

Spotlight on animals



50 Years of Helping Animals

Winter 1996

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St. Paddy's Day Tradition Continues!



An annual tradition in Old Town is just around the corner—the 10th Annual St. Patrick's Day Fun Dog Show will live up Market Square, 301 King Street, on Saturday, March 9 (a week before St. Paddy's Day).

Festivities begin at 10:15 and will end around noon. There's no admission charge or registration—just lots of fun for dogs and their two-legged escorts. Presiding over the festivities will be our special guest emcee, John Harter, of WJLA TV-Channel 7. And, continuing a long-standing tradition, Judge Daniel F. O'Flaherty will return to select the winning dogs in each category.

This year's just-for-fun categories include Dog-Owner Look-alike, Best Irish Costume, Dog with the Best Handshake, Most Unusual Tail, Smallest and Tallest, and many others. Ribbons will be awarded to first- through fifth-place winners in each category.

Once again, certificates will be awarded to *all* four-legged contestants, and a calligrapher will be available to inscribe them, free of charge.

Dogs adopted from any shelter will have an opportunity to shine in a special ribbon ceremony. We'll also feature several of the beautiful Shelter dogs who need good homes and are available for adoption from the League. Each dog's handler will be familiar



Every dog is Irish at the St. Patrick's Day Fun Dog Show. See you there!

with the animal's background and personality.

Representatives from our humane education, adoption and animal control departments will be available to answer your questions. In addition, a local veterinarian will be on hand to answer your health-related questions concerning your pet. Refreshments will be available throughout the event, and all proceeds will go to help homeless and injured animals at the Shelter.

After the Fun Dog Show, all dogs and their owners are invited to lead the grand parade down King Street in Old Town. Parade Chairman Pat Troy predicts that this will be the biggest, best St. Paddy's Day Parade to be found on the East Coast, so don't miss it!

And don't miss our First Annual

**Doggie Bone Hunt
& Easter Parade
Saturday, April 6**



... See details on page 3

Common Causes of Vomiting and Diarrhea in Your Dog



by Jackie Suarez, VMD
Alexandria Animal Hospital

Dogs are frequently afflicted by problems in the gastrointestinal tract, which includes the stomach and intestines. These upsets, characterized by vomiting and diarrhea, not only cause your dog discomfort, but can also wreak havoc on the living room carpet. It is important to understand the common causes of vomiting and diarrhea in dogs in order to prevent them from occurring.

Vomiting, usually accompanied by retching, salivating, and abdominal contractions, is defined as the forceful ejection of stomach and intestinal contents through the mouth. Causes of vomiting vary. It is a symptom, not a disease.

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

For advertising information call (703) 820-6639.

Dietary indiscretion is commonly seen in the overindulged canine. Overeating, eating too rapidly, stress and excitement can induce mild vomiting episodes, as can food intolerance or allergies. Dogs with parasites (like roundworms) frequently have vomiting and diarrhea. More serious causes include viral or bacterial infections, drug reactions, and toxin ingestion.

Well-meaning owners can create stomach ulcers and severe gastritis in their dogs by giving unprescribed doses of Tylenol, Motrin, ibuprofen, and aspirin. Vomiting from an obstructed gastrointestinal tract results from eating foreign material, like socks or pantyhose. Finally, vomiting can be a symptom of numerous diseases like kidney failure and cancer.

It is important to know when to seek professional advice from a veterinarian. In general, one or two isolated episodes of vomiting in an otherwise happy dog do not warrant a trip to your vet. However, once you consider other factors, such as the age, environment, and diet of the pet, as well as the duration of vomiting and presence of other signs such as weight loss or lethargy, a visit to the vet may be in order.

For example, multiple episodes of vomiting in a young golden retriever combined with a "misplaced" pair of new socks requires a call to your vet. However, a few episodes of vomiting or diarrhea after your beagle has finished off that "tiny" piece of Egg McMuffin may simply suggest the need for a short fast and bland diet for a day or two. *But remember: No matter what the cause, vomiting large amounts of fluid can lead to dehydration, which may require fluid therapy by a veterinarian.*

Call your veterinarian if vomiting:

- is accompanied by depression or weakness;
- is increasing in frequency;
- is combined with weight loss;
- lasts longer than 24 hours; or
- is a new occurrence in a geriatric dog.

Diarrhea may or may not accompany vomiting. Diarrhea is simply feces with increased water content, causing a soft or liquid consistency. It may be characterized by straining, increased frequency or urgency to defecate, lethargy and a poor appetite.

It is important to take note of blood or foreign material in the feces. The most common causes of episodic diarrhea are similar to the causes of vomiting: dietary indiscretion, food intolerance, or worms.

Any disease that causes inflammation of the bowel, whether caused by viruses, allergic reactions, toxins, or other culprits, can result in diarrhea. Once again, it is important to note your dog's diet, general health and vaccine record, overall attitude and the frequency of the signs when deciding when to call the vet.

The bottom line, when dealing with brief episodes of vomiting or diarrhea in your dog:

- Stop feeding for 12 to 24 hours.
- After fasting, offer a bland diet like one part cottage cheese or boiled skinless chicken to three parts boiled rice. This should be offered in small amounts several times throughout the day. If there are no signs of vomiting or diarrhea, gradually add in the regular diet and eliminate the bland foods over the next two or three days.
- If signs persist, seek professional help.

Next to you, your pet's
best friend is his vet.



Come to the League's
1st Annual
Doggie Bone Hunt & Easter Parade



*Sponsored by the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria
and the Olde Towne School for Dogs*

- WHERE:** Jones Point Park (under the Woodrow Wilson Bridge) at the south end of Royal St.
- WHEN:** 9:30–11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 6 (Rain date: Saturday, April 13)
Packet pick-up and onsite registration from 8:45-9:30 a.m.
- REGISTRATION:** \$10 per dog. The first 150 registrants will receive a colorful bandanna and dog bones. Please make checks payable to AWLA.
- ACTIVITIES:**
- **BONE HUNT (a timed event).** Owner and dog finding the most hidden bones wins a prize. Find the "Bunny Bone" and win a special prize.
 - **SPOON RACE (a timed event).** With dog on leash, owner carries a hard-boiled egg on a spoon to the finish line. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes.
 - **SHELTER DOGS** available for adoption will be introduced and humane education literature will be distributed.
 - **REFRESHMENTS AND MUSIC** will add to the festivities.
 - **PRIZES** donated by area businesses will be raffled off.
 - **PHOTOS** of dogs, owners, and the Easter bunny will be available.
 - **AN OBEDIENCE DEMONSTRATION** will be conducted by Carlos Mejias of the Olde Towne School for Dogs.
- GRAND FINALE:** **An Easter Parade.** Dogs and their owners, clad in their traditional Easter "fun finery," including bonnets, derbies, straw hats, and bow ties are encouraged to join the Easter Parade around the park. Prizes for costumes will be awarded.
- RULES:** Everyone is invited. Children should always be accompanied by an adult. All dogs must be **on leash** (no retractables, please) at all times, and must be current on vaccinations and in good health. All participants must complete and sign a registration form and waiver. *Owners must clean up after their pets.*
- TO ENTER:** Registration forms available at the Alexandria Animal Shelter (910 S. Payne St.), Olde Towne School for Dogs, local veterinary hospitals, and at the St. Patrick's Day Fun Dog Show on March 9. To have a registration form mailed to you, please send self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

DOGGIE BONE HUNT & EASTER PARADE
912 W. Timber Branch Parkway
Alexandria, VA 22302

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call our Special Events Hotline, (703) 519-7230.

All proceeds from this event go to help homeless, injured and abused animals.

This issue of Spotlight is published as the League enters its 50th year of service to the community. We thought it would be a good time to highlight some of the once abused and abandoned animals who are now thriving in loving homes, as well as the dedicated people at our Shelter who made it happen.

In the last half-century, the League's mission has been to ensure that all the animals in our community are safe and loved. Sadly, even right here in Alexandria, abuse, abandonment, and cruelty occur. But thanks to our humane education programs, children are learning at an early age that their fellow creatures are here to be cherished, and that pets are a lifelong responsibility.

Sadly, there are more homeless animals than there are people willing to adopt them. We're grateful for the strong support of 30 area veterinary clinics who make it possible for the League to offer reduced-cost spaying and neutering services. By decreasing the number of puppies and kittens being born, we also reduce the number of animals who must ultimately be euthanized because, through no fault of their own, there are no homes for them. We take every opportunity to educate the public on the many benefits of spay-neuter surgery for pets, which can not only prolong but enhance their quality of life.

Our adoption program—paid for entirely by public donations—has been widely praised and emulated by other humane organizations across the country, and was even recognized by the Humane Society of the United States in its national publication last year. Our high standards and careful work with potential adopters help to ensure that homeless animals are adopted only into homes that are right for them, and that their new families are prepared to meet any challenges that arise as they undertake the responsibilities of pet ownership.

We salute our unsung heroes, our fine Shelter staff, whose job it is to clean and care for the animals, provide medical attention when needed, and socialize them in preparation for the day when they go home to their new adoptive families, investigate cruelty, and assist people over the phone and at the Shelter.

As you read this issue, you'll discover how our attention to the unique characteristics of every animal and every home situation has paid off for thousands of companion animals over the past five decades—not to mention their new families. The special people with big hearts who make room in their homes for an abused, stray, or injured animal understand the ultimate rewards of giving these wonderful creatures a chance for a healthy, happy life.

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Chewie, the Shelter's 'Goodwill Ambassador,' personally thanks 10-year-old Katie Michaels for her generous contribution to the League.

"I am sending \$50 to your organization. I hope that it will help even though it is not a huge amount. I would like to be able to send more but as it is I only have \$10 left. Next year I will try to make a larger contribution. Please put this money to good use."

—Katie Michaels

Videographer Needed

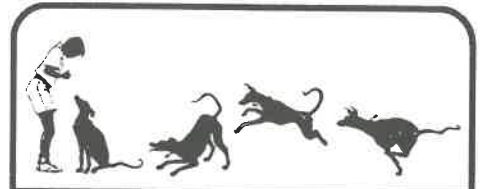
The League is looking for a videographer with S-VHS (Super VHS) capabilities and/or editing expertise to donate his or her time to help us prepare a video overview of our services and programs.

If interested, please send a demo tape and a letter of interest to Sandra LeBlanc, 300 E. Raymond Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301, or call (703) 836-2251.

Licensing Update

Many thanks to the people who have already licensed their dogs and cats for 1996. If you still need to purchase your pet's license, please call the Shelter at (703) 838-4775 and we will send you the appropriate form.

Applications are also available at the Old Town Veterinary Hospital, Alexandria Animal Hospital, Elpaw Veterinary Clinic, and Del Ray Animal Hospital.



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Chris Cavaliere, Alexandria, VA

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Spotlight Focus: League Programs

Humane Education Benefits Both People and Animals



A student meets a friendly dog during a school humane education program.

Our Humane Education department offers interesting and exciting programs appropriate for students of all ages and grade levels. We focus on humane treatment of domestic animals and peaceful coexistence with wildlife. We enlighten children and adults about the responsibilities inherent in choosing animals for companionship.

Our programs address the role of the Animal Shelter; pet care and owner responsibilities, including the importance of spaying and neutering to alleviate the tragic pet overpopulation problem; animal cruelty and neglect; wildlife concerns; and other animal issue-oriented topics.

These programs are designed to blend easily with any subject area, including science/biology; health; sociology/psychology; home life/ life skills; and career classes.

You can help animals by encouraging your children's teachers, scout and club leaders to contact our Humane Education department. These programs are offered at **no cost**, and can be scheduled for any time during the year. In 1995, we reached over 8,000 students of all ages in the Alexandria area.

Call now to schedule a humane education presentation class, camp, or group. Contact Jeanine Larsen, Director of Humane Education, at (703) 838-5042.

Meet the League's New Volunteer Coordinator



Megan Brooks (left) and a Shelter cat show a new volunteer the ropes during an orientation session.

As the League enters its 50th year, our programs have expanded to the point that a full-time staff member is needed to help plan and coordinate our activities—all of which depend on the participation of our dedicated volunteers.

Megan Brooks, our new Volunteer and Special Events Coordinator, is involved in all the League's special events, and in the development of our community outreach activities.

Volunteers are needed in the following areas: dog walking; cat socialization; cat room cleanup; transporting wildlife; special events; and pet therapy. Each job has unique requirements, and all volunteers go through an orientation program.

If you would like to help out at the Shelter or work at the League's events, please call Megan at 838-4387 for more information.

Spaying/Neutering Saves Lives!

Spaying or neutering your pet increases his chances of a longer, healthier life. The League offers reduced-cost spay/neuter certificates that are honored by 30 area veterinary hospitals. Don't wait—speak with your vet about this life-saving surgery soon.



'Beaches' McKay and her favorite spider.

"Just a quick note to say Beaches is adjusting and doing well. Tony Tiger (another graduate from the Alexandria Animal Shelter four years ago) has accepted her and even shares his sunny spot in the window with her.

Thanks for all your help."

—Linda D. McKay





'Candy' is 'happy as a clam' in her new home, says adopter Lewis McElroy.

"Thanks to you and your staff for the kind and helpful assistance in adopting Candy. She is certified as 100 percent healthy from Mt. Vernon Animal Hospital, which, in my opinion, demonstrates how well the animal was cared for at the Shelter. Candy is settling down fine and is learning how to behave. These things do take time. She rewards me every day by being with me."

—Lewis McElroy

'Benson': Worth Waiting for, Say Adopters

"I want to thank you and your wonderful staff for helping us to adopt the BEST dog we ever imagined finding: Benson Battey!!! I can definitely say he was worth waiting for!

"While all of your staff was most helpful, Marie Houston must be commended for all the time you spent getting to know our family and answering our numerous questions. I think her understanding of what we were looking for enabled us to adopt the perfect pet for our family.

"Please keep up the wonderful work you are all doing! I know that we will be forever grateful for your assistance.

"Thank you all again and again."

—Mary Battey



The Batteys: A Family Portrait

Adoptee Goes Home to a Pack of New Friends

'Q'—the only feline in the pack—has learned to do a 'sit-stay,' just like his canine housemates, says his adopter.



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HAIR DESIGN

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"My thanks to everybody on the staff who had a hand in Q's care—he really is a peach.

"I know how much care each of you put into your jobs and I have the highest respect for all of you. It's been a pleasure working with you."

—Chris Cavaliere

A Second Chance for a Dog Named Hope

The staff named her Hope. This gentle boxer mix had been left to die in a large trash dumpster the weekend before the deadly Blizzard of '96. Unable to get out on her own, her life was saved when Animal Control Officer Chad Brady climbed in to rescue her.

This poor creature was taken immediately to the Virginia-Maryland Veterinary Emergency Service, where the doctor found her severely underweight, bruised, dehydrated, and with a subnormal temperature. Remarkably, however, the dog's personality was not damaged. From the first she was sweet and trusting, and as she began her recovery at the Shelter she responded gratefully to the staff's gentle care and attention—something she clearly had not received for some time.

Hope—now called Stevie—was adopted by one of our Kennel Assistants, Christine Ezell, and her husband. She is learning, perhaps for the first time in her life, what it's like to be loved, and is thriving in her new home. She has gained nine pounds and looks much healthier than when her skeletal body was discovered in that dumpster.

Hope had had a hard life, but she's one of the lucky animals who get a second chance, thanks to compassionate people who have a special place in their hearts for abused and neglected animals.

If you are outraged that Hope was left to die in a dumpster, *good for you!* But sadly, Hope is just one example of the cruelty and abuse inflicted on defenseless animals every day, as our Shelter staff know all too well.

What can you do to stop the cruelty? Make it your business to report mistreatment of animals by calling (703) 838-4775. You don't even have to leave your name. Our Animal Control Officers will



BEFORE: At the time of her rescue, Hope was skin and bones. No animal deserves to be malnourished and mistreated.

AFTER: Now in a safe and loving home, Hope enjoys the love and care that was missing in her life.



investigate all such reports. Sometimes, owners are ignorant, not cruel, and can be educated on humane treatment of their pets. In other cases, where an animal's life is in danger, officers can take him to the Shelter, where he will be safe and given medical attention if necessary.

During 1995, after the League investigated each case, the Commonwealth's Attorney successfully prosecuted five cruelty cases. One involved 14 cats, locked in a room without food or water; in other cases, one dog, tied to a doghouse, was found dead, and another suffered painful injuries but was not taken to a veterinarian. On another occasion, an opossum suffered an agonizing death in a steel-jaw leghold trap.

You *can* make a difference. If you suspect cruelty, don't wait—**report it today by calling (703) 838-4775**. All reports of suspected cruelty or neglect are investigated by our Animal Control Officers. Your phone call can mean the difference between life and death for an animal like Hope.



'Sambuca has been the delight of my life,' says her new owner.

"I want to thank all of you and to commend your adoption process.

The information in your booklet and home visit was like an informative refresher

course. You take great care in assuring a safe and loving permanent environment for the

animals that come through your shelter.

Thank you again—you are all doing a wonderful service and a great job!"

—Manuela Schulze

Thank you

to the all our very special friends who contributed to the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria in 1995.

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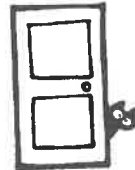
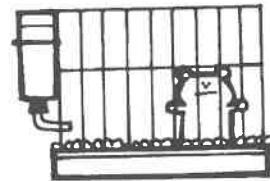
JUST FOR KIDS

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Pet Plus and Minus

Below are some math sentences. The sentences are all about being kind to


pets. Fill in the circles with the correct sign, + or -.



1. Dog shots = healthy dog.
2. Cat brushing = hair balls inside cat.
3. Cat spaying = kittens with no homes to go to.
4. Pets lots of love = happy pets.
5. Hamster exercise = sad hamster.
6. Dog leash = safe dog.
7. Cat open door = lost cat.
8. Pets kind pet owners = problems.
9. Dog spaying or neutering = less risk of cancer.
10. Cat spaying or neutering = less risk of cancer.
11. Lost pet ID tag = pet safely returned home.
12. Wild animal cage = sad animal.
13. Pets regular vet care = sick animals.
14. Dog hot car = danger.
15. Cat outside = hurt wild birds.

**A Message from
Congressman Jim Moran**




 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
 WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515
 JAMES P. MORAN
 8TH DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

January 30, 1996


To The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria:

Congratulations on your fiftieth anniversary. Over the past five decades the League has established itself as one of the premiere humane societies in Virginia. As a resident of Alexandria, I have had many opportunities to visit your shelter and I have always been very impressed with the professional management and the love and care that is provided to the animals.

The League is a very special organization and is a source of pride to our community. I am proud to be a supporter of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria.

Again, congratulations on your first fifty years, and I wish you continued success in your next fifty years.

Sincerely,


 Jim Moran



Blueberry, a 5-year-old Doberman, basks in the love of her new home.

Motu: A Great Life with a New Family

um. "Our best wishes for 1996 to your support organization, the many volunteers who run it, and all current and future animals in your shelter.

"We adopted a puppy from your shelter and have been thrilled to have her among us ever since. She is so friendly, loving, smart and fun that we have not had any trouble adapting our lifestyle to make her feel loved and happy in our home.

"Thanks again for allowing us to make this addition to our family."

—The Lash family



Motu was adopted as a puppy by the Lash family last July.

"Thank you! Thank you for the work you do. Blueberry is a wonderful addition to our family. We love her, and she loves us back twice as much."

—Amy and Bruce Babcock


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Meet the Winner of Our Logo Contest



Kristin La Flamme was one of nearly a dozen local artists who rose to the challenge of designing the League's new logo. Shown above with her best friend, Madison, a Shelter graduate, Kristin, a professional graphic designer, offered her winning entry (shown at left) as a permanent gesture of appreciation for her four-legged companion. Well done, Kristin—and thanks!

Wish List

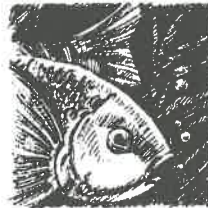
Your donations of needed services and new or gently used items will help us care for animals at the Shelter. If you'd like to donate any of these items, please drop them off at 910 S. Payne Street or call (703) 838-4775 to arrange for a pick-up:

- Blankets (we really need these!)
 - Towels • Plastic cat toys
 - Ping-pong balls
 - Catnip • Dog biscuits
 - Copy paper
- Kitty litter (clay type) • Bird seed
- Bird bath for our wild bird area
 - Small flat-bottom boat (for rescuing animals in flooded areas)
 - 486 or Pentium computers
 - Color printer (IBM-compatible)
 - Sun shades or canopies (approx. 10' x 10' for our outside satellite adoption program)

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P.T. Moran est. 1886

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Saying Good-bye To a Friend



Coming to grips with the loss of a beloved pet is necessary. By denying the pain or grief, say the experts, we only prolong the hurt. If you are anticipating the death of your pet or have recently experienced a loss, the League's grief therapy program can help you.

On the first Wednesday of each month, a trained bereavement counselor conducts free group support meetings at the Alexandria Animal Shelter. The sessions last from 7:30 until 9 p.m. For more information, call (703) 838-4387.

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter also hosts a monthly group support meeting. For more information, call (703) 830-1100.

In Remembrance Of Loved Ones

[This touching item is reprinted from the Summer 1995 issue of the Michigan Federation of Humane Societies & Animal Advocates newsletter, Federation News.]

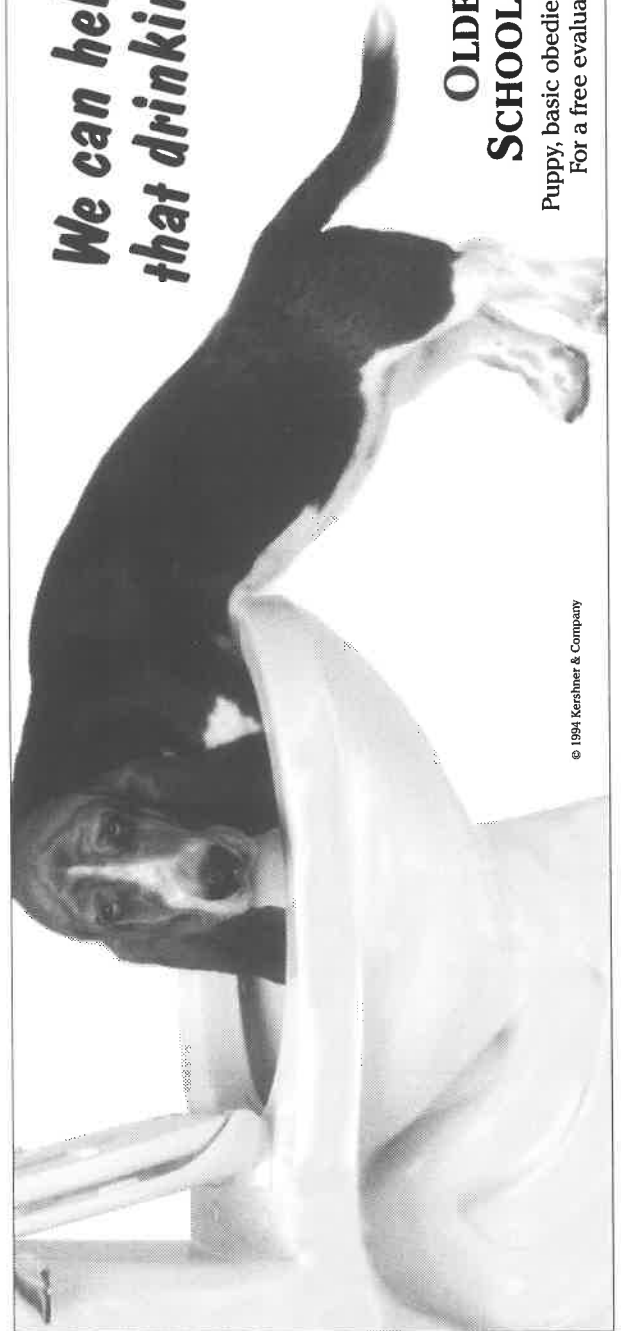
Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge. When an animal dies who has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water, and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams or days and times gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing: they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind. They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent; his eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the others, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

—Author Unknown

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that drinking problem.*



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Portrait of a former outdoor cat



Roofus—so named because he was saved from a roof by the League.

Roofus now lives with Daniel Zeese, Alex Zeese, Kendra Wright, and Kevin Zeese. This contented former outdoor cat is safe and sound, now that his roof-hopping days are over.



Bring 'Em Back for a Shelter 'Family Reunion'!

Is there a League alumnus in your home? If so, mark May 5 on your calendar and join us for our second annual Bring 'Em Back Day!

We invite all dogs adopted from our Shelter to a fun-filled Sunday afternoon. Our reunion will feature dog obedience demonstrations, local vendors, refreshments for both humans and canines, and a display board where cat adopters can put up photographs of their feline adoptees.

There will also be a photographer on hand to capture this special day on film. Prizes will be awarded in a number of categories, including Oldest Graduate, Longest Distance Traveled to Attend the Reunion, Owner/Dog Lookalike, and others. Say hello to your adoption counselor or staff members who brought you and your pet together.

This is also a great opportunity to



introduce your friends to the League. Who knows—maybe next year they will attend Bring 'Em Back Day with their own adopted pet!

For more information, call the League's Event and Volunteer Coordinator, Megan Brooks, at 838-4387.

JUST FOR DOGS

Puppy Daycare: A Perfect Solution for Working Families

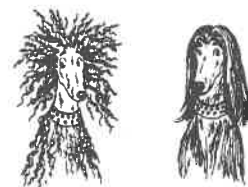
- Group socialization
- Snack/lunch time, play time, training time, nap time
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- Confinement acceptance
- Leash walking

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Memorial Contributions: An Enduring Legacy to Animals

The following memorial donations, received over recent months through January 31, 1996, are being used to expand our adoption program and to develop our outreach efforts aimed at assisting pets and their owners in our community. These names will be added to our permanent memorial plaque in the lobby at the Shelter.

From:	In Memory Of:
Martha Farrar (and neighbors)	Patsy
Lianne Conger	Donya & Whiffy
Myra S. Miller, DVM	Peppi, Shannon, Murdoch
Linda Willen	Sparky
Pamela Allen	Penny
Gay Pirozzi	Jonathan
Linda Barrett	"Jonathan" Barrett
Fred Stickler	Becky
Jane Wrenn	Bs
Mr. and Mrs. Tony Maldonado	Shadrach
Mr. and Mrs. Duane Benton	Shadrach
Kay Brown	Ben
Harriet Hammond	Mildred Hammond
Barbara Fisher	Anita Bai
Jacqueline Fehling	Mary Louise Gough
Mary Child	Blanch Gardner
Jean LeBaron	Rith Fritts
Kathy Cassel	Kathleen Ballard
William Horton	Robert Reagh
Thomas and Diane O'Hara	Robert Reagh
Patricia Zeigler	Robert Reagh
Cheryl Nye	Joseph Nye

If you would like to make a memorial contribution to the League, you may do so by using the enclosed self-addressed envelope and marking the appropriate box.

Shelter Grad 'Flips' Over New Family

Named for a trainer who saw real potential in this Shelter dog, Flip (owned by Betsy Carter and Jon Atkin) was valedictorian of his basic obedience class. He sports a blue ribbon in this photo. His favorite playmates in the household, Spook and Alcatraz, are of the feline persuasion.



Visit the Shelter Soon!

Are you thinking of adding a pet to your family? There are many bright, beautiful animals at the Shelter who need loving homes. We're the only shelter in the area open seven days a week for your convenience.

Hours of Operation

Business:

Tue., Thu., Sat.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Mon., Wed., Fri.	8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sun. and Holidays	12 noon-4 p.m.

Animal Visiting:

Tue., Thu., Sat.	11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Mon., Wed., Fri.	11 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
Sun. and Holidays	12 noon-4 p.m.

Alexandria Animal Shelter
910 S. Payne St. • Alexandria
(703) 838-4775

Did you know . . .?

The League's nationally praised adoption program is funded *entirely by public donations*. Through your contribution, you make it possible for us to find good homes for unwanted companion animals who would not otherwise have a chance for a happy life. Thanks to all our generous supporters for enabling us to help animals for 50 years!

Pet Portraits By Michael Returns

Pet photographer Michael Joseph will be in our area this summer to capture you and your pets on film.

Sittings will be scheduled over three days, June 14-16, at an Alexandria location to be announced later. Although it's early, you can book your appointment now by calling (800) 822-1379.

THANK YOU!



We are grateful to everyone who designated the League to receive contributions through the United Way and Combined Federal Campaign in 1995. Your pledges have given a huge boost to our adoption and humane education programs. On behalf of the animals we help every day, THANKS!

Seminar for House Rabbit Adopters



Every spring, a number of unwanted Easter bunnies are brought to the Shelter because people failed to anticipate the responsibilities and challenges associated with owning them. For this reason, the League has consistently discouraged giving rabbits—or any pets—as gifts. Animals should never be considered novelty items or given because they are “cute.” Owners must be prepared to make a lifelong commitment to care for an animal, and to make a significant financial commitment for food and medical care.

If you are considering adopting a rabbit as a pet, you’ll definitely want to join us at the Shelter on Sunday, March 26, at 2 p.m., when the League, in conjunction with the House Rabbit Society, will hold a seminar on “Living with a House Rabbit.”

This free seminar will discuss the responsibilities of adopting a rabbit and issues to be addressed include house training, tips on “bunny-proofing” the home, toys, and health care issues. The session will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

The Shelter is located at 910 S. Payne Street in Alexandria. For more information, call (703) 838-4775.

Animal Welfare League of Alexandria 1996 Special Events Calendar

March 9	St. Patrick’s Day Fun Dog Show (Market Square, Old Town)
April 6	Doggie Bone Hunt & Easter Parade (Jones Point Park)
May 5	Bring ‘Em Back Day (Alexandria Animal Shelter)
June 14-16	Pet Portraits By Michael (Location TBA)
June 23	Paws for Fun Household Pet Cat Show (Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale)
August 31	Canine Games (Jones Point Park)
October 17*	Annual Dinner (Location TBA)
November 3*	Doggie Dash (Fort Hunt Park)
November 29– December 1*	Pet Photos With Santa (Olde Towne School for Dogs)

* Date tentative



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