

LAGRANGE – TROUP COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY



# People 4 Paws

## EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The number one purpose of the LaGrange Troup County Humane Society is “to educate the public about the humane treatment of animals – to include, (but not limited to) the importance of spaying and neutering pets, the importance of vaccinations, and the proper care and treatment of animals.” To accomplish this purpose, we do educational presentations at schools (notifying them each fall that these presentations are available to schedule to fit with their curriculums) and informational presentations for community and civic groups and organizations.

We have two school programs, developed by a former volunteer and former elementary school teacher, which are “How to Behave Around Unfamiliar Animals” and “The Care and Treatment of Your Pets”. Our education chair, Bonnie Bolles, is responsible for scheduling these programs.

Currently, the programs are being presented by General Donald Harlin (retired Air Force Chief of Chaplains) and his guide dog, Goldie. General Harlin also includes information about working dogs and their responsibilities and training. Other Humane Society volunteers participating are Bonnie Bolles and her Siamese cat, Xiu Xiu, Sam Card and her English lab, Abby, and her cocker/chow mix, Missy, Bill Harris and his flat coat retriever, Callie, Ellen Lovenguth and her cocker spaniel, Lucy, and Carol Jackson and her Papillion/Chihuahua mix, Dakota. These volunteers and their pets are available following the presentations for the children to get hands on experience with the animals. The children are also given packets which include educational pamphlets, a coloring book, a pencil and a small toy. We hope that they bring that information home to their parents!

This school year, the program was presented on November 24, 2009 for 67 first grade students at Whitesville Road Elementary School, on December 11, 2009 at Long Cane Elementary for 86 first graders, on January 19, 2010 for 88 first graders at Hollis Hand, and on March 3, 2010 for 65 first grade students at Hillcrest Elementary School. To schedule a program for your school or civic group, please contact Marsha Schubert at the Humane Society office at 706-298-3608.

## **VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BANQUET**

Our annual volunteer appreciation banquet was held on Tuesday, March 9, at Captain's Cove Restaurant in LaGrange. (This event is "Dutch treat", so no donation money is used!) Each volunteer was given a certificate and a verbal "way to go" for their contributions during the past year. Our volunteer roster is very low right now and I'd like to encourage all of you to consider becoming a Humane Society volunteer. The needs are many – from covering for the administrative assistant, taking pictures of the animals for our website, transporting animals to and from vet appointments and to and from TV33 for our Pet of the Week spot, helping with the Mobile Unit outings – loading and unloading animals, filling out adoption paperwork, walking and bathing animals, to helping with our annual Fur Ball fund raiser. The rewards are great – the satisfaction of knowing that you may have saved an animal's life by getting it adopted and the joy shown by our furry friends for the attention they're getting by their purring bodies, their wagging tails and slurpy kisses! Call our office today (706-298-3608) to get on the volunteer roster!

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Mark your calendars now for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Fur Ball to be held Saturday, August 22, at Highland Country Club. The committee, under the chairmanship of Carla Collins, is already beginning to solicit donations for the Silent Auction from local businesses. We will also accept donations from the general public. If you would like to make a suitable donation to the Silent Auction (we are particularly looking for someone who owns a beach or mountain condo within driving distance – Panama City Beach, Myrtle Beach, St. Simon's, etc. – to donate a week's stay), please contact Marsha Schubert at 706-298-3608.

Also mark your calendars for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Humane Society Pet Show to be held Saturday, October 9, on Lafayette Square. This event, growing every year, is co-chaired by Mandy Moore and Carol Jackson.

## **SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM UPDATE**

The LaGrange Troup County Humane Society encourages spaying and neutering of pets through our school education programs (which reached over 500 children during the previous school year) and civic presentations. Our goal is to reduce the pet overpopulation problem in Troup County.

To accomplish this, we have two spay/neuter programs in place. The Humane Society spay/neuter program with 12 animals, adding one as one is adopted, operates by having the procedures done prior to adoption. Year to date, 8 have been transferred to the program, and 13 adopted. (Our 2009 numbers were 122 transferred and 113 adopted!) All shots and spay/neuter procedures are done on a rotating basis by the four participating veterinarians (Dr. Gale Shelnett, Dr. William Whitlow, Dr. Ben Shelnett and Dr. Darryl Durham and we appreciate their cooperation!) Animals transferred to our program from the general shelter population are not eligible for euthanasia (obviously, we make an effort to choose highly adoptable animals for this program). We also now do heartworm testing before transferring any animal.

The spay/neuter program has been expanded to include every animal adopted from the City of LaGrange Animal Shelter. This segment of the program operates by having the procedure done after the animal is adopted. Spaying or neutering of animals adopted from a shelter or rescue in Georgia is a state law. The new owner receives vouchers from the City towards the cost of spaying or neutering and towards the first set of shots. Previously, the

veterinarian would bill the Humane Society directly for the difference between the vouchers and the actual cost. Since rates vary widely among veterinarians for the same procedures, effective November 1, 2009, we have put a maximum limit on the amount we will pay for these procedures, in the interest of providing accountability for the donated funds that are applied to this program. New owners are advised that if they choose a vet who charges more than our maximum limit, they will be financially responsible for the difference. We will continue these programs with the stated goal of reducing pet overpopulation as long as funds are available.

The Humane Society has also begun a new spay/neuter program with the Tuskegee Veterinary School, under the direction of Dr. Bobby Horne, department chair. The Holland M. Ware Foundation has purchased a vehicle, had it outfitted for animal transport and pays all expenses involved with transportation – insurance, repairs, gas, etc. Ten animals a week may be transported by volunteer drivers from Tuskegee from LaGrange on Monday with a return trip on Thursday. If and when we don't have 10 eligible to go, the difference is made up from Meriwether and Heard County Animal Shelters.

The Ware Foundation is also paying for all medical expenses involved in the program. The City voucher system will continue with an adoption fee of \$75 for a dog. A dog adopted after going through the Tuskegee program will have an adoption fee of \$18.50, already spayed or neutered and up to date on shots.

Because of the generosity of the Ware Foundation, the LaGrange Troup County Humane Society will be able to save up to \$4,000 a month on vet bills.

### **FREE PET FOOD FOR THOSE IN NEED**

With the savings on our vet bills, we have begun a new program to provide free dog or cat food to those who genuinely need it (those who have lost their jobs and may have to choose between feeding their family or feeding their pet, senior citizens on fixed incomes, etc.) We will not be advertising this program, since we do not want to be taken advantage of, nor can we afford to feed pets for the general public.

We have made arrangements with the St. Vincent DePaul Society, the LaGrange Personal Aid (The Food Closet) and Meals on Wheels through the Senior Center to cooperate with them in locating suitable recipients. These agencies screen their clients and the first two agencies will provide the client with one of our colored vouchers when a need is recognized, and we will arrange for them to pick up a maximum of 20 pounds of dog food or ten pounds of cat food per month from our office. We will not provide food for multiple animals and we will only provide the food in exchange for one of our vouchers from one of the two agencies.

Meals on Wheels is handled differently due to their delivery procedure. Their drivers are often also senior citizens and unable to lift those quantities. One of our volunteers rebags the food in 5 pound bags from larger bags which are usually donated. The food is delivered to the Senior Center twice monthly where it is stored until their drivers make their individual deliveries.

Again, we will continue this program as long as donations are available. We feel this program is a valid need in light of the current economy.

## **OFFSITE ADOPTIONS**

Through the use of the Mobile Adoption Unit, the LaGrange Troup County Humane Society is able to find new homes for many homeless animals by taking them to offsite locations where the general public may have more convenient access to them. Volunteers load the Unit with Humane Society program animals and Shelter animals and travel to locations around Troup County. We can usually be found at the LaGrange Mall on the first Saturday of each month, at Wal-Mart on the third Saturday, and at other locations whenever the opportunity arises. The locations are announced in the Pet of the Week features on TV33 and in the LaGrange Daily News. Thanks to All Pro Chevrolet for the use of a truck with a trailer hitch to pull the Unit as needed and to Murdock Moore, adoption chair, for organizing these outings and to the Humane Society volunteers for helping staff them!

During the previous quarter (January-March, 2010), we took the month of January off due to the cold weather (the animals on the Unit have heat, but the volunteers outside do not!). Six dogs were adopted at Wal-Mart on February 6, another 6 at the Mall on February 27, and 5 dogs found new homes and new owners on March 6 at the Mall.

## **ONGOING THANKS**

Ongoing thanks to the LaGrange Daily News for the cooperation with us for our publicity needs. Once a week, they feature (in the classified ads section) our Pet of the Week picture and description and the upcoming location of the Mobile Adoption Unit. Ongoing thanks to TV33, where every Thursday, a Pet of the Week appears live during the 5:00 P.M. newscast (around 5:25 P.M.) and on tape around 11:25 P.M. Ongoing thanks to the City of LaGrange Channel 19 television station, where our Pet of the Week feature is also run, in addition to other publicity needs. Ongoing thanks to 100.9 "The Bull" and Eagle 102.3 for their support in running our radio spots for Pet of the Week and other events. Ongoing thanks to Kmart Distribution Center, Pet Smart Distribution, and Nestle Purina for regular donations of animal care supplies.

## **ONLINE FUND RAISER**

Krymus ([HTTP;www.krymus.com/fundraising/](http://www.krymus.com/fundraising/)) has a website which accesses over 300 retail stores including Target, Best Buys, and Barnes and Noble. Through this website, the LaGrange Troup County Humane Society can be designated to receive a percentage of the sale (the percentage varies by store). If you shop online, check out this site and we will both benefit!

## **NEW COLLECTION BOXES**

You may notice our new collection boxes in various local businesses. Requested by Bonnie Bolles, who picks up the donations, because the former clear plastic boxes were being stolen on a regular basis. The new ones are bright red wooden dog houses. Many thanks to James Jackson, Carol Jackson's uncle, for donating the materials and his time to build them, and to Ellen Lovenguth for her professional job of painting them!

## VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER

The volunteer of the quarter for Spring, 2010 is Carol Jackson. Carol was born in Fort Rucker, Alabama, and since her father, an executive with the American National Red Cross, was transferred frequently, grew up in Germany, Japan, Spain, and all over the South! She graduated from St. Martin High School in Biloxi, Mississippi, and received her BS in business administration, with a concentration in accounting, from Georgia State University in Atlanta.

Carol moved from Florida to Pine Mountain in December, 2007, and lives in the house and on the land that was her father's. She is active in Beta Sigma Phi, a women's social sorority.

Carol began volunteering with the Humane Society in July, 2009. She assists with the Mobile Unit outings (her favorite thing), with doing heart worm tests and giving shots, bathing dogs and making vet runs, and this year will be co-chairing the annual Pet Show in October.

Her personal animal population consists of a 16 year old cat, Lucy, a 3 year old Papillon/Chihuahua mix, Dakota, a 2 year old Pomeranian, Cheyenne, and two snakes, four tarantulas and a turtle.

**Carol's words of animal wisdom are; Animals give us unconditional love and loyalty and ask for so little in return. I can't imagine my life without them.**

**2010 LAGRANGE TROUP COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY  
OFFICERS AND CHAIRS**

Sam Card, President	Bonnie Bolles, Education
Bill Harris, Vice President	Kacey Cox, Publicity
Brenda Harris, Secretary	Sam Card, Newsletter
Brock Butts, Treasurer	Mandy More, Volunteer/ Orientation, Pet Show Chair
Murdoch Moore, Adoptions	
Don Flynn, Website	
Advisory Board – Glenna Parkins, Bill Wright, Judy Wright, Dr. Ben Shelnett	

**SHELTER REPORT**

February 2010

	Dogs	Cats		Dogs	Cats
Animals Impounded	193	63	Animals Redeemed	28	0
Animals Adopted	29	11	Animals Euthanized	72	44
Animals Transferred	39	6	H S Adoptions	15	0

**SPECIAL DONATIONS/SUPPLIES**

**Kmart Distribution, Pet Smart, Nestle’ Purina, Holland M. Ware Foundation, Glenna Parkins Fund, Hollis Hand Elementary, Hillcrest Elementary, LaGrange Elks Lodge, Dr. Darrell Durham and office, Judy and Jim Neighbors ,Curves of LaGrange.**

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Julie** by Teddy, Champ, Cooper and Janice Ingram, **Cody Spinks** by Diana Martin, **Jennifer Soltis Trizzino** by John and Sarah Soltis, **Vicie Holsembeck** by Jenney Geter and Ben & Kathy Daniel, **Dr. Lucian Cousins** by Steve and Donna Mobley, **Glenna Friend, Dorothy Hester and Carol Mansour** by Dr. and Mrs. Tommy Harris II.

**IN HONOR OF**

**Pogo and Elli** by George and Helen Elkins, **Dr. Tommy Harris and his staff** by Lilly, Molly and Toby Sparks, **Joseph** by Kathryn and Trey Hart, **Lindsey Cagle-** Anonymous, **Anne Ekkebus** by Lindsey Cagle, **Steve Lovenguth** by Karen Redic, **Todd Ekkebus** by Jonathon Hart, **Dr. Darrell Durham** by Libba Trawick, **Sammy Dulin-Mallory** by Linda Buchanan

## 1st QUARTER MEMBERSHIPS AND DONATIONS

### Friend

Gail Walsh  
Ethyl Ault  
Diana Phillips

### Monthly Donor/Special

#### Friend

Gerald & Kate Gilbert  
George & Helen Elkins  
Robbie & Leon Henderson  
Shirley Womack  
Dawn D. Newman  
Steve & Donna Mobley

### Bronze Paw

Mr. & Mrs. Harrell Hardy  
Ann & Bill Petry

### Silver Paw

Virginia D. Jenkins Burdo  
D.R. & P. M. Spark  
Nancy & David Gell  
Jane&Charlie Will Murphy Jr.

### Gold Paw

Marjorie T. Fackler  
Joellen Ostendorf

### Guardian Angel

Mary Anne Williams

### Best Friend

Wallace Rhodes  
Smith's Corner Store  
Jim Fowler  
Mr. Joe H. Phillips  
Stephen King  
Richard Freeman  
Lee & Stacy Cline  
Dorothy Kopel  
Anne Cleaveland  
Frank Stump  
Kames & Joyce McGee  
Kathleen Freeman

## Become a Friend

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate box and print the information needed above.

<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Friend	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Silver Paw	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Guardian Angel
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Best Friend	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Gold Paw	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly Donor/Special Friend
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Bronze Paw	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Platinum Paw	

Method of payment:

Check  Credit Card (Visa or Master Card)

Money Order  Please list your name, card number and card expiration date.

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\*Your Humane Society cannot exist without your donations. Your financial contributions are vitally important to the ongoing work of caring for and saving unwanted animals in Troup County. Your gift is tax deductible to the full extent provided by law. A receipt will be mailed to you promptly and your gift will be acknowledged in the quarterly newsletter. Please complete the information in the above form and mail it in the enclosed envelope.

I am also interested in becoming a volunteer. Please send me more information.

### **Lagrange-Troup County Humane Society**

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**“We speak for those who cannot  
speak for themselves.”**

**Visit our website!**

**[www.lagrangehumane.org](http://www.lagrangehumane.org)**