



State of the Ark

Celebrating 46 years of rescuing, housing and adopting homeless animals

January, 2011

Dear Volunteers,

With this new year, we hope to see more of you at our facilities! HSFC currently has nearly 650 volunteers registered in our contact database, but only about 24% of those registered performed service hours in 2010. We noticed some interesting individual trending in 2010 so if we can improve your experience to inspire more participation in 2011, please get in touch. Your feedback will remain confidential.

And please continue to visit www.hsfcvolunteers.org for the latest volunteer news and upcoming opportunities.
Thank you!

Peek Inside for:

- *Volunteer of the Year 2010*
- *Volunteer of the 4th Quarter 2010*
- *Wags and Purrs*
- *Staff & Board Contact Information*
- *HSFC Gives Back*
- *Welcome New Employees*
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- *Success Stories*
- *Organization Info & Community POCs*

Vote for HSFC in the Shelter Challenge: <http://www.animalrescuesite.com> - click the far right tab "Shelter Challenge" and in the search box enter "Humane Society of Fairfax" and "VA". You can vote everyday, but voting ends March 20, 2011 - so click away!!!!

Adoption Statistics through December 31, 2010

2010 was a banner year! Please know how much your volunteer efforts contributed to our success. Thank you all!

Adoptions through 12/31/10:

Dogs:	254	Birds:	13
Cats:	81	Ferrets:	1
Rabbits:	17	Guinea Pigs:	6

Community Members Helped through 12/31/10:

- 57 as scholarships (not to be paid back)
- 25 loans to help community members meet their pets' needs
- 203 uses of the AniMeals pantry in 2010

Trap/Neuter/Return Program Support (212 cats and kittens, trapped, neutered and returned)

We also donated to a number of animal-related charitable organizations and continued our relationship with Shelter House.



Volunteer of the Year 2010: Pat Trenner

Pat has been recognized for her service to HSFC in the past, but in 2010 her efforts were so extraordinary that the Board felt it beared repeating!

Pat Trenner fell in love with the HSFC when several years ago the HSFC took in a rabbit she had found abandoned in the woods. Ever since then, Pat has come in at least weekly to refresh the supply of greens and carrots for the rabbits, socialize with them, trim toenails, bond them when possible, and just enjoy their company. A long-time rabbit owner, she says she looks at the HSFC rabbits as part of her extended family.

Pat also volunteers one Sunday per month to feed, water and scoop litter for the HSFC building cats. According to Pat, when she is not at the HSFC, she enjoys "X-treme Gardening and Olympic-class napping."

Pat, thank you AGAIN, for your X-treme dedication and Olympic-class support of HSFC!



4th Quarter: Melanie Kruger

Melanie Kruger found HSFC through online research and the Pet Companion Guide. According to Melanie "It was important to me to volunteer at a no-kill shelter and one that did not have the animals in small unlivable cages." Melanie started volunteering in October 2008 and, in June, 2010, accepted a paid position within the organization as an animal caretaker.

Melanie appreciates the joy and serenity volunteering has brought to her daily life. "I look forward to each visit as a challenge to be able to help each cat/rabbit move closer to being adopted to their forever home. Yes, I am assisting the cats/rabbits but I believe they have helped me more by reminding me that the simple things in life can bring the most pleasure."

Originally from Colorado, Melanie has moved seven times since marrying into the Army. Trained in Fine Art and Graphic Design Melanie actively takes part in all types of art, especially photography. "I love to play tourist in every city I live and this area has been the best. I have a cat who I adopted from a TN shelter, a dog who was rescued by a friend and recently I adopted a cat from the HSFC. I also have some saltwater fish and love to take care of my suburban wildlife."

Melanie states "I have enjoyed volunteering at HSFC and will miss it immensely when I move to Savannah, GA. I was so pleased to be asked in June to train to be an Animal Caretaker and, although it is extremely hard work, it is entirely worth it knowing that I am providing for each animal their daily needs. It saddens me to think that I can no longer drive down the road and visit these friends, staff, and wonderful animals each week."

Melanie, thank you for all you have done for us and the animals in our care. We are certain there is a group in Savannah that will be fortunate and thrilled to have your support!



Thank You, Volunteers!

Many wags, purrs, whinnies and snickers to our volunteers for their tremendous support last quarter!

To our Main Office Renovation Clean-up Crew on January 6, 2011: Shelly Feeley, Lynn Nelson-Peretta, Jon Cochrane-Blaswell, Bonny Thul, Gail Blatt, Kelsey Clemons, Andrew Benovi and Vicki Kirby.

November Farm workday volunteers (organized by Corporate Office Properties Trust): Alta Vista Landscaping (Rafael Henriquez, Angel Martinez, Angel Avila, Julio Cruz and Ronaldo Avila); SRS Snow Removal Service (Brian Smith, Edwin Zometa, Shawn Averett, Sherrod Averett, Kevon Demby); ABM Janitorial (Oscar Tellez, Jose Vargas, Cesar Gamarra, Carmen Ponce and Leticia Garcia); COPT (Greg White, Kellie Perry, Matt Waiter, Jenna Holcombe, Willman Gaitan, Craig Lemeshewsky, Alberto Rey, Alex Salvador, Alan Cofield, Paul Salomon) and especially Kristin Rose of COPT for organizing the workday, related food drive and two trucks full of donations!!!! See photo, page 6.

Felix and Oscars Pet Food ... *Naturally* for initiating and managing a six-week food drive for AniMeals and selecting HSFC as a beneficiary of a holiday photo event.

Anna Power for her food drive and collection of over 300 pounds of food for AniMeals.

The Wag Pack and Great Falls Animal Hospital for their generous Fall donations to the farm.

Parkway Veterinary Hospital for their Holiday Tree campaign to benefit HSFC.

Max Snyder, an Eagle Scout candidate, who brought in donations for AniMeals and \$120 in cash contributions.

Leigh Flajnik, FHLBanks-Reston and her colleagues for pantry donations, and \$100 cash and \$150 in gift cards.

Oracle and Exxon-Law for their donations collected on behalf of AniMeals.

Thanh de Montebello and Emily and Rachel Jennings for their support at the McLean Reindog Pageant.

Fall Festival and Craft Show volunteers Debra and Robert Otto, Kendal Moore, Carmet Newett, Marlene Hammer, Deb and Mike Siluk, Michelle Huffman, Claire Davis, Sue Manganiello Vicki Kirby, Melissa Figuerido, Karen Davis, Pat Priest, Lynne Mayo, Susi Friedrich, Rachael and Emily Jennings, Dee Wyatt, Michele Murphy, Angie Rigg, Ellen Kapoor, Mary Kendall and Tim Tuggle (and to Emily Jennings also for making natural pine cone bird feeders to be sold at the November Craft Show!).

Special thanks to our presenters who continue to represent us in the community at different events, meeting with scout troops, grade-school age classes, church groups and the like! Sometimes facility tours are offered and the events are conducted as field trips - other times our presenters travel off-site for their presentation. Our Speakers' Bureau [of sorts] is comprised of Isabel Alvarez, Michelle Huffman, Betsy Thompson and Shawn Bennett.

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.

To our Board members who, collectively, tracked over 4,000 hours of volunteer service to the organization in 2010!

AND ... To our amazing 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!



Our Managers

Janice Adams
Office Manager

Elisa Botero
Thrift Store Manager

Shawn Bennett
Farm Manager

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Our Board of Directors

Vicki Kirby
President

Mary Kendall
Vice President
Treasurer

Marlene Hammer
Corresponding Secretary

Jeanne Taylor
Director
Volunteer Coordinator

Debra Otto
Recording Secretary

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www.hsfc.org

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www.hsfcvolunteers.org

hsfcnews@yahoo.com

HSFC Gives Back

We recognize how fortunate we are to have a supportive base of volunteers and donors. So when the occasion presents itself, we try to give back to animal causes in the community. Recently, discretionary donations were made by HSFC to support Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program's medical expenses of a horse in their care.

Welcome New Employees

We look forward to a long association with each of you!

Vikke Baron (Farm - Horse Caretaker)

Donna Denny (Thrift Store - Pricer/Stocker)

Liisa Hyland (Farm - Kennel Assistant)

Crystal Yauch (Farm - Horse Caretaker / Quarantine Area Support)

Ushering in a New Office Manager

Carol Relkin, who served as Office Manager, retired in November and has moved on to enjoy all the things retirement offers. We wish her and her family much luck and happiness in these well-earned years!

Our new Office Manager, Janice Adams, was born and raised in Falls Church, and recently returned to the area after living in Pompano Beach FL for 21 years. Janice's work history includes service at the Broward County Humane Society. She is the proud pet parent of a dog, Ginger, (age 10) and a lovebird, Perrywinkle (Age 15). Janice has made a great addition to the HSFC team and we look forward to the years ahead! Stop by the office and say hello!

NEW FEATURE!!!! To try keep volunteers apprised of whom among our furry friends has found their forever homes, the quarterly newsletter will now include animal names for easier reference.

4th Quarter 2010 Adoptions

Cats (including ACAT adoptees): Daiquiri, Delilah, Diamond, Dickens, Diva, Dragon, Fred, Jake, Onyx, Pirelli, Prada, Princeton, Thumbelina, Tigress, and Tinkerbelle.

Dogs: Bella, Blue, Bojangles, Boogle, Brandy, Buck, Debbie, Diamond, Domino, Dorothy, Georgia, Gretta, Gwen, Harriet, Hershey, Hillary, Inga, Isabel, Jenny, Kasey, Lucinda, Mary Anne, Nadia, Newman, Nick, Norman, Rascal, Robbie, Sammi, Shana, Sophia, Stella, Taffy, Tansy, Tracy, Trey, Uma, Unicorn, Uriah, Ursula, Zack, Zeb, and Zeke.

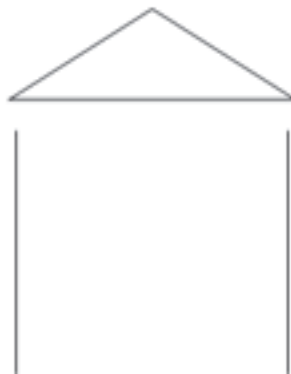
Rabbits: Brody, Dexter, Emma, Peanut Jr., and Tuxedo.

Other (Birds) Fred, Wilma, Peanut, and Perry.



Oh, Happy Days!

The cats and bunnies felt our building was in need of an Extreme Makeover! It wasn't Ty Pennington, but Vicki Kirby, who spearheaded the redesign of the 4057 building basement. Once the thrift store moved next door to 4055 in May, 2010, the design process and work began to improve the space at 4057, which will now allow us to take in more at-risk cats and rabbits.



EXTREME
MAKEOVER

HSFC Edition!

It took a little longer than the ABC version of Extreme Makeover, but the basement looks A-M-A-Z-I-N-G! Rooms are bright and cheery, there are exercise planks and built-in hideaways for the cats to enjoy; updated flooring throughout; a spectacular bunny room that will allow the rabbits greater exercise time and freedom; and other modernizing, energy efficient improvements throughout. Our wonderful animals will show even more beautifully now - plans are underway to take on the main floor soon too!

Once the area is ready for visitors, we'll let the volunteers know to come take a tour!

Friends Lost

We recently said goodbye to three of our fur-friends - Cats Barbie and Gwen and our beautiful horse Dakota. Barbie was a shy and sweet girl, with a beautiful, soft black coat and special extra toes! Gwen, a lovely girl, was with HSFC for quite a while, likely due to her feisty nature. She loved to rub on visitors' shoes and have her head petted. And Dakota was so handsome we couldn't keep the mares from swooning over him. His winning personality had all the geldings wanting to be his best friend too! We know someday we'll meet these friends over the Rainbow Bridge so, only until then, we say goodbye.



The Rescuer's Creed

I promise I will take your unwanted animals.
I will heal their wounds, their diseases, their broken bones.
I will give them the medical attention they need and deserve.
I will nurture their starvation, and give them a warm place to sleep.
I will spay and neuter them, vaccinate them against the diseases that can harm them.
I will treat them and honor them.
I will buy them toys, blankets, balls, and teach them to play.
I will speak softly to them.
I will try to teach them not to fear, not to cry, and not to hate.
I will whisper sweet, kind, gentle words into their ears, while gently trying to stroke their fear, their pain, and their scars away.
I will face their emotional scars and give them time to overcome them.
I will socialize them, potty train them, teach them to be obedient, show them dignity, and hold their paws, and stroke their ears if they have endured too much,

BUT most of all I will teach them Love.

~Author unknown

WANTED!

Volunteers, we have several areas where we need to ask for your general support.

Thrift Stores: Fairfax and Falls Church - we need more retail support on Saturdays and Mondays.

Foster Homes: We have no shortage of cats who come to us in Fairfax and in our ACAT Outreach Program who need foster care. **THIS SUPPORT IS URGENTLY NEEDED!!!!**

Special Projects: We need people willing to take on the organization and management of small fundraisers, as well as to assist with grant funding research and applications.

If you have time and can assist in any of these areas, please email hsfcnews@yahoo.com for details.



*Thank you again to COPT Workday Volunteers!
(For Team Members, see page 3)*



Success Stories! (or Happy Tails!)

Just an update on dear Jake, who is proving to be the perfect cat for Tacitus. Buzz and I did a slow introduction and yesterday marked the first day where the two boys both had the full run of the house. Tacitus, who had formerly subscribed to a "one-cat only" policy, is getting along very well with Jake, who is relaxed and deferential to him, but not afraid. His personality is the best possible match possible for Tacitus. Buzz and I are so grateful that we came to you and that dear Jake is now a part of our lives. He is a wonderful cat. He seems to enjoy being petted on his vast, but lean, tummy. The HSFC clearly knows its cats and gave us expert advice. It is also clear that Jake was so well cared for. *Fondly, Cindy*

It's been a while, and I wanted to give you an update on Zorro: he is doing absolutely splendidly! When I was out of the country over the summer, my parents took care of him, and he adjusted very quickly and warmed up to my mom quite a bit. Weirdly enough, I think that transition was good for him... since coming back to Fairfax this fall, he has made EPIC progress. He never runs away from me anymore and has become quite affectionate. He sleeps on my bed all the time and loves curling up next to me when I do homework. He even stays out when friends come over, and he lets a special few pet him. I adopted a second kitty when I got back from Ireland, and this has really helped Zorro, too. Whenever Keats comes over to me for attention, Zorro gets hyper jealous and comes running after him and tries to push him out of the way so he gets all the attention! But the two of them get along beautifully, and ironically, Zorro is totally the dominant cat of the pair!

Sara C.



Success Stories! (or Happy Tails!) (continued)

Although a few representative happy tails are included here, we encourage you to visit the web site at www.hsfc.org for success stories that are sent to us periodically.

Just wanted to forward a photo of Saralea Hope (nee BonBon) that I took at Halloween. She is really growing up fast and is such a joy. She and Luke are a perfect match! Thank you for allowing us to adopt our little girl! *Janet & Steve G.*



Just wanted to write and let you know how Baxter (formerly Jaden) and Murphy (formerly Dozer) are doing in their new home! We brought them home from the farm on September 1, 2010 and they've been happily nosing around ever since. We're very happy we decided to adopt two kennelmates together, and I think they are as well. They are adjusting very well to our crazy home with three- and five-year old boys, and our boys are learning the art of training dogs, treating them gently, how to approach them and recognize their different personalities (i.e. when a dog is friendly or wants to be left alone). This, coupled with the fact that we were able to provide a home for these guys, is such a great thing. Thanks for being so helpful and accessible during our search for one dog, which became a choice of two! Our best wishes in finding homes for the furballs on the farm and in the office, current and future. *The Morgan Family*



See photo of Cinna-bun playing outside his cage. As you can see when he runs around a lot he gets tired and just flops down - he's hysterical! *Jackie*



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 and Wylie Wagg
stores - schedules posted to www.hsfc.org or
call 703-385-7387 (PETS)

Second Chance 1 - Thrift Store
4055 Chain Bridge Rd. Fairfax
703-385-7387 (PETS)
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 (Warden)

Wildlife Assistance Hotline
703-440-0800

