

ANIMAL TALK



Don't buy love, ADOPT it!

OCTOBER 2013

IN THIS ISSUE

New Bark Leaders

Camp Humane Success

New Meeting Spaces

Success Stories

Adopt a Kennel

Giving and Saving

Upcoming Events

Photos Courtesy of:

Interns & Volunteers

*Leah Sipes
Abernathy*

*Deborah
Hamff*

*Janice
Morey*

979-775-5755

5359 Leonard Rd.
Bryan, TX 77807

aggielandhumane.org



2013 BARKLEADERS



ANYA



BRUTUS



SAMSON



President

Sgt. Kris Fraley

Vice President

Mr. Shawn Smith

Secretary

Dr. Darby Roberts

Treasurer

Dr. Bob Strawser

Executive Committee

Mr. Larry Johnson

Past President

Ms. Vicky Greene

Mrs. Molly Georgiades

Mrs. Kit Darling

Dr. Betsy Jeter

Ms. Stephanie Coomes

Management Team

Executive Director

Kathy Bice

Operations Supervisor

Leiha White

Hours

11am -6pm Monday – Friday

11am-3pm Saturday

Closed Sundays and Holidays

Location

5359 Leonard Road,

Bryan, TX 77807

From the Executive Director: KATHY BICE



Dear Friends,

We celebrated Year 7 of Wiener Fest in Wolf Pen Creek Amphitheater! The

funds we raised will help us with our mission to save lives. Thousands of animal lovers helped us honor and celebrate the human animal bond.

We have had many wonderful rescues to be grateful for. In July alone we had 70 very young pets in volunteer foster homes. They were raised, nurtured and gradually brought back to be adopted when they were old enough. Many of the foster kittens were placed through our PetSmart adoption program that showcases cats and kittens 7 days a week.

By Christmas we hope to have a memorial brick patio near the Welcome Center Entrance. Look for it soon!

Each orphaned pet is special. **Your friendship and support helps support our work**, placing pets into homes so we can rescue additional orphans off the streets. Our goal of saving every adoptable pet is challenging. **Your monetary gifts make a great difference!** The Aggieland Humane Team is grateful and inspired by your generosity.

Thank you for being a friend.

Kathy Bice

**Remember to leave the Aggieland Humane Society
in your will and planned gifts. IRS Tax ID number
74-2150288**



Sport,

Sport, now Quincy, is a 2-year-old black and tan Mini-Dachshund. Sport found himself at Aggieland Humane Society in early December 2012 after being picked up by Animal Control as a stray. This beautiful, fun-loving boy anxiously waited for a new family for over a month – but none came. See, Sport had heartworms.

So, Sport went to live in a foster home to undergo heartworm treatment. There he spent his days getting healthy, learning to be a very good boy, and re-gaining trust in people. Sport has since been adopted. To read the next chapter of his story, visit our website www.aggielandhumane.org.

If it weren't for our Foster Program, Sport wouldn't have gotten the treatment he needed and may still be sitting in the shelter getting weaker. **It's because of our Foster Parents that heartworm positive dogs can get treated** and recover stress-free, in a loving home. It's because of our Foster Program that sick, shy, scared, or untrained pets are given the opportunity to live in a home environment and become more desirable.

We can only give these chances if foster homes are available. AgHS needs fosters - **sometimes, having an available foster means the difference between life and death.** If you have room in your heart and in your home, consider fostering an adult cat or dog, a puppy or kitten, or a whole litter. We have fostering opportunities of all kinds.



Romeo

Romeo is a young male Chihuahua who weighs less than 4 pounds. He arrived at the shelter with a broken hip. **Even with his painful injury, he was always such a sweet boy.** We were his only hope. He needed a fairly extensive orthopedic surgery to alleviate the pain and allow him to keep his leg.

Thanks to Dr. Nieuwoudt, DVM Ph.D, and the crew at Wellborn Road Veterinary Medical Center, Romeo had a successful surgery. Thanks to donors for his medical treatment, **Romeo now has a chance at a full, productive little Chihuahua life.** It is with your generosity that we could cover Romeo's medical bills and give hope to others like him.

Romeo is a little trooper. He has undergone 10 weeks of rehab in a foster home. He is starting to put weight on his injured leg, he's gained a few ounces and is beginning to play again, but **the best news of all is Romeo has an adopter!** He will go to his forever home once his rehab is over, but for now, he's getting lots of loving from his foster mom and regular visits from his soon-to-be mom.

EVENTS

Howl-o-ween Unleashed

Oct. 31 at Aggieland Humane Society 4-6pm

Fall In Love Adoptions

Oct. 25 through Nov. 30

Twelve Strays of Christmas

Dec. 10 until Dec. 24

ADOPT A KENNEL OR CONDO!

You, too, can show your support by making a gift to "Adopt a Kennel." Join our board past president Vicky Greene and board secretary Darby Roberts by gifting \$1000 (just \$83.34 monthly) to sponsor a kennel. You can do so online or by mail or phone. When you adopt a kennel, a sign with your name is placed on that kennel for a year, and you receive a quarterly update about the animal in your named space. The funds go to support the animal care operations. Aggielandhumane.org or contact Kathy Bice, Executive Director 979-775-5755 X103.

Khloe - "Pittie Love"

AgHS has been adopting out Pit Bull Terriers for a year now. Two of our first were a mother, daughter pair of beautiful blues. Misty and Khloe came to the shelter as strays. They were both sweet, gentle girls who passed their temperament tests with flying colors. Misty was adopted after three months, but her new family didn't feel they could take on both, so her daughter Khloe was left behind.

A month later and the week before Christmas, a family who frequently visited AgHS spotted the big blue and white girl. Mom said she knew it was meant to be. After an approved application and home inspection, Khloe got to go home with her new family, which included two children to love on her.

Mom sent us a message a week later, "Our little Christmas Miracle! Khloe is a member of the family already...we LOVE her so much and the kids were so excited to come home to an early surprise from Santa. What an amazing dog she is...she was meant for our family and sent from heaven!!"



Simba

While every adoption is celebrated around AgHS, one gets special recognition.

Mr. Simba, a 5- to 7-year-old blond Chow Chow, arrived at the shelter on April 6, 2013. He was featured on KBTX, in The Eagle, and on Facebook a few times. He lived in the kennels with his woolly coat through the Central Texas spring and summer. He turned on his charm at Adopt-a-Thon and at PetSmart Mobile Adoptions. He'd even been through heartworm treatment in a foster home, and finally...his dad saw him! **On August 23, nearly 5 months later, Simba rode off into the sunset with his new dad** on his way to Houston to live with a loving, forever family. His adopter had lived with Chows as a child and knew Simba had to be his. It was a little sad to watch Simba leave, but we couldn't have been happier to see him go. **Hakuna Matata big boy!**

Transfers Up...On the Road Again

We hit the road to Houston, Dallas, and Austin to save lives. We are glad that we can find adoption transfer partners in our search to save more lives.

PUPPY CONDOS a reality!! A major gift in memory of Tom and Jeanette Henderson has helped us place the small dogs and puppies in cozy condos off the floor in our dog building. What a great tribute to Tom and Jeanette.

Special People in our World

Humanitarian of the Year and Junior Humanitarian of the Year Awards were announced Oct. 5 at Wiener Fest 2013.

Volunteers Recognized

Our Volunteer and Jr. Volunteer of the Year are recognized at Wiener Fest on the big Stage. Check our website for the "rest of the story."

Intern Experience Pays Off

Every semester we have a minimum of four animal care Interns. Many of our interns and volunteers are gaining experience to apply for grad school or vet school. Leiha White, our operations supervisor, reports that four of our recent interns and volunteers are now in their first year of vet school!

Work Study Alive and Well at Aggieland Humane Society

Students that have Federal Funding for school often qualify for employment as part of Nonprofit Community Service. Last spring semester we had four work study students who had majors that ranged from Aerospace Engineering and Industrial Engineering to Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences! The students gain valuable work place experience, and we gain valuable workforce on a subsidized level. Their assistance benefits you when you see our pets in the Eagle or take a volunteer orientation. Thank you Uncle SAM and Texas A&M University Student Financial Aid office.

University Dog Park

Bark Park Equipment was recently presented to University Dog Park, 300 Park Road, in College Station. We dreamed of dog's parks years ago and now with multiple parks in town, we are happy to share these gifts with pets and their owners in Aggieland. A large sign near the park entrance honors our contributors.



Camp Humane

This summer we hosted our first Camp Humane on the Aggieland Humane Society campus. Forty children between ages 8 and 12 met veterinarians, vet techs, trainers, and groomers. They were photographed with a 20-foot yellow Burmese python, bottle fed baby goats, washed big dogs, met search and rescue dogs, and completed craft projects. We had a variety of volunteer camp counselors and a Texas certified elementary school teacher who ran the three sessions with the goal of enriching the children's empathy and respect for all animals. We are making plans to host multiple camps next spring and summer.



Need meeting space? We've got it!

Aggieland Humane Society has meeting rooms available for rent in the Whitney Abt Center as well as outdoors areas adjacent to that special cabin.

Consider having your wedding photos taken under our oak trees with your own horse or hosting a meeting, lunch, or birthday party at the Aggieland Humane Society. Contact Kathy Bice at (979) 775 5755 ext. 103 or email info@aggielandhumane.org.

AGGIELAND[®] HUMANE SOCIETY

Gift Giving -Tax Saving for those over 70 ½

If you're an IRA owner who is at least age 70 ½ and must take a **required minimum distribution (RMD)** during 2013, you might consider donating a portion or all of the distribution to a qualified charity, such as the Aggieland Humane Society. As part of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, Congress reinstated the **qualified charitable distribution (QCD)** rule for 2013. Under the QCD rule you can have part or all of your distribution made directly from your IRA to a qualified charity at any time through Dec. 31. Employer sponsored retirement plan distributions are not eligible for QCDs.

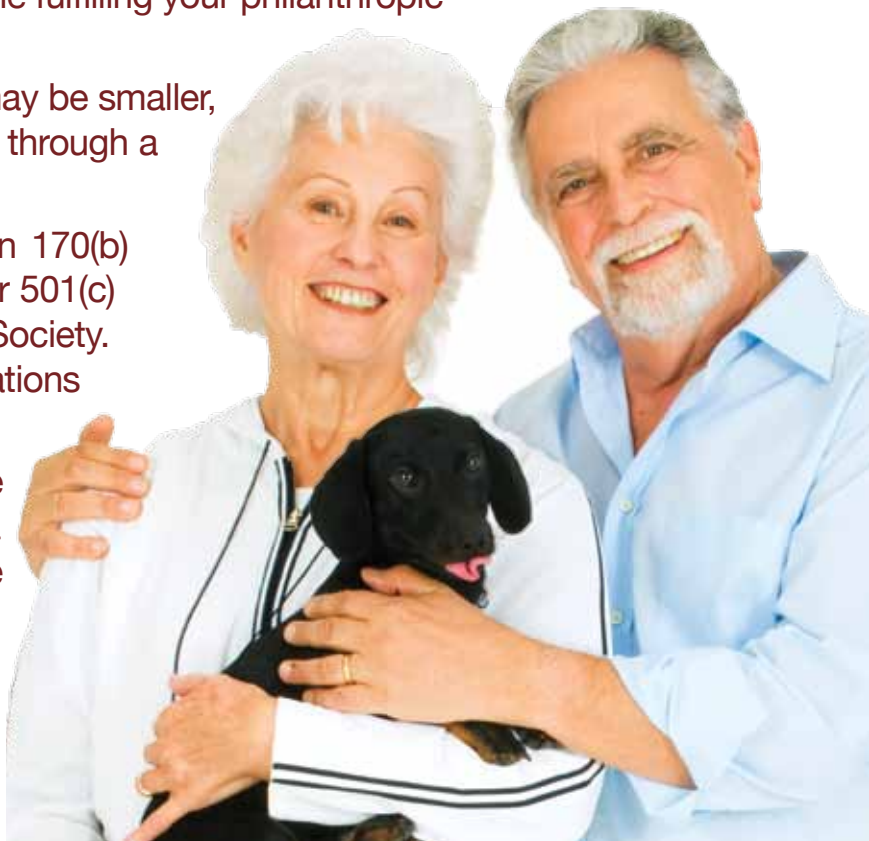
Here are four reasons to consider a QCD for your charitable contributions:

- You never pay taxes on the amount contributed, and you don't have to itemize the deduction on your tax return. You include the QCD amount in the total IRA distributions on the your Form 1040 to reflect the distribution reported to the IRS by your IRA trustee. However, the QCD amount is not included in the taxable amount reported. If you use a tax preparer be sure to let them know you have made a QCD during the year.
- The distribution is not included in your adjusted gross income (AGI), which may lower the taxable amount of your Social Security benefits and/or the amount you pay for Medicare premiums.
- It can help minimize your taxable estate while fulfilling your philanthropic desires.
- While your required minimum distribution may be smaller, you can contribute up to \$100,000 to charity through a QCD, total of \$200,000 for married couples.

The QCD contributions must be made to an 170(b) (1)(a) organization (public (50%) foundation or 501(c) (3) charity, such as the Aggieland Humane Society. Donor-advised funds and most private foundations are excluded.

If you have a passion for animals and have RMD funds you will not need, the QCD is a great way to help the Aggieland Humane Society and reduce your tax bill at the same time. You should consult with your tax advisor for guidance on your personal situation.

-Peggy Sherman is a Certified Financial Planner™ with Briaud Financial Advisors



**Remember to leave the Aggieland Humane Society in your will and planned gifts.
IRS Tax ID number 74-2150288**