



ARFhouse *Happenings*

A non-profit, 501(c)3 charitable organization

SPRING 2016
VOLUME 19, ISSUE 1

On the Road to a Successful 2016!

The beginning of 2016 has kept us busy with adoptions and working toward goals we have set to ensure we make a bigger impact than ever on the animals in need of rescue in North Texas. We have been energized by exciting new developments and are looking to the near future to make even more positive changes for our residents.

As most of you know, we held the open house for the Liz O'Brien Adoption Center in early October. Having our adoption center has allowed us to establish our own adoption program. In the past, we have partnered with other rescues who managed the adoptions but we are now able to do that ourselves with the help of an adoption counselor. Adopters are now able to interact with our adoptable dogs in a family safe, comfortable environment with a meet and greet room and a large yard. Dogs and humans can meet and mingle.

We started off 2016 with a couple litters of puppies, most of whom have been adopted. Our group of siblings who we thought were Newfoundland/Retriever mixes drew applicants from as far away as Colorado, Maine, Virginia and Georgia.

We were a bit surprised to see just how far people are willing to travel to adopt that one special dog. The first puppy of that litter was adopted by a family from Atlanta, Georgia. All of the siblings found homes quickly and we were on to our next litter, our Border collie mixes.

While puppies are typically relatively quick to get adopted without much work on our part to promote them, we are working on increased marketing and exposure for all of our residents. As mentioned in our Fall, 2015 newsletter, this includes increasing our Petfinder listings (for those who don't know, Petfinder is an online database containing information on thousands of adoptable animals), expanding our social media presence and participating in off site adoption events, arts and craft shows, festivals, etc. We are confident there is a home for the majority of our animals, even if we have to sometimes work to find it. We are looking forward to making a big impact in the lives of the homeless dogs of North Texas and are off to a running start in the new year.

A New Life For Blondie

"Blondie" was less than five months old, sick, starving, and wandering around a neighborhood when a concerned person noticed her and tried to help by putting food out for her. Unfortunately, someone else in the neighborhood complained to the city about the stray puppy. As a result, "Blondie" was picked up and taken to the pound. In her condition, which included an advanced case of mange, "Blondie" would probably have been euthanized (see inset picture). An ARFHouse volunteer was alerted and immediately adopted "Blondie" from the pound. ARFHouse provided veterinary care, medicine, food, and a safe place to live until she was ready for a "forever" home.

"Blondie" is an example of a dog who would have had no hope before being rescued. With help from our contributors and friends, "Blondie" had the medical care necessary to put her on the road to recovery, and to finding the perfect home.

Pictured is the Sobczyk family; Andrew, Kaylee & Abby. Mom, Kim, and two dogs, "Sage" and "Lucy" not in photo.





NEWCOMERS



“Dina” arrived with her look-alike sister, who found a home in Chicago. We know Dina will find the perfect place in time.



“Bernie” was found wandering in a park. No one claimed him, so he found his way to ARFhouse. He’s probably 15 years old, but loves people and food!



“Fergus” arrived with six siblings from a hoarding situation. He’s a nice little guy, hoping for a forever home.



“Dobby” came from a hoarder, along with a sweet female Chihuahua “Zena”, who gave birth to 2 puppies shortly after arriving. They’ll be featured in the summer newsletter.



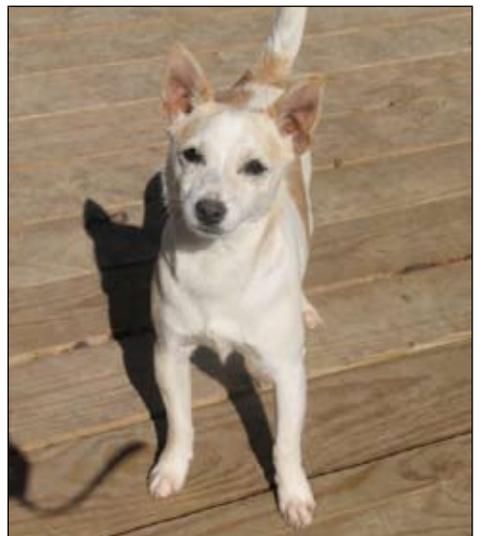
“Archie” was abandoned near ARFhouse. He needs a family to love him.

APPEAL

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We have very exciting news! 50% of the total cost of a new senior building has been pledged. Total cost is estimated to be \$62,000. We need to raise the matching funds, or about \$31,000. This project has been in the planning stage for quite some time and the need to complete it is vital. We have many aging dogs at ARFhouse. Some have lived their entire lives with us and some were abandoned when they were already “senior citizens”. It is hard to imagine why someone would turn an old friend out on the street to fend for himself just because he is growing old and has more need for care than when he was young, but we see it happen all too often. These older dogs deserve comfort in their later years. We strive to give them love and care. A warm place to live out of the elements is one way we can do that. Please consider helping us to match the promised funds by donating to this special project. Realizing that we cannot manage our monthly operations without your ongoing donations, it is hard to ask for “special” funds, but we have a great opportunity to make this dream a reality with your help. We humbly ask that you consider a special gift for this capital fund drive.

The older dogs of ARFhouse and the staff will be forever grateful.



“Jimmy” was one of seven that came from the hoarding situation where “Fergus” was kept.



ADOPTIONS



Peter Kuik & daughter, Corinne with their new best friend.



"Karo" with Emmitt & Mike Shaughnessey.



Brandy Smith and her family added "Evelyn" now "Shadow", to their home.



Nathan & Cassie Mitchell and "Cinder."



Doug & Jennifer Day & sons with "Piper"



"Crosby" found his forever home with the Maliassova family.



Donald Derrick and his family with adopted puppy "April", now called "Mavis".



Cassie & Weston with "Bishop"



Our "Gabby", now "CeCe", made the trip from Sherman to Chicago to find her forever home with Tim Winslow and his family. This little country girl might take some time to adjust to city life, but we are sure she will be rooting for the Cubs in no time!



Marissa & Cody Darilek came many miles to give "Elsa" a home.

"Happiness is a warm puppy."

--Charles M. Schulz



“Hank” – A Diamond in the Rough



This is Greg & Kim Calhoun and “Hank”.

It is not often that we are contacted by someone interested in adopting a dog who “needs most to be adopted.” With several dogs to consider, there are some issues the majority of us in rescue groups agree upon with regard to what defines a dog who is hard to place and fits that criteria. Dogs who prove the most challenging to find a home for include those who have behavioral or health issues, seniors, those who are non child-friendly/dog-friendly, and those who are simply overlooked because of their size and color (big black dogs, statistically, tend to be difficult to place in rescue). A dog who falls into one of these categories is at a disadvantage, but one who has more than one of these qualities is often a lifelong resident of the sanctuary. Sometimes, however, we are contacted by someone who’s determined to adopt a new family member who is exactly the dog overlooked by others.

Greg and Kim approached us about their interest in adopting a dog. Their criteria was open, but they were firm on a couple of points – they specifically wanted to give a home to the dog who “needs it the most.” Of course, 287 dogs call ARFhouse their temporary home while waiting for a permanent home so it is difficult for us to select a single dog who falls into that category. We know, however, that a dog who is an adult,

large, black and not completely social with all dogs is one we would consider a qualified candidate. Enter “Hank”, a large, black, selectively social adult boy who was abandoned at our gate. “Hank” checked nearly all the boxes of a dog who needs most to be adopted. It did not take long for Greg and Kim to see “Hank”’s potential and make him a part of their family. Since being adopted, “Hank” has blossomed into a wonderful companion. He was immediately comfortable in his new environment and made himself right at home.

While we are thrilled to find homes for all of our dogs, when we find homes for dogs like “Hank”, we are even more encouraged to know that there are families who will see the potential in a dog who would not automatically jump out to others as a cute and cuddly adoption candidate. “Hank” is a happy and content member of his new family and we are so happy that Greg and Kim saw the potential of this diamond in the rough.

DONATION JARS

These places display our jars, and if you patronize them, we hope you’ll leave us a tip:

SHERMAN

Mr. Jim’s Pizza

MG’s

Mom’s Bakery

The Boiler Room

DENISON

Huck’s

Pop’s Place

Nick’s Café

If anyone knows of any businesses who may be interested in hosting a donation box, please let us know.



“Dottie” found a home with ARFhouse friends, Alicia King, her daughter, Payton, pictured, and husband Jim Yeager, and son, Paxton (not available for photo).



“Alfie” found a home with Jenna and Rami.



Bill and Diago added “Sting” to their family. Along with daughter, Lily and lab sister, “Ruby”, this shy, cautious boy is coming out of his shell quickly.

Special Thanks!

to the following for their generous contributions

Shedera & Clarence Farmer for donating round bales of hay to feed our donkeys and ponies....and even delivering them! This is an ongoing need for us and our farm animals had fresh hay all winter.

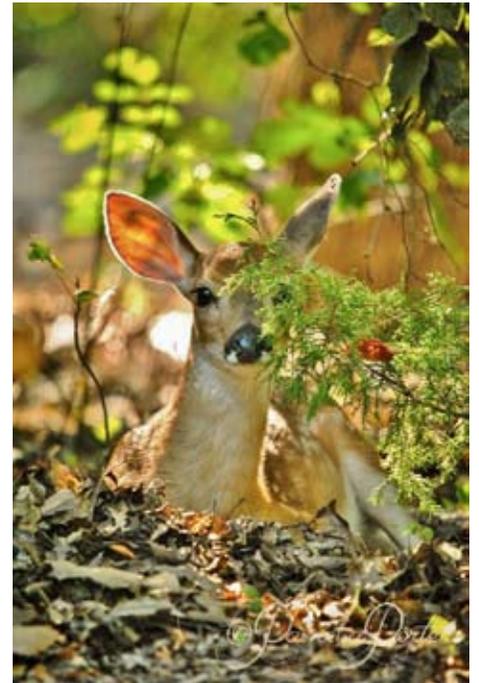
Mary & Harry Johnson for volunteering and transporting multiple dogs back and forth to the spay/neuter clinic in Oklahoma. This is a time consuming process and full day commitment, but allows us to provide our animals with full vetting services at a significantly reduced rate. Having help with transport is an invaluable service for us.

Deb Blakeney & Rebecca Tasch for the labor of love they've given to help our animals financially and for finding forever homes for several of our dogs.

Carl & Donnette Diehl for hosting a fundraising event at BMW Motorcycles of North Texas & European Cycle Sports in Plano and raffling off a Ural motorcycle. This event raised more than \$3,000.00 to help the animals of ARFhouse.

Greg Strehle for being so generous with the dogs.

Pamela Porter does beautiful photographs of wildlife. She provided a framed photo of an owl, which sold at the 903 Brewers event, raising funds for the dogs. At right is a sample of one of her pieces, which we think is stunning!



Rummage/Estate Sale

Attention bargain hunters! On June 24th, 25th and 26th, we will hold our first annual rummage sale from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We are seeking donations of household goods (furniture, appliances, knick knacks, etc., but no clothing please) sporting equipment, electronics, books, holiday items, CDs, tools, lawn equipment, etc. Declutter and kick off your spring cleaning for charity! All

proceeds from this sale will benefit the dogs of ARFhouse. We will be accepting donations on June 4th, 11th and 18th between 9:00 a.m. and noon at the Liz O'Brien Adoption Center, 3505 Spalding Road, Sherman, Texas. If you would like a receipt for your donated merchandise, please arrive with a list of your donation estimate, including your name and address. All donations are tax

deductible. If you would like to help advertise by posting flyers, please let us know and we can provide them to you. We are looking forward to making our first rummage sale a huge success!

Fundraiser At 903 Brewers

On February 20th, the 903 Brewers hosted a fundraiser to benefit ARFhouse. Attendees were invited to bring their dog(s) in costume for a "best dressed" contest. Bubba's BBQ provided a great lunch for those pet owners who were hungry. The band, "Shakedown", provided music for the event. ARFhouse was the recipient of the \$5 cover charge per person, which totaled \$1200 by end of the day. The weather was beautiful, and everyone seemed to have a great time; even the dogs.

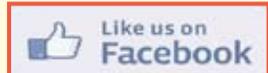
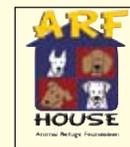
Who Loves The Dogs?

We're making plans to hold a silent and live auction in a few months, and these businesses have donated items for those events: Gray's Jewelers, Bella Fontana Spa, My Friend's House Art & Antiques, Main Street Mall Antique Store, DB Music, Texas Gold Lady, Taz Jewelers, A Touch of Class Antique Mall, Hillbilly Bubba's BBQ, and Fulbelli's. All of these retailers are located in either Sherman or Denison; and support the animals. We hope you will give them your business when you shop.

ARFhouse DIRECTORS

Danny Brakebill
Sally O'Brien
Martha Hovers

Secretary
Roxanne South



**ARFhouse
Non-Profit Organization
on Facebook**

ARFhouse's newsletter is published by the Animal Refuge Foundation, 3377 Spalding Rd., Sherman, TX 75092. Phone (903) 564-7056. Martha Hovers, Editor.

Brakebill Veterinary Hospital Made The Following "In Memory" Donations

"Kaleigh"
T.J. & Jeremy Smith

"Sadie" & "Trouble"
Geraldine Kinsey

"Rags"
Alvin Homm

"Phoebe"
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Shelley

"Bonnie"
Jennifer Parker

"Ali"
Linda Robertson

"Lydia"
Mr. & Mrs. Neill Morgan

"Mickey"
Kent McClintock

"Shorty"
Martha Gourley

"Momma"
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Roush

"Joe"
Lanci Family

"Sugar"
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hutson

"Sadie"
Mr. & Mrs. Morris Tucker

"Annie"
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Schweizer

"Piper"
Angel Mowdy

"No No"
Judie Ridge & family

"Annie"
Jennifer Mathews & family

"Skunk"
Stuart family

"Courtney"
Morris Key & Julia Napier

"Talley"
Mary Willis

"Delphine"
Mr. & Mrs. Don Lewstik

"Simba"
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Hood

"Cookie" & "Maggie"
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Ritchie

"Mama"
Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Waggoner

"Gray" (Big Daddy)
Todd Penner & Jacqueline Klassen

"Boo Boo"
Vince Leonard

"Pipka"
Mr. & Mrs. Don Williams

"Honey Dew"
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Settle

"Bonnie"
Mr. & Mrs. Art Payne

"Bearcat"
Mr. & Mrs. Jarrett Brugger

"Mocha"
Mr. & Mrs. Bill LaRoche

"Yogi"
Mr. & Mrs. Reynoldson

"Tink"
Mr. & Mrs. John Moseley

"Hey Blue"
Glynn Tyson

"Tonto"
James & Darla Thompson & family

"Jables"
Kevin & Susan Simmons

"Scout"
William & Maureen Frey

"Chance"
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Miller

"Max"
Dr. & Mrs. Trey Crosthwaite

"Toby"
Katrina Everheart

"Max"
Aaron & Courtney Kernek

"Willie Nelson"
Mr. & Mrs. Hubbard

"Mitzy"
Stephen & Cindy Johnson

"Patches"
Ron & Jane Schulz

"Thomas"
Debbie Phillips

To Honor Animal Lovers

Barbara Floyd
by: Pat Williams

Lloyd & Christine Ritchey
by: Joan Hamilton

Lloyd & Christine Ritchey
by: Catherine & Maynard Bearce

Ted & Thale Scotcs
by: Gail Utter of
Utter Wealth Management Group

Jane Wilson
by: Gail Utter of
Utter Wealth Management Group

LuRuth Taylor
by: Jacque Stromnes

Andy Williams & Kay Greenway
by: Mom & Dad (Jerry & Gerda
Huffman)

Dr. Eve Jerome & Staff of Town
& Country Animal Hospital of
Bonham
by: Frieda Phillips

Gerda & Jerry Huffman &
"Maddie"
by: Andy Williams

Cindy & Robert Lea
by: Sherrana Sadler

Chantal Gage
by: Jann Knotts

Mr. & Mrs. Dale Phillips
by: Jann Knotts

Pat Feisthamel
by: Karin Pearson

Darlene Schweizer
by: Marilyn Pickens

Nelda Campbell
by: Susannah & Kevin Barton

Jane Wilson
by: Paul Wunderlick

Larry Pryor
for his Birthday
by: Judy Kissel

Andy Williams
for his birthday
by: Gerda & Jerry Huffman (Mom
& Dad) & "Maddie"

WISH LIST

- Cleaning Supplies (bleach, mops, buckets, all purpose cleaner)
- Office Supplies (copy paper, forever stamps, tape, binders, two pocket folders)
- Metal Water Buckets
- Commercial water hoses (any length)
- Canned dog food (Purina or other high quality food; no Alpo or Ol' Roy)
- Hand tools (any)
- Plug-in charger for batteries (ours vanished)

We have additional needed items on our Amazon wish list (www.amazon.com). You can mail items on this list directly to us.



In Memory of Beloved Pets



"Chase"
Ellie Langdon's beloved Border Collie
by: Lynn & Kathy Surls

"Ruby"
Beloved pet of Todd Tuggle &
Ashley Duncan
by: Lynn & Kathy Surls

"Andy"
"In memory of my beloved kitten"
by: Frieda Phillips

"Neman"
"Beloved companion of Chase &
Casandra Larson"
by: Lonnie Hinzmann

The following people made donations
in memory of:

"Annie"
"beloved dog of Darlene & Charles
Schweizer"
Joanne & Tom Fowler
Karen & Rudolf Good
Marilyn Pickens

"Buddy"
"missed by all, but especially his
sidekick "Katey"
by: Peg Bourke

"Rocky"
beloved Pomeranian of Jane Ellington,
Ed Stephens & Lola
by: Roger Platizky

"Moose"
by: Shedera & Clarence Farmer

"Daisy Mae"
"rescued from the middle of the road,
starving"
by: Sandra Brown

"Atticus"
"He was a yellow lab.
He was my best friend & companion
for 11 years. Never had a better dog
in my life. Great personality & loved
everyone. Good looking, as well. He
died due to complications from liver
surgery. He will live in my heart
forever."
by: Carl Frietsch

"Theo" Wunderlick
(passed at 16 yrs old)
"He was so loved."
Courtney Wunderlick's beloved pet
by: Jane Wilson

"Charlie Brown"
"our beautiful chocolate lab"
by: Curt & LeAndra Beckemeyer

"Susie", "Lucky", "Maggie", & "Sadie"
by: Judy Kissel

"Gordo"
beloved pet of Blake Utter
by: Adrian & Ginny O'Hanlon

"Sassy"
Betty O'Hanlon's beloved pet
by: Adrian & Ginny O'Hanlon

"Jasper-Louie"
Brenda Mitchell's beloved pet
by: Adrian & Ginny O'Hanlon

"Moose" Farmer
"Our daughter's American Fox Hound"
by: Clarence & Shedera Farmer

"Angel"
"my sweet yorkie"
by: Jean Banks Adamson

"Tabby"
by: Linda & Paul Bowers

"Jake", "Sadie", "Suzie Q", & "Buster"
by: Bart & Linda Mitchell

"Amy" Pickens
"my beautiful & beloved dog"
by: Marilyn Pickens

"Brown Dog" & "Loli"
by: Tom Heeney & Diane Bielman

"Buddy"
by: Pamela Huffman

"Suzee" Day
by: Kim & Gary Day

"Tucker"
"beloved Australian Terrier of
Clive & Jo Hughes"
by: Frieda Phillips

"Lyla"
"beloved companion and devoted
friend of Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Melton"
by: Dan & Juli Hennig

"Ringo"
Beloved pet of George & Jan Chapman
by: Karen & Rod Holle AND
by: Shelley & Rhett Nicholson

"Buddy"
by: Kathy, Stacy & Abby Caudell

In Memory of Animal Lovers

Curtis Oppermann
by: Aleta Oppermann

Callum McInroy
by: Larry & Diana Pryor

Jack Phillips
"Fannin County's 'Bluebird
Man'
who loved all animals"
by: Frieda Phillips



Canyon Creek Pet Hospital Made The Following "In Memory" Donations

"Rosey"
The VanLoan's

"Copa"
The Stephens family

"Niko"
The Blachly family

"Molly"
The Diaz family

"Tippi"
The Percell's

"Cosmo"
The Geist's

"Coal"
The Carr's

"Wiggles"
The Osborne's

"Max"
The Mullins family

"Bear"
The Adams family

"Bashful"
The McAdams family

"Sugar"
The Bobo family

"Nixie"
The Schroeder's

"Pork Chop"
The Henderson's

"Chloe"
The Hall's

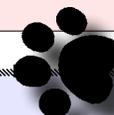
"Aspen"
The Dillon family

"Gordo"
The Utter family

"Bonnie Lass"
The Maxwell's

"Matilda" Blachly
The Blachly family

"Lola"
The Petersen's



Thanks

To the people who help
our dogs

Sherman WalMart
Danny Brakebill
Stacey & Dr. Clay
Morris

Dr. Jennifer Schwind
Brakebill Veterinary
Clinic Staff
Canyon Creek Pet
Hospital

Niemann Publications
Walmart

Deb Blakeney
Dr. Allen Cloutier

Animal Refuge Foundation
3377 Spalding Rd.
Sherman, TX 75092

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

We appreciate your continued support of ARFhouse.

Be an ARFhouse Supporter!

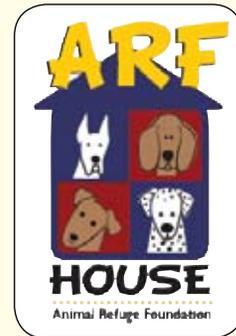
ARFhouse needs and welcomes your donation in any denomination. Every dollar counts and is used for day-to-day operations, care of our animals, and assistance to animals in the community. Your donation is tax deductible. Please send your gift in the enclosed envelope to ARFhouse, 3377 Spalding Rd., Sherman, TX 75092.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Amount: \$ _____



Mission Statement

Animal Refuge Foundation (ARFhouse) is a care-for-life, no-kill sanctuary in a rural setting and is home to 276 dogs. Dedicated to improving the lives of animals through rescue and rehabilitation, spay/neuter and placing animals into homes with loving guardians, ARFhouse also assists animals whose owners are unable to pay for the sterilization of their animals, particularly elderly people who are on fixed incomes. The Foundation will also provide financial assistance for any stray animal found who requires emergency medical attention. The major goal is to relieve suffering and to provide contentment and happiness to any dog who crosses our threshold.

3377 Spalding Rd. ♦ Sherman, TX 75092
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Website address: www.arfhouse.org