

## President's Letter

### Happy Holidays Everyone!

We have had such an unexpected year! We have set new records in regards to the number of animals rescued and placed in a single year. And with your support we have successfully rescued and placed over 55,000 dogs and cats in loving homes since 2002 that would otherwise have been euthanized at high kill facilities!

In this newsletter you will find our plans for a much-needed expansion to Animal House Shelter. We need your help! We desperately need to build a vet clinic, children's education room, indoor training facility, adoption bonding rooms and sanctuary rooms for our long-term residents in order to save over 5,000 lives a year and take care of their medical needs. This clinic will also provide low cost veterinary care to surrounding communities in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago.

Please look through all of the details and remember that your donation is tax deductible because we are a 501C3 organization. We can't take this next step without you. With your support we will all be able to see thousands of more innocent lives saved and the impact they have on so many families' lives!

Sincerely Yours,

*Lesley Arwin*

Lesley Irwin  
President & Founder  
Animal House Shelter, Inc

## Happy Tails

### Mickey

Well Mickey and I have bonded in these 2 months and I can honestly say he is the man in my life now. He is such a joy and I am thankful every day for having him. He does keep me moving and wants to be walked 5 times a day, which I have now reduced down to 2 long walks and 1 very short walk before we go to bed. Otherwise, he loves being in the backyard barking at the chipmunks and squirrels. He loves to snuggle and where ever I am sitting he has to be right next to me. He is quick and I often call him Houdini because he appears from nowhere and knows how to wiggle out of his collar and harness. I find him sitting on top of his crate or on top of the couch. I mean on top of the back of the couch, like a cat. He is a very loveable dog. He has been checked out by 2 vets, has had 2 doggy spa appointments and is very healthy. Although he has his own bed at night, after the lights are out he waits about 15 minutes and then jumps on the bench at the end of my bed and slowly makes his way onto the foot of my bed to sleep. I am truly blessed.



## Behind the Scenes

Throughout the year we are asked to take in thousands of dogs and cats in need. The requests for animals in need are truly overwhelming. While we do our best to take an even mixture of young, old, social and scared animals, hoarding situations pop up way more frequently than they should. Our rescue has long been known for taking the "underdogs", the ones known for being passed up on even by other rescue groups who may not have the resources we do. This last year in particular has really been one for the books in regards to special needs cases we have stepped in to help with. These animals are in dire need of socialization and rehabbing along with their medical needs, sometimes extreme due to the neglect. Many of them have come in pregnant from interbreeding as well as a large amount of them heartworm positive from living in outdoor conditions with no medical care. You may remember some of these dogs but may not have seen their "before" photos before so we wanted to take the chance to show you what horrific conditions these animals come from.

*The Husky/Malamute Group- Some of our adoptables from this group were Shelly, Socks, Barb, Sky, Shadow, and Stacey. All safely in their forever homes now!*



*The "Game" Group- Some of our adoptables from this group Hopscotch, Boggle, Jenga, Twizzler who have all found their forever homes. Rummy, Dibs, Blackjack, Hondo, Jacks and more will be available for adoption soon! Please consider one of these poor babies for to join your family.*





## Medical Donations Needed!



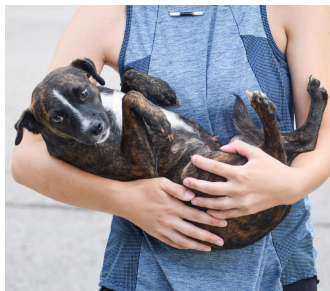
### Forrest Fights to Walk

Sweet Forrest was abandoned and alone, found as a stray on the streets. While on stray hold, animal control realized he did not walk properly. He needed a rescue, or his future would be uncertain. AHS stepped up to help this sweet boy! Once seen by our vets, they discovered he needed not one, but two, hip replacement surgeries! Each surgery cost \$1,100!

*Can you help?*

### Batman Loses a Limb

When resilient Batman arrived at AHS, we knew instantly that something was not right. While standing, he would not put pressure on one of his hind legs. When he walked he would drag his leg behind him. We rushed him over to see our veterinarian. There they ran diagnostics, and discovered that he had a past broken leg. It had been set, and splinted, but Batman never received the proper care and therapy afterwards. The best option was for us to amputate his leg. Batman underwent the leg amputation, (which cost \$1,500) he has now recovered and is doing great!

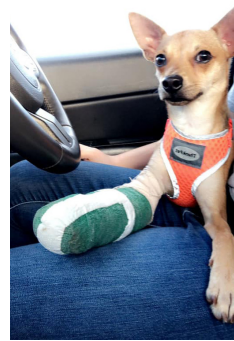


### Odyssey's Plight

Darling Odyssey was picked up as a stray on the hot streets of Texas. After her intake exam it was noted that she severely limped on one of her legs. Barely using it at times, it was discovered that she had a severe luxating patella and would need to have a \$1,200 surgery to be pain free! *Will you be her hero, and help us help her?*

### Plank's fight to walk

Plank came to us as a stray from Tennessee. Upon arrival, it was evident that he was not able to use one of his legs at all! His hip was completely out of the socket and he needed a hip replacement. This FHO (hip replacement) surgery will give Plank the chance to walk and play normally! The cost of this surgery is \$1,000. *Please donate to help Plank Walk!*



### Rush to save Oswald's leg!

Oswald was relinquished to our shelter after jumping over a gate and breaking his front leg. Due to the placement and severity of the break, it could only be fixed by a board certified surgeon, at a specialty clinic. Oswald's owner could not afford the surgery. Time was of the essence because if it healed improperly the leg may not have been able to be saved. Oswald had to be rushed to the emergency specialty center in Buffalo Grove. The cost of the surgery to save Oswald's leg is \$4,500. *Can you help?*

## SCOUTS & TROOPS

### WANTED!



## ANIMAL HOUSE SHELTER VOLUNTEER GROUPS

PLEASE CONTACT  
HALLE@ANIMALHOUSESHELTER.COM

## ANIMAL HOUSE SHELTER

### ALUMINUM

### WANTED!

Save your cans to save the animals!



Bring your aluminum to AHS for us to scrap for cash!

All funds go back towards our mission to save lives!

13005 Ernesti Road,  
Huntley IL 60142

## ANIMAL HOUSE SHELTER

13005 Ernesti Road,  
Huntley IL, 60142

## WALKERS & RUNNERS NEEDED!

Please contact  
halle@animalhouseshelter.com  
for more information about  
volunteering at AHS!

Come help us  
exercise our residents  
for a happy and  
healthy shelter  
experience!



## ANIMAL HOUSE SHELTER

## ANIMAL HOUSE SHELTER

WoofTrax donates back to AHS for every walker & distance walked!



Take your walk  
for a dog.

with  
WoofTrax

Support our shelter every  
time you walk your dog.

Get the App here at wooftrax.com

Questions?

Halle@animalhouseshelter.com

## VOLUNTEER MEETING



Meeting located at AHS in the big white house!  
Entrance & parking to house on Coyne Station Road.

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 2ND

10:00AM-11:00AM

Want to learn different volunteer positions and  
opportunities to become involved with  
Animal House Shelter?

Join us for an overview while meeting  
current volunteers and staff.

## ANIMAL HOUSE SHELTER

Questions: Halle@animalhouseshelter.com





## Animal House Shelter is expanding its facility in order to save the lives of over 5,000 dogs and cats each year!

Since 2002, AHS has rescued, rehabilitated and found homes over 45,000 dogs and cats. Starting in Barrington, IL, we moved to Huntley, IL in 2004 and quickly outgrew our current facility. Currently, we are driving to six different veterinary clinics to keep up with our medical needs. With this expansion, we are looking to build a state-of-the-art vet clinic on the shelter property to take care of all of the animals coming to our organization from high kill facilities through the year. In addition, this clinic will provide low cost vaccinations, microchips and spay and neutering to all communities in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago. We need your help to make this opportunity into a reality. Animal House Shelter currently must outsource all of its veterinary needs and this forces us to deplete vital resources that are greatly needed elsewhere. We are hoping to raise funds beyond those of our current operating costs so that we can build this much needed addition to our shelter. Because Animal House Shelter regularly takes in animals with significant health problems, we often find that the funds needed to care for their medical procedures, surgeries and medications exceeds that which we have available to us. The cost of this care would be offset greatly if we had our own vet clinic to care for their needs. We would then be able to rescue and rehome a far greater number of animals. We see every day that there is sadly no shortage of animals in need of rescue and sanctuary and many of those that have even minor health problems are not being given the chance for rehabilitation and adoption into a loving home. Animal House shelter can only take in as many of these animals as we have the funds available to care for. A vet clinic of our own would allow us to not only have the resources to care for our resident animals but would also allow us to provide a low cost veterinary clinic to serve the needs of our community. It is our hope to continue our already adamant campaign that all dogs and cats should be neutered, vaccinated, and have quality health care available to them. With the addition of a veterinary clinic to our facility, we will have the ability to provide these services to those who would otherwise not be able to afford them.

. Along with the veterinary clinic, we would like to also give back to the community by providing resources for a training facility as well as a children's education center for the care of animals. We have an imminent need to have the space to share our knowledge and resources with schools, community groups, after school programs and the like to better educate the community on our mission and ways they can help. The expansion of our shelter to include a veterinary clinic, training facility and education center would greatly enhance our ability to continue our important work in animal rescue and would significantly impact our ability to better serve our community. We are asking for assistance to help us reach our goal.

## Expansion highlights:

- Additional kennel space for animals to allow us to increase the number of animals we can save
- A child education center to host schools, groups, and more for tours and educational programs
- 10 bonding rooms for multiple families to meet with potential pets to adopt
- State of the art veterinary clinic to allow us to treat animals on site and lower costs to provide them with the best care
- Sanctuary rooms for long term dogs to make them feel more at home
- Additional indoor and outdoor exercise yards for the dogs
- Volunteer center to accommodate the many volunteers that we have

## Naming Rights For Purchase:

**Naming Rights to the building with signage:** Please contact us

**Adoption Center/Lobby:** Please contact us

**Low Cost Veterinary Clinic:** Please contact us

**Children's Education Center:** \$400,000

**Retail Store:** \$300,000

**Free Roam Cat Colony Habitat:** \$250,000

**Farmstead Silo Memorial Garden:** \$250,000

**Legacy Building:** \$100,000

**Outdoor off-leash play yard (3):** \$25,000 each

**Indoor socialization play space (3):** \$25,000 each

**Laundry Room:** \$20,000

**Bonding Rooms (10):** \$10,000 each

**Sanctuary Rooms (8):** \$5,000 each

**Kitten Play Rooms (9):** \$5,000 each

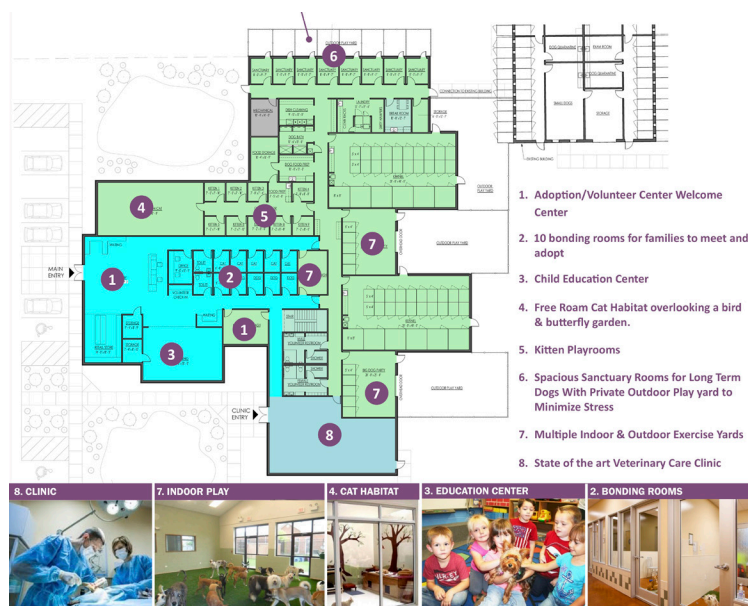
**Tribute Bricks:** 4x8- \$150 each or 8x8- \$300 each

**Memorial Bench:** \$1,500 each

**Memorial Tree with marker:** \$1,000 each

**Memorial Tree without marker:** \$750 each

Please contact us with any questions or interest in getting involved at [Info@animalhouseshelter.com](mailto:Info@animalhouseshelter.com) or 847-961-5541







## ANIMAL HOUSE SHELTER

13005 Ernesti Rd. Huntley, IL 60140  
847.961.5541

### AHS BOARD:

Lesley Irwin	Tara Gagliano
Anna Andrus	Kathy Meyer
Shane Adams	Ryan Hill
Maggie Pfannenstiel	
Cindy Wigdahl	
Jerry Aurigemma	
Lance Marcinek	
Dan Markwalder	

Visit us online at [www.AnimalHouseShelter.com](http://www.AnimalHouseShelter.com)

NON-PROFIT  
ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #126  
ELGIN, IL

## Animals in Need of Their Happy Ever After

### Toby

Toby is a fun-loving puppy with special needs. This little guy has no feeling in his hind end or tail, due to a trauma that injured his spinal cord at a very young age. This trauma has left him incontinent. This, however, does not slow him down. He loves going for walks and spending time outdoors. Toby LOVES giving kisses! He is sweet and super playful. Our vets believe he will live a full life.



### Rook

Meet Rook! This handsome guy is the class clown of the cat room! He loves to be the center of attention. You will typically see him hanging out in one of the cat trees. He likes to be petted and loves toys! Rook would do best in a family with older children and no cats. He does love dogs!



**ROOK**



### Zoey

Zoey arrived at AHS with her two siblings, all very small and in poor condition. They had round worms and were heavily infested with fleas. Almost immediately after arriving at AHS one of Zoey's siblings had sadly passed. Zoey and her remaining sibling were sent to one of our vets to be checked over. The vet gave us the o.k. to go home, so they were quickly placed into a loving foster home to get the TLC they desperately needed. Sadly, that night another passed in his sleep without warning. Zoey was then taken to Companion Animal Hospital to be sure she was O.K. They determined that Zoey was hypoglycemic (had low blood sugar), so they immediately gave her fluids and a glucose drip. Zoey then became hypothermic and needed heat support. She had to be fed with a syringe every 2 hours until she was able to eat on her own. Although her prognosis was poor, AHS decided to continue supportive care in the hospital. After 6 long days in the hospital with many ups and downs and around the clock care, Zoey was finally able to return to her foster family. Zoey is 4 months old now and thriving! Zoey's lifesaving hospital stay totaled \$1600.

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