

Spotlight on animals



The Newsletter of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria

Spring 1996

In Half a Century, We've Come a Long Way

As it celebrates its 50 years of service to animals and the community, the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria owes a lot to the group of people who saw a need for a strong advocate for animals and acted to found our organization.

The initial meeting to form the League was held on April 16, 1946, at the old Chamber of Commerce Building. The 26 people who came elected a temporary board to serve for six months, until a permanent body could be chosen. Among those participants was Mrs. Inez M. Hauber, whose bequest to the League several decades later would help low-income Alexandrians obtain spaying and neutering surgery for their pets.

The final order of business that April 16 was an announcement that a veteran had lost his German shepherd, Streaky, as he traveled through Alexandria. "It is one of our first acts as a League to endeavor to find the dog and bring him back to his master," noted the minutes, although there is no subsequent record as

to whether the dog was recovered.

Over the next few months, the members worked to define the new League's agenda, as well as develop procedures for

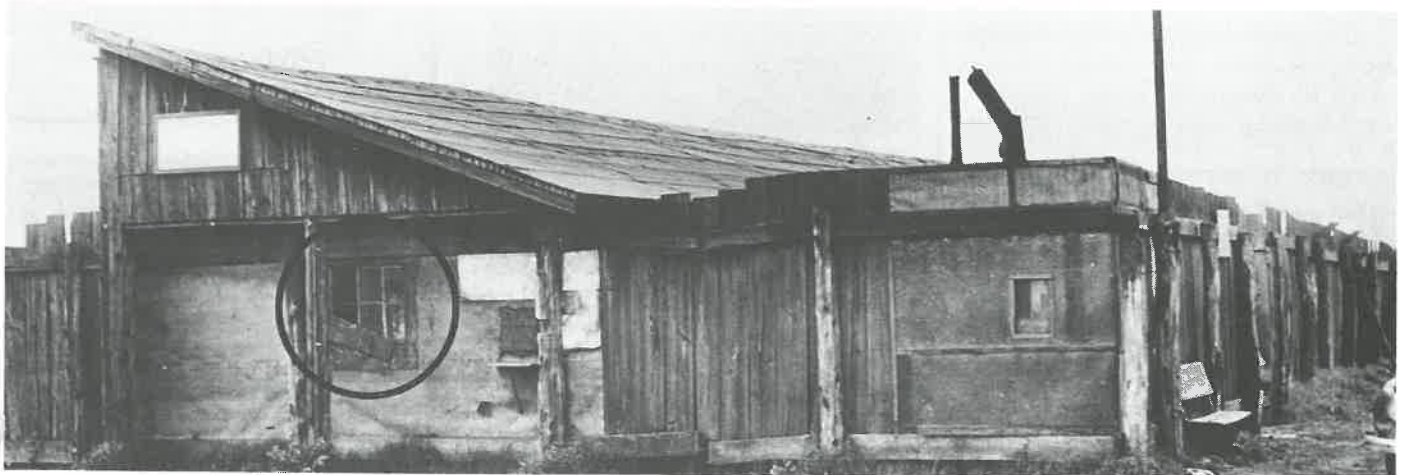
greater, thanks to decades of increasingly broad support from the community and the League's focus on adoptions and humane education programs. From the League's first membership drive—a 2,000-letter mailing in the summer of 1946—has grown a strong organization widely praised and emulated in the animal welfare community.

By June 1946, the League's charter had been drawn up and was ready to sign and file. In attendance that month were representatives of the Police Department and the Health Department. The police officer suggested that his department should not destroy animals at its own discretion, because some of them might well be saved if given proper veterinary care. Fifty years later, the League continues to enjoy a close and cooperative relationship with the Alexandria Police Department, whose strong support has been vital to our success. Interestingly, during the late fifties and early sixties, K-9 Corps

Continued on page 11



serving the public, rescuing animals, and expanding its membership. These days, our mission is much the same, but our ability to accomplish our goals is much



The original Shelter, pictured above, was located off Rt. 1, near where the YMCA now stands. Conditions there, say some of the League's earliest members, were deplorable.

The Most Misunderstood Disease



by Fern B. Crist, DVM
Barcroft Cat Clinic

Kitten season is here! Tiny round eyes nestled in an adorabe fuzzy face, stare into your soul; you hear the little "Take me home" mew. How can you resist? Next thing you know, you're trying to sleep with a buzzsaw sounding off next to your ear. All your (in-tact) breakables are in drawers or behind glass, and you can't find your floor under all the cat toys. Ah, the joys of cat ownership.

These things are a very small price to pay for the real happiness of having a great relationship with a great cat. Cat ownership is both a joy and a proven health benefit for most people, and as such, is worth a little effort here and there. Toxoplasmosis is another reason you should put out a little effort.

Toxoplasmosis is probably the most misunderstood disease that a cat can give to a person. It's the one you always hear about that should keep pregnant women away from

the litterbox. Sometimes pregnant women are even told to give up their cats! This is really not necessary, however, since disease transmission can be avoided in the vast majority of cases through a few very simple measures.

The disease is caused by a parasite, *Toxoplasma gondii*, which is commonly found in raw meats, including beef, pork, and significantly, mouse. (That's an important way cats get it.) In actuality, most people who contract the disease get it not from the litterbox, but from eating raw or undercooked meats, which may contain the dormant adult organism, or from gardening in an area where cats may be defecating in the soil, since cat feces may contain the parasite egg.

The egg of the parasite is not infective until it has been out of the cat and in the presence of oxygen for 1 to 3 days. Since it requires at least a day for the egg to be infective, it follows that cleaning solid waste out of the litterbox twice a day should keep you from getting it from your cat. This is called "The Litterbox Rule." To optimize safety, pregnant women should avoid handling the litterbox at all; but if they must, wear gloves and wash hands afterward. This is "The Pregnant Lady Litterbox Rule."

Here are some other rules to follow to protect you and your cat from Toxoplasmosis.

- Neither you nor your cat should eat undercooked or raw meats.
- Never drink water obtained from streams, rivers, and the like without boiling it first.
- Wear gloves when gardening or working with soil, and wash your hands afterward.
- Clean all kitchen surfaces thoroughly before preparing food on them (in case the cat sat there... and you know they do).
- And remember: indoor-only cats can't win the mouse lottery!

Most healthy people with good immune systems won't get sick from Toxoplasma even if they get it. In some, there will be a transient flu-like syndrome. If a woman contracts the disease while pregnant, serious problems with the pregnancy can result. Anyone with a crippled immune system (such as AIDS victims, cancer patients on chemotherapy, the very old, the very young, or the very ill) contracting Toxoplasmosis can become seriously ill and even die from it.

What makes this disease more important than some others is that once the parasite is in you, you've got it forever. It's just resting, and it may never do anything at all. BUT, if later in life you become immunocompromised, it can reawaken. Even if you are as healthy as a horse right now, you should still avoid this organism because of what it can do to you later. Thus, not only pregnant women, but anyone who has a cat should observe the Litterbox Rules, cook meat properly, and wash their hands after gardening—easy, simple measures that will protect you in almost all cases.



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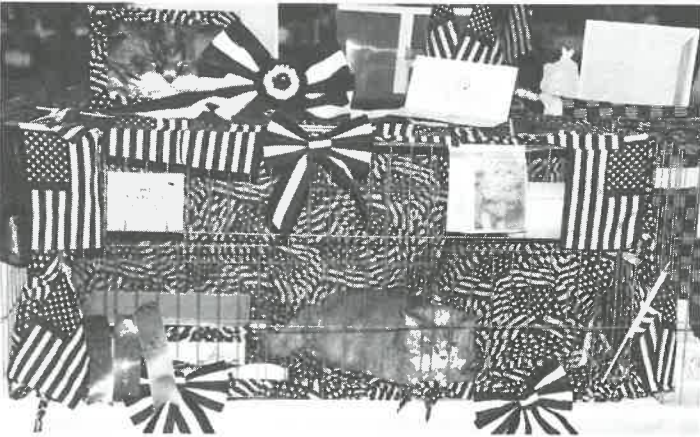
By Appointment
931-2600

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Jack Steele, *President*
Joyce McDowell, *Editor*

For advertising information call (703) 820-6639.

'PAWS FOR FUN'—Join Us on June 16 for The 4th Annual Household Pet Cat Show



Leon Papooty, a 1995 Shelter graduate, in his award-winning cage at last year's Household Pet Cat Show.

The "purr-fect" event for cat lovers will be held on June 16, when the League will present the 4th Annual PAWS FOR FUN Household Pet Cat Show.

The event will be held at the Northern Virginia Community College Cultural Center at 8333 Little River Turnpike in Annandale. In addition to over 200 cats entered in the show, there will be many vendors with cat supplies, crafts, toys, and novelty items.

All cats—whether purebred or mixed breeds—are welcome to attend. Cats must be over six months old, current in vaccinations, and spayed or neutered. While judging is based primarily on color classifications, there will also be special categories, such as Most Toes, Oldest Cat, Longest Whiskers, Owner/Cat Lookalike, Best Decorated Cat, and many more.

Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors and children; kids under 9 will be admitted free.

Those who have entered cats in previous PAWS FOR FUN Household Pet Cat Show have been sent a mailing with a registration form and information. If you have not received your form and would like to enter your cat, please use the one on page 8 of this issue. If you need more information about this event—please contact Dawn Shiley, Master Clerk, at (703) 780-1633.

Entry deadline is June 6.

Would you like to contribute something to our 'PAWS FOR FUN' Cat Show? If you'd like to make a donation or have a raffle prize to contribute, please contact Dawn Shiley at (703) 780-0633 for more information.

P.S.—We're also accepting ads for our Cat Show Catalog. With over 1,000 people expected to attend, your ad is sure to get noticed! To learn more, call (703) 780-1633.

It's a Fact . . .

The League's Animal Control Office received 826 calls for service in April 1996—more than double the number only one year ago! One dog rescued by Animal Control Officers—a Rottweiler puppy—is now living at the Shelter and waiting to be adopted. (See page 5.)

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League Now Offers Help For the Ill, Disabled

When longtime League board member Vivian Willis passed away last year, we searched for a way to honor her memory that would help both animals and the citizens of our community.

Now, in cooperation with other local organizations such as the Agency on Aging and the AIDS Assistance Office, the League and its Volunteer Office has developed a means to help elderly, ill, and disabled people keep and care for their pets.

League volunteers working with the Vivian Willis Outreach Program are ready to provide, on a temporary basis, essential services for pet owners who need a helping hand. They will take the animals to the veterinarian or a groomer, serve as dogwalkers, and help with feeding and other tasks. Those of us who knew Vivian Willis and cherished her generosity of spirit believe she would be pleased to be honored in this way.

If you or someone you know is ill, elderly, or disabled and needs temporary assistance in caring for a pet, please call the League's Volunteer Coordinator at 838-4387 for more information about our outreach services.



Spaying/Neutering Pet Can Extend His Life

Spaying or neutering your pet not only helps to stem the tragedy of pet overpopulation, but can add years to your four-legged companion's life as well. It's a simple, safe, and virtually painless procedure that eliminates the possibility of your pet contracting some types of cancer.

The League offers reduced-cost spay-neuter certificates honored by 30 area veterinarians. Don't wait—speak with your veterinarian soon about this life-enhancing surgery.

Brutus and Me

by Randi Miller

"You took a job *where?*" my father asked. "Why?" That was three and a half years ago, and I could understand his doubts. After all, I would be dressing in anticipation of muddy paws instead of corporate life. But I was vindicated when Brutus was brought into the Shelter.

Brutus, a black Lab mix, had been rescued from Interstate 395 by a concerned citizen. Only about a year old, he was rambunctious and playful. Brutus remained ever hopeful that he would get the good home he richly deserved. He came to the Shelter just before Thanksgiving 1992—about 11 days after I did.

The days turned into weeks; Christmas passed, then New Year's, and Brutus was still waiting. The whole staff saw to it that he was exercised often. In February, we did a special display of animals available for adoption with the caption, "Will you be my Valentine?" and suddenly people became interested in Brutus. As it often happens, once he got a primary application, it seemed that everyone who walked in wanted him. "Where were you two months ago?" I would ask as people clamored to fill out paperwork on our star resident.

Gianluca and Valentina Chegai submitted their adoption application on February 1, 1993, and two days later Brutus was on his way home. He left amid fanfare and an ocean of happy tears. His new family reports that at first, he seemed unable to believe he was actually home for good, but soon he settled in beautifully.

Brutus, now "Cicacco" (pronounced Chocko), goes to work with his new family every day, a natural at public relations who watches over the customers' children. Valentina says that Cicacco's previous training had made things easier. "He is very calm inside the house, but when he goes outside he is a different dog, and loves to play," she adds.

"He is a very, very happy dog," Gianluca reports, "happy and lucky. And we are so lucky to have him."


Cicacco was a Shelter resident longer than just about any other animal. Three



His adoptive family call their lucky dog "Prince Ciacco."

years later, he is living like a king. Finding homes for animals like Ciacco—that's what working at the Animal Shelter is all about.

If you are thinking of adopting a pet, please visit the Shelter soon. We have many healthy, beautiful animals who need a good home.



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Cruelty Victim Has Day in Court—And Wins Big

An Alexandria Police Officer thought he must be mistaken when he saw a child holding a 12-week-old puppy down so that an adult friend could kick and beat it. Officer James Craig intervened after seeing the adult kick the Rottweiler puppy in the face and slam the dog's head down onto the pavement. Craig called one of our Animal Control Officers to the scene in order to rescue the animal. When asked why they would treat a dog like this, the offenders explained that their objective was to make him mean.

The fragile 21-pound creature was named Carl by the Shelter staff, after "Good Dog Carl," of the children's book series. It took weeks of intense care and lavish doses of affection at the Shelter before Carl finally understood that no one would hurt

him again. Thanks to the staff's tremendous dedication, Carl has become a loving and playful puppy.

The League and the Commonwealth's Attorney moved quickly to prosecute those responsible for this terrible act of cruelty. The parent of the minor child was charged as an unfit owner for allowing the dog to be placed in a perilous and cruel situation. The adult who was kicking the dog was charged with cruelty to animals. The minor child is being dealt with in juvenile court.

On April 23, the parent who was charged as an unfit owner failed to appear in court, and Carl, now five months old, became the property of the Animal Shelter. Now the staff has begun the joyful task of finding Carl the loving home he really deserves.



Carl, an abused Rottweiler, and Officer Craig, the policeman who rescued him.

No Bones About It—The Easter Event Was a Hit!



The 1st Annual Doggie Bone Hunt and Easter Parade at Jones Point Park on April 9 was an outstanding success, with over 250 people and their dogs turning out to participate. The event, co-sponsored by the Olde Towne School for Dogs, featured a spoon race, an egg roll, dog tricks, an obedience demonstration, and an Easter Parade.

The focus of the morning was the Doggie Bone Hunt, with participants finding over 1,000 bones wrapped in gold foil.

Many thanks to Channel 9, which provided live coverage, featuring some of our Shelter dogs available for adoption.

Pet Portraits by Michael Returns, June 14-16

Noted pet photographer Michael Joseph once again will be in our area to capture you and your pets on film.

There is a \$10 sitting fee, all of which is donated to the League to help homeless animals. When you view your proofs later, you may select from a variety of portrait packages available at an additional cost.

Sittings will be held June 14, 15 and 16 at the Village at Shirlington. For directions and to make your appointment, please call (800) 822-1379. Booking times fill up fast, so call today!



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A Message from Senator Chuck Robb




 UNITED STATES SENATE
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CHARLES S. ROBB
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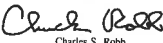
March 11, 1996

To The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria:

I am pleased to offer my congratulations to the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria on your fiftieth anniversary.

Since 1946 you have been serving your community in a very special way—caring for homeless, injured and abused animals with compassion and love. Your success in the past five decades has been measured by the tens of thousands of once abandoned dogs and cats that were placed in good homes in Northern Virginia. The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria clearly is one of the outstanding humane societies in Virginia.

Thank you for the great work you have been doing for the last fifty years and best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

 Charles S. Robb

CSR/rjd

A Message from Senator John Warner



JOHN WARNER
 SENATOR
 UNITED STATES SENATE
 WASHINGTON, D. C. 20540

UNITED STATES SENATE
 WASHINGTON, D. C. 20540

March 8, 1996

Mr. Jack Steele
 Animal Welfare League of Alexandria
 910 S. Payne Street
 Alexandria, Virginia 22314

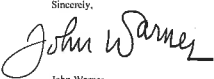
Dear Friends:

It is with great delight that I extend my warmest congratulations on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. This momentous occasion commemorates the spirit and goals this organization has strived to reach for the benefit of the community and its citizens.

Since 1946, you have played an important role in your community and now, as your adoption rate increases every year, and your programs expand, your impact becomes even greater. As someone who respects animals and has made them an important part of my life, I realize the significance of the wonderful work you all are doing.

I commend the vision and efforts of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, and am pleased to honor this occasion. I send you my best wishes for much continued success.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

 John Warner

JW/ro

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Homer and Morris Team Up to Help Homeless Pets



Remember Homeless Homer? He's the Heinz Pet Products mascot whose picture clipped from Cycle dog food products means corporate contributions for the League. Since we began participating in this program last year, Alexandrians have been responding enthusiastically and, in 1995 alone, we raised \$500 through the Homeless Homer campaign.

Now, Homer has joined forces with Morris the Cat, and the proofs of purchase from Pounce cat food products are also worth money to the League. All you have to do is collect Homeless Homer logo from Cycle or Morris the Cat from Pounce products and mail or drop them by the Shelter.

It's an easy, painless way to help the League help homeless and injured animals. Keep up the good work!

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Memorial Contributions: An Enduring Legacy to Animals

The following memorial donations, received between January 31 and April 30, are being used to expand our adoption program and humane education program, as well as to develop our outreach efforts. These names will be added to our permanent memorial plaque in the lobby at the Shelter.

Donor:

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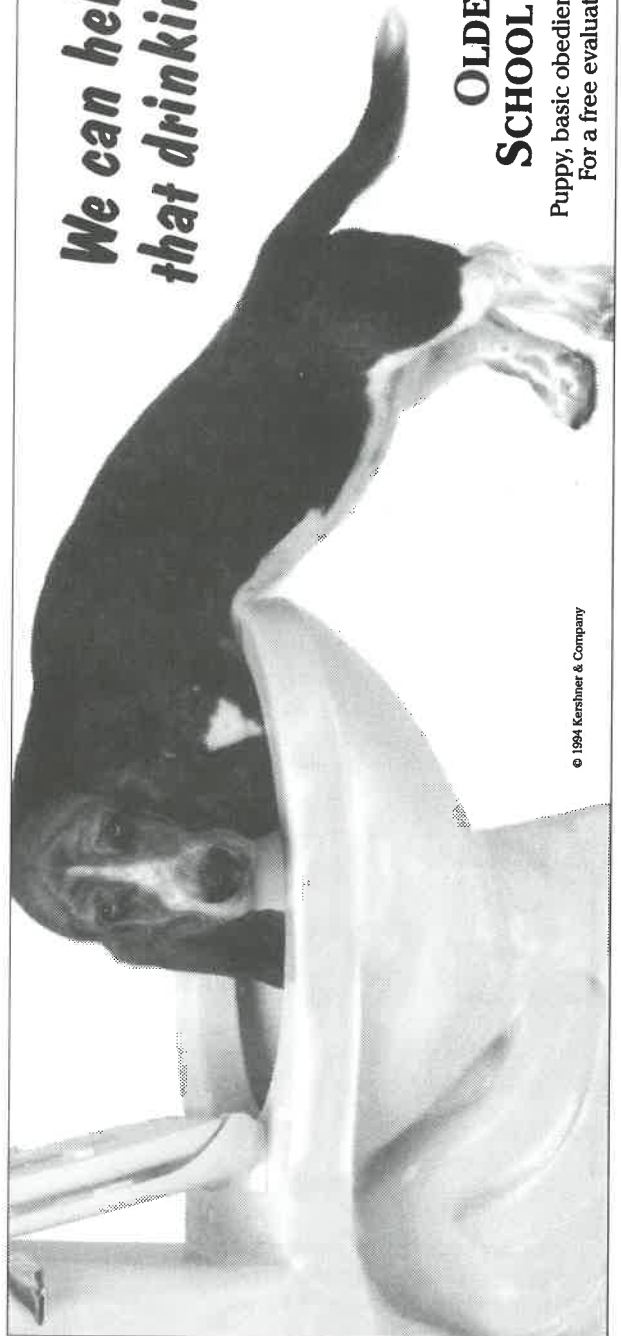
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FiFi
Bessie McLeod
Rosie and Nina
Duchess
Duchess McKinnon
Cesare
Robert Reagh
Duke the deaf cat
Pablo Hoge
Kevin McCaffrey
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Mitsy
Marie K. Morris
Vera Krasner-Krug
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Killer
Ragnar
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Duncan
Henry & Sheba
Wolfie
Piper
Missy
Katta
Hutch
Tinkerbelle
Dundee
Mistress Fiona
Carolina Belle
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Dot and Howard Bontz

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Seminar for House Rabbit Adopters To be Repeated



Owning any pet requires a life-long commitment. So, because of the number of bunnies purchased by area residents at Easter, our well-attended March seminar on the care and feeding of house rabbits will be repeated on Sunday, June 9.

This free seminar, offered by the League in conjunction with the House Rabbit Society, will address the responsibilities of adopting a rabbit and issues such as house training and health care. The program will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

The seminar will be held at the Alexandria Animal Shelter, 910 S. Payne St. beginning at 2 p.m. For more information, call (703) 838-4387.

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria
June 16, 1996 'PAWS FOR FUN' Household Pet Cat Show
ENTRY FORM



Check one: Show Entry Photo Contest Entry Both
(Photo Entries: Include home of cat and your name and address on a label on the back of the photo. Enter as many photos as you wish.)

Your name _____

Address _____ Daytime phone () _____

City/State/Zip _____ Evening phone () _____

Cat's name _____ Cat's breed _____

Color & Pattern _____ Longhair Shorthair

Male (neutered) Female (spayed)

If adopted from a Shelter, name of the Shelter _____

ENTRY FEES: 1st entry \$20.00
 Additional entries \$15.00 each
 Photo contest \$ 2.00 each

I enter my cat(s) at my own risk and agree to abide by the rules set forth by the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. The League, the Show Committee and Show Officials cannot be held liable for loss of property or accidents to cats or exhibitors. I understand the decisions of the judges are final.

SIGNATURE OF OWNER

Please complete and sign form and return with check payable to AWLA to: Dawn Shiley, P.O. Box 6509, Alexandria, VA 22306. Make copies for multiple entries. (Phone 703/780-1633 for more information.)

Entry
Deadline:
June 6

March for the Animals Set for June 18-24

Tens of thousands of animal advocates from around the world are expected to take part in the World Animal Awareness Week and March for the Animals in Washington, D.C. on June 18-24.

It is hoped that this event will help to educate the public, legislators, and the media about the untold suffering endured by millions of animals every day. You are invited to take part.

This event is sponsored in part by The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), the Doris Day Animal League, The American Anti-Vivisection Society, Farm Animal Reform Movement, and several other organizations.

For more information, call the National Alliance for Animals at (703) 810-1085.

THANK YOU!

A warm thank-you to the following for their support of the St. Patrick's Day Fun Dog Show and the Doggie Bone Hunt:

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... and, of course, all of our wonderful volunteers for their enthusiasm and hard work!

... And a Special Thanks

In the Winter issue of *Spotlight*, we published the names of thousands of local supporters who had made contributions to the League over the past year. The following names were inadvertently omitted, but we're indebted to them for their long-time strong support:

ABR Services
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Elpaw Veterinary Clinic
Carolyn Ortwein
Cmdr. & Mrs. Tom Steele

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Frosty Temps Couldn't Deter St. Paddy's Day Crowd



McAffery won 5th place in the Owner/Dog Lookalike contest at the St. Patrick's Day Fun Dog Show on March 9.

In spite of bitter cold, hundreds of folks and their pets turned out for the League's 10th Annual St. Patrick's Day Fun Dog Show on March 9. Wrapped in scarves, mittens and warm coats, participants gathered to enter their dogs in a number of just-for-fun contests. John Harter, of WJLA-TV7, returned as our special emcee and entertained the crowd as Judge Daniel O'Flaherty chose five winners in each category. A special ribbon ceremony was held for all the shelter graduates in attendance.

Upcoming League Events

It's not too early to mark your calendars and plan to join us for the following popular League events. For more information, or to volunteer, please call Megan Brooks at the Shelter, (703) 838-4387.

- June 16 "Paws for Fun" Household Pet Cat Show
- June 16 Pet Portraits By Michael
- Aug. 31 Canine Games
- Oct. 17 Annual Dinner
- Nov. 3* Doggie Dash & Stroll
- Nov. 29-Dec. 1*
Pet Photos with Santa

*Date tentative

Visit Our Two New Web Sites!



After 50 years of caring for homeless animals, the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria—thanks to two local companies—has gone high-tech.

With the help of Uptime Computer Services, Inc., an Alexandria firm, the League has set up a new Web page, where citizens can access information related to the League, special events, humane education, and responsible pet care. You can visit our Web site at www.petpage.org.

Many thanks to the dedicated folks who donated their time and expertise to make our Web page a reality: Beth Biedronski, Jeff Johnson, and Eugene Guilaran.

We're also indebted to the Chris Bartram team, who helped us produce a professionally executed second Web page, which focuses on animals available for adoption at our Shelter. To learn about some of the wonderful pets who need good homes, visit us at <http://adoptapet.com/adoptapet>.

Wanted: Memories Of the 'Old Days'

As part of our 50th Anniversary celebration, we are putting together an overview of the League's development between its founding in 1946 and today. This project involves a video that will feature brief testimonials from some of our pioneering members—can you help?

If you were a board member or a volunteer in the '40s, '50s, and '60s who can provide reminiscences, anecdotes, or photographs from that time, we would love to hear from you. Or perhaps you grew up playing at the Shelter while your parents did volunteer work there and can supply some perspective.

If you can contribute some memories for our history, please contact Megan Brooks at the Shelter at (703) 838-4387.

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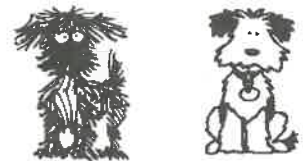
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50th Anniversary

from page 1

dogs were housed at the Shelter. In fact, Alexandria's first K-9 dog was a German shepherd who had been turned in to the Shelter before he was "recruited" by the Police Department.

A half century ago, an average of 85 dogs was picked up each month, but homes were found for only five; the rest had to be destroyed. These numbers stand in sharp contrast to today, when the League places about 100 animals in good homes each month.

Also of concern to the founders in 1946 were conditions at the "pound." The League sought the help of City officials in improving conditions at the facility. Reportedly conditions were so bad that well-meaning citizens on several occasions broke into the pound to release the dogs.

As the League became stronger and gained respect in the community, it began offering humane education programs for children on Saturday mornings. Guest speakers included zoo officials and well-known mascots, such as Smokey the Bear. From those seeds, the program has taken root and grown. Last month alone, our humane education program reached 2,462 school children and adults, and this summer, the League will present its first Animal Camp (see page 12).

The League's fledgling board recognized the necessity of gaining the aid and support of local veterinarians. An arrangement was made with Dr. Wayne Witter of the Alexandria Animal Hospital whereby injured animals could be brought directly to him rather than taken to the pound. Today, Dr. Witter's successors and nearly 30 other area animal hospitals have generously shared their time and resources to help ensure the health of animals in our care. In addition, these veterinarians support the League's reduced-cost spay-neuter program in the hope that someday, the tragedy of pet overpopulation will be eliminated.

Incidentally, Mrs. Inez M. Hauber, an early board member who was among the group who organized the League in 1946, passed away a few years ago but left the League an exceptional legacy: a generous endowment to enable low-income families to obtain spaying and neutering services for their pets.

Room to Romp

The League is indebted to Cleary Friedman, Senior Vice President of Long Fence, who donated all of the fencing for the wonderful new exercise area at the Shelter, and to General Services of the City of Alexandria for installing it. The enclosure allows our dogs to romp and run off steam without fear of traffic, and without being slowed down by their handlers.



200 Adopters Bring 'Em Back on May 5



Shelter graduates turned out in force for a happy reunion on Sunday, May 5.

About 200 people who have adopted pets from the League turned out for our second annual Bring 'Em Back Day on May 5, and 110 dogs accompanied their families to join in the festivities.

Ribbons were presented to several dogs, including one for Most Changed Dog. A puppy when he was rescued from being tied up outside the Post Office, he appeared to be a mixed breed. But the dog turned out to be a handsome purebred Bichon Frisé.

The Oldest Shelter Graduate ribbon went to Pepper, a lovable mix who was adopted in 1980. Special recogni-

tion also went to the dogs who made the easiest and the most difficult adjustments to their new homes, and there were Second Time Around ribbons for all the dogs present who had been returned by their adopters but successfully placed in another new home.

It was a perfect spring day, and there was something for all who attended—doggie treats for the canine alumni, face painting for the children, and free refreshments for everyone. In addition, the Alexandria K-9 Corps and Cavaliere Dog Training entertained the crowd with special demonstrations.

Send in Your 'Shelter Success Story'

At the League's 1995 Annual Dinner, the table decorations were a huge hit. These were photos of Shelter animals whom the League placed in new homes with loving families.

If you adopted a pet from the Alexandria Animal Shelter, you can make him a star at this year's Annual Dinner. Just send us a photograph of the animal (with or without people), his name, and a sentence or two about how your new pet has enriched your life. Please remember to include your own name, address and phone number.

It takes time to make these exhibits, so please send your photos to the Shelter by August 15.

A Hot Car is a Deathtrap!



Even if there's a nice breeze blowing outside, the temperature inside a car can shoot up to dangerous levels within two minutes—and that can mean permanent brain damage or even death to your pet. So don't take chances with your pet's life—leave him at home!



Animal Camp: An Awesome Experience for Kids

The League is now accepting applications for the Absolutely Awesome Animal Awareness Camp of Alexandria, a special activity for youngsters. Four sessions are being offered: June 24-28 (ages 9-12), July 15-19 (ages 9-12), July 22-26 (ages 13-15), and August 5-9 (ages 13-15). Each session comprises one week, from 8:30 a.m. until noon, Monday through Friday. This is a fun, educational way to help your child learn to understand and appreciate animals.

Sessions will be assigned according to age, for 9- to 12-year-olds for ages 13 to 15, and will be limited to groups of six. The hands-on activities are designed to acquaint the children with how the Animal Shelter works, caring for and helping baby animals, dog training, careers in the animal field, and other topics. Special speakers will include Animal Control Officers, wildlife rehabilitators, veterinarians, professional dog trainers, and naturalists.

The fee for the camp is \$50, which covers snacks, materials, and a special t-shirt for the participants. For a complete schedule of the sessions being offered, as well as a registration and information packet, please contact Jeanine Larsen, the League's Director of Humane Education, at (703) 838-5042.



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