

RVHS NEWS – SPRING 2014

PAW PRINTS

Rogue Valley Humane Society
P. O. Box 951, Grants Pass, OR 97528

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Rogue Valley Humane Society

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WEBSITE

www.roguevalleyhumanesociety.org

www.RVHS-OR.org

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Left Coast Web Graphics

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Facebook!*

SHELTER NEWS

BY MARGARET VARNER, MANAGER

As always, things move very quickly at RVHS. Last year we built a new 544 sq. ft. isolation unit for our dogs. This wonderful new isolation unit was built with donations from our community. Because Team RVHS strives to keep our pets healthy and safe this isolation building was very much needed.

We had many special cases but there are always a few that stand out for the staff. CJ, a senior male German Shepherd mix was found on the side of the highway in Cave Junction. He was injured, very thin, balding and in need of TLC. CJ stayed with RVHS quite a few months before a staff member took him home. CJ is in a loving home environment with a pack of his own and a snuggly warm bed to live out his life like a pampered senior dog should.

Another case that comes to mind are the three little kittens that were dumped in a box under a volunteer's car in the parking lot during business hours. These 3 little kittens are now known as Doris Day, Shirley Temple, and Elizabeth Taylor. They were all so tiny, balding with ringworm and suffering from upper respiratory infection. They hardly had a fighting chance but with the help of staff and a wonderful volunteer who fostered these sweet babies for months they're now adopted, healthy, happy, and in their forever home. Oh, did I mention adopted by the wonderful volunteer that fostered and cared for them?

Day in and day out RVHS staff members deal with so many sad situations so it's nice to have some Happy Tails to share, such as in 2013 RVHS adopted 223 dogs and puppies and 229 cats and kittens into their forever loving homes. Team RVHS strives to keep our staff trained and educated with new techniques in the animal health field. We attended conferences like The Humane Society of The United States Animal Care Expo and The Best Friends No More Homeless Pets National Animal Conference. These conferences allow us to stay refreshed, revitalized and educated to continue with the standards of care that sets RVHS apart.

We're always very active in the community going above and beyond what's expected of us. In the first three months of 2014 RVHS staff members went out on many calls and rescues, some of which are very hard to talk and think about. But we're thankful every day that we can help educate the community and be a part of so many Happy Tails.

Please be sure to stop in and meet the staff and our furry friends here at the Rogue Valley Humane Society.



Meet the Love of Your Life Right Here!



RVHS WISH LIST

- 33 Gallon Trash Bags
- Gift Cards
- Pea Gravel for dog runs
- Clorox Bleach
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- HD Laundry Soap
- Taste of The Wild Dog Food
- Taste of The Wild Puppy Food
- Purina Cat Food
- Purina Kitten Food
- KMR Liquid Kitten Milk
- Esbilac Milk for Puppies
- Advantix Flea meds
- HP Ink - #96 and #97
- Canned Dog Food and Cat Food (Pate')
- Postage Stamps
- L-Lysine Tablets 500 mg
- Mr. Clean Multi-Surface Cleaner, Baking Soda and Clay Cat Litter

Did you know that RVHS runs a donated "pet food bank" to help in emergencies when low-income families can't make ends meet? Food donations are always welcome!

Paws Up!



CAN LOVE BE BLIND?

By Mary Jane Manzi

One hot Saturday last August we got a call that a dog was alone with two puppies behind a supermarket. Tanya went searching for them and found a small dog with two tiny, nursing pups.

Unfortunately, rescuing abandoned dogs is not unusual for us but what made this harder to understand was that this young dog was blind. She was in a frenzy trying to protect her babies but once she felt reassured Tanya was able to bring them all back to the shelter where they settled into our isolation building with its new kennels and soft, soothing music. We named the little family Stevie, Cookie and Sugar.

At first, Mom Stevie had a hard time with the unfamiliar noises, always on guard for any threat. Her desire to take care of her puppies was very strong but now she felt that the people around her were there to help her.

The puppies put on weight, one black like Mom and one tan-white. They looked like Pekingese blends and soon there was a waiting list of potential adopters. But for

Stevie, there's been no waiting list. No one has been bringing their family in to meet her. She's not able to respond like the other dogs with jumps and tail wags. So she spends another night with us. And then another.

We know that when there's love, being different doesn't matter. Being blind didn't stop Stevie from loving and raising her puppies.

Why is it stopping someone from adopting her?



THE ANIMALS NEED YOU — CAN YOU BE A PET FOSTER VOLUNTEER?

RVHS wants to save more animals but you know that our physical space is limited. Most of the time we have people waiting to bring in a pet that they can no longer keep, or maybe a dog that was hit by a car and left on the side of the road, or a surprise litter of puppies or a found box of kittens. How other humane societies have risen to this challenge is by developing a robust foster parent program. Want to volunteer but don't have the time to come to RVHS? Want to experience the joys of a companion animal but not ready for adoption? Retired and have some extra love to share? By fostering for a short period of time you will be helping other orphan animals by opening up room so that together we can save another life.

Tiny, motherless kittens will be arriving soon. We provide all the training and supplies – you provide the care and love. Please call us and also spread the word because it takes a community to make a difference.





Save the Date!
**2014 Furball
 Dinner and
 Auction**

Saturday, June 21st
**Grants Pass
 Golf Club**
 5:30 pm Yappy Hour
 6:30 pm Dinner

Tickets on sale at
 RVHS and on website
RVHS-OR.ORG

**Summer
 Car Washes**

at Mock's Ford
 July 12th
 August 9th
 September 13th
 10 to 2 pm

**Critter Camp
 for Kids!**

July 7th -11th
 July 21st -25th
 August 4th - 8th
 For Kids 8-12 yrs.
 10 to Noon



Are you a Fred Meyer customer?
 You are now able to link your Rewards Card to RVHS and whenever you use your Rewards Card when shopping at Freddy's, you will be helping RVHS earn a donation from Fred Meyer. If you do not have a Rewards Card, you can sign up for one at the Customer Service Desk of any Fred Meyer store.

For more information visit:
www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards
 or go to customer service at Fred Meyer and they can assist you.

The non-profit number for RVHS is 90049.

You will still continue to receive your rewards points, gas points and rebates just as you do today.

Memorial Notice ...

In February the people and animals of the Rogue Valley Humane Society lost a dear friend, Randy Hobson.

His work with RVHS started as a favor for a board member to build new shelving in the garage. Since then his expertise helped shape many projects including the renovation of the medical treatment room, installing sky lights in the cat rooms and dog kennels, and the construction of our new canine care unit.

All of us will miss his skill, dedication, good humor and especially his laugh that was so full of life and love.



GROWERS' MARKET

Visit the RVHS booth at Grower's Market every Saturday to see photos of all of our adoptable animals. Visit with Fred, Kenway and Diane from each week!

RVHS THRIFT STORE

There's lots of great items for sale at the thrift store located on Redwood Avenue right next to Gooseberries Market – we have the best prices in town. Have an item to donate? This store supports RVHS and is a wonderful way to help us! Open 10-4 pm Tues-Friday, 10-2 pm Saturdays.

**Jan. thru March 2014
Intake Numbers:
44 Dogs and
25 Puppies**

**Adoption Numbers:
67 Dogs
and Puppies
Found their
Furever Homes!**



Kanine Kronicles

by Scot Roberts

ROXY

I can't resist saying it: Roxy has moxie. Happily, it also happens to be true.

Full of energy, courage, and determination, this female two-year-old, American Staffordshire blend recently shined in obedience school (thank you Rita!) and would happily continue her education with you. She has the heart of a true athlete and watching her play fetch makes one appreciate her dexterity, economy of movement, and the line of her body in motion.

Her movements maybe timeless and instinctual, but the way she can climb into your lap, having just met you, and into your heart is all Roxy.



STORMY

This male, three-year-old, Border Collie blend has a motor that won't quit. Pretty amazing, considering he was banged up by a car before arriving at RVHS.

People who know border collies won't be surprised when I say my favorite part of throwing the ball for him is watching his tail while he chases it down. Often spinning like a helicopter rotor at the end of his pursuit (in this ballet, as with snowflakes, no two whirls are ever exactly the same) and strongly swinging back and forth on his triumphant return like the powerful tail of a alligator. His tremendous ability to focus on his human, his sport, and, maybe, some chore you will teach him around the house makes Stormy the ultimate devoted companion.



Need help to spay/neuter your cat or dog? Call the RVHS Hotline number:

Dogs: 541-761-3932

Cats: 541-291-3786



RVHS-OR.org

Your Rogue Valley Humane Society has maintained a website since 2008. In that time it has grown in popularity by leaps and bounds. Although focused on Josephine County, it has attracted visitors from all over the world. It is a place for everyone who supports the RVHS or would like to. A place to keep up with the latest adoptable pets, shelter news and current events.

If you have adopted a pet from RVHS visit our "Share Your Story" section to tell others of your experience with us. We also feature photos of fundraising events and info on upcoming events like Fur Ball.

There is Information on the spay/neuter programs too!

**Jan. thru March 2014
Intake Numbers:
33 Cats
and 12 Kittens**

**Adoption Numbers:
54 Cats
and Kittens
Found their
Furever Homes!**



It's hard to believe but **TRIGGER** has been with us since March 2010 when he was burned as he escaped a house fire. He's a soft-spoken, beautiful little boy that loves to be brushed and he really enjoys special food treats.

Look into his eyes and see his gentle nature. He's very friendly but like many cats, not a big fan of being picked up. If you want an adoring and adorable feline that gets along well with other cats, please come meet Trigger.



Kitty Korner

by Nina Smith

LOUIE STRONG came to RVHS in October 2012. He's one of our office cats, the felines that think that lots of animals and people coming and going is just ho-hum, no big deal. Louie likes them all.

When he's not busy with office duties he sits in a lap or on a windowsill and watches the world go by. Bring out the treats and he's right there too. This boy is very easy to live with so if you need a laid-back, furry friend, come check out Louie.



ASIA also arrived at RVHS in October 2012. She had been found in a box with her kittens under a bridge in Rogue River.

Her babies were all adopted leaving Asia to tap into her playful, mischievous side.

This big-eyed girl would be a really great cat for a family because she's energetic and loves to entertain.



RVHS COMES TO THE RESCUE!

CATS, DOGS, HORSES AND PEOPLE!

RVHS HELPS THE COMMUNITY

HEALTHY ADOPTABLE DOGS AND CATS

COMMUNITY SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAMS

CHILDREN'S PET EDUCATION PROGRAMS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



*Helping the Community . . .
4 Paws at a time!*



HOW WE HELP THE COMMUNITY

By Margaret Varner

CATS AND DOGS: Early in March our community cat spay-neuter program got a call from a man needing our assistance: his girlfriend had left him with an animal menagerie and he was starting to feel overwhelmed.

The program volunteer knew this was not a good situation and promised to see what help she could find and get back to him. Team RVHS came up with a plan and one week later we went out to see how we could help.

When we arrived we were greeted by a sweet female dog that was ready to jump in



our rescue vehicle and instantly come back with us. We introduced ourselves to the owners and asked permission to enter the single-wide mobile home. What we found inside was clearly an out-of-control situation and thirty or more upset cats jumping all around us. But we have done other cat rescues and working together we were able to secure nineteen cats and kittens in carriers. We took them back to the humane society and did their medical evaluations and vaccinations. Sadly, we found that ten of these felines had untreatable conditions. Nine cats had only minor medical issues and will soon be ready for their forever homes.

This rescue was very difficult for us. Most of the animals we save from situations like this require medical care, rehabilitation and TLC. No matter how long it takes they stay in our care until they are healthy and adoptable.



As for the other animals on the property, happily, Freckles the dog came back with us.



This super-sweet girl is on meds for heartworm now and she's available for adoption. We're still working with the owners to make sure the farm animals have what they need.

At the end of the day we knew that RVHS made a positive difference for the people and their animals.



DID YOU KNOW?

Oregon's new dog tethering law took effect January 1, 2014. Oregon's new law is designed to better protect humans and animals from the risks associated with keeping dogs on chains:

- Dogs are sometimes hurt or strangled by chains
- Dogs can't reach their food, water, or shelter when chains catch on obstacles
- Chained dogs are as much as 8 times more likely to bite
- Neighborhood disputes over barking or aggressive dogs often involve chained dogs
- At least 1/4 of fatal dog attacks in the US involve chained dogs
- Because dogs are naturally social animals, chaining and isolation cause health and behavior problems

Under the new law:

- A dog cannot be tethered to a stationary object for more than 10 hours in a 24-hour period
- A dog cannot be tethered to a running line, "zip line" or trolley for more than 15 out of 24 hours
- A dog cannot be tethered with a choke or pinch/prong collar

The new law is meant to end chaining as the main way of housing and keeping a dog. The limits don't apply when dogs are visiting campgrounds and recreation areas or engaged in hunting or herding. The law also sets out clearer requirements for protecting animals from the elements. Outside dogs must have a dog house or other shelter with dry bedding and a solid roof, floor and walls.



How we help, continued

HORSES: By the end of February the Rogue Valley Humane Society had received three reports from concerned citizens within the city limits about two horses.

The complaints were: no shelter and horse in the mud. Tanya and I went out to do a wellness check and found the reports to be true. We introduced ourselves and offered help but we were turned down.

Any animal in distress gets our immediate attention and I told the owner very clearly that if the horses were not out of the mud and in an improved area the next day we would return with Josephine County Animal Control and a sheriff. Shortly after we got back to RVHS we received a phone call from the owner asking for our help.

Team RVHS sprang into action and contacted our "Shelter Angels" . . . anonymous donors who donate funds for materials to help Josephine County residents who want to "do the right thing" for their distressed animals but can't afford the expense. Without hesitation, these good people purchased new field fencing, T-posts, corner posts, cement and hay.

Our wonderful "Shelter Angels" to the rescue again and I'm happy to say that the horses are out of the mud, have good food and a new fence is being built by the owner as I write.

Editor's Note: As always, we hope you enjoy reading about the animals of RVHS. Before we changed the look of this newsletter we made sure that it would not cost us any more money and we're happy to say that it actually was less than printing in black and white.

RVHS is a part of the Best Friends Network and a recipient of Pedigree Foundation, PETCO Foundation, and PetSmart Charities Grants





Mission Statement:

The Rogue Valley Humane Society provides compassionate care for stray, unwanted, displaced, and abandoned animals and works toward ending pet overpopulation so that there will be no more homeless pets. We are committed to placing every healthy, adoptable animal in a loving lifetime home, teaching responsible pet guardianship, and maintaining our community spay-neuter programs.

Vision Statement:

The Rogue Valley Humane Society envisions a community where every healthy adoptable companion animal has a lifetime, loving home and all homeless animals receive the care and compassion they deserve until they are adopted by their forever family.

Core Values:

- We believe that every animal's life has value and is worthy of respect and protection.
- We believe that euthanizing healthy, adoptable animals is not acceptable.
- We believe that animals contribute to the health, happiness and quality of human life.
- We believe that we must manage our resources to assure the long-term future of our organization.
- We believe in providing quality medical and shelter care by following evidenced-based animal welfare practices.
- We believe that through humane education we can help foster compassion, protection and guardianship for companion animals.
- We believe that we should treat everyone with dignity and respect. Community members, staff, and volunteers are partners in improving the welfare of animals and helping us fulfill our Mission.
- We believe that we can end pet overpopulation by adhering to our commitment to spay/neuter all of our animals before adoption and by providing community-assistance spay-neuter programs.
- We believe that we best serve our community by placing healthy companion animals in responsible, loving homes.



Volunteer Paw Stars

By Nina Smith, Cat Coordinator



LIZ YOUNG has been an invaluable asset to us here at RVHS, especially in the cat world. She has successfully fostered many kittens this past year and all have since been adopted including her last three fosters which she adopted herself! They were Liz's biggest challenges.

They were abandoned in our parking lot and in need of a momma. They all had upper-respiratory problems (very challenging since they did not know how to eat) AND ringworm. Ah yes. None of this scared or phased Liz. She persevered with a smile on her face. Thank you Liz for all your hard work and dedication. We love you!

🐾 Paws Up! 🐾

By Kellee Petersen, Volunteer Coordinator

MEET JENNIFER GREEN!

Jennifer has been volunteering at the Rogue Valley Humane Society since January 2011! She came in a little timid but with tenacity and a huge heart for the animals.

Jennifer and her husband returned to Grants Pass from New Mexico, and it wasn't long before she found a way to help the homeless, helpless animals in our community.

She is an amazing advocate for the widely misunderstood or abused "pit bull and bully breed" dogs and has the voice and knowledge to show for it.

Stop in sometime and say Hi to Jennifer! You'll find her at RVHS fundraisers or at the humane society with a camera around her neck taking endless photos of our adoptable animals for you to see.



Jennifer, you are a true friend to the animals and an asset to the Rogue Valley Humane Society.

Thank you and . . . Paws Up!