



Miss Nibbles' News

Fall 2022

LEND A HELPING
PAW!
APPLY TO BE A
BOARD MEMBER
OR
VOLUNTEER
COORDINATOR

I write this the day after the 17th Annual Wiener/Corgi Races and I expect many humans and canines are taking it easy today. Wonderful weather, numerous volunteers, Bella Vista Police and Fire Department, board members, staff, vendors and spectators, all made for a great time Saturday. Most of all, the racers and their parents make this all possible. The races were back after a 2-year hiatus and of course we had a few hiccups but all-in-all, I think everyone enjoyed the day. We can't wait to bring this event back to Bella Vista next year.

This month we'll be planning for the coming year and foremost on our agenda is putting together a capital drive to replace an original building on the grounds that is nearly unusable. The plan is to replace the old building with a brand-new cat sanctuary affectionately nicknamed "Catuary". In addition to giving our resident cats improved living quarters, this will free up space we need for their canine companions. Also included will be additional storage and a meeting room for various uses including public education.

Now is the time for anyone interested in getting involved with the shelter to think about becoming a board member. Elections are held at the annual meeting every January. Prospective members can find the application on our website and are asked to attend the final meeting of the current year, December 14th.

Lastly, thank you to the staff of the Bella Vista Animal Shelter. Your loving care of the cats and dogs that unfortunately find themselves in our shelter is top notch. The community is fortunate to have such a facility and to have you attending to the welfare of stray, lost and homeless animals.

Curt Stoops, President, BVAS Board of Directors



Wiener Takes All



Dog Days



Pars4Paws



Garage Sale

In Loving memory of

Beloved Friends

Anne Young
Barbara Henderson
Russ & Brent Crabtree
Ron (Ronnie) Henry
Dewey Lynn Roberts
Dianne Krolikowski
Judy Giovannucci
Barbara Doyle
Marvin Schrimpe
Marsha Mosena
Niko Greenhorn
Lenny Budwell
Patty Pettijohn
Ray Olmstead
Keisa Franklin
Brady Buckner
Tom Hutchinson
W.D. Marshall
Lenny Budwell
Bruce Mosena
Crystal Hall
Dale Marschler
Deb Dakken
Figero
Leon Fordham
Herbert Prah
Jack Price
Jeff Kerbs
Jerry Slatton
Joyce Sullins
Julie Neal
June Rochon
Larry Dix
Lee Hall
Wade Hanes
Willis Brooks
Chris Bolton
Joe Skourup
Mary Harris

Beloved Pets

Lucky and Chauncey
Misy & Cinnamon
E Man Cat
Barney & Sassy
Sir Winston
Skipper Cordell
Bea & Bogie
Mimi & Felix
Josh & Winnie
Todd Robert Cox
Marin, Peg & Cameo
Wheezie Krolikowski
Tralee Pettyjohn
Penny Simmons
Ringo Wunschel
Wilson, Woodrow
Mej Mej & India Ink
Princess Peshek
Pheobe & Griffy
Big D (Dwayne) Pyatt
Dexter (Kitty)
Minnie Pearl
Lt Dan Beagle
Mason the cat
Tabby (Cat)
Miss Molly
Milo Schlais
Kemosave

Beloved Pets

Mr. Catt
Sadie
Dakota
Callie
Bones
Rosie
Beaux
Sami
Piper
Dolly
Lucy
Ruby
Joe
Mouse
Maddie
Fern
Harley
Izzy
Keisha
Figgy
Brodie
Starr
Lexi Kirby
Tucker
Peter
Arnold
Groucho
Izzy Post
Kylie
Patty
Buffy
Oliver
Blondie
Sammy
Huntley
Sombra
Marty
Teeny
Tiger
Freddi

BV ANIMAL SHELTER WISH LIST

1. OdoBan
2. Bleach
3. Purina One Dry dog food
4. Purina Naturals cat food
5. Purina Kitten food
6. Cat Flea and Tick prevention



Feel free to have items shipped to 32 Bella Vista Way, Bella Vista AR

DONATE
THESE
ITEMS

GUARDIAN ANGEL SUCCESS - JERRY

We were hit hard by the loss of our golden retriever, Izzie. In early 2022, I started looking at various local shelters and came across a picture of a hound/shepherd mix named Jerry that caught my eye. He was being kept at the Bella Vista Animal Shelter. I don't know what it was about the picture and description I read that was so compelling, but I felt drawn to Jerry.



I messaged the shelter and they said that we could certainly come visit, but that Jerry was a nervous dog and that it would take several visits before he would be comfortable with us. When we visited, we met Laurie and we were given Jerry's history and told that he had been in the shelter for three years.

Despite his nervousness and the work that would be part of just getting to know him, we felt like Jerry was the right one. We had a decent first visit with him, but he was obviously apprehensive, so we tried to allow him to come to us on his own terms. With a side-eyed glance and slow progress he started to allow us to pet him and get close to him. We determined two things that day. One: We MUST visit him several more times. Two: Jerry was the right one.

We started visiting the shelter as often as we could. We stopped by often and were very appreciative of how accommodating the shelter was. Staff worked with our schedule and were always ready to help Jerry be comfortable with us. After the many visits, untold numbers of hot dog bits, and quite a few walks with Jerry we were finally able to try to share our home with him.

It wasn't easy. He struggled with the change and took a while to adjust to the new surroundings, but it seemed that he knew that we were there to care for him. It has certainly been a journey of discovery since that first visit.

Today Jerry is still a nervous dog. He struggles around other dogs, and he still shies away from new people, but he is making progress. He absolutely knows we are his people. He greets us at the door with excitement and cuddles with us on the couch when we are just lazing around the house. He's starting to respond to commands to sit or come, but it takes work. He is certainly worth the effort. We are excited to see the next steps in his progress and hope to get to the point of easing the nervousness around other people and animals. My wife and I are very happy to have him as a part of our family and look forward to many great adventures on our journey with Jerry!

Jerry's story courtesy of the Hodgkin family. We are glad they took a chance on this loving boy.

BOARD MEMBERS:

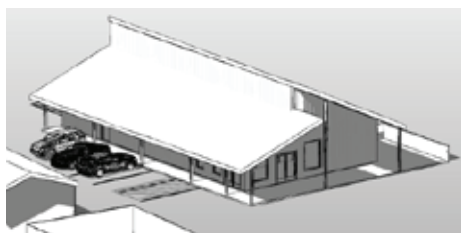
Curt Stoops, Pres.
Jeremy Velten, VP
Anita Werts, Treasurer
Liz Lottmann, Secretary
Karen Deal
Richard Davis
Kathy Griffith
Bruce Portillo
Christina Maguire
Jacquie Allen
Dru Cessna

STAFF:

Nancy Cullins, Exec. Dir.
Laurie May, Shelter Manager
Jason Winter
Sonny Crabb
Liz Tacker
Bailee Hunt
Shannon Hodgins



Bella Vista Animal Shelter is a no kill shelter. That means that we will not euthanize an animal to make more space. Jerry was with us for three years before he found his forever home. We have others that have been with us longer. Our Guardian Angels program is a monthly subscription of \$10 to keep all our "Jerry's" cared for till their people find them. In 2021, Betty White passed and her death inspired generosity to shelters. For her 90th birthday a grassroots campaign to give \$5 to local shelters began. We were blessed by her talent and her continued legacy. Please consider sponsoring one of our angels.



CATUARY

Bella Vista Animal Shelter (BVAS) provides a haven for lost or abandoned animals in Bella Vista. The population of Bella Vista has grown 6% in the last year, necessitating more animal holding facilities, isolation areas, nurseries, and an area for community outreach to engage the people of Bella Vista. In 2023 BVAS is expanding the facility allowing cats to have an area away from the dog population. A cat sanctuary or “catuary” will benefit the community, the animals, and the shelter by providing three additional spaces for dogs in our existing kennel building, provide a covered area for large group meetings, and provide some additional storage areas for lawn equipment all while promoting adoption and minimizing animal sickness.

Looking to the future we realize that targeting families with children will increase our reach. Currently, children have limited opportunities to volunteer at the shelter due to liability concerns. With the catuary expansion, children, disabled persons, and the public will be able to interact with animals with little fear of becoming hurt or placed in a scary situation. BVAS is on trend to service 650 animals in 2022. An increase in population, and a 60% adoption rate will require the shelter to provide more facilities for more animals. Training the community on smart animal practices, engaging young or disabled volunteers, and working on inclusivity will benefit the entire Bella Vista community.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS NOTES

I write to you this year as the official Executive Director. This year was the Bella Vista Animal Shelters (BVAS) first year back from a global pandemic and it was event packed. I began by learning the ropes and establishing BVAS as a community service in Bella Vista. I’ve met so many avid supporters, others with a less favorable view of the shelter, I’ve stumbled here and there, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. I appreciated the patience everyone showed me as I discovered my limitations in this role. Last years newsletter was my first challenge. I moved directly into updating our web page however, it has taken all of one year to bring it up to date. With some expert help, it will now be a resource for all pet, person, or event related information and events.

In April we began our in person events. Our previous sponsors were not as ready to engage in post pandemic activities yet and I needed to find new partners for many. Jacquie Allen, a new board member, helped tremendously to get the word out to local businesses that BVAS had opportunities for sponsorship. We participated in many flea markets and fairs to promote our little shelter and talk to the community about pets.

Many of you have asked how we faired on our fundraisers. The thermometer graphic will provide a snapshot of the year for everyone to see.



GIVING TUESDAY

November 29, 2022

10th Anniversary #4TNR

Giving Tuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. "Radical Generosity Around The World Built Upon Our Shared Humanity."

Black Friday has traditionally been the beginning of the holiday gift buying season. Then Cyber Monday was added to the mix. The idea for the Tuesday following is to do something nice for someone rather than buy something. In a world where there is so much stuff it is nice to focus on building a relationship with a small act of kindness. Participation does not require money, fame, or power, but lives can be changed.

One example: A couple who was on hard times found out they were pregnant. A neighbor donated diapers, formula and other needed items without batting an eye. The first couple, years later, went to their local WalMart and put \$20 bills in some of the baby supplies for other families that may need a helping hand like they did. They were paying that generosity forward. One can only hope that the recipient of this anonymous generosity then did something nice as well.

The idea of Giving Tuesday is to begin something today as the nucleus, then each recipient will spread the word to their community. Each community will do the same until it is a worldwide movement. The original definition of giving viral.

Bella Vista Animal Shelter receives many donations over the course of the year. Some bring blankets, others dog/cat food. We receive monetary donations through fundraising, honorariums, and other organizations raising donations on our behalf. We have donations of time through our volunteer program. We are blessed that Bella Vista supports this shelter.

To help the Bella Vista community, we are channeling our energy toward a Trap / Neuter / and Return program (TNR) for Cats. The community cat population has exploded recently. BVAS received more than 78 abandoned kittens this year. We have many families no longer able to support pets, moving away or letting their cat have kittens and releasing them into our woods. This TNR program will trap cats, bring them in to a licensed vet for a spay / neuter and, if you are willing to house them overnight after their surgery, release them back into the wild.

For Giving Tuesday this year we are trying a two pronged request.

1. Spread the word about the 4TNR program to deplete the community cats in Bella Vista. We have a fund dedicated to this project and donations can be made to 4TNR at the shelter.

2. Do something nice for a neighbor. Submit a story, picture or video of an act of kindness to our Instagram account @bvanimalshelter. Tag your post with #BVAnimalShelter & #givingtuesday4TNR.

Donations Made Easy



Scan this code with your camera to link to our PayPal page for donations

THE BEST
THINGS
in
LIFE ARE
RESCUED



Adoptions Made Easy



Scan this code with your camera to link to our Petfinder.com page for all available animals

www.bellavista-animalshelter.org has a new look - check it out

STATISTICS

Did you know that in the past four years the BVAS has received more than 537 puppies and kittens. We ask that you spay or neuter your pets to help control the pet population.

WHY MICROCHIP?

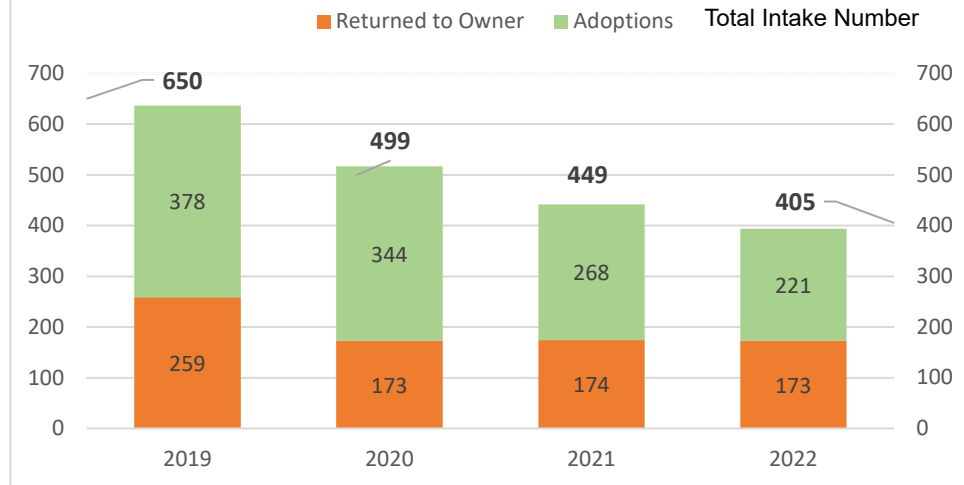
With the help of our Animal Control Officer, staff, Facebook, microchips and word of mouth volunteers, Over 40% of animals brought to the shelter have been safely returned to their homes (some more than once). One of our goals for 2023 is to increase our return rate. Microchipping your pet is a great way to help. 835 animals have been microchipped by the Bella Vista Animal Shelter in the last 4 years. If interested in microchipping a pet, stop into the shelter Tuesday - Sunday 10AM - 4PM. No appointment necessary. It takes about 15 minutes, and will help all of us get your pet home.

BEFORE & AFTER

Did you miss our renovations on Fixer to Fabulous? Watch the episode here!
Link: <https://vimeo.com/rivrmedia/review/656998234/17fd0002ae>
Password: ftfs3



SHELTER ACTIVITY



Grand Opening of first BVAS permanent building in 2002



YEARLY STATS TO DATE 2022 DOGS

Month	Incoming City	Incoming Not City	Adopted	Reclaim	Rescue	Return	DOA	Euthanized
Jan	17	3	10	12	0	1	0	0
Feb	18	2	5	13	2	0	0	0
Mar	27	9	11	22	0	1	0	0
Apr	32	1	15	25	0	2	0	0
May	19	2	9	15	0	0	0	1
June	30	0	6	26	0	3	0	0
July	17	1	9	13	0	1	0	0
Aug	39	3	9	19	0	0	0	0
Sept	22	1	8	16	0	1	1	0
Totals	221	22	82	161	2	9	1	1

Total Incoming	243
Total In-Shelter	33

As of 09/30/2022

2021 Carry Over 30 Dogs

CATS

Month	Incoming City	Incoming Not City	Adopted	Reclaim	Rescue	Return	DOA	Euthanized
Jan	12	3	22	1	2	0	1	0
Feb	10	0	7	0	0	2	0	0
Mar	7	0	8	1	0	3	0	0
Apr	12	0	9	0	0	0	0	0
May	21	9	3	1	0	1	1	0
June	19	3	9	1	0	0	0	1
July	17	0	26	2	0	0	1	0
Aug	24	1	18	1	0	2	0	0
Sept	9	1	19	1	0	2	0	0
Totals	131	17	121	8	2	10	3	1

Total Incoming	148
Total In-Shelter	59

As of 09/30/2022

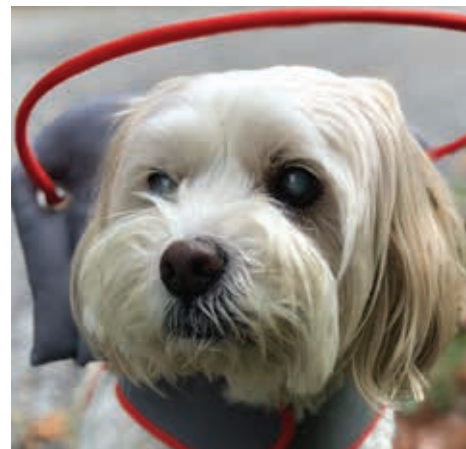
2021 Carry Over Cats 39

SIR WINSTON'S STORY

ADOPTED JANUARY 16, 2007

CROSSED DECEMBER 26, 2020

Twas a bitter cold winter day when I arrived at the Bella Vista Animal Shelter. Apparently, it was obvious to all that I had been on the run for some time, my coat was tangled and I was very thin. The kind people at the shelter fed me and had me cleaned up, bathed, and groomed. Wow! I felt so much better and looked so handsome. Christmas came, and a new year, and still no one had claimed me or even called about me. I was being loved and cared for but I needed a forever home. The *Bella Vista Weekly* puts pictures of adoptable pets in the paper, and on January 10, 2007 was my turn. My soon-to-be family saw my picture and knew I was the one missing member of their family. For fourteen years I lived the life only a pup could dream of. Trips to the park, walks, visits to far away places, stopping by McDonald's for a burger, going on errands, playing ball, it



was the perfect life. However, when I turned 9, mom noticed I was missing the ball. A visit to the vet determined I needed an eye specialist. My appointment was made and mom and dad took me to the clinic in Springdale, AR. The eye test concluded that I was mostly blind and would eventually lose my eyesight completely. I had a condition called SARDS, Sudden Acquired Retina Degeneration Syndrome. Although I was blind, I continued to enjoy life. I wore a "Muffins Halo" to help me get around. At 14, I began to have other health issues and on December 26, 2020, I crossed the Rainbow Bridge while my mom held me tightly in her arms. If I could have one last wish it would be that those of you who have never had an animal will go to the nearest animal shelter and adopt one. If you do, you will find that animal will not only give you joy and companionship but will give you a very special kind of LOVE.

Thank you Priscilla Shoulders for sharing Sir Winston's story and supporting the Bella Vista Animal Shelter.

SANTA PAWS

Tired of sending holiday cards? Let us do the work.

Send a complete mailing list or just one recipient to Info@bellavista-animalshelter.org with your donation of \$5.00 or more per name and we will do the rest.

We will send a personalized card to the recipient notifying them of your gift!

Names & Donation need to be received by December 16th to ensure holiday delivery.

Your tax deductible gift will enrich the lives of the many shelters' "cold noses & warm hearts."
Everyone loves when Santa Paws comes to town.



REMIT TO:

Bella Vista Animal Shelter
P.O. Box 5248
Bella Vista, AR 72714

GIFT AMOUNT \$ _____

ON BEHALF OF: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, ST ZIP _____

FROM: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, ST ZIP _____

www.bellavista-animalshelter.org
(479) 855-6020
Bella Vista, AR 72714
P.O. Box 5248
A 501(c)(3) organization

**BELLA VISTA
ANIMAL SHELTER**

