Pets may only be entered once and ALL entries will appear in this keepsake, full-color calendar. The entry fee of \$10 per photo includes one calendar. [Voting will take place at the Canine Games on October 9.](#) Start recruiting family and friends now; there is no charge for people to attend the Canine Games and every vote counts. The top vote getter will appear on the cover; the next 12 will get their own month.

The 2004 calendar raised over \$10,000 for the League through entry fees, votes, and calendar sales! Advertisers covered the cost of printing. We are so very grateful to these 2005 advertisers: **Alexandria-Animal Hospital, Fort Hunt Animal Hospital, Hollin Hall Animal Hospital, Hayfield Animal Hospital, Hydrant Dog Barkery & Boutique, Pro Feed, Inc., Olde Towne School for Dogs, Paws to Wonder, Poochie Playhouse, Self-Storage Plus, Oboeworks, Maid to Clean, Paw Prints Photography, Tails of Olde Towne, VCA Beacon Hill Cat Hospital, VCA Old Town Animal Hospital, Bone Voyage, Inc. and Greetings & Salutations.**

To be included in the 2005 calendar, submit the completed form, a photo and entry fee of \$10.00 per photo by September 15 to: AWLA, Calendar, 4101 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304.

Pet's Name _____ Age _____

Type of Pet/Breed _____

Owner's Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

E-Mail: _____

How your pet came to be part of your family? _____

Submit a good quality, 4x6 photo of PET ONLY - no people. Previous calendar winners may enter for inclusion in the calendar, but are not eligible for voting. Photos cannot be returned. Digital photos should be shot in "best/professional" quality and printed on photo paper. Poor quality reproductions will not be eligible. On the back of photo, attach a sticky note with pet's name, owner's name and phone number. Please make checks payable to AWLA (entry fee is 100% tax deductible). **All voting will take place on October 9, 2004 at the Canine Games.** \$1.00 = 1 vote. Good Luck!

spotlight on volunteers

The League is fortunate to have the support of many loyal volunteers who care enough to get involved and commit to a regular schedule each week. People find fulfillment in volunteering for a variety of reasons. Some are mission oriented and they find satisfaction knowing their involvement in animal welfare is needed and truly makes a difference; Others enjoy the friendships they form with people who share the same interests and goals. We caught up with four of our outstanding volunteers and asked them to share their thoughts on their time spent at the shelter.



Simeon Taft's dedication to helping us care for Shelter animals is priceless.

"My interest in volunteering was born out of a compassion for animals and, more recently, my pursuit of a career in veterinary medicine. My weekly trip to the shelter is always fulfilling, whether it involves socializing a canine or brushing a most-appreciative long-haired feline. It is particularly satisfying to witness the progress that

canines from rural rescue groups make as they arrive timid and fearful of humans, but soon become social, playful, and highly-sought-after adoption candidates. This summer during a visit to the League, I was asked to take a recent spay patient back to the veterinarian because she was not feeling well following the surgery. After an examination, the doctor determined that she needed a bit more time to recover. That experience exemplified the staff's prudence to err on the side of caution when it comes to the animals' health. I feel privileged to share this experience of caring with the League's corps of dedicated and tireless staff and volunteers."

Phil Mullens understands that dogs at the shelter need and deserve regular exercise, socialization and attention. He is committed to their well being and comes in each week to generously share his time and energy.

"I live in a condominium and miss having a dog. Volunteering



at the League provides me with the opportunity to spend quality time with the dogs. I think one would be hard pressed to determine who is happiest about going for a walk ... the dogs or me. I do not feel I am providing a service to the League, it feels more like they are providing me with a service by giving me the opportunity to spend time with the dogs.

Throughout the years that I have been associated with the League, I am constantly

impressed with the hard work and dedication exhibited by the staff in their care for all the animals in need. They are, without a doubt, very special people and I feel honored to be associated with them."

Tykie Tobin spends each Sunday in the cat room offering lots of personalized TLC to cats and kittens for adoption. She answers a myriad of questions from visitors and assists potential adopters in finding just the right feline friend.



"One of my closely held beliefs is that we should treat all animals with kindness, along with its corollary that pets deserve a happy life in a loving household. When I

decided to donate my time to somehow better society, I wanted to work with an organization whose mission resonated with me personally. During my weekly hours in the Cat Adoption Room, I do my best to give the cats individual attention by petting and brushing them, keeping their cages clean, and assisting visitors in choosing a cat to adopt. I try to connect with each cat as an individual and give them the kind of attention that they like best. It's a challenge to figure out what each cat needs and then try to meet that need, and I think that is what keeps me motivated from week to week. Before I started volunteering at the League, I thought it would be depressing seeing all the homeless cats in cages. But the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter is anything but depressing. It is bright, airy and incredibly clean. And I've been incredibly impressed with the wonderful staff who provide top-notch care for all the animals at the Shelter. And as an added bonus, the cats themselves lift my spirits and make me feel loved and wanted."

Chris Hubert kindly shares her enthusiasm and concern for dogs by volunteering every week at the Shelter. She spends time walking them, reinforces polite manners and good habits, and provides them the mental and physical stimulation they require to stay happy and healthy.

"A colleague and fellow animal lover once told me that a dog is the most consistent being you will meet in life. Sure, you have your family and friends who love you in good times and bad. But, let's face it, they have bad days too. But not your dog. From the moment you wake up, to the minute you walk in the door, to the time you go to bed, your dog is happy just to be near you. Volunteering has brought great joy into my life. I often tell people that walking the dogs is the best part of my week. For two hours, I am the complete focus and recipient of these dogs' energy, love and affection. It is true what people say about volunteering: you get more out of it than you give."



To learn more about the League's volunteer program, call 703/838-4774, ext. 322.

Ordinary Cat (continued from page 1)

But, she added, he has the greatest personality, and he's just amazing with dogs.

Cowboy arrived at the shelter during one of our busiest months for cats and kittens, and in the midst of an outbreak of upper respiratory infection (URI). Perhaps his immune system was still weak from his previous infection; within a few days, Cowboy developed symptoms of severe URI. The poor fellow looked just like a person with a terrible cold; we moved him to our sick room and began URI treatment.

Time after time, Cowboy would begin to recover, but one eye always continued to look sore and infected; time after time, he would relapse and look miserable again. Through it all, his spirit and joy never flagged; he kept eating, kept playing, and always had a purr and a love bite to offer his friends.

Over time, Cowboy's sniffing and sneezing subsided; but the eye that had always been troublesome became swollen and sore. The veterinarian who originally gave Cowboy to us provided a free exam and consultation. She felt that the affected eye would be an ongoing source of discomfort and reinfection, and that it should be removed; she offered to perform the surgery at no charge, and we agreed.

Finally, Cowboy's upper respiratory symptoms disappeared and he was able to begin his search for a new home. Unfortunately, visitors are usually drawn to the more colorful cats; it is easy to overlook a plain black cat. We tried many approaches to bring our Cowboy to visitors' attention: moved a big walk-in cage to the front lobby for him, put up a display of photos of him with his canine friends, called adoption requests on file. Weeks passed with no adoption application filed for Cowboy: just an ordinary black cat with one eye and special dietary needs.

We moved Cowboy to our volunteer manager's office, where he could look out a window, romp and play, and potential adopters could be invited to visit him. To fill his need for canine companionship, we introduced him to various doggie playmates. His best match was with a little black curly-furred bundle of puppy energy named Dante; they became instant best friends, and would chase each other and play together in our community room for hours on end.

Dante was soon adopted. A few days later, the family called to say that they would like to adopt Cowboy as well; they had given it a lot of thought, and hated to break up such a unique friendship. They had not budgeted for the cost of two adoptions at once, and the plan created a short-term cash flow problem for them; but their desire to keep the two friends together was so strong that they had arranged a short-term loan on the woman's engagement ring to provide the needed funds. Finally our Cowboy had found his new home; we still miss him, and will always remember him with love.

Just a plain black cat, with spirit and joy and love of life that never failed. Just a plain black cat, but our Cowboy was never ordinary.

Contributed by Kelly Swedick, adoption counselor

words of wisdom

The League's Animal Awareness Camp is a series of week-long, summer day camps for youth ages 9-12 years. Over the summer, enthusiastic campers learned about Shelter life, were visited by animal professionals in the community, spent time interacting with Shelter animals, let their creativity loose and came away from camp with an increased appreciation for the creatures that share our world. They may be young, but the messages from these campers show that we are raising a generation of caring individuals.

"Treat animals the way you want to be treated."

-Emma

"Every dog has his day. Make it a good one."

-Isabella

"Animal neglect deserves no respect." -anonymous

"Pets should be spayed and neutered or the population will get too big."

-Sarah

"Animals have feelings too."

-Aileen

"A kitten is a rosebud in the garden of the animal kingdom."

-Alexandra

"Be kind." -Katie



Gifts to the League

Your tax-deductible donation can be mailed in the enclosed, postage-paid envelope or sent to: AWLA, 4101 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304. Gifts can also be made online at www.alexandrianimals.org. To learn about other giving opportunities, please contact our Development office at 703/838-4774 x206. Thank you!

Spay or Neuter your pet at a reduced cost!

The best way to put an end to pet overpopulation is to eliminate unwanted litters of companion animals. Spaying (females) or neutering (males) has many benefits to you and your pet. It also helps save lives by reducing the number of homeless animals that end up at shelters.

Through the generosity of local veterinarians, the League is able to offer reduced-cost spay/neuter to everyone; animals do not have to be adopted and there are no income requirements. Certificates are sold at the Shelter and brought as payment when the surgery is performed. Prices and restrictions vary for each hospital and for different types of pets. Please visit the Shelter during regular business hours to review the program participants and their prices. Thank you for doing your part to stop pet overpopulation.

Best Friend Birthday Club

Enroll your pet in our new Birthday Club! The Club is open to all pets and every member will receive:

- ★ A Birthday card from Chewie, the League mascot
- ★ Special Recognition in the E-Ne^Wsletter and in the Shelter lobby during his/her birthday month
- ★ A Birthday Fun Sheet with ideas and offers to help you make the most of your pet's special day.

Membership is only \$10 per pet and proceeds will help the League find homes for Shelter animals so they can also enjoy the good life with a family that cares. Applications are available on our website and at the Shelter.



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4101 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22304

