

Save a Life,
Adopt a
Homeless Pet

Special points of interest:

- The Newsletter is Back!
- Featured Pets
- Success Stories
- Scouts Lend a Hand

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Bulverde Area Humane Society



Volume 1, Issue 1 June 2010 www.bulverdeareahumanesociety.com

Letter from the President

Dear Friends of the Bulverde Area Humane Society,

May is fast drawing to a close, and school will be out of session soon.

With summer approaching, you may be looking for activities for the whole family to do together. Why not volunteer at the Bulverde Area Humane Society? Volunteers of all ages are needed to walk or groom dogs, or just spend quiet time with a needy pet in the park-like setting of the shelter. We have an orientation at 10 am every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Please

visit the website for the Volunteer Orientation Packet and bring that to the orientation that works for you.

It's a great family activity! Plus the time you spend with these pets really increases their chances for adoption.

*Sincerely,
Richard Lindell, President, BAHS*

P.S. A parent or guardian must accompany minors under 17 years of age.



A play group enjoys free time in a fenced play area.

The Newsletter is Back!

Yes, the newsletter is back after a hiatus of several years. I've never done a newsletter before, so bear with me as I stumble along. So far, it's a blast. What are my qualifications? Well, I'm a former English teacher and a published author. But my most important qualification is my commitment to the BAHS cause. And what is the BAHS cause? Our first goal is to find permanent homes for the dogs and cats that find their way here. We provide food, shelter, medical care, and big doses of TLC, all to make them ready to be good pets to someone. Second, we serve the community. BAHS provides a safe place for young people to volunteer and earn community service hours. We speak to local schools about responsible pet care. We participate in many local events. There's so much more, too much to list here. I invite you to read more about what we do in our first edition of the BAHS newsletter!

Cassie Wedding, Editor

Upcoming Events:

June 12, from 10 am – 4 pm

What: Petsmart Adoption Weekend

Where: Evans Road Petsmart

at 11 am

What: Pet Parade to Frost Bank to receive special donation of pet food

Where: from Petsmart across parking lot to Frost Bank, Evans Road branch

July 11, from 1 – 5 pm

What: Regular Monthly Petsmart Adoption

Where: Evans Road Petsmart

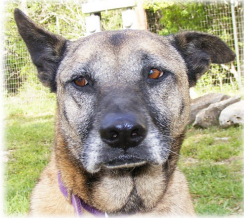
August 8, from 1–5 pm

What: Regular Monthly Petsmart Adoption

Where: Evans Road Petsmart

Please let us know if you would like to help out at one of these events. Even a couple of hours really helps!

PLEASE ADOPT ME!



Louise

Hey, I'm Louise. I'm 10 years old, but I'm still awesome! Don't let this frosty face and three legs fool you! I am spry, outgoing, easily trained, and downright loveable! A lot has happened since I left here a few years back. Now I'm missing a

back leg, but it doesn't slow me down.

I have a lot of kisses and love left!

Hi, I'm Bella! I was adopted from BAHS a few years ago. But my owners couldn't afford to keep me anymore, so they took me to Animal Control in San Antonio. The nice folks at AC called BAHS, and they came to get me right away! I'm a sweet girl. I love life and want to be everybody's friend. My name means "beautiful." I sure hope somebody out there thinks so! (I love belly scratches!)



Bella



Glory

My name is Glory. I've been here awhile, and I don't know why nobody has taken me home yet. I'm a good girl. Plus, how can you resist these baby blues? My favorite thing to do is just sit close to you and snuggle. Maybe I'm part Weimaraner. That would explain my eyes and the silver sheen to my coat. Could I be the dog your family is looking for?

Hey, I'm Luke and I'm a terrific little fellow! A nice person found me on the streets and brought me here. I'm the one with my paws on the gate, eager for you to come up and meet me! I have tons of energy and love to run and play. But what I really want is somebody to take me home and love me forever.



Luke

I RESCUED A HUMAN TODAY

By Janine Allen

Her eyes met mine as she walked down the corridor peering apprehensively into the kennels. I felt her need instantly and knew I had to help her.

I wagged my tail, not too exuberantly, so she wouldn't be afraid. As she stopped at my kennel I blocked her view from a little accident I had in the back of my cage. I didn't want her to know that I hadn't been walked today. Sometimes the overworked shelter keepers get too busy, and I didn't want her to think poorly of them.

As she read my kennel card I hoped that she wouldn't feel sad about my past. I only have the future to look forward to and want to make a difference in someone's life.

She got down on her knees and made little kissy sounds at me. I shoved my shoulder and side of my head up against the bars to comfort her. Gentle fingertips caressed my neck; she was desperate for companionship. A tear fell down her cheek, and I raised my paw to assure her that all would be well.

Soon my kennel door opened and her smile was so bright that I instantly jumped into her arms. I would promise to keep her safe. I would promise to always be by her side. I would promise to do everything I could to see that radiant smile and sparkle in her eyes.

I was so fortunate that she came down my corridor. So many more are out there who haven't walked the corridors. So many more to be saved. At least I could save one.

I rescued a human today.

Written by Janine Allen CPDT, Rescue Me Dog's professional dog trainer.

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MAKE SHELTER ADOPTION

YOUR FIRST OPTION!

Girl Scouts Tour BAHS

On April 22 the shelter was swarming with Girl Scouts from Troop 4560. The Junior Scouts attend three area elementary schools: Johnson Ranch, Rahe, and Timberwood Park. These 15 girls were at BAHS to work toward their Pet Care badge, with the assistance of Senior Scout Morgan Best.

Morgan is a volunteer at BAHS and a freshman at Smithson Valley High School. She is working toward her own Scout goal: the Gold Award, an

honor roughly equivalent to the highest honor a Boy Scout can achieve: becoming an Eagle Scout. It's no wonder that Morgan loves animals; her family has Longhorns, cats, turtles, a goat "who thinks he's a Longhorn," and five rescue dogs, two adopted from BAHS.

On this drizzly afternoon, Morgan showed the Junior Scouts around the shelter and taught them about the basic care and handling of dogs and cats. The girls walked a few of the smaller dogs under Morgan's

watchful eye. But their favorite part of the afternoon was visiting mama dog Lisa and eight of her thirteen puppies. (Yes, this petite mom had 13 puppies! The extra pups are being bottle fed at foster homes.) Lisa hovered protectively as the girls cooed over her four-week old puppies. The puppies will be ready for adoption in a few weeks.

Thank you, Morgan, for spreading the word about BAHS and responsible pet care. Good luck on your Gold Award!



Morgan Best and Jr. Scouts



Everybody loves puppies!

2010 Calendar Creates Buzz

BAHS volunteers gave the "Shirts Off Our Backs" to create what may be the first topless calendar produced by a humane society. It has certainly garnered local, national, and even international interest.

KSAT News covered the story locally. Then it was picked up by CNN as an internet story. BAHS has even received international emails applauding the calendar. (It is G-rated.)

In case you haven't seen it yet, the calendar features 12 BAHS volunteers posing with strategi-



cally placed pets and props. The ladies range from twenty-

something to seventy-something.

"I've seen the movie 'Calendar Girls'...so I thought, 'Why can't we do this?'" said Barbara Hall, former BAHS President.

The calendars may be purchased at several local businesses and from our website. All proceeds go to help the homeless dogs and cats at the BAHS shelter.

"I've seen the movie Calendar Girls, so I thought, 'Why can't we do this?'"
Barbara Hall

Local Boy Scout Constructs Improvements at BAHS

On Saturday, April 24, Justin Miller of Boy Scout Troop 548, with the help of a backhoe and some assistants, completed the construction of a landscape berm and two sets of new stairs at the dog kennels.

Justin, an aspiring Eagle Scout, planned and oversaw the project. Board Member Tom Blacklock thought the plans were "some of the best I have

seen submitted by an Eagle Scout candidate."

Justin also raised about \$1,000 needed to fund the improvements. All equipment and supplies were donated by the Boy Scouts.

Thank you, Justin, and best wishes on becoming an Eagle Scout.



The Kitty Corner



PLEASE ADOPT ME!

Dottie and Simon are a brother and sister who came to us from San Angelo. Their owner, a sweet 85-year-old lady, had to move to an assisted living facility after a fall. Believe me, she did not want to give up her furry friends! She made her daughter promise to find them a good home, and that's exactly what we intend to do for these sweeties.

UPDATE: Dottie and Simon have been adopted! But this year has seen a huge kitten explosion. The shelters can't absorb all the kitties who need homes. So come by to see our kittens, some just now ready to adopt, or send a friend!



Dottie and Simon

"We humans are indeed fortunate if we happen to be chosen to be owned by a cat."

Anonymous

Henrietta and Harry were another brother-sister combo. On May 8th, brother Harry got adopted, but Henrietta still needs a home. At 4 months old, she's a "teenager." Henrietta is a little more shy than Harry—those extroverts get all the attention!—but she's a sweetheart once you get to know her.



Please come by to meet Henrietta and our other adorable kittens!

For more information, call us at:

830-980-2247 or email us at bahs@yahoo.com.



Henrietta

Feral Cat Coalition Needs Help

From Jenny Burgess, San Antonio Feral Cat Coalition:

We are desperate for some more folks to volunteer to clean cages and let the cats and kittens in the Petsmart Adoption Center (Hwy 281/Evans Road) have a chance to stretch their legs and have some play-time, particularly on Monday mornings.

Typically, this takes about 2 hours and the job is usually around 9 - 11 am but the timing can be adjusted to suit your schedule. Even one day a month would help.

Petsmart employees are there from 6am to let volunteers in so perhaps that would suit the early-birds better.

Training/Orientation will be given so please contact me if

you could help us with this. You will be helping the important adoption program saving the lives of our rescued cats/kittens.

We will be truly grateful for any offers of help.

If you can help, please contact Jenny Burgess, Animal Rescue Connections, San Antonio Feral Cat Coalition, at: rescue@gvtc.com

HAPPY ENDINGS!

Here are a just a few great adoption stories...

BEFORE: Koda and his sister were due to be euthanized any day at the Kerrville Animal Control facility. A woman saw them and couldn't get them out of her mind. She asked every shelter in the greater San Antonio area for help before calling us.



When the two arrived at BAHS, they looked more like 40-pound black bears than the fluffy little dogs we were promised. But they were so adorable they each went home within a week.

AFTER: Koda's new owner Arlene reports that he has quickly become an important member of the family.



Arlene says, "He already knows 'sit' and 'stay.' He loves tennis balls and playing fetch. I take him hiking 3 to 4 times a week. There is a creek where we go, and he loves the water! Thank you so much for such a great dog."

*"Dogs are not our whole lives, but they make our lives whole."
Roger Caras*

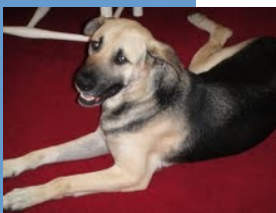
Owner Dawn says that Rocksie is "our forever dog." She even gets along with their two cats. Dawn starts singing her own version of "Funky Town" when it's time for Rocksie to go for a walk.

"I guess you'd have to be there to appreciate her response. She starts dancing around when I start to sing the song!"

"We couldn't have asked for a better fit in an adult dog---or any dog for that matter. Thanks for sheltering and fostering her until we could find her. It was meant to be."



BEFORE: Dino was seen roaming around St. Phillips College for weeks. He wore a collar that was too tight, and he was rail thin. He even went upstairs to the campus cafeteria to beg for food. Finally a student couldn't stand it anymore. She took Dino home and looked for a place that could help. We took him in.



When Dino came to us he had heartworms. He completed his heartworm treatment on April 20, and two days later he went to his new home.

AFTER: New owner Kris reports that Dino is all settled into his new home and doing well.

"Dino is calm in the house, and in the park he walks like a champ. He hasn't had an accident in the house either. Hopefully that continues!! Thank you very much!"

*"A dog is the greatest gift a parent can give a child. OK, a good education, then a dog."
Josh Grogan*

BE A VOLUNTEER AT BAHS

Do you enjoy being around animals? Would you like to give your time to a good cause?

The dogs and cats that find their way here may be scared and traumatized. It's not difficult to provide for their physical needs. The hard part is healing the wounds inside. But with some TLC, most pets come a long way in a surprisingly short time.

That's where you come in. As a volunteer you can help socialize the dogs and cats. How do you do that? By walking, petting, cuddling, grooming, and

bathing—any time you spend with these animals helps them become ready to be good pets to someone.

We need all types of volunteers:

- Animal care – Walk, groom, bathe.
- Dog handler at adoption events – THIS IS OUR GREATEST NEED!
- Transport animals—Drive pets to and from adoption events or veterinarian offices.
- Foster—Temporarily take home a pet that needs extra nurturing.
- Serve on a Board committee – Help with fundraising, media, publicity, education, volunteers, and more.

We have other positions that require more responsibility and experience. These include Junior Volunteer Coordinator, Adoption Event Coordinator, and Adoption Counselor. Please call for more information about these positions.

If you are interested in volunteering, please read the volunteer packet on our website and bring the volunteer form with you to an orientation at 10 a.m. on any Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday.

Did you know that . . . ?

- In 2009 BAHS found homes for 287 dogs and 87 cats!!

Wish List

The following are items we always need:

- Toys (balls, hard rubber toys or chews)
- Dog and Cat Brushes
- Dog Collars (mostly medium and large)
- Rawhide Chews (medium and large)
- Large Dog Biscuits
- Blankets
- Liquid Dish Soap
- Bleach
- Contractor & Materials to Build a Handicap Ramp
- Decomposed Granite for Play Pens
- Contractor to Grade, Fix, or Resurface Road & Drive-way
- Contractor & Materials for Renovating Rock House
- Kuranda Beds (go to [Kuranda Beds](#) website for more information)

P.S. We are grateful for monetary donations, too! They go to help pay for food, shelter, facility maintenance, and medical care.

Thank You to Local Businesses

The Bulverde Area Humane Society would like to express our appreciation to the *great businesses, most of them local, that have been so kind to us. Please support these businesses whenever you can.*

- HEB
- PetSmart
- Tractor Supply
- Cragg's Do It Best
- Bulverde Community News
- The Hill Country Times (web paper)
- Smithson Valley Animal Hospital—Dr. Madigan and Staff
- Bulverde Animal Hospital—Dr. Kirk Kothmann and Staff
- Texas Veterinary Hospital—Dr. Mike Mixon and Staff

- Bulverde Bexar Veterinary Clinic—Dr. Craig Elbel, Dr. Leslie Detgen, and Staff
- A&C Health Service
- Mumme's
- Picadillo Mexican Restaurant
- Petspaw
- Pedernales Electric Coop
- Schering-Plough
- Frost Bank
- Canine Comforts
- Plus all the businesses that collect donations for us with the BAHS coin boxes

A BIG THANK YOU! ☺

**Save a Life,
Adopt a
Homeless Pet**

Bulverde Area Humane Society
3563 Kingsnake
P. O. Box 50
Bulverde, Texas 78163

Phone: 830-980-2247
Fax: 830-980-6901
email: bahs@yahoo.com

Powered by Volunteers



OUR MISSION

Bulverde Area Humane Society is a non-profit organization that provides a caring and secure environment for homeless and surrendered dogs and cats. Our purpose as a no-kill shelter is to assist in the pet life cycle through education, spay/neuter assistance, and promoting pet-forever families. BAHS is powered by volunteers and tax-deductible contributions.

What we do

We seek to place pets in forever homes where they will be part of the family. We spay or neuter every dog or cat in our shelter. Where possible, we treat them for parasites, injuries, and illnesses. We microchip them. We educate adopters about how to be responsible pet owners.





What else do we do?

We work with Animal Control of the City of Bulverde and other animal control facilities to find homes for pets that would otherwise be euthanized.

We offer a safe place for local kids to take part in group projects, earn community service hours, or just spend a few hours learning empathy and kindness.

It's a rewarding and character-building experience.

Our Board

-  **President: Richard Lindell**
-  **Vice President: Lynda Binkley**
-  **Treasurer: To be filled**
-  **Secretary: Christine Touw**
-  **Director: Lori Osuna**
-  **Director: Tom Blacklock**
-  **Director: Barbara Barban**

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

We are always looking for adults or students to help out here at the shelter.

Please look on our website for volunteer information and application. Show up with application in hand any Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday at 10 a.m. for orientation.

EVEN A FEW HOURS A MONTH HELPS!

**Watch for the BAHS Pet of the
Week in the *Bulverde
Community News* and the *Hill
Country Times* online
newspaper!**

HOURS OF OPERATION

The Shelter is currently open: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10AM - 1PM.

If you get voice mail, please leave a message and someone will return your call as soon as possible.

Website: www.bulverdeareahumanesociety.com