



FUZZ BUZZ

Issue 17, Winter 2012

Shelter Buzz

Greetings friends of Animal House Shelter! As 2012 is drawing to a close I would like to thank all of you for your support and dedication to Animal House Shelter in what has been a busy and exciting year. We have rescued and adopted out over 23,000 dogs and cats since the founding of the shelter in 2002 -- over 3,000 in 2012!



We are currently participating in the Animal Rescue Site's \$300,000 Shelter Challenge and by visiting our website every day until Dec. 16th, and clicking on the banner on our home page, you can cast your vote to help us win. We are currently the #1 shelter in Illinois and in the top ten in the nation!

This grant would contribute to our fund for the construction of an on-site veterinary clinic for the rescued dogs and cats of Animal House Shelter. The clinic will also offer low cost spay and neuter, vaccines and microchipping to the surrounding communities.

Remember, all donations to Animal House Shelter are tax deductible. I hope that you all have a safe and happy holiday season and thank you for your continued support to help the homeless dogs and cats throughout the Midwest!



Thank you!!

Lesley Irwin

Lesley Irwin - President AHS, inc.

Georgie

Georgie, a 7 year old Yorkie, ended up at the pound when his elderly owner was forced to go into a nursing home and was unable to bring Georgie with her. When he arrived at Animal House Shelter his condition was appalling. Georgie had almost no hair on his body, was covered in sores, his eyes were crusted shut with discharge and he had a golf ball sized tumor growing from his right side. The slightest touch to



Georgie's skin caused him to go into a frenzy of scratching so severe that it looked as though he was having a seizure. AHS is doing everything possible to help Georgie but it appears that he will have a long road to recovery. The vets still aren't sure of the cause of his skin problems and hair loss.



Meet Elvis and Pricilla

These 2 beautiful 4 year old Redbone Coonhounds would be absolutely devastated to be separated. They are gentle and sweet with children and adults. They are wonderful, outdoorsy dogs who love to run and play together. Please consider fostering or adopting this bonded pair or making a donation to sponsor their care.



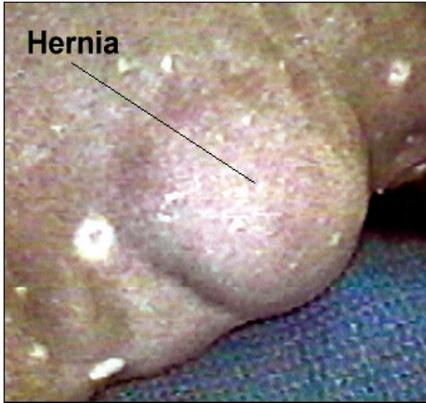
“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”

Gandhi

ANIMAL HOUSE SHELTER

Saving Alice

After giving birth to her two puppies, Alice was dumped at an animal control facility by her owner. This sweet, gentle, one year old sharpei-boxer mix with her



two innocent babies were all facing certain death until Animal House learned of their fate and quickly offered to take the whole family. We soon noticed that Alice wasn't eating normally and was dropping weight very quickly. She also had a large bulge protruding from her abdomen, which seemed to be growing bigger. We rushed her to the animal hospital where Dr. Carmichael of Woodstock Vet Clinic discovered that Alice had

a large inguinal hernia, a condition that develops as the result of a weakness or opening in the wall of the lower abdomen. Because of a congenital weakness in the area compounded by her giving birth, a portion of her intestine strangulated, swelled to the size of a grapefruit, and finally ruptured causing severe pain and allowing fecal matter to seep into her system. She was suffering tremendously and needed emergency surgery. Alice's survival is nothing short of a miracle! Thanks to quick medical intervention and the loving, nursing care provided by AHS, she survived and continues to improve. Unfortunately, her medical bills are stacking up. Alice needs your help while she recuperates on her many medications. Please consider making a donation to help AHS with the cost of her care.



Meet Fluffy!

In early May, Fluffy was brought to Animal House Shelter having been found on the side of the road severely dehydrated, malnourished, and near death. The vet gave a poor prognosis of survival as Fluffy had most likely been hit by a car, had brain injuries and was suffering from one of the worst cases of pneumonia they had ever seen. He could not even lift his head to eat much less stand or



walk. Animal House Shelter was not ready to give up hope. Fluffy was sent into foster care with an extensive antibiotic regime and slowly but surely began to recover. Once the pneumonia was under control his foster mom

began taking him outside for rehabilitation. After months of patient and gentle coaxing, Fluffy was able to walk and

even run and play with his foster brothers and sisters. He still has great difficulty walking on slick floors and is unable to go up and down stairs but he is a happy, well-adjusted, and very grateful little dog. Had it not been for the good Samaritan who scooped him into his pickup truck and the dedication of Animal House Shelter and Fluffy's foster mom, this poor, sweet little angel would have died that day on the side of the road. Please consider making a donation to Animal House Shelter so that we can continue to save the lives of dogs like Fluffy.



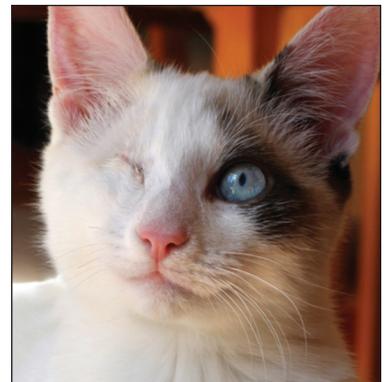
Eden Sees the World as Perfect

Eden was wandering the streets, alone and hungry, when Animal Control picked her up. She had sustained a serious eye injury which was badly infected and she was going to be euthanized. AHS had her seen immediately by a veterinarian. After weeks of antibiotics while in foster care, the eyeball ruptured and it was decided that the best course of action was enucleation. This involved removing what remained of the eye, suturing the lids closed and starting her on another round of antibiotics and pain medication. Dr. Sandhu of Randall Road Animal Hospital did a beautiful job with the repair. Eden never lost her sweet nature,



giving kisses to her care givers only hours after her surgery. We are happy to report that this playful girl just found her

forever home with a young couple who were able to see past her missing eye and love her for the wonderful kitten that she truly is! Unfortunately there are many more like Eden who are desperate for our help. With your generous donations AHS can continue to save the injured and neglected.





Calendar

2012 Giving Tree Celebration and Your Pet Photo with Santa!

Giving Tree - Now to Dec. 25th
 Santa Photos Schedule:
 December 1 – noon to 3pm
 December 2 – 3pm to 6pm
 December 8 – noon to 3pm
 December 9 – 3pm to 6pm
 December 15 – noon to 3pm
 December 16 – 3pm to 6pm

SHELTER WISH LIST:

Bleach
 Canned puppy/dog food
 Canned kitten/cat food
 55 gallon garbage bags
 Paper towels
 Canned Chicken
 Canned Tuna
 Purina Kitten Chow
 Cottage Cheese



Thank you, Little Paws Inn, for sponsoring the 2nd Annual AHS Dash for the Dogs 5k Run/Walk

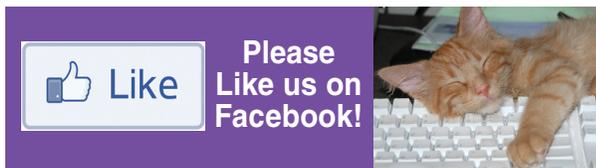
Eva and Otto

Many dogs pass through the doors of Animal House Shelter but very few have as much to teach us about love and compassion as Eva and Otto. Even though these dogs have not had much to call their own in life, they have always had each other. Otto, an 8 year old terrier, is completely blind. Eva, a 7 year old Lab, has become his eyes. It is amazing to watch Eva lead Otto to their food, push the food in the bowl his way, and wait for him to eat before she takes any herself. Eva is constantly aware of where Otto is, and will stand in front of him when strangers approach until she is sure that they are trustworthy and will not hurt Otto. The bond that they share is inspirational and Animal House Shelter is proud that we can help these amazing dogs in their pursuit of a loving forever home. Please consider sponsoring or adopting this bonded pair if you have room in your home and in your heart. They will certainly remind you every day how precious the bonds that we share with those we love can be.



How to Help Save More Lives

If you are just discovering Animal House Shelter for the first time or are an old friend looking to do more, please consider the many ways that you can make a difference in the lives of our homeless pets. AHS is always in need of volunteers, foster homes, transporters and donors. We are available by email or phone (847-961-5541) every day from 11 to 7. Let us know how you would like to become more involved. One way you can help AHS save lives is to pledge a monthly donation. It does not have to be much, as even a small amount given regularly can be the difference between life and death for a pet in need. Simply visit our website, click on the "DONATE NOW" button, select a donation amount, and check the "recur" box. We also invite you to look into matching gift donations with your employer by checking with your human resources department. You may find that your company will match your contribution in full. The animals of AHS appreciate your support!



It Happened in our Community!

We often think it can't happen here and then our eyes are opened. Little Moses was thrown out of the window of a moving car in Elgin! The caring family who witnessed it took him home but immediately noticed something was wrong. He landed on his chin and the impact caused his lower lip to completely tear away from the jaw bone. His front pads were also shredded raw from skidding along the pavement. The family brought him to AHS. There was no time to wait. After a quick assessment he was sent to Animal Care Clinic where Dr. Paul Bierlein repaired the lip avulsion. His paws were cleaned and treated with antibiotic cream.



Moses 2 days post-surgery

Moses is now completely healed. He is a handsome black kitten ready for whatever life brings. We hope it brings him a forever home where he will be loved and cherished. We also hope that his story will encourage people to set aside a little extra this holiday season for these abused animals in need of our help.





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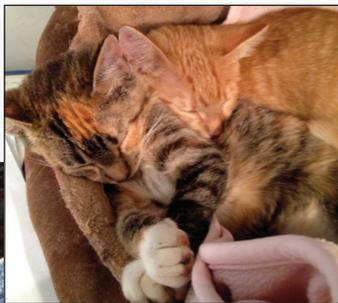
Visit AHS online at www.animalhouseshelter.com

Brave Little Rylan Finds a Way

We will never know what happened to cause the break in Rylan's femur but we do know it took a tremendous amount of force. This sweet little boy came to us from animal control where he had been neutered but left with the broken leg! He was in constant pain. One look at the x-ray and we were off to Animal Care Clinic where Dr. Paul Bierlein worked tirelessly to save the leg. In the end, the fracture was simply too old and there was not enough viable bone to repair. Amputation was the only option. This would be an unbearably sad tale if it were not for little Rylan's resilient nature! Within three days of the amputation he was testing his

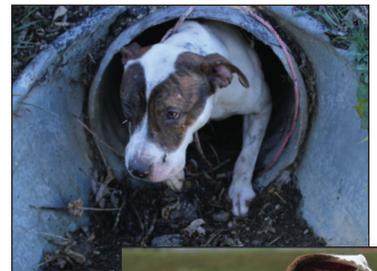


altered gait and within a week he could climb the cat tree! Rylan simply centers his one back leg under his body and off he goes. He can run just as fast as his sister, Marcy, who also suffered a setback when a sponge was left inside her after her spay surgery at animal control. This little duo is undeniably happy and carefree. Of course, the best thing that could happen now would be for them to go home together, where they could play, be loved and nap contentedly in each others arms.



Hannah

It was a dark and stormy night in Indiana when an animal control officer saw a pair of tired eyes peering out at him from an old sewage pipe. Hannah was found cold and starving, fighting for survival and living in the drain pipe. The animal control facility was filled to capacity so Hannah was scheduled for euthanasia. Sadly, most animal control facilities do not allow American Staffordshire Terriers to be rescued or adopted out so they are more often the first ones to be euthanized. Animal House Shelter could never let this happen to such a beautiful, sweet, loving young girl who had fought so hard to survive. She is now available for adoption and would make a wonderful addition to any home, as she is great with kids and other dogs. If you are unable to adopt at this time, please consider making a donation so that Animal House Shelter can continue saving the lives of dogs like Hannah.



Chevy and Derby

Chevy met Derby at AHS in November 2006 when a family came in to find a friend for Derby, who was lonely. They instantly became best friends and life was good for the next five years. In 2011, their humans had a baby and Chevy and Derby didn't know what to make of the situation. They made their humans nervous when they were around the little one and it was decided that they could not stay. These girls must be adopted together as it breaks their hearts to be separated. If you have room in your life for two wonderful dogs, please consider adopting Chevy and Derby.



AHS thanks all the foster families & volunteers who work tirelessly to make a better life for homeless animals!