



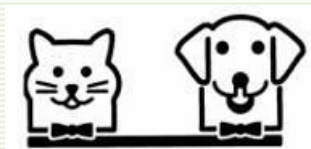
Editorial contributions welcome! Send to Isobel McQuiston at mca5@earthlink.net or (303) 674-1662

OCT, NOV, DEC 2007
 JANUARY 2008
ACTIVITY REPORT

Dogs/puppies adopted: 55
 Cats/Kittens adopted: 53
 Lost cats: 38
 Found cats: 34
 Resolved: 8
 Lost dogs: no report
 Found dogs: no report

If you have an Internet connection and you'd like to read EARS online rather than receive it through the mail, here's what to do: go to our website at www.eapl.com, and click on the tree in the upper right hand corner. It will bring up the newsletter screen, just click on whatever edition you'd like to see. It's in Adobe Reader format as well as Microsoft Word format.

Then send us an email at hauser@eapl.com and tell us to remove your name from the snail-mail list. Thanks!



WHAT MAKES EAPL TICK

In the last issue we talked about all of the areas where volunteers provided their time, talent and energy to make EAPL tick.

In this issue, and future issues, we plan to spotlight the different elements. This EARS will feature Dog Adoptions and the Dog Adoption Team.

Perhaps the first question should be, "Where do all those dogs come from and how does EAPL get involved in the adoption process?"

Many inquiries come through the League phone and many come from the Internet. According to the Dog Adoption Team, there are 3 major reasons that prompt the adoption process.

1/ Dogs found with no ID.

EAPL makes every effort to find the owner and return the dog.

When that is not possible it's necessary to find a suitable home. This most likely means the ownerless dog will find temporary and safe haven with an EAPL Foster Family. (EARS will cover that aspect in a future issue.) Photos are taken and put on our website, Pet finder and EAPL Bulletin Boards located around town.

2/ Folks wishing to relinquish

This might be the most difficult request. Again, every effort is made to identify the reason or problem and provide answers, recommendations or solutions. If that fails and EAPL is concerned about the safety and welfare of the dog, it enters the EAPL system.

3/ Owner is moving, has severe allergies, or a difficult hardship.

Sometimes, EAPL is asked to provide temporary care until the owner can rectify the situation. More often that isn't the case and another dog joins the EAPL list needing a home.

So let's discuss the process and the Team. Since its inception, our website is the beginning for many people interested in adopting. Even if they call the League phone, they are asked to go on-line. If they don't have the capabilities, the Phone Volunteer will take their information and pass it on to the Adoption Team.

If using the Internet, interested adoptees are asked to fill out the application, including the name of the dog of their choice. Whether by phone or on-line, that information is directed to the Dog Adoption Team. There are presently six members of that team and they each cover one or two days of collecting the information and responding. They all use the same voice message system with a common number so phone volunteers simply leave a message and the appropriate team member responds on her day. They also download all applications received during their "shift".

They then peruse the information, or call the individual who can't fill out the application to ask appropriate questions.

Now comes the most important part of their job. They must make sure the specifics of the situation match the dog of interest, or not! If it's an obvious mis-match, but a good applicant, the team member will recommend another dog that would be a better choice. If it's a good application and a good pet selection, the EAPL volunteer will arrange a meeting in the Foster Home. If that isn't feasible, they will arrange a home visit, meaning the dog goes to the applicants home for a trial period to make sure everyone, including the dog, is comfortable. Only then is the adoption finalized.

The time frame for a good application may take a week to coordinate interviews and home visits, but anyone submitting an application should

hear from a member of the Dog Adoption Team in a couple of days.

A questionable application will probably take longer or may be denied up front.

Every puppy or dog in EAPL's care is given a wellness check prior to being available for adoption. This may include shots, spaying or neutering, or teeth cleaning. Some have more serious injuries or illnesses that may need long term care or special needs.

The adoption fee for puppies is \$100 plus a \$40 spay or neuter deposit, which is refunded when proof is provided. Adult dogs are \$125.

The fact that very few adopted dogs are returned to EAPL speaks loudly that all the steps the Dog Adoption Team take to insure success is working and working very well.

But, sadly, with all their work and diligence, they never seem to lessen their load.

EARS suggests that you go on www.eapl.com to see just how many dogs and puppies are waiting for that "forever home". It also would be helpful if you viewed the application to see how stringent EAPL is in determining and matching all the animals in their care.

We applaud the Dog Adoption Team members, it is truly a vital element in EAPL's mission and success. The Dog Adoption volunteers are: **Dee Myslik, Michelle Sweeney, Pam Mitchell, Lin Theders, Amy Tepel and Barb Meachum.** The Dogs Needing Homes volunteers are: **Marge North, Colleen Norrgard,** and of course **Jackie Bell.**

Cat and Kitten adoptions follow many of the same routine as the Dog Team, however, **Karen MacFarquhar** handles all cat adoptions and **Teresa Ford** takes care of the kittens.

We hope to expand on their process and procedure in a future issue.

* * * * *

During the Vietnam conflict, the U.S. Army enlisted the help of cats to serve as “night vision” for soldiers. The harnessed cats were certainly capable of the task, but most ignored orders (as cats often do) and led the way to mice and birds. The idea was soon shelved.

From “365 Cats Calendar”

* * * * *



ANIMAL EMERGENCY TEAM

Summer will be here before you know it, and even sooner if you are over 50! We haven't had to put our knowledge to work yet, but we need to be prepared!

We will join the Animal Evacuation Volunteers for a joint training session on June 14. It will be close by, and more details will be provided later. Please put the date on your calendar and plan to attend if you can!

For the many new animal people on our mailing list, the Animal Emergency Team will set up a temporary animal shelter for the evacuated people with animals who are staying at the Red Cross shelter when there is an emergency such as a fire. There are several agencies involved in assisting Jefferson County Animal Control, and the AEV group accompanies Animal Control into evacuated areas to collect animals left behind. The joint training session with them will be very beneficial for our group.

If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Suzie deDisse (303) 674-4121, or by email, clsuzie2@comcast.net

* * * * *

EAPL Thrift Shop up and running

If you haven't had an opportunity to stop by the new Thrift Shop at 30496 Bryant Drive, please

do so. It's bright, colorful, and very full of merchandise.

On March 1 we took possession and spent the first week cleaning, painting, etc. Donations began about the 7th and as we near the end of the month we are delighted to tell you that the cash register is ringing, the credit card machine is singing and it looks like we will be in the black the first month.

Volunteers have signed up, but we sure could use some strong backs on Saturdays and on-call for the heavy stuff. If any of you have a truck or know someone who does, and would be willing to pick up or deliver larger items, just give us a call at 303-679-2504.

Wish you all could hear the positive remarks, about the shop and about EAPL. We have never had this opportunity to get the word about what we do to so many folks.

* * * * *



* * * * *

A THANK YOU

We received an email from someone we helped in Park County. We all know what a hard and dedicated President we have, and sometimes it is nice to hear it from someone outside our organization!

Hi,

I am writing to you because I have been taking care of the older black lab at PCAC. This is the gentlest creature you would ever want to meet. Ali who works at Lone Rock Vet contacted Jackie Bell and she got right to work. I just received a phone call from animal

control telling me that Jackie already has found a home for him. You do not know how much you have done and Thank You is not enough.

I met Jackie a few times as I used to be the vet tech at IMHS and always liked her very much but please pass this on to her. I Love her networking style!!

Thank You soooo very much, I will not stay up worrying about this awesome dog tonight or from now on due to your dedicated passion to help animals.

Thank You,
Kristy

* * * * *

ANGEL TREE

By Karen MacFarquhar

In December, EAPL put up their "Angel Tree" at Chow Down for the fourth year. The results were astounding!

The tree was covered with ornaments that suggested items that the dogs and cats of EAPL could use. They ranged from a \$. 99 catnip toy, to a canine neuter. We got it all. The donation bin that was placed under the tree had to be emptied daily, and the financial donations just kept coming in.

During a period that the news is full of stories of bad economic times, possible recession, etc., this community continued to support the efforts of EAPL wholeheartedly. A HUGE thanks goes out to all those that donated time, food, toys, money during the holiday season.

* * * * *

THE REWARDS OF YOUR WORK

Our annual fund raising letter also brings notes of encouragement, of thanks and so on. One that we thought would best express the results of all your hard work, is from the family that adopted two pups from us last April. They named them Clyde and Otis. Here is a picture of them last spring:



They are almost grown now, and are inseparable. Their owners sent photos with the statement, "We could not be more blessed. Thank you all."



If you ever doubt that your volunteer time and sometimes frustrating efforts make a difference, just remember the faces of these dogs, and know they are having a good life because of you. Thank you to you all!

* * * * *

NEW VOLUNTEERS:

We're delighted to welcome some new volunteers! Helping on the phones are **Mary Jo Aardsma, and Pat Miller.** **Jen Bell** is a new foster home. **Victoria Schimp** now helps out in the cat room. On behalf of the animals, welcome, we thank you so much for your time and effort!

* * * * *

An old, tired-looking dog wandered into the yard. I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home.

He followed me into the house, down the hall, and fell asleep in a corner.



An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out.

The next day he was back, resumed his position in the hall, and slept for an hour. This continued for several weeks.

Curious, I pinned a note to his collar: "Every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap."

The next day he arrived with a different note pinned to his collar:

"He lives in a home with ten children -- he's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?"

* * * * *

THE LUCK OF THE DRAW

During a recent promotion at Evergreen National Bank, our name was drawn twice to receive a \$150 donation. I think it is important for our volunteers to also know that we often receive very nice comments and letters with donations, and I would like to share with you a portion of the letter to us from Evergreen National Bank when they sent us the second donation:

-5-

"We are so pleased that EAPL was once again chosen to receive a donation from this promotion! Your work on behalf of dogs, cats and other pets for the last 26 years has made an important impact in our Evergreen Community. We hope you will once again extend our sincere gratitude to your many volunteers for opening their hearts and homes to help animals live happy and healthy lives."

Suzie deDisse

(Suzie deDisse collects the EAPL mail, writes thank you notes for donations, and keeps a database of donors)

* * * * *

DON'T FORGET

In 2006, 173,000 dogs and cats entered Colorado shelters, and over 43,000 of them were euthanized because there were no homes for them.

The Colorado State Legislature created the Pet Overpopulation Fund to provide subsidized spay and neuter surgeries for dogs and cats in underserved areas of Colorado. As a result, Colorado taxpayers can make a donation to the Fund on line 38 of their state tax forms. It's easy and worthwhile! When you file your taxes, why not include a donation to the fund.

* * * * *

Kittens are born with their eyes shut. They open them in about six days, take a look around, then close them again for the better part of their lives.

Stephen Baker

* * * * *



ANOTHER ONE, THIS TIME FROM THE ADOPTEE:

Deer Amy,

I LOVE TO WATCH TV!!!! Well, okay, not ALL the time...but if there's another doggie or animal or crying baby, I'M THERE!!!! Mom thinks it's hysterical to see me soooo attentive. Door bells get me sometimes, too. I'm still doing SUPER FANTASTICO!!! I'm shedding all over the place. Mom says she should make a sweater. I think that's silly. Did you know I have an anniversary coming up??? I do. A whole YEAR!!!! Mom's thinking of having a party with my sister an' my doggie relatives. I'm not too keen on party hats 'n stuff, but if there's food, I'M THERE!!! I go see my doggie doctor later this month for my yearly check up. We'll see how things go. I do have sum more of those bumpy things than I used to, but they don't bother me an' I really don't even know they're there. I'm just my constantly happy lovey dovey self. Or, as my mom sez.... *gag* ...her handsome prince of a dog.

Luv to all my fans,

Zeake

* * * * *



ADOPTION STORY

Dear EAPL,

We want to let you know that our little Sheba (formerly "Samantha") is such a blessing to us! We adore her and can't believe anyone could give up such a sweet dog. She is friendly to everyone, (dogs and cats included), loves all of us, and has filled our house with sunshine.

Thank you for rescuing her and giving us the privilege of adopting her! What you do is so important.

Thank you from,

Samantha's family and Chloe, our newly adopted kitty cat.



Sheba (formerly Samantha) and her new person.

* * * * *

I gave my cat a bath the other day....the fur kind of stuck to my tongue.

Steve Martin

* * * * *

This is from 2 wonderful volunteers that moved away:

Linda

I know Jill and I haven't been involved with EAPL since we moved to the Springs in 2006, but as I saw this email I just wanted to pass along to all the EAPL folks that you are the best of the best in rescue! We're working with a group here in the Springs and still doing cat rescue (how can you refuse those kittens?) but I have to say that EAPL does the rescue "thing" better than anyone - and I can't believe all the cats/dogs that are saved because of all your wonderful volunteers! I always tell people here that Jill and I knew we were fully committed to EAPL when I looked around our house in Bailey one night and we had our personal cats (too many to mention!) and another 18 EAPL kittens/cats living in the same space! That and the fact that Missy Cougar still has a place to call home when most would have given up on her!

You all do wonderful work, and Jill and I are both proud to have been a part of what EAPL does on a daily basis! And thanks to all the dedicated volunteers, Karen, and most of all Jackie! The world is a better place because of all of you!

Heidi



A page from the Cat Rules Book:

BARF....

If you have to throw up, get to a bed quickly. Barf in the middle of the quilt, preferably a good thick one that doesn't fit in the washer. It will give the human a chance to go to a Laundromat and spend more money. Add this cost to the total you're already costing them. It makes you feel treasured and expensive. If you cannot manage to get to a quilt, try a chair or an Oriental rug. If there is no Oriental rug, shag is good. When throwing up on the carpet, make sure you back up so that it is as long as the human's bare foot. Move around as much as possible to leave a glob, here, there and everywhere. Stand back and watch your mistress gag and swear while she tries to clean it up.

BOOK REVIEW

By Linda Hauser

I just finished a wonderful book that I know you'll love. The name of it is "Where the Blind Horse Sings" by Kathy Stevens. It's a true story of a woman who starts a farm animal rescue organization in New York. It's a great read, don't miss it!
