



State of the Ark

*Celebrating 47 years of rescuing, housing and adopting homeless animals
January/February, 2012*

What's Your Resolution for 2012?

Most people respond with "lose a few pounds" or "exercise more" but if you resolved to volunteer more, we are happy to have you! Our calculations show that only 22% of individuals who have registered with HSFC as volunteers had service hours in 2011. A summary report is available for download on the volunteer site at www.hsfcvolunteers.org, and our managers have received reports showing a breakdown of hours by individual.

Our goal for 2012 is to see a marked increase in **active** volunteers. We offer so many different options for participation, from working directly with the animals at our facilities to fostering in your home to helping with events and mailings to covering shifts at the thrift stores. Something for everyone, really...

Events are routinely posted and updated on the volunteer calendar - visit www.hsfcvolunteers.org and bookmark the calendar for easy future reference.

We certainly appreciate the support we receive. As we continue to grow, so will our volunteer needs. We hope to see you in 2012!



Happy Valentine's Day!



Adoption Statistics through December 31, 2011

Here are our numbers!

Adoptions through 12/31/2011:

Dogs:	218	Birds:	6
Cats:	79	Rats:	3
Rabbits:	2	Guinea Pigs:	2

Community Members Helped through 12/31/11:

- 156 as scholarships (not to be paid back)
- 60 loans to help community members meet their pets' needs
- 257 uses of the AniMeals pantry in 2011 (by 142 families)

Trap/Neuter/Return Program Support (178 cats and kittens, trapped, neutered and returned)

We also continued our supportive relationship with Shelter House.

Wags & Purrs = Thank You, Volunteers!

To our veterinarians and regular donors on whom we rely so much; our regular volunteers at the farm, office and thrift stores without whose consistency and dedication, our success would not be possible; our dedicated ACAT and feral cat program volunteers; and our foster families, **we THANK YOU!**

To Dr. Morris (Veterinary Surgical Referral Practice of Northern VA) for his surgical prowess and Dr. Rhymes (Parkway Veterinary Hospital) for his countless trips to the farm to help with medical needs for Ara, the beautiful German Shepherd who we took in from a local church after she had been hit by a car. Also assisting with Ara's daily special needs were Mary Kendall and Tim Tuggle, Lisa Schroeder and Shelley Woodside. For those who don't know, Ara had been badly injured with multiple lacerations and a broken pelvis. With such excellent care, she healed and found her way into the hearts of a new family! (Also, a big thanks to Sandy Sylvester and Lyman Hunter for their work with Ara.)

Dr. Chiapella from the Veterinary Internal Medicine Practice for all her efforts with our St. Bernard, Sophie, and her unique challenges.

Dr. Corcoran from VetVision, and Dr. Crum and staff at Stahl/Seavs for their specialty work and for always being so accommodating to us!

Dr. Faust from Stonewall Veterinary Hospital for her work with Joy, a Yorkie we took into our care who was showing signs of extreme stress upon arrival to HSFC.

To our volunteer Board members who track a considerable amount of time each month ensuring the continued success of HSFC's operations.

Betsy Thompson for her continued support both on site and off with our dog training classes and handling any training issues with our adopted dogs as they may arise in their new homes.

Pete Princi, who also works closely with some of our more challenging dogs to ensure they receive the training they need to be well-mannered and are then matched to appropriate homes.

Dog trainers Sandy Sylvester and Katie Pagen.

Allen Porter Lawn & Landscaping for cutting our lawn in Fairfax for free for the last three years!

John Boaz and Patriot Harley Davidson for choosing HSFC as recipient for their 50/50 at their January meeting.

Mike Hammer for maintaining the web site at www.hsfc.org and supporting the HSFC staff with their technology needs (including setup of the computer system in the spay/neuter van).

Fairfax High School Craft Show Volunteers: Isabel Alvarez, Lynne Mayo, Jeanne Taylor, Jack Taylor, Michelle Brendel, Brian Brendel, Mina Yindra, Marlene Hammer, John and Georgann Gutteridge, Mary Obaidy, Bonnie Markle, Ron Smith, Tami Smith, Nancy Elliott, Naomi Vitti, Mary Kendall and Tim Tuggle.

Thanh de Montebello for representing HSFC at the McLean Reindog Pageant in December.

Natalie Torres and Addie Clark for baking delicious cookies for our dogs!

Gina Lynch, Patty Cake, Christina Childs, and Vicki Kirby for really spearheading November's Toast to the Animals. While we had great support from other volunteers as well, these ladies did a superb job in pulling the event together and ensuring it was a smashing success! Save the Date: Toast to the Animals 2012 - October 20 (tentative).

Julianna Monacci and Girl Scout Troop 6705 for their donations of food and toys for our animals as they worked toward their Bronze Award.

Our version of

match.com



Spotlight: Josie & Pebbles ... two very special girls!

Josie and Pebbles came to HSFC as the result of their family's economic turmoil. While they loved the girls very much, the family recognized they could no longer provide for them. They have always been a pair and they must remain a pair because, you see, Pebbles is deaf and Josie acts as her "ears". The girls room together, play together, eat together, sleep together and love on volunteers together. They also walk well together on their leashes. Josie is extremely laid back and, almost on-sight, will roll over for endless belly rubs. And when you reach down to give it, Pebbles comes in for a hug.



Josie (4) is a greyhound/lab mix and Pebbles (5) is a heeler mix. Both are mixed with sweetness, that's for certain!!

These two girls would love to find their forever family soon. They really are a shining example of how two is better than one! If you know anyone who can welcome two beautiful girls into their home, please direct them to the web site at www.hsfc.org.



And another bonded pair, Dusty (quarter horse) and Princess (Shetland Cross pony), recently came to HSFC and are hoping to find a home together as well. These two have spent their lives together and are beautiful to watch. Dusty looks out for Princess just as you would expect a big brother would. Both are sound. For more information, visit www.hsfc.org.

AND ...

We certainly have plenty of animals for adoption as individuals too! So encourage friends and responsible pet providers to visit the web site and find their perfect match!

Our Managers

Janice Adams
Office Manager

Elisa Botero
Thrift Store Manager

Lisa Schroeder
Farm Manager

• • •

Our Board of Directors

Vicki Kirby
President

Mary Kendall
Vice President
Treasurer

Marlene Hammer
Corresponding Secretary

Debra Otto
Recording Secretary

Jeanne Taylor
Director
Volunteer Coordinator

• • •

www.hsfc.org

Tel. 703-385-7387

• • •

4057 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax VA 22030

www.hsfcvolunteers.org

hsfcnews@yahoo.com

Welcome New Employees

Pam Promisel (Barn/Quarantine Areas)
Susan Pickell (Barn/Quarantine Areas)
Michael Miga (Kennel/Farm)

We had internal staffing changes as well:

Diane Hale became our Spay/Neuter Van Manager
Liisa Hyland became our Thrift Store Assistant Manager

We have a great team in place entering 2012!

4th Quarter 2011 Adoptions *(through 12/31/11)*

Cats: (including ACAT) Babette, Beatrice, Bella, Cassidy, Edie, Enid, Gingersnap, Gumdrop, Katmandu, Kismet, Laverne, Molly, Renn, Sake, Shirley and Stoli.

Dogs: Apache, Albus, Allegra, Allie, Amelia, Ara, Autumn, Baker, Bear, Bosco, Brandy, Breeze, Buttercup, Buttercup2, Casey, Chester, Connie, Cooper, Cricket, Ember, Frostie, Hannah, Harper, Heidi, Hilton, Holly, Hope, Kae, Kelly, Lucas, Marty, Nibbles, Nicki, Pebbles, Reggie, Riley, Sage, Sandy, Selena, Shaggy, Sheldon, Shoobee, Sidney, Silver, Sim, Slick, Snookie, Snuggles, Start, Sweetie, and Tabasco.

Other:

Cassidy (Guinea Pig)

Adopted animal names extracted from weekly managers' reports and ACAT data.

Upcoming Events & Important Dates

Please monitor the volunteer calendar at <http://www.hsfcvolunteers.org/calendar.htm> for updates and reminders of upcoming events.

Shared Honor - Volunteers of the 4th Quarter, 2011

We have two volunteers of the quarter, and both are highlighted here:

Teresa Harrington (Thrift Store Volunteer)

Teresa admits that she started volunteering at the Thrift Store for selfish reasons - so she could spend time with her friend and HSFC volunteer, Pat Schuster. "We especially enjoy our lunch breaks together. But as the months have gone by since I started volunteering last January, I find that I also really enjoy the work of organizing and making the store look ship shape."

Teresa says her favorite hobby (when not volunteering) is gardening and caring for houseplants. "I have over 75 plants in my home during the winter months (most of them go outside for the summers). I also love animals. Just this past April we lost our cat, Webster, at the old age of 19. He was a part of our family and is still missed."

While her children were growing up, Teresa said they always had pets from hamsters to an iguana and everything in between. Teresa is now the proud pet grandma to two grand-dogs.

Thank you Teresa for all of your hard work in our thrift store. We are so grateful to have you on our team!

Lisa Zimmer has been volunteering at our farm since August 2010. Lisa says she "chose the HSFC as a place to volunteer because, all my life I wanted to work with animals, especially dogs, but I lacked the education to do anything professionally, and I didn't have the time to volunteer during my work career. But as soon as I retired last year [after 26 years with United Way Worldwide], I knew that the first thing I wanted to do was volunteer at the HSFC."

When asked what she enjoys most about volunteering, Lisa replied "Seeing the number of dogs who are saved and helped that other organizations and people didn't think were worth helping. It's so fulfilling to see them get healthy again and be adopted out to forever homes. And I really enjoy being with the dogs every week, especially those who want nothing more than to cuddle and be loved. It's also great being a part of the Wednesday morning crew with Lisa, Lynne and Mike."

When she isn't donating hundreds of hours to HSFC each year, Lisa enjoys singing in her church worship group in Fairfax Station, taking care of her husband of eight years, Loren, reading, spending time with friends and family, and attending Washington Capitals hockey games. (Go Red!). Lisa doesn't have any pets at home at this time but we have a feeling one of these days she will no longer be able to resist taking home a new best friend.

Lisa, thank you so much for your tremendous support!

Volunteer of the Year 2011: Susan Van Den Broek

Susan and her husband, Jan Derr, have both been volunteering with HSFC since about 1996. They began their adventure with HSFC by fostering kittens who needed to be bottle-fed. Over the years they have successfully raised many litters who went on to be adopted into loving homes.

Susan says "HSFC is also responsible for a big part of our lives today. Many years ago, you asked us to foster a mynah bird for a few days. He already had a prospective adoptive family, but thus began our interest in birds and the eventual birth of our bird store in 1999, FeatherHeads."

Susan and Jan have fostered so many cats and kittens and birds over the years! In addition to the neo-natal care, they have worked with painfully shy and even special medical needs cats, some of whom they have adopted into their family. In addition to their HSFC cats, they also currently pet-parent dogs Oscar, a Boxer, and Romeo, a Maltese, both of whom they adopted from HSFC.

"Fostering has worked well for us. Jan and I both have jobs and we have the store, so we don't have much spare time. Fostering lets us make a contribution on our own schedule. And, my boss has accepted that he never knows what I will be bringing into the office to feed."

Fostering for HSFC will hopefully be an important part of our lives for years to come."

Susan (and Jan), thank you for your tireless efforts on behalf of our wonderful animals through the years!

A Different Twist

FREE TO GOOD HOME: Two-year old child. Genuine reason, I've just gotten a new puppy so no longer have the time for the child. Think puppy may be allergic to child, also worried the child may bite the puppy. Child is potty trained and up to date on all shots. Needs home by tomorrow or it'll be taken to a shelter. Thanks!
YOU WOULDN'T DO THIS TO A CHILD SO PLEASE DON'T DO IT TO AN ANIMAL!! If you can't dedicate 10-15 years to an animal please don't get one!

IMPORTANT REMINDER!!!!

Our animal living areas are often marked with signs i.e., "caution" if we have reason for concern, or "no treats" or "QUARANTINE - Do Not Enter". We expect our volunteers to adhere to the signs. **This is not an optional activity.** Volunteers found ignoring signs or disregarding staff instruction will be asked to leave our facilities.

Thank you for your cooperation.



VOLUNTEERS OUR THRIFT STORES NEED YOU!

Interested?

Please contact the stores for more information!

Two convenient locations!

Second Chance 1
4055 Chain Bridge Rd
Fairfax VA
703-385-3064
Hours of operation:
Monday - Friday 10-4
Saturday 10-3
Sunday - Closed

Second Chance 2
929 W. Broad St.
Falls Church
703-533-9268
Hours of operation:
Monday - Friday 10-4
Saturday 10-4
Sunday Closed

**A fun way to meet great
people and help HSFC!**

HOURS AND INFORMATION

HSFC Administrative Office
4057 Chain Bridge Rd. Fairfax
703-385-7387 (PETS)
Hours of operation:
Monday - Friday 10-5
Saturday 10-4; Sunday - Closed

Cat and Small Mammal Adoptions-
Administrative Offices -
4057 Chain Bridge Rd. Fairfax
703-385-7387 (PETS)
Adoption hours:
Monday - Friday 10-3
Saturday 10-3; Sunday - Closed

HSFC Farm
Centreville VA
All visitors must call ahead - 703-385-7387 (PETS)
Dog and Horse adoptions - **by appointment only**

HSFC Outreach Cat Program
Cat Adoptions held at area PetSmart stores -
schedules posted to www.hsfc.org or
call 703-385-7387 (PETS)

Second Chance 1 - Thrift Store
4055 Chain Bridge Rd. Fairfax
703-385-3064
Hours of operation:
Monday - Friday 10-4
Saturday 10-3; Sunday - Closed

Second Chance 2 - Thrift Store
929 W. Broad St. Falls Church
703-533-9268
Hours of operation: Monday - Friday 10-4
Saturday 10-4; Sunday - Closed

**United Way Campaign #
8734
CFC # 93406
CVC (Virginia) # 8030**

EMERGENCY SERVICES

South Paws Emergency Clinic - Fairfax, VA
703-752-9100

Hope Center for Advancement of Vet. Medicine
Vienna - 703-281-5121

Prince William Emergency Vet Clinic - Manassas
Open 24 hours Holidays & Weekends,
6pm - 8am all other times
703-361-8287

Animal Emergency Critical Care - Leesburg
703-777-5755

Regional Veterinary Referral Center - Springfield
703-451-8900

Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Fair Oaks
Fairfax
703-591-3304

Woodbridge Animal Hospital - Woodbridge
703-897-5665

Fairfax County Animal Shelter
703-830-1100
703-691-2131 (Animal Control)

Wildlife Assistance Hotline
703-440-0800

