# Fuzz Buzz



Issue 20, Winter 2014

# **President's Letter**

ello and Happy Holidays from Animal House Shelter! In this season of warm tidings and cold weather we hope that you will take a moment to remember the important work of Animal House Shelter and our unwavering mission to give a better life to the four legged, furry and less fortunate. Through the generosity of supporters like you we have been able to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome

over 28,000 animals to date! The sad truth is, however, that for every animal we rescue, there are hundreds more waiting for the chance to know the love of a family of their own. Please consider making a donation to Animal House Shelter this holiday season and give the gift of warmth and serenity to a poor lost soul that has been cast aside. Animal House Shelter shows no bias in the lives we save, giving an equal chance to all animals in need regardless of age, breed or medical conditions. In fact, as you will read in the stories that follow, we strive to take on those that

have little or no chance of rescue otherwise because of their particular situations. It is only because of donations like yours that we are able to give these animals the chance that they all so



greatly deserve. Donations to Animal House Shelter help save the lives of animals of over 3,000 animals each year and are 100% tax deductible. Thank you for your ongoing support and I hope that you all have a safe and wonderful Holiday Season! Thank you!!

Zesley Awi \ Lesley Irwin - President AHS, inc.

# There is hope for Virginia!

Even though Animal House shelter receives hundreds of emails every day with heart wrenching photos of animals in need of rescue, when sweet Virginia's picture showed up in our inbox, we couldn't help but weep for this poor baby girl. She had such



a terrible case of demodectic mange and was missing so much of her hair that it was hard to even tell what color her coat was. The scabs and sores covering her body were larger than the tiny patches of hair that were still managing to grow. Her eyes were swollen

shut due to entropion of both of her lower eyelids. This is a condition in which the eyelid folds inward causing the eyelashes to constantly rub against the eyeball and irritate it. It is excruciatingly painful and creates a state of almost constant infection. Despite

all of this, she would still manage a lethargic thump of her tail and a lick to the nose when an AHS staff member would hold her and caress her. Virginia was placed in foster care, put on a rigorous treatment regimen for her mange and had surgery performed to correct her entropian eyelids. Now, because of the loving care given to her by Animal House Shelter, Virginia is not even recognizable as the same dog that came to us only a few short months ago. She is full of spunk and energy



and can't get enough of belly rubs and romping in our play yard with her doggy friends. Please consider donating to AHS so that we can continue to give dogs like Virginia the chance at life that they so greatly deserve!

# **Learning to Trust**

Poor little Buster must have quite a history. Unfortunately, because he was found as a stray we have no way of knowing what trials

and tribulations this sweet little dog has faced. All we know is that he is terrified of people and will do everything he can to avoid human interaction of any kind. Animal House Shelter is dedicated to his rehabilitation, no matter how long it might take. We know that Buster is capable of learning that people can be kind and that a gentle caress from a human hand is not something



to cower away from. He is currently in foster care and is slowly but surely learning to trust. Please consider making a donation to Animal House Shelter so that we can continue to make a difference in the lives of animals like Buster.

"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself."

Josh Billings

# ANIMAL HOUSE SHELTER

#### A bond that cannot be broken

Sarina and Brigitta are strongly bonded sisters. They came to AHS in early July from an animal control came to AHS in early July from an animal control facility where their owner had left them. Upon arrival



at AHS it was immediately assessed that Sarina was having trouble walking and need to be seen by a vet. We found out that an old injury to her left rear leg was causing her to have chronic dislocation of her hip joint. The only option was FHO surgery. Once Sarina had her surgery she was placed into foster care to recover and the staff of

AHS soon realized how strong the bond to her sister Brigitta truly was. Neither of the dogs were eating

and neither wanted to walk or go out to play. Sarina's foster home took Brigitta in as well without hesitation and the transformation was remarkable. These girls are only happy when they are together. Please consider adopting this pair of beautiful 1 year old Husky mixes and give their story a happy ending!



# "Adopt, Volunteer, Foster, Donate... You Can Make a Difference!

A nimal House Shelter is always in need of volunteers, foster homes, and donors and welcomes any questions that you might have about these ways of becoming more involved. We are available by phone at 847-961-5541 seven days a week between 11 am and 7 pm, and email at animalhouseshelterinfo@gmail.com. One of the ways you can save lives through Animal House Shelter is to pledge a monthly donation. It does not have to be much, as even the smallest amount when it can be counted on regularly, can be the difference between life and death for an animal in need. Simply visit our website, click on the "DONATE NOW" button, and after selecting your donation amount check the box that indicates you would like your donation to reoccur monthly. We would also like to invite you to look in to matching gift donations with your employer. By checking with your human resources department, you may find that your company will match your contribution to Animal House Shelter in full! Animal House Shelter is also now accepting vehicle donations through the Cars program and you can now donate your vehicle (which is tax deductible for you) and Animal House Shelter will receive the money when your vehicle is sold! Visit the "Donations" page of our website for more information. AHS accepts donations in honor or memory of a loved one (human or animal) for weddings, birthdays, funerals, Christmas ect. We will send notification to anyone that you specify that the donation has been made! It's a wonderful way to show someone how much you care and save another life at the same time! You can do this by clicking on any Donate Now button throughout our site or mailing in your donation to the shelter.

# Please consider adopting, fostering or sponsoring one of our long term resident dogs.

f is it the adoptable dogs page of our website at www.animalhouseshelter.com and click on their pictures for more information. Adoption applications and foster applications can be found on the online application page and click on any "donate now" button to sponsor!





Halo Rat Terrier Mix 9 years old Lab beagle mix 3 years old



Penny mix 7 and 1/2 years old



Sadie Red Tick Coonhound/pointer Beagle Mix 10 years old



Sandy Lab/Shiba Inu Mix 8 years old



Shepherd/pointer 1 year



Beagle Mix 2 years



Sonic Bassett Hound mix 4 years



Shellv Basenji/Amstaff mix 2 years

# **Giving Tree**

Canta is coming to Animal House Shelter! Starting November 30th, our tree will be filled with ornaments each adorned with a photo of one of our Shelter's cats or dogs with their holiday wish for the shelter printed on the back of the ornament. Please select an ornament and fulfill the wish of your chosen animal. Return the wish in December and place you gifts under our "Giving Tree". You can fulfill the wishes of our homeless pets for the holidays and help make our shelter a more comfortable place during their stay with us. Santa will be hosting our Holiday Bake Sale and posing for pictures. Bring your pet for a visit and photo with Santa! Santa photos - \$10 donation per photo to the shelter. Stop in and shop some delicious treats, all to benefit the shelter! Photos with Santa are from 1 pm to 4 pm on December 6th, 7th, 13th, 14th, 20th, and 21st. Hope to see you there! The Giving Tree Celebration is held in the Shelter Lobby.





# **Shelter Gear**

You can help save the lives of the dogs and cats rescued through AHS by purchasing shelter gear for yourself or as a gift for someone else! We have many different designs for men and women and have shirts, hats and pants available. Check out the "Shelter Gear" page on our website at www.animalhouseshelter.com and order today!





# A Vision of Hope.

On a chilly fall evening a young man was having a bonfire in his backyard with a few friends. A few hours had passed and he looked down to discover a furry little kitty had decided to join in the warmth of the fireside. He scooped her up and, as he looked at her more closely, realized that her eyes were clouded over and she was having trouble breathing. Her hair was matted and she had discharge running from her eyes and nose. Unable to keep her himself he immediately brought her to AHS where he knew she would be taken in and cared for. Luna was seen by our vet and was diagnosed with a severe case of pneumonia and corneal sequestration in both of her eyes, most likely caused by either injury to the eyes or an infection that had gone untreated. She is currently in foster care, on multiple medications to treat her pneumonia and is seeing an ophthalmologist to determine what the best course of treatment will be for her eyes. With the support of your donations, Animal House Shelter can make sure that Luna has the best possible chance at restored vision and a long and healthy life.







13005 Ernesti Rd. Huntley, IL 60142 847.961.5541

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# **Beautiful Amy**

Sweet Amy was adopted from Animal House Shelter 6 years Sago as a puppy. She was returned to us recently because her family was no longer able to afford her care. About a



year after she was originally adopted, Amy began to lose her hair. Despite extensive testing by her adoptive family's vet, the cause of her problem could not be determined. Animal House Shelter has also been conducting tests since she was returned and the cause of her problem still remains a mystery. We are not giving up on her, as we are determined to make sure she no longer has

to live with the discomfort that her skin causes her. She is an incredibly sweet, loving and affectionate girl who is amazing with other dogs and children. Please consider making a donation so that Animal House Shelter can find the cause of Amy's problem and/or make Amy a part of your home and family by adopting or fostering her!

### **Bella's Second Chance**

In late August Animal House Shelter received a call from DuPage County Animal Control that a dog had just been relinquished to them who was very old, having trouble walking and had a very serious skin condition. Bella, a

ten year old lab/chow, could hardly stand. Her toenails had grown so long that they were pressing into the pads of her feet, she was missing all the hair on her neck, belly and legs and her eyes and ears were swollen shut with infection. It was clear that someone had neglected her for quite some time and then dumped her to be euthanized at animal



control. Sweet Bella's health is improving now that she is under the loving care of AHS but we need your help! Please consider donating to help poor Bella or stop on in anytime to adopt her!

# Mike has the heart of a lion... ...and the sweetness of a kitten.

Mike was brought into Animal House Shelter by a Good Samaritan who found him wandering the streets of her neighborhood with a badly broken leg. She witnessed other neighbors kicking him away, rather than help him, despite the fact that one of his legs was nearly snapped in half. He had been in this condition for weeks. Upon



his arrival at AHS, Mike was immediately rushed to the vet, and it was determined that the leg needed to be amputated. This exceptional kitty was in unimaginable pain, yet he still let the staff of AHS and our veterinarians examine him without complaint. He

even started purring because he was so happy just to have contact with a person who wasn't trying to hurt him. Mike is currently staying in a foster home where he is enjoying feeling like part of a family. Update: Mike was adopted just as this newsletter was going to the printer. Please make a donation in honor of Mike so that AHS can continue to save the lives of other kittens just like him!

# Rhonda needs your help!

Rhonda is a 3 and 1/2 year old Bulldog Who is currently a resident of Animal House Shelter. She has been diagnosed with a genetic defect called Ectopic Ureters. Her ureters do not connect to her bladder like they are supposed to and this causes her to have issues with urinary incontinence. Because it was not corrected when she was a puppy, all her life urine has been backing up into her kidneys causing severe renal disease. Our vet is not sure how much longer she has to survive due to her renal disease and even after a trip to the specialist we were



told there wasn't anything else we can do for poor Rhonda except make her comfortable for the time she has left. Please consider sponsoring Rhonda while she is under AHS' care.